

LETTER OF OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED BDS ITEM ON UCSC STUDENT GOV'T AGENDA

Subject: Opposition to proposed BDS item on Student Government agenda Jan 4,2015

Date: December 3, 2014 at 9:30:43 AM PST

To: UCSC Organizers

Dear UCSC Organizer-

Our group Parents and Students Against BDS on Campus, strongly opposes the proposed BDS vote on the docket for January's Student Government meeting to place BDS again on the meeting agenda. This motion was already failed twice last year in May 2014 and again in June 2014. This twice failed motion should be a sufficient reason to disallow it to be placed on calendar again, as it was found to be destructive to students and irrelevant to campus life.

With worldwide anti-semitism at a peak, and with a culture of hatred and anti semitism being permitted on campuses across the US, and especially at our own UC schools, SJP and other BDS groups create a very hostile environment for our Jewish students to attend school peacefully and without harassment.

My own son, and his Jewish friends on campus at UCSC and Berkeley now hide their Jewish stars, do not wear their kipot upon their heads, and are afraid to show their Jewishness on campus for fear of being attacked or harassed by the SJP and BDS activists.

Over the holidays, we listened to our Jewish students' stories of "die-ins", screaming protests, physical violence and other horrific staged terror-creating events aimed to create fear and hatred on campus aimed directly at our own children.

Many parents in our community here in Southern California have compiled our own list of colleges that support or allow BDS and SJP groups on campus, UCSC, UCLA and UC Berkeley are top of the list, and we are distributing this list to High schools in the area as "colleges of concern".

Both Jewish and non Jewish parents can decide if they want their children to enter an environment where a hate group is allowed to flourish.

We talk openly about how we can protect our 16 and 17 year old children on campus once they step into the environments of hate. It ruins all their built up expectations they have for a happy college life, and all the nice brochures mean nothing if your child winds up on a physically beautiful campus surrounded by people that seek to destroy his/her experience of college. It robs them of their chance to learn peacefully and for us, we are angry that we are paying for the bill for this, Enough is enough.

We plan to send letters to all our friends and associates who are alumni donors at these schools to notify them as well. We refuse to allow our students to be subjected to weak on-campus policies that clearly oppose the UC President's and other UC leaders clearly stated opposition on this matter.

Yet the SJP group on UCSC disregards and disrespects their own University leaders, and proceeds to broadcast their message of hate anyway.

This intimidation technique is documented in the SJP manual on techniques for harassment. This document can be found online on the AMCHA site.

In every report we read from the ADL, Standwithus, AMCHA and together with both daily global online social media and in the world newspapers, anti-semitism on US campuses by SJP, CJP and other BDS groups create a very hostile environment on campus that has led to multiple incidents of real violence on campus.

It is up to you to end this.

We demand not only that the BDS item be removed, but that the SJP group be banned from UCSC as they are a hate group.

We believe on campus BDS and SJP groups are funded by outside groups with ties to the Muslim Brotherhood, and other potential terrorist groups.

We feel it is critical for UCSC to open an examination of the sources of funding of the SJP , the UCSC larger community would potentially be horrified and shocked to learn that UCSC would allow a hate group on campus that was funded by a possible terrorist group. That would make global headlines , and cause admission rates to decline as families fear for their students safety .

That BDS has been allowed to move through student governments, even with the condemnation of our own UC Presidents, and Chancellor Blumenthals' strict condemnation shows a flagrant disregard for our own University leaders' policy. This together with the recent lineup of schools that are dis-allowing BDS groups on campus,shows the tide swinging the other way.

So why must BDS be allowed to be put on the agenda of UCSC student government agenda? Because the SJP and BDS activists have ben trained in strong-arming student governments(easy targets/easy prey), because the media exposure for these savvy marketers is relatively easy and cheap, and because they can kidnap our innocent student's university government to broadcast their political message that has nothing to do with on campus life.We are being used for cheap advertising, nothing more.

I feel strongly that any political agenda that is irrelevant to campus life, must be not allowed to be placed on the Student Govt agenda for voting because it is not a university matter. Isn't the student government to be used for on campus life such as entertainment planning, student activities, student welfare etc?

I therefore, in representing the hundreds of families that join with my own proud Jewish family, strongly oppose the BDS item from being placed on the agenda on the basis that is promotes, encourages a hate group on campus to be more actively causing aggression against the Jewish students on campus, because it is completely irrelevant to student life at UCSC, and lastly because it hijacks and uses our innocent student government as a broadcast media for this hate group's global social media at a low cost to them .

Our campus is being used, and we need to wake up.

Regards,

Andrea Bernstein
Parent UCSC student and
supporter to UCSC Hillel