

**EDWARD CHARLES CORRIGAN  
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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of Edward C. Corrigan. Ed Corrigan helped me find my faith as a Jew. It would be inaccurate to brand him an anti-Semite.

In its 1990-1991 Winter Issue, the Middle East Policy Council published an outstanding article by Mr. Corrigan entitled, "Jewish Criticism of Zionism." I read this article in January, 2005. As a result, I began to contemplate the possibility that, contrary to all prevailing sentiment in the Jewish Community of the United States, I could be a believing Jew even if I were a non-Zionist.

Soon thereafter, I contacted Mr. Corrigan to congratulate him on the article. I asked him why he had written it. He responded that,

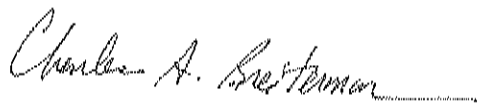
The article was a response to some progressive Jewish friends that thought all Jews were Zionist and to some Arab friends who thought all Jews supported Israel. I had spent several years accumulating info on Jewish criticism of Zionism and thought an article on the subject would be a useful resource to those who wanted to respond to the charge that all criticism of Israel was anti-Semitic. 2/16/05

Moved by Mr. Corrigan's article, I made a fresh examination of websites such as <http://www.nkusa.org/>. This is a website with a subtitle of "Orthodox Jews United Against Zionism." The problem in understanding this website may be that ultra-Orthodox Jews are so immersed in the Torah and the Hebrew language that it can be difficult for them to communicate with secular Jews like myself. But thanks to Mr. Corrigan's article, this website and other similar websites now resonated with me.

I drove to Monsey, NY, tracked down a leading anti-Zionist rabbi and had a most enlightening conversation. He and a number of other rabbis believe for religious reasons that Israel should be dismantled. I e-mailed Mr. Corrigan at the time that, "It was an interesting feeling to be walking around in this city and pass by dozens and dozens of Jews, most of whom think that Israel is in violation of God's will, an abomination." (9/22/2005) There is a similar community of anti-Zionist Jews in the Williamsburg section of Brooklyn, N.Y.. Someone should not be considered an anti-Semite merely because such person has a principled opposition to the state of Israel.

Mr. Corrigan is a man who used keen reasoning, intellectual steadfastness and moral courage to develop a point of view even though the prevailing sentiment said that this viewpoint was blameworthy. I have never felt one iota of anti-Jewish sentiment from Ed Corrigan. I admire him and hope one day to meet him in person.

Sincerely,



Charles A. Breiterman, J.D., M.A.  
(cbreiterman2002@yahoo.com)

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**Re: Ed Corrigan**

3066 Jacques Lauzon,  
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20/12/05

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a Jewish Canadian, resident of Montreal. I lived in Israel for fourteen years and continue to follow events over there very closely.

I have never met Ed Corrigan. We have corresponded, and I have read a number of his articles published between 1987 and 2005. They are:

"The Palestinian Question at the University," *American-Arab Affairs* 21 (Summer 1987): 87-98.

"Jewish Criticism of Zionism," *American-Arab Affairs* 35 (Winter 1990-91): 94-116.

"The Legal Debate in Canada on the Protection of Stateless Individuals under the 1951 Geneva Convention," *Immigration Law Reporter* c. 1998-99: 196-209.

"How Politics Works," c. 2001, 3 pp.

"A Review of *Prophets Outcast*," *Middle East Policy* (Summer 2005): 139-43.

I can see that he has studied Zionism and is very well informed on this subject. One might infer from two of the above-mentioned articles that Mr. Corrigan is opposed to Zionism. I see no evidence that he is anti-Israel and no evidence that he is anti-Semitic. I would point out that one can oppose an ideology or a policy that a country adopts without having a prejudice towards that country or to its inhabitants. I note that in the two articles that pertain to Zionism Mr. Corrigan refers to at least 50, if not more, Jewish writers and thinkers who opposed Zionism. These people were undoubtedly deeply involved in Jewish culture and have a worldwide reputation for the depth of their insights and concern. They cannot possibly be considered anti-Semitic. Neither can Mr. Corrigan.

Sincerely,

Michael Benazon, Ph.D.

August 20, 2010

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Professor Cheryl A. Rubenberg, Ph.D.  
Editor, Encyclopedia of the Israeli-Palestinian  
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Mr. Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister & Solicitor  
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Dear Edward:

I am sorry to learn that you have come under such vicious personal attack for your writings on Israel. Sorry, but not surprised as it has become *de rigueur* for the Israeli government and its supporters abroad to attempt to silence any criticism of Israeli actions through the slanderous accusation of "anti-Semitism" (or "self-hating Jew"). I lost my bid for full professorship because one man, the provost, vetoed it though formally unstated, because I have been a critic of Israel's policies. In any case you are among good company including Noble Prize winners former President Jimmy Carter and Anglican Bishop Desmond Tutu.

We criticize the policies of the United States and other governments across the globe. Why should Israel be exempt from criticism? The accusation of anti-Semitism (though admittedly it exists in some extremist quarters) is merely a shibboleth to silence those who would examine Israel's Occupation of the Palestinians and the policies it uses to reinforce that Occupation as well as its illegal expansionism in Jerusalem and the West Bank and the subjugation of Gaza. Israel, always concerned about its legitimacy, wants the world to believe the myths of its official political culture, e.g. that it is a "light unto nations," pursues an always defensive "purity of arms," is an eternal "victim" that faces another Holocaust around every corner, and exists outside of history. When critical analyses demonstrate the fallacies in these myths, official Israel believes it must quash the dissent by any means, and accusations of anti-Semitism have proven highly efficacious in this regard.

On 18 August 2010 Jewish American Professor Jerome Slater published a relevant article entitled 'Another Self-Hating Jew,' wherein he commented: "Perhaps Israel's right wing

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government believes that by accusing the international community of seeking to undermine its existence it will distract attention from an increasingly untenable claim that Israel is a model democracy that also enshrines Jewish values.... The democratic dispensation that Israel provides for its mostly Jewish citizenry cannot hide its changing (or changed) character. A political arrangement that limits democracy to a privileged class and keeps others behind military checkpoints, barbed-wire fences and separation walls does not define democracy. It defines its absence. The claim that Israel is the incarnation and defender of Jewish values is contradicted by its treatment of an Arab population that has now lived for over two generations under Israel's military subjugation. Israel's problem is not the Palestinian or Arab refusal to recognize it as a Jewish state. It is, rather, the increasing difficulty of Jews familiar with Jewish values to recognize it as a Jewish state."

I have read your postings—essays, commentary, and so on over many years. I have never found any indication of anti-Semitism in any of your work. Indeed, your criticisms of Israel's policies toward the Palestinians fall squarely in line with those of a host of prominent Israeli professors, journalists, scholars, philosophers and intellectuals. (See below, Appendix I, for a listing and discussion of some such critics.)

Ironically Israeli-Jewish critics have far more freedom to write and speak about Israel's oppressive Occupation practices, its human rights violations and so on than critics in other countries wherein Israel's *hasbara* (propaganda) system works night and day to silence them. You, Mr. Corrigan, unfortunately have become an unwitting target. But any fair-minded individual reading your work would know immediately that there is no anti-Semitism, only sympathy for a subjugated people—the Palestinians, who happen to be oppressed by Israel.

