

# Eve Spangler

Professor and Anti-Israel Speaker

**Eve Spangler is an associate professor at Boston College who spreads lies about Israel, supports the destructive BDS (Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions) movement, attempts to rewrite history in the Middle East, and denies the indigenous rights of her people, the Jews.**

**Spangler supports the anti-Semitic, anti-Palestinian, and anti-peace BDS movement.**

- Spangler signed on to a letter that asked Trader Joe's to remove all Israeli products from its shelves.<sup>i</sup> She is also a frequent speaker for Students for Justice in Palestine, a group that calls for Israel's destruction and vigorously promotes the BDS movement.
- BDS is an anti-Semitic movement because it spreads lies about the only Jewish state in an attempt to isolate it politically, economically, and socially.
  - Freedom House ranked Israel as the *only* completely free country in the Middle East, yet BDS only targets the Jewish state<sup>ii</sup> and ignores countries (Saudi Arabia, North Korea, Syria, etc.) with actual atrocious human rights records.
- BDS has harsh repercussions for both Palestinian-Arab and Israeli civilians.
  - The BDS movement against Israel harms Palestinian-Arabs working in Judea and Samaria (the "West Bank") by boycotting products they produce and eliminating their places of work and sources of income. **If BDS succeeds, roughly 100,000 Palestinian-Arabs will lose their jobs.**<sup>iii</sup>
  - BDS undermines peace negotiations by encouraging Palestinian-Arab leaders to not associate or negotiate with Israeli peace partners. It also distorts reality by demonizing Israel and insisting it is to blame for the entire conflict.

**Spangler rewrites the history of the conflict in order to support her lies about Israel and the Jewish people.**

**Spangler's Edited History:**

- "...traditionally, during the whole Middle Ages Jews lived in far greater equality and far greater safety in the Muslim world than in the Christian world..."<sup>iv</sup>
- By 1947 there was a "conscious and deliberate commitment to military transfer and ethnic cleansing."

**What Really Happened:**

- The Islamic states of the Middle East persecuted their Jews for hundreds of years.
  - The Middle East has a long and violent history of pogroms against Jews even before the official creation of Israel. The following are just a few examples:
    - Aleppo (1850, 1875), Damascus (1840, 1848, 1890), Beirut (1862, 1874), Dayr al-Qamar (1847), Jaffa (1876), Jerusalem (1847, 1870 and 1895), Cairo (1844, 1890, 1901–02), Mansura (1877), Alexandria (1870, 1882, 1901–07), Port Said (1903, 1908), Damanhur (1871, 1873, 1877, 1891),<sup>v</sup> and Hebron (1929).<sup>vi</sup>
  - Middle Eastern countries forced Jews (and other minorities) to live as "*dhimmis*," or second-class citizens.
    - Countries such as Syria, Libya, Iraq, Morocco, and Egypt forced Jews to pay *al-jizya*, a tax specifically instituted for *dhimmis*.
    - Jews had no voting rights and limited freedoms because they were Jewish.
- **Despite Spangler's claim, the vast majority of Arabs were not expelled from the Land of Israel in 1947-1948.**

- Most of the Palestinian-Arabs who left were not exiled by Israeli leaders; rather, Arab leadership encouraged them to leave. **Arab leaders told the Arab residents of British Mandate Palestine to evacuate before they attacked Israel (which took place less than 24 hours after Israel declared independence).**
  - For example, the Jordanian newspaper *Falastin* wrote on February 19, 1949: “*The Arab States encouraged the Palestine-Arabs to leave their homes temporarily in order to be out of the way of the Arab invasion armies.*”
- Many Arabs fled because of the war the Arab nations waged on the new Jewish state; they wanted to escape the violence (as many do during a time of war).
  - Jews were unable to flee because they had nowhere to go; surrounding Arab nations – according to their leaders – would have massacred them.
- When Israel declared independence in 1948, the founders wrote and enacted the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel that ensured equality for *all* citizens of the state.
  - “THE STATE OF ISRAEL...**will foster the development of the country for the benefit of all its inhabitants**; it will be based on freedom, justice and peace as envisaged by the prophets of Israel; **it will ensure complete equality of social and political rights to all its inhabitants irrespective of religion, race or sex; it will guarantee freedom of religion, conscience, language, education and culture**; it will safeguard the Holy Places of **all** religions; and it **will be faithful to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations.**”<sup>vii</sup>

### Spangler refutes the indigenous rights of the Jews, her own people.

- Spangler claims that “...the leaders of the Zionist movement understood that to build their Jewish State in Palestine required the removal of the indigenous population, the Palestinians.”<sup>viii</sup>
- However, as stated above, Israel’s Declaration of Independence states that Arabs were welcome to stay in Israel and receive equal rights.
- Moreover, the Palestinian-Arabs living in the area were not indigenous to the area. Indigenous status cannot be created at will. Rather, it refers to a people who have a strong tie to an ancestral land in which they developed their own language, culture, and traditions.<sup>ix</sup>
  - Palestinian-Arabs identify as Arabs, meaning they are indigenous to the Arabian Peninsula, or the Hejaz, unlike the Jews who are indigenous to Judea (now called Israel) in the Levant.<sup>x</sup>
  - Arabs gained a large presence in the area after numerous Arab empires conquered the land centuries ago.<sup>xi</sup>

<sup>i</sup> US Campaign for the Academic & Cultural Boycott of Israel.

<sup>ii</sup> Freedom House: Middle East and North Africa, Countries and Topics.

<sup>iii</sup> *EU Survey*: “Palestinians working for Israelis are paid double those working for Palestinians in the West Bank and triple those in the Gaza Strip.” Itamar Marcus and Nan Jacques Zilberdik. *Palestinian Media Watch*. February 26, 2015.

<sup>iv</sup> YouTube. Tufts SJP. “IAW 2013: Eve Spangler: ‘After Zionism: Jewish Voices for Equality in Palestine’ (Part 1)” March 5, 2013

<sup>v</sup> Yossef Bodansky. “Islamic Anti-Semitism as a Political Instrument” Co-Produced by The Ariel Center for Policy Research and The Freeman Center for Strategic Studies, 1999. See also *The Encyclopedia of World History* By Peter N. Stearns, William Leonard Langer p. 527. 2001.

<sup>vi</sup> “Long Shadow of 1929 Hebron Massacre.” BBC. August 26, 2009.

<sup>vii</sup> Ministry of Israel. “The Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel.” May 14, 1948

<sup>viii</sup> YouTube. Tufts SJP. “IAW 2013: Eve Spangler: ‘After Zionism: Jewish Voices for Equality in Palestine’ (Part 1)” March 5, 2013

<sup>ix</sup> Youtube. Abigail Hirsch. “Elsa Scheider interviews Indigenous Rights Activist Ryan Bellerose” March 21, 2015.

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