

The Roots of Black-Palestinian Solidarity Guest Editorial

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I was disgusted to be exposed to the radical and unintelligent editorial from Khury Petersen-Smith. -
The Roots of Black-Palestinian Solidarity

Nowhere does this writer express any awareness of history, sources of conflict, history of peace efforts, and barbaric slaughter perpetrated by Hamas.

In fact, there is no mention of Hamas and its persistent expressed desire to eradicate Israel and offering no opportunities for peace over many years.

I am surprised that the Chronicle would print such garbage and my estimation of your newspaper has taken a sever hit.

Neiel Baronberg
Denver, CO

If the author's intent was to spew out gross historical untruths, then he succeeded in that task. Otherwise, the entire editorial is built on lies and propaganda and does nothing else but to picture a reckless, false view of what has transpired since October 7 in the Israel-Hamas war.

Unless Petersen-Smith has been educated by nothing but Pravda-proud media outlets such as CNN, it is a well-documented fact the lengths Israel has gone to in order to minimize civilian casualties in its fight for survival and attack by an enemy that is sworn to its destruction. It's all documented and true. Yet, Petersen-Smith blatantly does not even mention any of these? Why not? Is truth not a value to him? If not, then he will have to answer to his Creator why he didn't leave the world in a better place than when he entered it. He is an inciter of hate.

It is time for people to support world issues based on facts and truth, and abandon the oppressor-oppressed narrative that is based on false claims and downright lies. I encourage your readers, or anyone wanting to be on the side of good to take the time and learn the truth and history of the Middle East, and not via TikTok, or from gaslighters such as Petersen-Smith who spew out blatant lies to support a false narrative. The result of his actions contributes to the growing fissure of distrust in black-Jewish relations. EVERYONE should support the side that seeks peace and just wants to live side-by-side with her neighbors. Supporters of the Palestinians in this conflict will be shown in time that it is THEY who will be on the wrong side of history.

I am not a historian, nor do I boast any higher education in Middle East studies. But I challenge Petersen-Smith or any other to discuss the truth. I have studied this topic my entire adult life and, unless Petersen-Smith's intention is to create more war and bloodshed both in the Middle East as well as America, he is misguided and indoctrinated by a destructive ideology.

Jeff Wedgle
Denver, CO

Mr. Petersen-Smith demeans the civil rights movement and the people that made it happen. That movement relied on peaceful demonstrations. When a governmental entity like Hamas, elected by the Palestinian people, intentionally murders civilians, takes civilian hostages, hides weapons under hospitals, and refuses to allow aid in and its people out to avoid the war, they essentially give up the right to rely on the "rules of war." Israel is correct in its decision to eradicate Hamas while trying to minimize civilian casualties. I wonder what the leaders of our civil rights movement would have thought of Petersen-Smith's comparison.

Tony Uva
Denver, CO

I have two questions for Khury Peterson-Smith, you Guest Editoralist: Can you please identify the military targets that Hamas targeted on October 7th that resulted in over 1,000 Israeli deaths? You speak of international law - is there any part of international law that sanctions raping prisoners?

Brian Ochsner
Denver, CO

1. Right out of the gate, Peterson-Smith claims that Israel is "preventing residents from leaving" Gaza. There is video documentation of Israel sending multiple forms of communication to the citizens of Gaza how and when to leave. The IDF is shown videos escorting Gazan residents to safety, while Hamas terrorists are firing at their own people trying to prevent them from leaving.

2. The author claims that Israel "targets mosques, schools, churches and hospitals". This is an abhorrent falsehood. Peterson-Smith seems to have forgotten to include that Hamas has been storing weapons, firing missiles and operating from tunnels underneath each of these institutions. A clear violation of international law and endangering to their own people. The IDF has been doing everything they can to avoid casualties in Gaza. And the claim that Israel hit the Al Shifa hospital has been proven as false by US Military intelligence and multiple news sources. Miraculously, once it was clear that it was a miss-fired Hamas missile that hit the hospital, the death toll was reduced significantly.

3. Lastly, the author is drawing parallels between "episodes of white terror" and Israel defending itself against terrorism. There is absolutely no comparison to be made here and doing so is the root cause of the rise in antisemitism happening now.

Hopefully none of these arguments are news to you. I understand that this essay was a guest editorial. Would you allow a white supremacist to write an essay about how all Black people should be treated differently than white people? That's what this essay reads as to Jews.

Happy to elaborate if needed, but appreciate your taking the time to hear me out.

Bryna Fiedler
Denver, CO