Israel's image today is negative not because a large portion of its citizens are Jewish, but because its government habitually transgresses the norms of acceptable international behavior. Indeed, Israel is increasingly perceived as a rogue state, as an international pariah, and as a threat to world peace. It is perfectly legitimate to criticize Israel. Giving it uncritical, unqualified support in all its actions, its violations of dozens of UN Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, its policies of assassination and destruction, and its racist position toward its Israeli-Palestinian citizens contributes nothing to improving the lives of the oppressed rather it legitimizes Israel's oppression.

In your own country more than 170 Jewish Canadians have signed a statement expressing their concerns about the campaign to suppress criticism of Israel that is being carried on within Canada. The signatories include many prominent Canadians, including Ursula Franklin O.C., Anton Kuerti O.C., Naomi Klein, Dr. Gabor Mate, and professors Meyer Brownstone (recipient of Pearson Peace Medal), Natalie Zemon Davis (former president of the American Historical Association), and Judy Rebick.

The signatories are particularly concerned that unfounded accusations of anti-Semitism deflect attention from Israel's accountability for what many have called war crimes in Gaza. They state that B'nai Brith and the Canadian Jewish Congress have led campaigns



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to silence criticism of Israel on university campuses, in labour unions and in other groups. Immigration Minister Jason Kenney and Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff unquestioningly echo the views of these particular Jewish organizations. The signatories strongly state that they are against all expressions of racism. While firmly committed to resisting any form of prejudice against Jewish people, their statement explicitly states that these spurious allegations of anti-Semitism bring the anti-Communist terror of the 1950s vividly to mind. The statement underlines the immeasurable suffering and injustice to the Palestinian people due to the severe poverty, daily humiliations, and military invasions inflicted by the State of Israel. Thus you have support from Canadian Jews.

"We are Jewish Canadians concerned about all expressions of racism, anti-Semitism, and social injustice. We believe that the Holocaust legacy "Never again" means never again for all peoples. It is a tragic turn of history that the State of Israel, with its ideals of democracy and its dream of being a safe haven for Jewish people, causes immeasurable suffering and injustice to the Palestinian people.

"We are appalled by recent attempts of prominent Jewish organizations and leading Canadian politicians to silence protest against the State of Israel. We are alarmed by the escalation of fear tactics. Charges that those organizing Israel Apartheid Week or supporting an academic boycott of Israel are anti-Semites promoting hatred. We believe this serves to deflect attention from Israel's flagrant violations of international humanitarian law.

"B'nai Brith and the Canadian Jewish Congress have pressured university presidents and administrations to silence debate and discussion specifically regarding Palestine/Israel. In a full-page ad in a national newspaper, B'nai Brith urged donors to withhold funds from universities because "anti-Semitic hate fests" were being allowed on campuses. Immigration Minister Jason Kenney and Liberal Leader Michael Ignatieff have echoed these arguments. While university administrators have resisted demands to shut down Israel Apartheid week, some Ontario university presidents have bowed to this disinformation campaign by suspending and fining students, confiscating posters, and infringing on free speech.

"We do not believe that Israel acts in self-defense. Israel is the largest recipient of US foreign aid, receiving \$3 million/day. It has the fourth strongest army in the world. Before the invasion of Gaza on 27 December 2008, Israel's siege had already created a humanitarian catastrophe there, with severe impoverishment, malnutrition, and destroyed infrastructure. It is crucial that forums for discussion of Israel's accountability to the international community for what many have called war crimes be allowed to proceed unrestricted by specious claims of anti-Semitism.

"We recognize that anti-Semitism is a reality in Canada as elsewhere, and we are fully committed to resisting any act of hatred against Jews. At the same time, we condemn false charges of anti-Semitism against student organizations, unions, and other groups

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and people exercising their democratic right to freedom of speech and association regarding legitimate criticism of the State of Israel."

In Britain a coalition of prominent Jewish activists and academics took out a paid advertisement in *The Times* calling for Israel to lift its economic blockade of the Gaza Strip and accusing the state of breaching international law. "Independent Jewish Voices" (IJV) was formed a year ago and counts Nobel laureate Harold Pinter and actor Stephen Fry among its prominent signatories. Historian Eric Hobsbawm is also a signatory. The statement was signed by 250 of the group's members. Entitled "End the siege of Gaza!" the statement condemned Israel's actions in blockading Gaza as a violation of international law, and also called for a halt to Palestinian rocket attacks.

"The collective punishment of the population of Gaza is illegal under international law. We condemn attacks on all civilians including the rocket attacks on the residents of Southern Israel," said the statement.

The group was formed to provide an alternative to the Board of Deputies of British Jews - a cross communal Jewish organisation dating back to 1760 - who the IJV felt were inauthentically presenting themselves as the exclusive voice of Judaism in Britain. IJV members say that the Board of Deputies refuses to allow criticism of Israel and this presents an unrepresentative picture of Jewish opinion in the U.K.

There are a plethora of American-Jewish groups and individuals that support the Palestinians and are critical of Israel. Some include Jewish Voice for Peace; American Jews For A Just Peace; International Solidarity Movement, US; Jewish Friends of Palestine; *MuzzleWatch*; Not in My Name; Brit Tzedek v' Shalom - the Jewish Peace Alliance for Justice and Peace - which is said to have more than 15,000 members; and Meretz USA an affiliate of Israel's Meretz bloc; Americans for Peace Now, which reportedly has 25,000 members; the Jewish Peace Fellowship; and the Shalom Center. Prolific writers abound too: Rabbis Arthur Waskow of the Shalom Center, Michael Lerner of *Tikkun* magazine and Henry Siegman, former head of the American Jewish Congress when it was still liberal and now President of the U.S./ Middle East Project, Henry Siegman, who was an ordained Orthodox rabbi who later served sixteen years as the Executive Director of the American Jewish Congress, Noam Chomsky, Richard Falk, Sara Roy, Adam Shapiro, Michael Massing at the *New York Review of Books*, Tony Karon, Philip Weiss, Norman Birnbaum, Norman Finkelstein, the late Tony Judt and many more who will never be silent.

Sholto Byrnes writing in *The New Statesman* (London), on November 18, 2009 put the matter thus: "... some critics of Israel may be anti-Semitic, but it would be absurd to suggest it therefore follows that the act of criticism [of Israel] is in itself anti-Semitic."

Your writing is no more critical than these Canadian, British, and US Jews or the Israelis mentioned in the Appendix. Indeed, given Israel's policies toward the Palestinians, reminiscent of Apartheid's treatment of Blacks in South Africa, I heartily believe that it would be immoral for Jews and non-Jews alike, not to bring these policies to light.

I trust you will win your law suite because you are not anti-Semitic and no one can prove that you are. The harassment must end.

With all good wishes,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cheryl A. Rubenberg". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Cheryl A. Rubenberg

RECEIVED  
AUG 25 2011

Dear Sir/Madame,

Back during World War 2, Rev. Niemöller described a scenario whereby people remained silent when the Nazis came for members of groups to which they did not belong. In the end the Nazis came for them, and there was no one left to speak up in their defense.

Ed Corrigan is human, so when one group of humans commits crimes against another group of humans, Ed Corrigan does not remain silent. When Zionist Jews commit horrific crimes against Palestinians and Palestinian supporters, and when Ed Corrigan criticizes the crimes by Jews, he is standing up for humanity, and he is demanding that Zionist Jews respect their own humanity and cease their crimes.

To then accuse Ed Corrigan of being "one of Canada's most notorious anti-Semites" is just pure ad hominem. Ad hominem is merely defamation without evidence.

