

LA Jews for Peace Condemns Cal State Long Beach President's Attempt to interfere with Student Divestment Resolution May 2, 2017

LA Jews for Peace condemns California State University Long Beach President Jane Conoley opposition to Associated Students resolution SR #2017-37.

SR #2017-37 recommends that the university divests from companies that profit from human rights violations against Palestinian people, specifically naming seven companies: Raytheon, G4S, Veola, Caterpillar, General Electric, Northrop Grumman, and Hewlett-Packard Company.

In Conoley's letter of opposition to SR #2017-37, she asks: "Why the Jews?" She is suggesting that if we cannot fight all violations of human rights, we should abandon the fight.

LA Jews for Peace disagrees. Following Conoley's advice would be wrong!

- Wrong because it is not moral not to do whatever we can to stop some human suffering.
- Wrong because Israel is the only country that claims to be a Western democracy, yet has maintained a violent occupation of Palestine for 50 years while destroying the occupied economy and depriving the occupied people of their land.
- Wrong because Conoley's own answer your own question is to suggest that the Associated Students focus on Russia for violating LGBTQ rights, and divert their attention from Israel that deprives 4 million Palestinians of all human, civic, and political rights.

The real answer to Conoley's question is that we focus on Israel human rights violations because Israel is considered, and identifies itself, as part of the enlightened West, yet Israel rules Palestinians as medieval feudal lords.

Conoley's was wrong to attempt to stop SR #2017-37.