

**Subject:** Statement by Orange County Supervisors regarding the people of Palestine Gaza - 10/17/2023

**From:** Michele Musacchio <michelemusacchio@me.com>

**Date:** 10/17/23, 11:27

**To:** response@ocgov.com

**CC:** helattar@voiceofoc.org

Attention: This email originated from outside the County of Orange. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Thank you, Supervisors and Chair, for the opportunity to address you this morning. To the item of the statement issued by three of the Supervisors, I join the demand to retract the statement.

No one is made safe by this race-baiting, disparaging, statement.

Please let me point out why this statement is a losing bet.

You are betting on people's fear to speak up for those being slaughtered collectively in violation of international law. And you will lose that bet. You are losing it now, looking here at the fearless, writing in and standing present at your meeting.

You are betting on people's different backgrounds to fill the air with babble and confusion. And you will lose that bet. You are losing it now, looking here at the united in the Board meeting today.

You are betting on hiding behind the influential and the resourced. And you will lose that bet. You are losing it now, looking here at us gathered in love, as love is true, boundless power. It grows person upon person, even in the face of overwhelming violence. You cannot stop us.

You are betting on stirring up racial hatred arising from pain. And you will lose that bet. You are losing it now, staring down a field of local candidates of indigenous, Arab-world, and yes, of Muslim descent, running for office to share power in Orange County and beyond.

You are betting on manufacturing consent to genocide in the name of the people of our County, and you will lose that bet. You are losing it now, as we are assembled in dissent of this ghoulis, incendiary statement. We do not consent.

We reflect back to you Judeo-Christian values, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me

No one is free until we are ALL free.

The grief of the Jewish people of Israel is not your human shield.

We see you.

The fear to be left to stand alone, as historically held and proven by the Jewish people, is not your human shield.

We see you.

No one is made safe by this statement. I implore you to vote to retract the statement.

To keep them safe, we stand with the Jewish people. Here in Orange County, where they deserve our caring protection every day. No peoples are afforded protection simply by their power to exterminate others.

To keep them safe, we stand with the Palestinian people. Especially here in Orange County, despite this irresponsible statement tantamount to a declaration of open season upon our Palestinian brothers, sisters, and siblings, who instead also deserve our caring protection every day. We refuse to abandon them.

Nor will we abandon anyone in their fight for self-determination and freedom to survive and thrive in our County.

We stand united, committed to fight anti-semitism, the original scourge, where it is embodied by the hearts of people in everyday life all around us, not by the people of Gaza.

Sincerely,

Michèle Musacchio  
Irvine, CA