To label Ed Corrigan an anti-Semite is preposterous. It is assumed that he is labeled such because of his activism and writings that deplore Jewish crimes against Palestinians. Yet Ed Corrigan's writings draw heavily on the writings of myriad other Jews that support his opposition to crimes committed by the state of Israel, the self-proclaimed "Jewish state." (see a few examples of his writings at end) Hence, if criticism of Israeli crimes is anti-Semitism, there are many Jews who are so-called anti-Semites.

Is labeling someone a self-hater or anti-Semite the logical and proper reaction? Obviously slandering someone with words is improper. It breaches etiquette. As for the proper reaction, when someone makes a criticism, if it is errant or unjustified, then refute it with facts and logic. Name calling suggests the slanderer/libeller cannot refute the criticism. Name calling should be self-defeating for the name caller.

The proper response of people guided by their conscience is to criticize crimes against humanity, war crimes ... and conscience is never more so called upon to act than when the crimes are committed by members of one's own family/group/nation.

Ed Corrigan wishes Jews to live in peace and harmony with the rest of humanity, to respect and earn the respect of the rest of humanity. Principled people cannot abide the cognitive dissonance caused by crimes committed by people within their group. Criticism of such crimes is a minimal demanded response.

Clearly every rational and unbiased human being will realize that Ed Corrigan is responding to the highest demands of humanity. He should be applauded for following the convictions of his conscience.

Sincerely,  
Kim Petersen  
editor, Dissident Voice newsletter



**Selected Bibliography**

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7937 De Gaspé Avenue  
Montreal, Qc H2R 2A6  
September 1, 2010

10  
RECEIVED  
SEP 09 2010

To Whom it May Concern:

I am outraged that a perniciously false accusation of anti-semitism has been directed against Ed Corrigan, the distinguished immigration attorney and human rights champion. As a Jew, I feel that disgusting calumnies like this serve to trivialize and camouflage the real threats to Jewish honor and well-being. Those who habitually trot out the anti-semitic bugaboo to demonize legitimate criticism of the policies and practices of the state of Israel would be well advised to recall what happened to the boy who cried wolf.

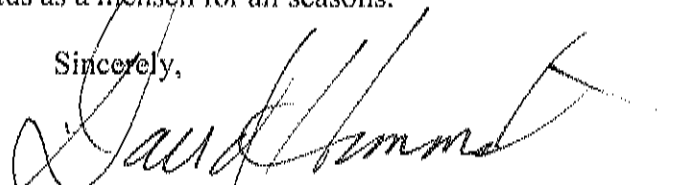
Facts are Ed Corrigan's forte and I would imagine that his ability to marshal the facts is a major reason for his impressive success rate as an attorney. In any event, his constant factual underpinning is what makes knee-jerk defenders of Israel so uncomfortable. He brings to the forefront unwelcome factual details about the callous brutality and social strangulation currently endured by Palestinians, and provides factual historical background to explain how things got to be this way. His opponents, being hard pressed to refute any of his facts, often resort to broadbrush smearing.

One of Ed Corrigan's most valuable services has been to showcase the vast and heterogeneous international community expressing support for Palestinian human rights and condemnation of Israel's denial thereof. This includes a sizeable segment of Jews from around the world, including Israel. He has enhanced my Jewish awareness by drawing attention to unsuspected voices, past and present, that represent an honor roll of conscience within the Jewish tradition--indeed, within any tradition

Over the years, I have found Ed Corrigan to be an equal-opportunity advocate for fundamental human rights. The particular denial of rights he has chosen to concentrate on is one of the harshest but, until very recently, one of the least known. The image of Israel as aggrieved victim has been one of the great PR successes of our time, but a more realistic image is taking hold in the wake of live images (e.g., phosphorous trails crisscrossing the skies of Gaza in January 2009) seen around the world.

Tunnel-visioned champions of Israel who are willing to distort and defame make me ashamed to be a Jew. I am happy to affirm Ed Corrigan's status as a mensch for all seasons.

Sincerely,



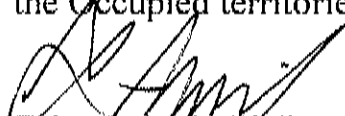
David Himmelstein

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I have known Attorney Ed Corrigan for more than six years now. I am also very familiar with his writing and other activities related to the Palestinian – Israeli Conflict and the campaign to defend Palestinian human and national rights.

I would like to State categorically that Ed Corrigan is not an Anti Semite and that any allusion to him being one are simply part of a smear campaign to defame him and many other people who are critical of Israel's conduct in the Middle East. This Campaign is also aimed at defaming individuals who are committed to the defense of Palestinian rights in Palestine as a whole and the Occupied territories in particular.



Zalman Amit, Ph.D

Distinguished Professor Emeritus  
Concordia University  
Montreal, Canada

RECEIVED  
SEP 14 2010

October 17, 2010

Dear Ed:

I was happy to see you today.

I have long intended to write to you about the statement that you say was published about you as follows: "And below is a posting by Ed Corrigan, one of Canada's worst anti semites, and idiotic spammers"

I don't know about "spammers" and I know that you are far from "idiotic".

The disturbing allegation is "antisemite".

As you know, I consider myself a humanistic and anti-Zionist Jew. As such, I am concerned about all forms of racism, including antisemitism. If you were any kind of antisemite, I would have nothing to do with you. I would denounce you and fight against you. Thankfully, in Canada's modern multicultural society, there is very little antisemitism. There is no government sanctioned antisemitism. Old-fashioned ignorant, grassroots Jew-hatred and Jew-bashing are almost non-existent. There are important exceptions, like the public statements of David Ahenakew a few years ago. That incident was shocking because we all believed that such incidents were impossible in Canada. We learned that, while they are exceedingly rare, they are not impossible.

My impression is that, to the extent that people express themselves against Jews, they do so as a form of protest against the crimes of Zionism. Don't get me wrong: protesting the crimes of Zionism is legitimate. Holding all Jews responsible for the crimes of Zionism is not legitimate. Unfortunately, Zionism (the State of Israel and its supporters) does everything in its power to conflate Jewish people with Zionism. Every criticism of Israeli government misconduct is denounced by the Zionists as an act of antisemitism.

The truth is that the Jewish community, in Canada and Israel, is divided. Some Jews support Zionist policies uncritically. Some support Zionist policies critically. Some oppose Zionism as an ideology and a state. Some anti-Zionists are motivated by Jewish religious ideals (like Neturei Karta). Some are motivated by values of human solidarity against oppression.

As you know, I am a citizen of Canada and of Israel. I am a veteran of the IDF and a graduate of Tel Aviv University Faculty of Law. Since 1972, I have been an outspoken opponent of Zionist oppression of the people of Palestine.

In this capacity, I met you, and I know you as a liberal supporter of Palestinian human rights. I know that you engage in public activity to promote awareness of the plight of the people of Palestine. As part of your activity, you research and disseminate the views of Jewish and Israeli



dissidents and anti-Zionists. I welcome your activity, and I deplore the ignorant boorish bigoted types in my own community who denounce you as one of the "worst antisemites", when you are well-known as a committed advocate and activist in defence of human rights.

The polarization in the Jewish community is growing, and the Zionist supporters of Israeli misconduct are becoming more exposed and more isolated. This is driving them into a frenzy, that leads to outbursts of murderous violence against Palestinians and solidarity activists, and outbursts of verbal violence against the likes of Ed Corrigan.

I wish you well in our joint efforts to overcome the defamers and the Zionists and the antisemites, and to uphold human rights for all.

