Divestment from Israel:
A Campaign to End Apartheid and Promote Peace
What’s Happening?

• Occupied Territories
• Within Israel
Loss of Palestinian Land
1946-2007
What’s Happening?  

Israeli Settlements in Occupied Palestinian Territories

Occupied Territories
What’s Happening?  

Israeli Settlements in Occupied Palestinian Territories

**West Bank:**
- **145 Official Settlements**
- **390,000 Settlers**

**East Jerusalem:**
- **12 Settlements**
- **250,000 Settlers**
What’s Happening?

Occupied Territories

Israeli Settlements in Occupied Palestinian Territories

Unequal Legal Standing

“a dual system of law [is] at work...
...one for Jews and one for the Palestinians;”

Michael Brown, Nation(11/20/2006)

Jewish Settlers

• Hold Israeli citizenship
• Protected by Israeli law
• Vote in Israeli Elections
• Can freely travel to Jerusalem, Israel and abroad

Palestinians

• Lack true citizenship
• Not protected by Israeli law
• Cannot vote in Israeli Elections
• Cannot freely travel to Jerusalem, Israel and abroad
What’s Happening?  

Israeli Settlements in Occupied Palestinian Territories  
Unequal Water Resources

• Israeli Control over Water Resources
• Strategic Location of Settlements
• Unequal Water Distribution
What’s Happening?

Occupied Territories

Israeli Settlements in Occupied Palestinian Territories
Unequal Methods of Transport

• Checkpoints
• Bypass Roads
What’s Happening?  

Occupied Territories

**Israeli Settlements in Occupied Palestinian Territories**

**Unequal Methods of Transport**

- Checkpoints
- Bypass Roads

“I've been very deeply distressed in my visit to the Holy Land; it reminded me so much of what happened to us black people in South Africa. I saw the humiliation of the Palestinians at checkpoints and roadblocks, suffering like us when young white police officers prevented us from moving about”

Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Laureate

January 19th 2007:
New Israeli policy forbids Israelis and Palestinians in the West Bank from being in the same car.

Israeli newspaper Yediot Ahronoth
What’s Happening?

Israeli Settlements in Occupied Palestinian Territories

Unequal Methods of Transport

• Checkpoints
• Bypass Roads

• Over 700 checkpoints
• Only a few are located on the borders
• Travel permits often required
Israel has established a 300-mile road network throughout the West Bank connecting the settlements. These are high-security roads and they are accessible only to Israelis."

Kathleen Christison,

“Before There Was Terrorism”
What’s Happening?  

Israeli Settlements in Occupied Palestinian Territories
Unequal Methods of Transport

Consequences for Palestinians…

• Economy
• Education
• Health
What’s Happening? Occupied Territories

Separation Barrier

Israeli Settlements
What’s Happening?  

Occupied Territories

Israel’s Separation Barrier
Israel’s Separation Barrier

“The construction of the wall being built by Israel... in the occupied Palestinian Territory, including in and around East Jerusalem... [is] contrary to international law. Israel is under obligation... to dismantle forthwith the structure... [and] make reparation for all damage caused...”

Israel’s Separation Barrier

Consequences for Palestinians…

Palestinians trapped Between the Wall and the Green Line

13,000 people in 16 villages were trapped between the Wall and the Green line.
Israel’s Separation Barrier

Consequences for Palestinians...
Land Confiscation and Destruction

Here stood the market of Nazlat Issa.
What’s Happening?

Israel’s Separation Barrier

Occupied Territories

Consequences for Palestinians...

Implications for Health and Education
More than 40,000 Palestinians in Qalqilya are almost completely cut off from the world.
Home Demolishment & Land Confiscation
What’s Happening?

Home Demolishment & Land Confiscation

- Home Demolishment
  - Demolished 5000 Palestinian homes since September 2000
- Land Confiscation
  - Confiscated 2500 acres of land during the first half of 1999
- Destruction of Trees
  - Uprooted 982,145 trees during the second Intifada
Realities of Military Occupation

What’s Happening?

