



# STUDY GUIDE

## DOES ISRAEL DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ARABS?

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**KEY TERMS:** apartheid  
holocaust

BDS  
rights

evil  
freedom

**NOTE-TAKING COLUMN:** Complete this section during the video. Include definitions and key terms.

**CUE COLUMN:** Complete this section after the video.

What couldn't blacks do during African Apartheid?

How does the BDS movement operate?

What doesn't the BDS movement want you to do, in terms of learning about Israel?

How is Israel different than the way it is portrayed by the BDS advocates?

Where does Omar Barghouti live and study?

## DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

- At the beginning of the video, Ms. Meshoe states, “Maybe you’ve heard someone say that Israel is an apartheid state. That Israel has a policy of segregating and oppressing the minority population within its borders – like South Africa once did. Maybe you’ve been so outraged by this information that you have considered joining the BDS movement, the effort to boycott, divest and sanction Israel until it ends its alleged ‘racist’ policies. I don’t blame you. Apartheid is a great evil and deserves to be fought wherever we find it. But here’s the thing: You won’t find apartheid in the State of Israel.” Why do you think that so many people mistakenly believe that Israel is oppressing anyone or that Israel is racist? What do you think the real motivations are behind the BDS movement? Explain.
- Later, Ms. Meshoe explains that, “BDS doesn’t want you to do research or visit Israel. It depends on the ignorance of its audience. Sadly, on American college campuses, BDS has a significant presence. It succeeds by playing on the good intentions of good people through deliberate deception. In short, they lie... And lies about Israel are misleading a lot of good-hearted young people into opposing the only country in the entire Middle East that doesn’t segregate and oppress its minority population. Just ask the next Egyptian Copt or Iraqi Christian you meet on campus.” Why do you think the BDS movement is targeting college campuses to prey on good-hearted students vulnerable to such hateful misinformation? Why do you think many of these students don’t immediately utilize skepticism and critical thinking when being exposed to the fake claims being propagated by the BDS movement? Explain.
- Ms. Meshoe goes on to point out that, “...the question people should really be asking is: What does the BDS movement want? The answer is simple. They want to destroy Israel. They can’t do it militarily, so they try to do it through lies.” Considering that the BDS movement wants to eliminate an entire nation of people and is using blatant deception and aggressive tactics to advance that goal, would you consider the BDS advocates to be hypocrites in regards to calling Israel ‘oppressors’? Why or why not? Why do you think the hardline BDS advocates want to destroy Israel? Explain.
- When describing the leaders of the BDS movement, Ms. Meshoe points out that, “They will lie and say that they only want a Palestinian state living side by side with Israel, and then they say this: ‘We oppose a Jewish state in any part of Palestine....Ending the occupation doesn’t mean anything if it doesn’t mean upending the Jewish state itself.’ That’s from Omar Barghouti, a founder of BDS.” What do you think Mr. Barghouti means by his statement? How do casual lies, such as Mr. Barghouti’s false premise in the statement above that Israel is ‘occupying’ Palestine, contribute to advancing the BDS movement and how powerful can such lies be in winning and retaining new recruits?
- At the conclusion of the video, Ms. Meshoe asks, “Is Israel a perfect country? No... But to call it an apartheid state is not only an insult to the only democracy in the Middle East and the only country with equal rights for all its minorities. It’s also an insult to the actual victims of apartheid, like my parents and all those who suffered under it.” In what ways does falsely comparing the conditions in Israel to African apartheid insult the actual victims of it? Do you think that using the term apartheid to describe the conditions in Israel cheapens and weakens the meaning behind the term and the history associated with it- perhaps in the same way that progressives calling anyone they don’t like a ‘Nazi’ greatly lessens the

magnitude of evil that the actual Nazis were and belittles the actual awful experiences of those who were victims of real Nazis? Why or why not?

## EXTEND THE LEARNING:

### CASE STUDY: The BDS Movement

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article “Is the BDS Movement a success or failure?” then answer the questions that follow.

- Who is Gedaliah Blum and what does he do? What is Mr. Blum’s reasoning for his position on the topic of the success of BDS? What does Mr. Blum believe the main goal of the BDS movement is? What does Mr. Blum believe should be done to counter the BDS movement?
- What factors do you think have contributed to the unfortunate success of the BDS movement to any degree? What, realistically, do you think could be done to quash the BDS movement permanently?
- How does the article support points made in the video, if at all? Has your personal view on the topic changed at all since prior to watching the video? Explain.



# QUIZ

## DOES ISRAEL DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ARABS?

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1. How is Israel similar to apartheid South Africa?

- a. It's not.
- b. Segregated drinking fountains.
- c. Segregated schools.
- d. Segregated hospitals.