Regards,  
Henry Lowi

p.s. You may use this letter, in full, as you deem fit.



Philosophy  
UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

14

1 November 2010

To Whom It May Concern

I have known Edward Corrigan since 1985.

He is certainly a strong activist in support of Palestinian rights.

Is he an anti-Semite? Certainly not.

Sincerely

Dan Goldstick  
Professor Emeritus

בס"ד

# Neturei Karta International

Jews United Against Zionism

נטורי קרתא

يهودا ضد الصهيونية

**NY Regional Office**

P.O.B. 1316

Monsey, N.Y. 10952

Visit us at: [www.nkusa.org](http://www.nkusa.org)

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December 6, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

Mr. Edward Corrigan is a personal friend of mine, a lawyer with many years of experience and success in citizenship and immigration. I know of many Jews he has helped, and he has always shown exemplary respect to rabbis and to Jewish tradition.

I have read his postings on the subject of the State of "Israel" and the Palestinians, and I find nothing anti-Semitic about them whatsoever. It is a fact that political Zionism, the ideology that gave birth to that state, was founded by atheistic Jews who had thrown away their Judaism. This new ideology was rejected by the vast majority of Orthodox Jews at that time. The "solution to the Jewish problem" advanced by Zionism has only made our problems greater, as history attests. Mr. Corrigan's posts attempt to explain why.

He debunks some of the underlying myths of Zionism, and draws attention to the many Jews, including the Orthodox Jewish sects of Neturei Karta and Satmar, who continue to reject Zionism and speak out against it today. He is to be commended for showing his readers that the Jewish people is far from unified in support of Zionism. He does us a great service. On the contrary, it is those who claim that all Jews are Zionists and support the actions of the Zionist state who should be accused of fomenting anti-Semitism.

As Mr. Corrigan rightly points out in one of his articles, Sir Edwin Montagu, the only Jewish member of Lloyd George's cabinet when Great Britain issued the Balfour Declaration in 1917, was adamantly opposed to the creation of a Jewish state. Montagu attacked the Balfour Declaration and Zionism because he believed they were anti-Semitic. This argument was based on the fact that both Zionism and anti-Semitism were based on the premise that Jews and non-Jews could not co-exist.

In fact, not only can Jews and non-Jews coexist - Jews are commanded to facilitate this coexistence. The Bible (Jeremiah 29:7) commands Jews to be loyal citizens of their gentile-dominated countries, to build houses and families there and pray to the Almighty on behalf of the local government. Zionists attempt to undermine this peace by claiming that there is anti-Semitism lurking everywhere and that this gives them the right to do whatever they please. It is they, not honest, good men like Mr. Corrigan, who give rise to anti-Semitism.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Dovid S. Feldman  
Neturei Karta International  
Monsey, NY, USA

UNIVERSITY  
of GUELPH

COLLEGE OF ARTS

*School of English and Theatre Studies*

16  
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JUN 28 2011

Edward C. Corrigan,  
Barrister and Solicitor.

January 8, 2011.

Dear Mr. Corrigan,

I'm very pleased to repeat here the comments I made to you in an email message in late November of last year after having the pleasure of meeting you in person for the first time over lunch in Toronto.

Let me say first that our meeting in November was one I had been looking forward to for months. I have for several years been following, with interest and admiration, your publications on issues of human rights and refugee law, and I was happy last spring to be able to include your essay "Is it Anti-Semitic to Defend Palestinian Human Rights?" in my book *Antisemitism Real and Imagined: Responses to the Canadian Parliamentary Coalition to Combat Antisemitism*.

In invited lectures I have given in recent months at ten Canadian universities, I have made a point of emphasizing the value of the essays by human rights scholars and activists and by human rights organizations that make up the first two parts of that book. I'm pleased to note that reviewers have shared my opinion: the most recent review, in the January-February 2011 issue of *Outlook* magazine, devotes two full columns to a discussion of these articles, in the course of which it praises your essay for having raised "a crucial question."

During our otherwise very agreeable and informative lunch-time conversation in November, I was distressed to learn that you have been obliged to initiate legal action against a person who has defamed you as an antisemite. I am grateful to you for showing me your statement of claim and the response of the defendant, a Mr. Hechter.

My first reaction to these texts was one of deep regret that a lawyer who, over many years, has done such fine and stalwart work as yours—as a legal practitioner, a legal scholar, and a public advocate of human rights—could have been subjected to such a loathsome and harmful slander.

My second reaction was to observe that Mr. Hechter's response to your statement of claim contains a number of distinct peculiarities. Three issues, in particular, seemed to me to deserve comment.

FIRST ISSUE

In the last two lines of page 3 of his response, Mr. Hechter is attempting to beg the question. His position could be summarized by saying that he believes you to have made "excessive and unjust criticism of Israel," and that this is antisemitic. But his claim that you have made any 'acknowledgment' to this effect is transparently false. Whether or not some other people have made "excessive and unjust" criticisms of Israel has no bearing on the matter at hand: Hechter provides no indication that you have concerned yourself in your writings with such people. You have been concerned rather—on the LUO List forum and elsewhere—with sharing *evidence-based* articles, many of them published in Israeli newspapers like *Ha'aretz* or *The Jerusalem Post*, that are critical of the policies and practices of the state of Israel. By any reasonable assessment, these articles amount to fair comment based on considerations of material evidence and historical fact. Only someone who is attempting to suppress fair comment and free speech would describe them as "excessive and unjust."

Your sharing of these texts with other members of the LUO List forum is directly related to your own legal scholarship and publications, and to your legal practice as a specialist in Immigration and Refugee law. It seems to me that Paragraphs 5 and 6 of your Statement of Claim have real weight here. The state of Israel's oppressive treatment of the population of the Occupied Palestinian Territories (which has been copiously documented by human rights organizations and by United Nations reports) has produced a stream of refugees. Forty of the forty-four Palestinian refugee claimants whom you have represented have had their claims accepted by the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada. What could be more natural for a lawyer practicing in this area, and intensely involved in legal scholarship and publication in this area (Paragraph 5), than to think that writings relating to this field which appear in contemporary historical scholarship and in the news would be of interest to other members of the legal profession?

SECOND ISSUE

Mr. Hechter's claim that despite all denials you are indeed an antisemite rests largely on the fact that, on occasions which he cites, you have noted that many critics of the policies and practices of the state of Israel are themselves Jewish. For Hechter to represent this as evidence of antisemitism is fatuous. The degree to which many Jews in Canada and elsewhere have been stringent critics both of Israeli policies and sometimes also of the founding principles of the state of Israel is a legitimate subject of scholarly inquiry.

One piece of such scholarship is a book by the distinguished Canadian historian Professor Yakov M. Rabkin, of the Université de Montréal: *Au nom de la Torah: une histoire de l'opposition juive au sionisme* (Québec: Presses de l'Université Laval, 2004)—a book which was shortlisted for a Governor-General's Award. Professor Rabkin has served as an expert witness for the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Parliament of Canada, and has been a consultant for NATO, the OECD, and the World Bank; he has

been invited to comment on matters relating to Israel and the Middle East in major media outlets in Canada, Israel, the US, Britain, and Japan. Is Professor Rabkin an antisemite (or rather, a "self-hating Jew") because he identifies as Jewish the Jewish opponents of Zionism who are the subject of his book? The question is absurd.

I would add that Professor Rabkin's contribution to the book *Antisemitism Real and Imagined* ("Dangerous Liaisons: Associating Jews with Israel Fans Antisemitism") pursues the same line of analysis—as does your own very substantial and scholarly contribution to the book.

