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Edited last night by: Es Delivered this morning by: Bg vol. LXIX / no. 67/ December 8th, 2022

OPEN LETTER ADDRESSED TO THE DENISON COMMUNITY ON THE ISSUE OF FREE SPEECH, THE RIGHT TO PROTEST, AND JUSTICE IN PALESTINE

We the students, faculty, and staff of Denison University hereby establish **Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP)** at Denison University in solidarity with the liberation and self-determination of the Palestinian people; this includes Palestinians in Israel, the Palestinian Occupied Territories, and the diaspora.

We condemn the racism and discrimination against the Palestinian people underlying the policies and laws of the state of Israel. We also condemn the ongoing occupation of Palestinian territories, the continued displacement of Palestinians, and the blockade on Gaza. Our dedication to the rights of the Palestinian people is rooted in a fundamental respect for the rights of all people. We reject all forms of hatred, violence, or discrimination against any religious, racial, or ethnic group. Furthermore, it is our position that the Denison community has a responsibility to recognize the Palestinian people's inalienable right to self-determination and to push Israel to comply with international law.

As members of the Denison community, we affirm the right to stand in solidarity with the Palestinian people and therefore,

- 1. We are against any attempts to stifle and/or deny the rights to freedom of expression and association of students and faculty including the right to speech, the right to protest, and the right to produce and teach scholarship without censorship or harassment.
- 2. We are against any attempt to use anti-discrimination policies to prohibit student activism or academic speech critical of Israel, including speech that highlights violence against Palestinians. Any such attempt should concern us all as it obfuscates the social reality of racism and uses anti-racist demands of student activists for the purpose of policing speech critical of discriminatory and racist institutions and structures.
- 3. We are against vague and overly broad redefinitions of antisemitism at U.S. colleges and legislatures that have been used to suppress activism, target faculty, deny students the right to organize and protest, and institute criminal penalties.

Additionally, since 2014, 261* bills have been introduced targeting advocacy for Palestinian rights. Since January 2021, 193** bills aiming to limit the teaching of subjects related to race, gender, and sexuality have been introduced in state legislatures across the U.S. All of these measures attack our fundamental right to freedom of speech and protest as students and members of the Denison community. These bills are antithetical to Denison University's mission to cultivate "autonomous thinkers, discerning moral agents and active citizens of a democratic society" without "cultural, racial, sexual, religious or economic" discrimination, and to foster "an engagement with the central issues of our time." This mission cannot be realized without ensuring the right to free speech on race, gender, and sexuality and the right to protest. Censoring, banning, and criminalizing scholarship and advocacy on Palestine restricts freedom of expression and association and is antithetical to Denison's mission. These measures create hierarchies and separate categories where some students are protected by university resolutions while others are made vulnerable by them. Lack of support for students and faculty who are harassed and maligned for providing anti-racist and ethical education is a failure on the part of the institution

In establishing this chapter of Students for Justice in Palestine, we affirm our rights as members of the Denison community to speech, protest, and solidarity with the Palestinian cause.

CONTINUED...



TO SIGN ON TO THIS LETTER IN SUPPORT, SCAN THE QR CODE.

GO TO OUR INSTAGRAM @DENISONS.JP TO KEEP UP WITH OUR WORK!!!



*https://legislation.palestinelegal.org/#statistics (Palestine Legal Legislation)

** https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Tj5WQVBmB6SQg-zP_M8uZsQQGH09TxmBY73v23zpyr0/edit#gid=1505554870 (PEN America Index of Educational Gag Orders)

SUBMISSION

-Students for Justice in Palestine

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE **BULLSHEET GETS A SUBMISSION**

Recently, we have had some confusion on what happens when an article gets submitted to the Bullsheet and how we as a staff interact with the pieces put in front of us. As a rule of thumb, we try to strictly follow the standards that have been set in place by our constitution, which means we do not edit submissions. This is done to preserve the message and purpose of the author's piece. We also promote the publication of articles that promote discourse and conversation as long as they are not hate speech or unfairly targeting an individual. That being said, this does mean that some pieces will be taken as controversial. As a staff, we wanted to publish what our policies and practices are in our constitution. A full copy is uploaded on our What To DU page if further reading is wanted.

Stances within our Constitution:

ARTICLE IV: POLICIES CONCERNING PRINTING

Section 1: General Guidelines for Letters and Submissions

(E) We will only edit submissions in a scenario where the content could expose the author [if they have asked to be anonymous] or The Bullsheet to legal reprimand. Otherwise, all submissions are printed as they are submitted. This means that it is the responsibility of the authors to edit their pieces and make them presentable. If a submission is unreadable, iii it is up to the given night's editor(s) to determine whether or not it shall be printed.

(G) The opinions expressed in The Bullsheet are not necessarily those of the editor(s) or staff. The editors do, however, have final responsibility for what is printed.

Section 3: Personal Attacks and Community Dialogue

(A) As a forum for community dialogue, The Bullsheet is in favor of argumentation, discussion, and dialectical reasoning, but we are not in favor of attacks on character and groundless accusations. We encourage responses to articles that individuals disagree with, but such responses must be both relevant to the article in question and not attack the author themselves.

(B) The Bullsheet recognizes that there may be submissions that, because of language, phrasing, or context, fall into an unforeseen gray area. Given this, Bullsheet editors reserve the

right to exercise our better judgment in such cases.

(C) Authors whose submissions do not meet the aforementioned criteria will be notified of the decision and will be given justification. Authors can then revise what they have written and resubmit it and, so long as it's submitted by 6:30pm the following day, it will be published in the next edition of The Bullsheet.

- Staff

Maple Shortbread Bars REGINA SCHRAMBLING

Shortly after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001,

Staff "18/771 Liked Songs" Box

tsy "The Climb • No Doubt" Wagner, Managing Editor Ellie "Freaking Out • Death" Schrader, Senior Editor Mick "Celebrity Skin • Hole" Smith, Junior Editor Claire "Drunk Voicemail • Pom Pom Squad" Anderson, Junior Editor

William "It Came in the Night • A Raincoat" Kelsey, Head William "It Came in the Night of A Raincoat" Kelsey, Head
Blythe "Welcome Home, Son of Radical Face" Dahlem, Senior Writer
Lena "Wolf Like Mood of TV On The Radio" Hanrahan, Senior Writer
Evie "Bikini Girls with Machine Guns of The Cramps" Waters, Senior Writer
Lauren "Fallen Fruit of Lorde" Ehlers, Junior Writer
Emmy "I Feel It All of Feist" Ayad, Sophomore Writer
Ella "Shut Up and Let Me Go of The Ting Tings" Buzas, Sophomore Writer
Griffin "Bad Girls of The Ting Tings" Buzas, Sophomore Writer
Caroline "Crazy of Jem" Concannon, Sophomore Writer
Micah "Animal of Mike Snow" Stromsoe DeLorenzo, Sophomore Writer
Brin "The Ghost At Number One of Jellyfish", Glass Sophomore Writer
Selah "Rosa of Grimes" Griffin, Sophomore Writer
Caroline "Everybody's Free of Quindon Tarver" Lopez, Sophomore Writer
Carter "Vitamin Control of Cane of Carle of

