

## Why Our Government Supports Israel's Government, and Why We Shouldn't

**A**s most Americans know very well, the United States is not really a democracy. What is less obvious is how that explains why our government supports Israel's government.

In America, money is power. A tiny plutocracy of billionaires, with a corporate and government elite, controls every important institution—our government, the major political parties, the corporations and mass media, even the big labor unions. Their values of inequality and top-down control, and what they do to stay in power and control us, like pitting people against each other and waging wars based on lies, fly in the face of the values of equality and democracy and concern for one another that most ordinary Americans share.

Virtually all of our politicians and mass media support Israel because Israel helps America's rulers control both Americans and people in the Middle East. Israel does this by fomenting religious war, pitting Jews against non-Jews, and by enlisting U.S. support in that war.

### What Israel Does

In 1947 Jewish leaders in Palestine formed an army and violently drove out 85% of the non-Jews living in what became the Jewish state of Israel in 1948. It was ethnic cleansing, pure and simple—a war crime, and apartheid worse even than that of South Africa.

Jewish leaders said that Jews needed a state in Palestine where the sovereign authority would not be everybody who lived there but “the Jewish people” only, and where the population

would have to be at least 80% Jewish even though Jews were only 38% of the population at the time. Jewish leaders did everything they could to make ordinary Jews, who had recently arrived from Europe after surviving the Holocaust, believe that the Arabs were out to “drive the Jews into the sea,” when in fact what Arabs objected to was not the presence of Jews but the aim of Jewish leaders to drive non-Jews out of their own country. Tragically, many Jews still believe this racist lie.



Jaffa May 1948, Palestinians were being pushed into the sea by the attacking Israeli Army

Israel refuses to let the millions of Palestinian refugees return to their homes or to compensate them for their stolen property. Israel ethnically cleansed more land of Palestinians in 1967, discriminates in law against the few who remained inside what became Israel, and uses the anger of Palestinians at all of this, and their resistance to it, to keep Jews perpetually fearful of Arabs and obedient to the wealthy Jewish elite in Israel.

At the same time, the Israeli government continues the crime of ethnic cleansing in the name of “security.” Result: Extreme misery for Palestinians,

and less security for Jews in Israel, while economic inequality among Jews in Israel soars, and the Israeli upper class is more in control and richer than ever.

Thus the *Jewish Daily Forward* wrote (April 7, 2006) that “a deliberate move by Jerusalem policy-makers to modernize Israel's economy” has resulted in “a new class of millionaires, and an explosion of poverty and hunger. In just one generation, Israel has gone from the most egalitarian nation in the industrialized world to one of the least egalitarian.” Israeli workers have been forced to defend themselves with general strikes (December, 1997 and September, 2004) or threats of major strikes (November, 2006 and March, 2007.)

The Israeli ruling class controls Israeli working class Jews by making them fear “the Arabs” more than the Jewish billionaires who are actually destroying their lives.

### **How Israel Strengthens America's Rulers**

Ruling elites in all nations know that the key to controlling their own people is to use lies to make them fear an external enemy.



This is a time-proven way to get people to accept abuses from their own rulers that they would never otherwise tolerate, like NAFTA, unaffordable health care, MCAS shoved down our children's

throats, tax cuts for the rich, vanishing pensions, and a military-industrial complex scam that funnels trillions of dollars from our pockets into those of the corporate elite.

The War on Terror (WoT) is the latest way that U.S. and other world elites make their people so frightened of and angry at an external enemy that they will accept being dominated undemocratically by their own rulers. That's why virtually all of our politicians and mass media support the WoT, even if they argue the details (attack Iraq or Iran?) The WoT is the only excuse our rulers have for denying us the Peace Dividend everybody expected when the Cold War ended, or for spying on our phone calls to scare us into obedience.

The heart of the WoT storyline is that Arabs and Muslims are violent anti-Semites who want to kill people like us out of pure hatred. The story would be far less persuasive without Israel fomenting Arab/Muslim anger at itself, and our mass media hiding the fact of ethnic cleansing to reinforce the lie that Arab/Muslim anger stems from anti-Semitism.

The WoT disguises the reality of the class war by making it seem a religious war: Arab/Muslim ruling elites in the Middle East are strengthened too by Israel's ethnic cleansing, because it directs the anger of their own people at Israel and away from their own Arab/Muslim dictators.

Israel's ethnic cleansing harms ordinary people of all religions in both the Middle East and in the United States, and strengthens anti-democratic rulers. That's why our government supports Israel, and why WE shouldn't.

We need a revolution to abolish elite rule in the U.S. and get real democracy.

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