In support of his own argument, Mr. Hechter provides extended citations and whole articles from Professor and former Justice Minister Irwin Cotler. But this material is actually, in my opinion, an unintended gift to your own case.

In Professor Cotler's opinion, "Israel has emerged as the 'civil religion' of world Jewry—the organizing idiom of Jewish self-determination"; any systematic as opposed to piecemeal criticism of the state of Israel's policies and practices is therefore "a per se assault [...] on the religious and national sensibility of the Jewish people," and an instance of what Cotler calls the "new antisemitism." Elsewhere in the same essay ("Human Rights and the New Anti-Jewishness"), Cotler repeatedly attempts to conflate Israel with "the Jewish people."

But what of all the Jewish people in Israel and in the diaspora who oppose those policies for which the state of Israel has been rightly condemned in the international arena—the same policies and practices that have produced the Palestinian refugees whom you have represented with a 90% success rate before the Immigration and Refugee Board? Cotler wants to give the impression (and so, presumably, does Hechter) that "world Jewry" and "the Jewish people" treat the policies of Israel's government with a unanimous and quasi-religious reverence. What you have done is to point out, honourably and persistently, that that kind of conflation is false, both historically and in the present.

It is worth adding, since Mr. Hechter apparently believes that Professor Cotler should be accepted by the court as a writer of unimpeachable authority, that Cotler's ideology of a sanctified Israeli state, and his claims about a "new antisemitism" that conflates real antisemitism with criticism of Israeli state policies and actions, have been flatly rejected by Jewish scholars of higher stature and authority. These scholars include the late Raul Hilberg, whose magisterial three-volume work *The Destruction of the European Jews* (1961) is acknowledged as the seminal study of the Shoah; University of Oxford philosopher Brian Klug, whose writings on antisemitism include "The Collective Jew: Israel and the New Antisemitism," *Patterns of Prejudice* (June 2003) and "The Myth of the New Antisemitism," *The Nation* (February 2004); and Marc H. Ellis, Director of the Center for Jewish Studies at Baylor University, a theologian whose nearly two dozen books include *The End of Jewish History: Auschwitz, the Holocaust and Palestine* (2005).

Mr. Hechter is trying to construct a kind of Catch-22 trap. Are you an antisemite for having pointed out the Jewish identity of many of the most thoughtful critics of Israeli state ideology and Israeli state policy? Am I also an antisemite for having pointed out the Jewish identity of Hilberg, Klug, and Ellis? How would it be possible to show that many Jews have rejected Zionist ideology, that many Jews are firm and principled critics of Israel's policies of aggressive war and oppression of the Palestinians, and that many Jewish scholars reject Professor Cotler's rhetoric and ideology, without mentioning that the people in question are in fact Jewish? Catch-22 word games of this kind are beneath contempt.

Mr. Hechter's collection of testimonies ends with a long text by a person of Unitarian persuasion who, after pages of bland self-congratulation on the decency of Unitarians, arrives at comments on you that are a complete *non sequitur*. This final text appears to me not just disingenuous, but stupid.

THIRD ISSUE

Mr. Hechter's Exhibit 8 offers a text by Mr. Clayton Ruby, in response to a *New York Times* article that you had circulated. Mr. Ruby's text contains an analogy I find profoundly shocking, coming from a lawyer of his reputation.

What, precisely, is the "harm" done to a Jewish Israeli woman by an Arab Israeli man who has consensual sex with her? (The man in the case referred to appears to have been a deceiver who lied to his sexual partner about his single status and perhaps also his ethnicity—but it was his 'race' rather than his deceitfulness that landed him in an Israeli prison.) Clayton Ruby—though he finds the emphasis "the current governing parties in Israel place on race and religion" to be "appalling"—seems nonetheless to accept that "harm" of some kind was done to the woman.

One could agree, easily enough, that the deceit was itself a kind of harm—though not that lies of all kinds told by people engaging in consensual sex with one another ought to be policed by the state.

But Mr. Ruby is making a different point, and giving voice to an odd cultural relativism, when he compares the facts that Canadian law considers sexual consent to be violated by a non-disclosure of HIV infection, and that Israeli courts consider consent to be violated by a non-disclosure of Arabness. The latter position, though Mr. Ruby thinks it "appalling," is also in his view "complex"—which can only mean that it is not wholly or immediately to be condemned.

What, then, is the point of Mr. Ruby's discussion-board intervention: that Arab semen and HIV-infected semen can in some sense be regarded as analogous? This no doubt hastily written discussion-board comment—which I would not for a moment take to represent Mr. Ruby's considered opinion on the matter—is shocking in its implications. No less shocking is Mr. Hechter's glib assumption that this opinion, which

evokes resonances of a profoundly and disturbingly racist character, could in some sense serve to convict *you* of being a racist.

What, precisely, are the racist resonances to which I have referred? A recent essay by Professor Daniel Blatman, Holocaust scholar and Director of the Hebrew University's Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, can help us understand. "In the Israel of today," he declares, "we can observe quite a few conditions whose presence in other societies and among other peoples led to racial separation, ethnic cleansing and even genocide." The title and subtitle Blatman gave to his essay make it very clear what "other societies" he is referring to: "1932 is already here: A non-Jew who fled Germany ahead of the Nazi occupation would certainly recall those hard days in his homeland if he were to visit Bat Yam, Safed, Bnei Brak or south Tel Aviv today," *Ha'aretz* (26 December 2010). But only in 1935, I believe, after the passage of the infamous Nuremberg Laws, could a German court have jailed a Jewish man for the 'crime' of representing himself as a gentile in consensual sex with an 'Aryan' woman.

\* \* \*

I hope I haven't gone on at tedious length in my responses to the documents you kindly shared with me. I must say that I'm very sorry you are compelled to deal with such sophistries, which must feel like an annoying distraction from the day-to-day business of your legal practice and your human rights work.

But I do believe that it is important—and not just for the sake of your own reputation and professional standing—that cases of this kind should be pursued. The slandering of principled advocates of human rights and international law is not merely indecent, but intolerable.

I wish you well in your pursuit of this case.

Yours most sincerely,

  
Michael Keefer

Professor  
School of English and Theatre Studies  
University of Guelph  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1.  
[mkeef@uoguelph.ca](mailto:mkeef@uoguelph.ca)



21

ST BENET'S HALL

38 ST GILES

OXFORD OX1 3LN

ENGLAND

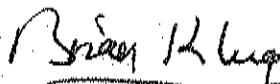
14 JUNE 2011

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

It has come to my attention that Edward C. Corrigan stands accused of being "one of Canada's most notorious antisemites". I have read several of Mr. Corrigan's writings on Israel and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. I have also corresponded with him on these subjects. I have seen no evidence whatsoever to substantiate this description. To the contrary, I have gained the strong impression of someone who cares deeply about human rights and who is passionately committed against all forms of prejudice, including bigotry against Jews.

Antisemitism is not the monopoly of the extreme right. As I observed in my article "Antisemitism and the Left" (January 2006), it is "a deeply-embedded cultural prejudice" and there has "always been a vein on the European left". I am well aware that racist and antisemitic attitudes can lurk beneath the surface of "good causes", sometimes breaking out into the open. My research uncovering this in some sections of the animal rights movement in the United Kingdom and the black movement in Chicago in the 1980s was published in *Patterns of Prejudice, Jewish Quarterly* and other periodicals. (See also chapters 5 and 6 of my *Being Jewish and Doing Justice: Bringing Argument to Life*, London, 2011, Vallentine Mitchell, in the Parkes-Wicner Series on Jewish Studies.) Each case must be judged on its merits. And it is on this basis -- not on the basis of his political views -- that I form my opinion of Mr Corrigan.

