Commission of Inquiry into Antisemitism at Australian Universities Bill 2024 (No. 2)
Submission 8

I have just returned from the 80 year commemoration in my parents' home town in Hungary.

In 1944, 5000 innocent Jewish People, including my family, were taken away and murdered.

The community stood in silence and watched as harmless innocent families were marched away and loaded onto cattle trucks.

What has this to do with Australia?

Well. My mum who was a proud Australian, survived Auschwitz. Australia has always been a tolerant and inclusive society... and yet:

THE DAY AFTER THE MURDER AND ATROCITIES OF OCTOBER 7TH IN ISRAEL... I saw celebrations by my fellow citizens at the Lakemba Mosque. This was before a single shot fired in response by Israel.

The steps of the Sydney Opera House hosted demonstrations supporting Palestinians with chants "FROM THE RIVER TO THE SEA"

Make no mistake. This is code for "KILL ALL THE JEWS".

The stated aim of Hamas is just that.

Meanwhile my alma mater, Sydney University is hosting a sit-in by a similar mob making similar chants.

The Israeli flag was projected onto the sails of the Opera House in support of Israel in the face of unimaginable savage horror on October 7th. It was taken down overnight ...Unlike the sustained solidarity shown by projecting the Ukrainian flag. In fact, in a cowardly back-down in the face of this anti-Semitic mob...It has been decided there will be no further such public demonstrations of support for victims of mass atrocity. There was no problem until it involved the Jewish state. This reads as official anti-Semitism.

Australia press relentlessly criticises Israel and focuses on the need for restraint. I see no similar demand for restraint by Iran, Hezbollah and Hamas.

Israel would immediately cease hostility when the attack on Israelis stopped. But it does not.

If someone murdered your family Would your first inclination be to call for "restraint" by the victim?

Was their "restraint" demanded of the allies when Hitler enacted his "final solution".

Israel is criticised for seeking justice and targeting those responsible for perpetrating the Hamas atrocities.

"Anti-zionism, Anti-Israel, Pro Palestinians" ...are all basically rewording the basic fact of ANTI-SEMITISM.

Jews are the indigenous people of Judea. They have been there for thousands of years. Journalists constantly refer to "occupied territories". Israelis are "occupying" their own country. In that case we should always refer to our country as "occupied Australia" since we DID displace the natives.... Unlike the Jews who have occupied their own land.

Australian Jews are law-abiding hard-working peaceful patriotic Australians. Israel is a tiny isolated democratic country in a sea of enemies in the middle east.

Every educated person prays for peace in the middle east. Israel's enemies wish only to destroy the Jewish state... and arguably western democracies in general.

Israel and Australia Jews deserve protection and support by our free country.

This means antisemitism in all its forms should be called out at every level.

Dr George Quittner.

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