Occupied Territories
Realities of Military Occupation

Since 1967 over 650,000 Palestinians have been detained by Israel... nearly 40% of the adult male population.
What’s Happening?  Occupied Territories

Palestinian Children

809 Palestinian children have been killed by Israeli forces (September 2003 to December 2006)

- 445 shot with live ammunition
- 220 shot in the head, face & neck
- 380 children killed in Gaza

Iman al-Hams
Raghda
What’s Happening?  

Occupied Territories

East Jerusalem
Nearly 250,000 Palestinian residents of East Jerusalem are denied Israeli citizenship; instead they are considered "legal residents".

Face enormous legal obstacles to:
- family unification
- access to housing
- municipal services
- social benefits

70km of the separation barrier will carve East Jerusalem in two and cut off an estimated 249,000 Palestinian residents from the rest of the West Bank.
What’s Happening? Within Israel
2004 U.S. State Department report on human rights in Israel: “[State policies have done] little to reduce institutional, legal and societal discrimination against the country’s Arab citizens.”

Knesset member and former Minister Efraim Eitam called the Palestinian citizens of Israel: “a ticking time bomb” and said that they “resemble a cancerous growth...We shall have to consider the ability of the Israeli democracy to continue the Arabs' participation.”
What’s Happening? Within Israel

Favoring Jews over Arabs
Palestinian Refugees
What’s Happening? Within Israel

Favoring Jews over Arabs
Palestinian Refugees

Law of Return: grants automatic citizenship to Jews from anywhere in the world upon request...
...but denies that same right to Palestinian refugees and refuses to allow them to return to their homes.

UN General Assembly Resolution 52/62 (1997)
“reaffirms that Palestinians refugees are entitled to their property and the income derived from it”
What’s Happening? Within Israel

Favoring Jews over Arabs
Unfair Land Policies
“the specific way in which land is owned in Israel is predominantly that the Jewish Agency purchases land on behalf of the Jewish people and then leases it out to its Jewish citizens. Arabs cannot have access to that land that's owned by the Jewish Agency...There's a small amount of private property that can be traded and Arabs can buy that as well as Jews, but most land is held in trust for the Jewish people, so yes there is a legal basis for what we would flat out call discriminatory practices.”

William Quandt, University of Virginia
What’s Happening? Within Israel

Favoring Jews over Arabs
“Separate but Equal” School System
What’s Happening? Within Israel

Favoring Jews over Arabs
“Separate but Equal” School System

“Government-run Arab schools are a world apart from government-run Jewish schools. In virtually every respect, Palestinian Arab children get an education inferior to that of Jewish children, and their relatively poor performance in school reflects this.”

Zama Coursen-Neff, Human Rights Watch

- Classes for Arab children are 20 percent larger than classes for Jewish children
- Arab children drop out of school at three times the rate of Jewish children
What’s Happening? Within Israel

Favoring Jews over Arabs
Unequal Resource Allocation
United Nations: Committee on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights

The Committee notes with deep concern that a significant proportion of Palestinian Arab citizens continue to live in unrecognized villages where they have no access to water, electricity, sanitation and roads. Such existence has caused extreme difficulties for the villagers in regard to their access to health care, education, and employment opportunities. In addition, these villagers are continually threatened with demolition of their homes and confiscation of their land.

UN Committee on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights
What’s Happening? Within Israel

Favoring Jews over Arabs
Unequal Resource Allocation

- Forty Palestinian villages in Israel lack basic infrastructure:
  - Health services: only available in four Galilee villages & one village in Negev
  - Sewage: none are connected to the sewage network
  - Electricity: only available to one village
- These villages have a very high population density…
  …with an average of 10 people per house.
What’s Happening? Within Israel

Favoring Jews over Arabs

Consequences

Study by Arab Center for Alternative Planning

The Arab sector's GDP per capita is a third of the GDP per capita of the Jewish sector

- Israel’s overall HDI: 0.9
  - Israeli Arabs’ HDI: 0.77
- Israel’s overall HDI ranking: 22
  - Israeli Arabs’ HDI ranking: 66
- Israel’s overall health: 0.9
  - Israeli Arabs’ level of health: 0.85

90% of Arab Israelis live in towns ranked in the bottom three clusters of local councils, as compared to only 7% of Jews who live in these conditions.
### Favoring Jews over Arabs

#### Consequences

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Arabs</th>
<th>Jews</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per capita local government budget 1997</td>
<td>1,495</td>
<td>2,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion population living in overcrowded conditions, 1997</td>
<td>31.6%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of total welfare budget, 1998</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>87.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion families under poverty line, 1996</td>
<td>28.3%</td>
<td>16.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No. patients per doctor 1998</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>1,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Infant mortality rate per 1,000</td>
<td>9.1</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proportion of schools with psychological services, 1996</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>95%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
13 July 2003: The Israeli Parliament voted to block Palestinians who marry Israelis from becoming Israeli citizens or residents.