While antisemitism can be covert, it can also be politicised, especially in the context of the Middle East debate. On this question, I concur broadly with the findings of the report *Manifestations of Antisemitism in the EU 2002-2003*, published by the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia, which draws extensively on my published work (see "Executive Summary", p. 13, and "Definitions, Concepts and Theories", pp. 225-241). I do not know whether the reasons behind the accusation against Mr Corrigan are political or not; ultimately it is irrelevant. Whatever the reasons, "antisemitic" does not remotely fit what I know of Mr. Corrigan, his views and his writing.



Dr. Brian Klug

Senior Research Fellow in Philosophy

Member, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Oxford

Hon. Fellow, Parkes Institute for the Study of Jewish/Non-Jewish Relations, University of Southampton

Fellow, College of Arts and Sciences, Saint Xavier University, Chicago

**Subject:** letter of support  
**From:** "Ken Stone" <kenstone@cogeco.ca>  
**Date:** Wed, 15 Jun 2011 23:17:26 -0400  
**To:** <edcorrigan@edcorrigan.ca>

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of the distinguished lawyer, writer, speaker, and political activist, Ed Corrigan. I have had the satisfaction of reading a number of his brilliant articles on the subject of the Israel-Palestine issue, based on his decades of experience with this complex matter. In fact, I regularly receive e-mail messages from his website. He has a way of cutting through all the bafflegab and methodically exposing the crux of the issue.

I have only had the pleasure of hearing Mr. Corrigan speak, in person, once, when he appeared at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario, a few years ago. He took a question from me about the similarities of the fight against South African apartheid in the second half of the twentieth century and the struggle against Israeli apartheid in this century. Since I led the anti-apartheid fight in the City of Hamilton in the 1980's, with the personal support of Joe Clark, then Minister for External Affairs of Canada, I was very gratified to hear him advise the students in the audience to consult us veterans of the anti-apartheid struggle in South Africa for ideas on how to combat Israeli apartheid in relation to the Palestinians today.

I am Jewish. My family lost 70 members during the Holocaust in Poland. The very idea that Ed Corrigan is anti-semitic because he criticizes the State of Israel is laughable to me. I believe he also criticized the Harper Government of Canada for its one-sided support of Israel. Does that make him anti-Canadian?

It is important not to conflate the State of Israel with Judaism or the with the Jewish people the world over. The former has nothing in common with the latter two. In fact, in its treatment of the Palestinians, the Israeli government flaunts all the moral values of rabbinical Judaism developed over the last 2000 years, especially moral precepts about how one should treat one's neighbours and their property.

I believe that Ed Corrigan is a sincere and effective spokesperson for social justice in the Middle East. His views deserve respect and admiration.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Stone  
133 East 17th Street  
Hamilton, Ontario,  
Canada L9A 4M4  
905-383-7693

**Subject:** Letter--I hope this helps\_\_am leaving for the day so won't read your response till this evening

**From:** Dorothy <dor\_naor@netvision.net.il>

**Date:** Thu, 16 Jun 2011 13:42:49 +0300

**To:** "Edward C. Corrigan" <edcorrigan@edcorrigan.ca>

Thursday, June 16, 2011

To whom it May Concern,

To accuse Edward C. Corrigan of being an anti-Semite is to defame him. This accusation confuses criticism of Israeli policy with anti-Semitism, and is equivalent to calling someone who is critical of US or Canadian policy an anti-Christian. It is nonsense!

I read Edward's articles regularly. They are not, nor is he, anti-Semitic. And as a Jew who lives in Israel, and who is also critical of the Israeli policies of expansion, colonization, and ethnic cleansing, I very much resent the accusation that people who hold views similar to or like mine (e.g., Edward C. Corrigan) are termed anti-Semites.

The Israeli government policies of expansion, colonization, and ethnic cleansing are bad not only for Palestinians but also for Israeli Jews. In no other country have Jews gone through 12 wars/military campaigns in less than 62 years (from 1948-2009). In no other country since WWII have so many Jews been killed in these wars (nearly 23,000 military and police to date). In no other country is every male and female 18 year old obliged to enlist in the military. In no other country do so many youngsters suffer from post traumatic stress disorder. In Israel the people who live in the periphery but within Israel proper suffer from insufficient funds for libraries, clubs for youngsters, etc while in the occupied Palestinian territories the colonists are denied nothing.

I attach a compilation entitled 'Living in a Continuous State of War,' whose statistics on deaths needs updating, but they have not diminished, and the rest is as current today as it was a few years ago when I compiled it.

Those of us, as Edward C. Corrigan, therefore, who oppose the above mentioned Israeli government policies, rather than being anti-Semitic have the welfare of Israelis as well as of Palestinians in mind. Is it really anti-Semitic to object to house demolitions, to imprisoning children as young as 7 years of age, to middle of the night incursions, and the like. Are these things that you would want Jews to suffer? If no, then why should Palestinians suffer?

Those of us who are critical of Israeli government policies are humane beings. We care deeply both about Palestinians and Israelis. We want an end to wars. We want a future for both peoples. We will continue to oppose policies that harm both peoples. We are not

anti-Semitic!

Sincerely,

Dorothy Naor

Nof Yam, Herzliah  
Israel

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SEP 26 2011

The Ed Corrigan I Know

I have known Ed Corrigan for about four years now. Initially I ~~knew~~ knew him on the internet, so to speak. I liked and appreciated his writings, which I found to be well thought out, well researched and very balanced. I looked forward to them, and most of the time, I was not disappointed.

I then met Ed, in the flesh, in Toronto at the Independent Jewish Voices inaugural meeting which was addressed by Naomi Klein, and about ten other speakers from all over the world. The hall was full of dozens of Jews, and a handful of non-Jews. It was a very friendly and upbeat ambiance. When we broke out into small discussion groups, we happened to be in the same small group, where again he was an excellent speaker who clearly knew his facts, and his legal training must have helped him to put his thoughts to the group succinctly.

Frankly, I was not at all surprised to hear this week that he has been smeared with the scary "A word". It is only proof positive that what he is saying makes sense, and the only way to try to silence him would be to scare him. But Ed does not scare that easily. He knows the law, and the history and should wear that smear like a badge of honour – as a Jewish human rights activist and writer (whose name escapes me just now) has put it.

This smear has been so over used and abused, that it means absolutely nothing nowadays. Which is a shame; because there are some anti-Semites in the world, just as there are anti-black and anti-Arab individuals, and smearing a scholar like Ed Corrigan will resurrect the "cry wolf" story which we all learnt at school.

I think Ed Corrigan is quite right to sue this person who called him "one of Canada's most notorious anti-Semites", and I would encourage him to do so.

Qais Ghanem, MD, FRCPC  
Ottawa, Canada - 20110618

June 18, 2011

To: The Law Union of Ontario.

I would like to strongly dispel the notion that Ed Corrigan views are Anti Semitic. His writings are from the heart and based on the grim realities and truth.

Israeli policies are unjust and discriminatory.

Ed is a noble man, who can stand up against silencing forces, and stand up for human rights. If more people had his views, the world would've been a better place.