2. BDS depends on \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. enormous government subsidies
- b. mainly American voters from the South
- c. the ignorance of its audience
- d. Israeli acceptance

3. Which of the following are Arabs NOT allowed to do in Israel?

- a. Serve as judges.
- b. Fight in the Israeli military.
- c. Be elected to Israel's parliament.
- d. None of the above.

4. What does the BDS movement want?

- a. They only want a Palestinian state living side-by-side with Israel.
- b. They want to establish their own currency.
- c. They want to destroy Israel.
- d. They want to create peace in the Middle East.

5. Omar Barghouti, a founder of BDS, is a PhD student at Israel's Tel Aviv University, where he suffers acute discrimination.

- a. True
- b. False



# QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

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<http://israelbehindthenews.com/bds-movement-success-failure/15867/>

## Is the BDS Movement a success or failure?

By  
Rachel Avraham

May 19, 2017



In an exclusive interview, Gedaliah Blum, who runs the Dapei Katom organization together with his wife Elisheva, speaks out about the daily struggles that small businesses in Judea and Samaria face due to the BDS Movement. At the same time, Blum emphasized that the BDS Movement is largely a failure.

Gedaliah Blum together with his wife Elisheva runs the Dapei Katom organization, which for the past 7 ½ years has worked closely with 2,500 businesses in Judea and Samaria, promoting them in Israel and internationally. (They are currently launching a new project to help build and promote more than 100 ecommerce shops from businesses located within Judea and Samaria.) They will be working together with an international pro-Israel organization and an Israeli government funded project that seeks to assist small businesses located in Israel's periphery including in Judea and Samaria. Since they are working with local businesses in Judea and Samaria, they witness firsthand how the BDS Movement is influencing the Israeli economy. The question remains, are they negatively affecting the economy? Are they changing views and creating an environment of anti-Israel sentiment?

According to Blum, when it comes to halting economic growth in Israel, the BDS Movement is a failure: "Israeli tech companies get 100 million dollar investments every month. On a purely economic scale, the Israeli economy is growing strongly. Foreign investment per capita is rising. The Chinese come here with a checkbook, going from door to door and they are seeking for the next idea to invest in. Israel is untouched on a macro-scale. 100 people interrupting some lecture or protesting the sale of tomatoes is nothing compared to all of the foreign investments coming to Israel."



However, on the other side of the coin, Blum noted that small businesses in Judea and Samaria are affected by the BDS Movement: Successes by BDS can be seen with “Israeli businesses in the Jordan Valley who sell dates are losing contracts and are looking to expand markets to regions not interested in the politics, the BDS can appear in Seattle and block a shipment of Israeli goods from coming in, they put pressure on musicians coming to Israel, as well as label tomatoes in the market and pressure them off the market.”

Nevertheless, Blum does not believe that this has adversely affected how most of the world thinks about Israel. If anything, he argued that the public perception of Israel in the world has actually gotten better. He noted that in a 2005 Gallop Poll, 27% of the global population has a negative perception of Israel. But in 2016, the same poll showed that it was down to 22%: “The Gallup Poll showed that the BDS Movement is a failure in changing minds.”

Yet Blum believes that the main goal of the BDS Movement is not to destroy the Israeli economy or even affect the views of most of the global population but rather to work towards the destruction of Israel by creating an environment of anti-Israel sentiment: “It is not about the economy. It is about an overall strategy to destroy Israel like war and terrorism. They may claim to be a non-violent movement, but it is violent in nature for it seeks to destroy the State of Israel. They target all of Israel. They also target Caterpillar, a non-Israeli company who sells construction material to Israel. They are spread really wide. They succeeded in taking a baseline of people who are anti-Israel and anti-Semitic people in Europe and US and created a campaign that gave them something to do to actualize their hate for Israel in their everyday lives.”

Blum believes that the BDS Movement would have been successful if they stuck to going after businesses in Judea and Samaria. For that, he claimed they would enjoy the support of the European Union, the US State Department and the UN. However, since they broadened their boycott to include all of Israel and everyone who does business with Israel, they have lost most people who support Israel’s right to exist. Blum claims that they are merely a loud minority but by having a call for action, he stressed that BDS portrays themselves to be bigger than they actually are.

“The BDS Movement is very well organized,” Blum argued. “If I were BDS and I wanted to shut down free speech, I would think shutting down a lecture is a success. They don’t care about human rights or justice. They will do violence. A lot of these people are what Stalin called useful idiots. They have been corrupted into thinking Israel is an apartheid state and that they are acting just and legitimate.” For this reason, Blum emphasized that pro-Israel groups must have a call for action in order to “make them into the small people they are.” He argued that the best way to do this is to have a boycott of Israeli products from Judea and Samaria. Blum stressed that if someone wants to be part of building up Israel, they should purchase all of their goods from the Judea and Samaria mall, which is currently in development. This campaign is a philanthropic endeavour which they are raising funds.