“The Knesset will soil its law books with this shameful injustice. This is a racist law that violated human rights. Two Israeli Arab brothers from Nazareth, one of whom married an Italian, who can become Israeli, whereas the Palestinian who married the second brother cannot, like her children, obtain this status.”

Left opposition deputy Zeeva Galon said before the vote.

"If this is not racism, then perhaps we need to have a new definition."

Orna Kohn, a lawyer for Adalah.
Who’s Responsible?
Who’s Responsible?

**ISRAEL**

Violation of International Law

Violation of more than 60 UN resolutions, for example:

Resolution 242: “calls Israel to withdraw from the occupied territories”

Resolution 446: “determines that Israeli settlements are a serious obstruction to peace and calls on Israel to abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention”

Resolution 465: “deplores Israel’s settlements and asks all member states not to assist its settlements program”

Resolution 471: “expresses deep concern at Israel’s failure to abide by the Fourth Geneva Convention”

Resolution 694: “deplores Israel’s deportation of Palestinians and calls on it to ensure their safe and immediate return”
Who’s Responsible?

United States of America
Direct Aid to Israel

In 1949: US aid to Israel was about 100 million…

…This number grew drastically to an average of 3 billion dollars yearly in the 80’s and 90’s

In 2005: US aid to Israel was 2.6 billion dollars…

…out of this 2.2 billion was as a military grant!

Since 1967: US has given Israel roughly $85 billion aid…

…Thus Israel receives more than one third of America’s total annual foreign aid
Who’s Responsible?

Companies

The UN Norms require, “businesses to exercise due diligence regarding the source or potential uses of goods or services, and in some instances to forego business opportunities in order to avoid complicity in, or encouragement of, human rights violations.”

A few examples:

• Lockheed-Martin
• Roadstone Holdings
• Caterpillar
• Veolia Transport
The Stanford Connection
The Stanford Connection

The Stanford Endowment Fund

• Stanford Endowment is valued at $14 billion as of 2006
• As a private school, Stanford does not disclose its investment

This figure places Stanford, “in the top 2% of all national and college endowments.”

Stanford Management Company
The Stanford Connection

The Current Structure to Monitor Investment Responsibility

(1) Students of Stanford

(2) Advisory Panel on Investment Responsibility (APIR)

(3) Special Committee on Investment Responsibility (SCIR)

(4) Board of Trustees

(5) Stanford Management Company (SMC)

(6) Change in Investment Policy

Can File Complaint

Can Make Suggestions

Can Make Recommendations

Dialogue
• According to the Stanford University Statement on Investment Responsibility the trustees can take action if they judge that a company's policies lead to: “substantial social injury”

• Stanford has had several problems with responsibility of its investment such as:
  • Ties with South African apartheid government
  • Ties with companies using slave labor in Burma/Myanmar
Divestment
SCAI calls for Stanford's Board of Trustees to divest from companies that:

- Provide military support and weaponry to Israel
- Support the building or maintenance of Israel’s ‘separation barrier’
- Operate on illegally occupied land
- Facilitate home demolition, land confiscation or other acts of collective punishment
- Engage in practices that institutionally discriminate against people of a specific race, religion, or ethnicity
Divestment

Military Support to Israel

Includes:
- Companies that provide military support
- Companies that assist Israel in weapons manufacturing

Examples:
- Boeing
- Lockheed Martin
- General Dynamics
Divestment

Separation Barrier Construction and Maintenance

Includes:
- Sale of raw materials (concrete/steel)
- Financing of portions of the wall
- Use of human labor or machinery in construction
- Contracting firms

Examples:
- Roadstone Holdings
- Riwal
Divestment

Operations in Occupied Land

Includes:
• Companies that benefit from operating on stolen or occupied land
• Companies that build their facilities in stolen or occupied land

Examples:
• Veolia Transport
Divestment

Home Demolishment and Confiscation

Includes Companies that:
• Directly benefit from Israeli confiscation of Palestinian land and Israeli demolition of Palestinian homes

Example:
• Caterpillar

Rachel Corrie
Institutional Discrimination

Includes:
• Discrimination against employees due to their ethnicity, language and religion.