By the way, I am Jewish and lived in Israel for 20 years. Israeli policy makers with the religious people, are not interested in peace, they want the land which belongs to someone else.

Israel is a state, and criticism of any country, should not be viewed as Anti Semitic or anti Christian or anti Muslim.

As Miguel Brockman, UN General Assembly president said in 2008: "We must not be afraid to call something what it is", referring to Israeli apartheid policies.

Jake Javanshir, Toronto. 416 222 1395.

MARK ETKIN, M.D., FRCPC\*  
146 Arlington Street  
Winnipeg, Manitoba  
R3G 1Y5  
ph. (204) 955-1929 fax (204) 784-7701

July 12, 2011

To whom it may concern:

Re: Mr. Ed Corrigan

I am an on-line subscriber to a variety of email distribution lists etc that deal with issues related to the Middle East. Over the course of several years, I have read Mr. Ed Corrigan's papers and opinions on many occasions.

I don't always agree with Mr. Corrigan's points. However, to make the charge that his writing is anti-Semitic is untrue. There has never been any word or hint of antisemitism in Mr. Corrigan's writings.

Any charge of such a nature against Mr. Corrigan can only be for one reason. As Mr. Corrigan is critical of Israeli government policy, these charges being

made against him are clearly and solely to silence his voice, and, also, to silence the voices of other critics of Israel by using tactics of intimidation and threat.

To say that the charge against Mr. Corrigan is "trumped up" would be a disservice to the truth. The truth is that the charge is a malicious attempt to use Canadian law and immoral tactics in support of a foreign government's policies.

As a Jewish Canadian, I remain in support of both freedom of speech and Canadian hotel laws, and I abhor the use of the latter to silence free speech.

Sincerely

Mark Ethier



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7937 De Gaspé Avenue  
Montreal, Quebec H2R 2A6  
July 18, 2011

To Whom It May Concern,

I am eager to express my support for Ed Corrigan in his defamation suit against Will Hechter for describing him as "one of Canada's worst anti semites, and idiotic spammers" in a posting to the Canada Law Union. This description of Ed is a disgusting calumny with no basis in fact. As a Jew, I consider such slander to trivialize the issue of anti-Semitism and to reflect the desperation increasingly felt by unconditional defenders of Israel. Ed Corrigan's criticisms of that country's policies and practices are always principled and precise in their factual grounding. This contributes to their impact and undoubtedly frustrates those who cannot find a factual basis to refute them and are, therefore, driven to ad hominem smears.

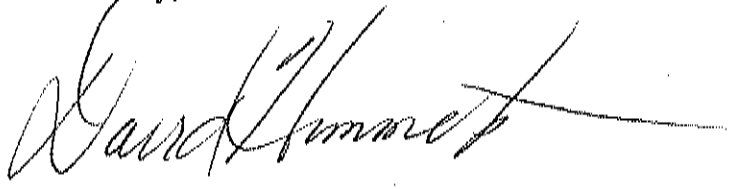
I have long appreciated Ed's postings which point out frequently overlooked situations involving violation of Palestinians' human rights. As a longstanding observer and advocate, Ed brings relevant background information and historical perspective to these issues. He highlights the vast and diverse international community of conscience that has mobilized to press for resolution of Palestinians' legitimate grievances. He has drawn attention to the sizeable Jewish segment of that community and renewed my appreciation of the social justice imperative which occupies such a large place in the Jewish tradition.

For lockstep supporters of Israel, discussion of Palestinian rights is tolerated only if conducted in muted tones and limited to surface details. To address underlying factors is to invite accusatory demonization. For example, anyone with the temerity to closely examine the circumstances surrounding the founding of Israel can expect to be attacked as challenging Israel's right to exist. Both within Israel itself and internationally, there is a troubling impetus to silence opposition to Israel's policies and practices, especially when such opposition finds expression in non-violent protest initiatives.

A prime example is the recently passed law banning support for boycotts directed against Israel or the occupied West Bank, which has been criticized even by Eyal Yinon, legal advisor to the Knesset, the Israeli legislature which passed the bill. The broader aspect of demonization was clearly spelled out earlier this year in veteran Israeli diplomat Ilan Baruch's letter of resignation: "The depiction of the opposition within the international community to Israel's occupation policy as anti-Semitism is simplistic, provincial and superficial." He blamed negative perception of Israel on its own "malignant diplomatic dynamic which threatens Israel's international standing and undermines the legitimacy not only of its occupation but of its very membership in the family of nations."

The smearing of Ed Corrigan Ed Corrigan is part of the demonization strategy. It is offensive and enraging. Having received his postings for over a decade, I can confirm that they reflect an equal-opportunity advocate for justice and universal human rights – a “mensch” for all seasons.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David Himmelstein". The signature is fluid and extends across the width of the page.

David Himmelstein

RECEIVED  
AUG 12 2011

Karin Brothers  
573 Huron St.  
Toronto, ON M5R 2R6

31

August 3, 2011

Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister & Solicitor  
Certified Specialist in Citizenship, Immigration and Refugee Protection  
383 Richmond Street, Suite 902  
London, Ontario, Canada N6A 3C4

To Whom it may Concern:

I have been proud to know Ed Corrigan for about fifteen years and I have been very impressed with his tireless efforts to work for a just peace for both Israelis and Palestinians through better understanding.

I came to know Ed through my own peace-making efforts, which have been through organizations that have included the United Church of Canada's Holy Land Awareness and Action Task Group, Canadian Voice of Women for Peace, the Canadian Federation of University Women, the Near East Cultural and Educational Foundation, Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East, Independent Jewish Voices and the Coalition for a Just Peace in Israel/Palestine.

I am shocked, knowing the quality of Ed's work, that anyone could have used the term "anti-Semite" to describe him; in my own opinion, that is not only defamatory but it is an attempt to silence those who have the courage to speak truth to power. Unfortunately, this tactic seems to reflect current attempts to destroy the reputations of those who are critical of Israel. I think that there is an important issue of freedom of speech and expression that must be addressed, and the Israeli/Palestinians context is important to understand. I would like to quote the current United Nations Special Rapporteur for the occupied territories, Richard Falk, who is also Professor Emeritus of International Law from Princeton University:

*"I believe the time has come to call 'a spade a spade' and use such terms as 'annexation,' 'ethnic cleansing,' 'apartheid,' 'colonialist,' 'settler colonialism,' and 'criminality.' Although admittedly emotive, and requiring a finding by a court of law to be legally conclusive, such robust language, in my view, more accurately describes the unsavory realities of the occupation at the present time than does the more neutral seeming language beloved by diplomats and welcomed by defenders of the established status quo. ... if the more ambiguous 'genocidal' is invoked to identify the tendencies implicit in this kind of prolonged and invasive occupation, I would not disagree. "*

<http://richardfalk.wordpress.com/2010/11/25/politics-of-language-israelpalestine-discourse/>

Ed has shown real dedication to educating Canadians with the reality-based information that comes from Israel – largely from Jewish Israelis -- as well as from Jewish academics, such as Falk, and Noam Chomsky, who believe that a peace based on justice is in the best ultimate interests of both Israelis and Palestinians. ***Ed has been documenting factual material in good faith, which is in the public's interest and in the interests of peace both here in Canada and internationally.***

Sincerely,



Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister and Solicitor  
383 Richmond Street  
Suite 902  
London, Ontario  
Canada NGA3C4

RECEIVED  
SEP 08 2011

August 31, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in reference to Edward C. Corrigan's libel and slander law suit.