Examples:
• McDonalds
• Nirvana Hotel

“It doesn't matter whether we are talking about small private firms, like restaurants, or governmental institutions: the racism is the same, however well-qualified, most Arabs can only find work -- if they can find work at all -- as day laborers in roles such as olive picking, or working in construction or in factories.”

Wahbe Bidarne,
Director of “Voice of the Laborer”, an association of Arab workers
Frequently Asked Questions
Frequently Asked Questions

Why single out Israel? Don't a lot of Arab countries have equally bad or worse human rights records?

“Divestment from Apartheid South Africa was certainly no less justified because there was repression elsewhere on the African continent.”

Desmond Tutu, Nobel Peace Laureate
Divestment

Frequently Asked Questions

The situation seems complex, with both Israelis and Palestinians committing violence. Why divest only from Israel?
Divestment

Frequently Asked Questions

Can divestment from Israel be called anti-Semitic?
Frequently Asked Questions

Jews and Arabs share bathrooms, buses, and other public facilities in Israel. Isn’t the comparison between South African apartheid and the situation in Israel and Palestine misguided?
Divestment Precedents
Divestment Precedents

Prior Precedents
South Africa

• February 1986: Board approved divestment of all $5 million of its shares in Motorola.

• September 1986: trustees voted not to purchase any new shares in Schlumberger or USX, formerly US Steel.

• October 1986: the Board voted to divest 30,600 shares, totaling $362,000, from Diamond Shamrock.
May 2005: Stanford University Board of Trustees voted unanimously to divest from 4 petroleum companies:

- PetroChina
- Tatneft
- Sinopec
- ABB

"it was clear that the genocide occurring in Darfur, which appears to be at least partly enabled by these four companies is in direct opposition to Stanford University principles."

President Hennessy
“Divestment is important because it is a way for the churches to take direct action. For too long, the churches have simply issued statements and that is not enough. We have to send strong messages to such companies.”

Rev. Mitri Raheb, a Lutheran pastor from Bethlehem

- Presbyterian Church USA
- ASN Bank, Nov 2006
- Anglican Parish in England
- CUPE, Canadian Union of Public Employees
- Academic Union of Teachers in the United Kingdom
- FA Committee of Irish Parliament
Divestment Precedents

Current Precedents
Divestment Campaigns Initiated at:

• University of Wisconsin
• Ohio State
• Harvard/MIT
• Columbia
• University of Maryland
• University of Michigan, Dearborn
• University of California
• Cornell
Why Divestment?
Effective and Non-Violent

“The world-wide movement was effective because it was a coalition of committed governments and people’s movements in the west which managed to influence policy at the national level, as well as institutions like the U.N.”

Abdul Minty, the secretary of the British Anti-Apartheid Movement, reflecting on the movement aimed at ending Apartheid in South Africa.
Why Divestment?

Moral Imperative

“apartheid is a form of mandated segregation that no civilized nation should continue to tolerate”
Former Stanford President Kennedy

“to ensure we fulfill our legal and ethical obligations... to persons outside Stanford”
Stanford University Code of Conduct

Objectives of the University include:
“promoting public welfare by exercising an influence on behalf of humanity and civilization”
Stanford University Founding Grant
Get Involved…

• Sign our online petition urging Stanford University to divest from companies supporting apartheid (http://scai.stanford.edu)

• Educate yourself and others about the human rights violations happening in the Occupied Territories:
  • B’tselem (www.btselem.org)
  • Human Rights Watch (www.hrw.org)
  • Global Exchange (www.globalexchange.org)

• Join our email announcement list to keep track of updates and future events (http://scai.stanford.edu)