To refer to Edward Corrigan as "one of Canada's most notorious anti-Semites" clearly constitutes libel and slander. His criticism of specific Israeli policies, especially those that are oppressive to Palestinians, and his opposition to Zionism are not only correct and justifiable but are within the context of the most positive and prophetic Jewish traditions. Numerous Jews, some of whom who are religious and some of whom who are secular, as well as many non-Jews have expressed and do express with abundant evidence the same criticisms of Israeli policies and Zionism as does Edward Corrigan. Many of the Jews who so criticize are Israeli Jews; they include leading Israeli academics and politicians.

Extreme Zionist apologists often attempt to silence anti-Zionist critics by using the charge of anti-Semitism. This charge unfortunately, if not refuted and vigorously opposed, can as it sometimes has, unduly ruin a person's reputation in the public arena. In order to defend and protect his reputation against this fallacious and unfair attack, Edward Corrigan has correctly initiated his law suit. He should prevail. If successful in and with his law suit, Edward Corrigan will not only protect his own reputation, he will also reveal, at least to some extent, the unwarranted and illegal activity of some people who have tried to utilize a false anti-Semitic campaign.

I also want to point out that articles, written by Edward Corrigan, and the other material he sends regularly to many individuals interested in the Middle East are informative and useful. Speaking for myself, I use some of what he sends in my writing and other work. I have also referred other academics who specialize in the Middle East to sign up on Ed Corrigan's email list. I am among many who appreciate Edward Corrigan for his highly principled activity.

I repeat and emphasize: To call Edward Corrigan anti-Semitic is ridiculous, vicious and illegal.

Sincerely,

Professor Norton Mezvinsky  
Distinguished Connecticut State University Professor of History (Emeritus)  
President of the:  
International Council for Middle East Studies, Inc.  
1055 Thomas Jefferson St., NW  
Suite M100  
Washington, DC 20007-5219

Norton Mezvinsky is a historian. He is a Distinguished University Professor, Emeritus, Connecticut State University and is the president of the International Council for Middle East Studies, Inc. a new academic think tank in Washington, D.C. He has written numerous published books, articles and book reviews that deal with various aspects of the Arab-Israeli conflict and Zionism. The book, *Jewish Fundamentalism in Israel*, which he wrote with the Israeli scholar, Israel Shahak, has been translated and published in four languages in addition to English. His most recent publications are a lengthy biographical essay of David Ben-Gurion in the new, highly praised *Encyclopedia of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict*, published by Lynne Reiner Publishers (2010) , and a chapter essay, titled " The Christian Zionist View of Islam," in the new book, *Islam in the Eyes of the West*, published by Routledge (2010). Two additional essays of his on the Jewish religious Right and Zionism are scheduled for publication in 2011. Professor Mezvinsky is currently writing a book on Christian Zionism. Professor Mezvinsky has lectured and delivered papers at conferences around the world. Continuing to do so, he has within the past two weeks returned from a speaking tour to Istanbul, Damascus and Beirut and is scheduled to deliver a major academic lecture in Japan in February, 2011. Norton Mezvinsky has been one of the most well-known, out-spoken, Jewish anti-Zionist advocates for five decades. His recent speech, "The One State Solution" is a well thought out case that is both academically sound, and of course, controversial.

RECEIVED  
SEP 26 2011

34

Professor Noam Chomsky  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
77 Massachusetts Avenue, Rm. 32-D808  
Cambridge, MA 02139


August 31, 2011

To whom it may concern:

When I was a child studying the Bible in Hebrew school many years ago, we read about how King Ahad called the Prophet Elijah to him and accused him of being an "oher Yisrael" ("hater of Israel"), because he condemned the acts of the evil King and warned of the consequences that might befall Israel as a result of the King's crimes. That is presumably the origin of the concept "self-hating Jew," and more generally of the recourse to the remarkable charge of "anti-Semitism" to try to protect the State of Israel and its actions from critical discussion, and to silence those who dare to defend Palestinian rights. There are modern counterparts - in totalitarian states. The harshest charge launched by the commissar class against Soviet dissidents was that they were "anti-Soviet." And military dictatorships and other totalitarian states have adopted the same technique. Where a democratic culture reigns, such efforts only elicit ridicule. Just imagine the reaction in the streets of Rome and Milan if a critic of Berlusconi's policies were called "anti-Italian."

It is shocking to see such tactics employed in a democratic society, to defend some favored state from criticism. It is, furthermore, very dangerous. Years ago I argued that those who call themselves "supporters of Israel" are often in reality supporters of its moral degeneration and probable ultimate destruction. Many Israelis have drawn the same conclusion, and with justice. Tactics such as the vulgar resort to "anti-Semitism" to intimidate critics and still critical analysis are a clear illustration.

Sincerely,



Noam Chomsky

September 1, 2011

To Whom it May Concern:

RE: Ed Corrigan

I am writing in support of Ed Corrigan. My support of him and his position is both personal and political. While I don't want to write a book, I am going to tell a story that has its roots in 1947-1948 when I was a good little Jewish kid growing up in New York and continues to this day.

As a kid going to Hebrew school, the support of the creation of Israel was a given. We would go around the neighborhood selling tickets to raise money for the Jewish National Fund or selling trees to be planted in Israel.

Two other things must be mentioned which had a profound effect on my thinking. One was the McCarthy hearings where intimidation was used to accuse people of exercising their freedom of thought. The second was the comics code which banned my favorite comics. These two events, which were almost concurrent has made me anti censorship and pro free speech. Any attempt to stop someone from voicing an opinion by the use of slurs or intimidation is something I consider to be morally evil.

I use the term 'morally evil' in a specific sense. I am a philosopher and have written on moral issues. My major work is "Natural Law, Science, and the Social Construction of Reality," (University Press of America, 2004) where I argue that as our knowledge of the world changes, so must our values. I argue that the two greatest moral evils are willful ignorance, where we deny knowledge and hold to views which have been discredited, and, in Kantian language, using other people as means to an end and not as an end in themselves. This means that one person should always consider every other person as a moral equal. This also implies free speech where any view is to be seen as equal to any view as part of a debate. Yes, some views will be shown to be false or indefensible. But no view can be omitted from the debate. Using slurs or intimidation is a form of not allowing proper debate and, therefore, is morally evil.

I did not question anything about Israel until the aftermath of the 1967 war. At the time I was teaching in a Jewish day school and was appalled at the knee jerk reaction to the situation without any attempt at the whys or wherefores of the war.

And in the ensuing years, it is clear that the actions of the Israeli government in the West Bank and Gaza are indefensible.

A few years ago I was asked, because of my Jewish background, to speak at a pro Palestinian rally. The two points I made that received applause were that in 1947 it was Hagganah who were considered the terrorists and that one of the most important aspects of democracy is the separation of Church and State.

To equate the actions of the Israeli government with Judaism is an egregious moral error. The government is secular and the government changes, and government policy changes. So to ask which government, which policy, is the most religious? Is to ask a meaningless question.

What Mr. Corrigan is doing is to simply provide information about the criticisms of Israeli government practices. In doing this, Mr. Corrigan is simply providing an important service to believers in democracy. We must ask hard questions. We must be critical of governments. Free discussion, especially, critical discussion, is essential to democracy.

To intimidate Mr. Corrigan with name-calling is anti democratic, and, to repeat myself, morally evil.

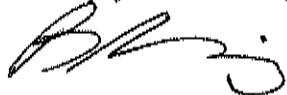
Sincerely,

Bernie Koenig B.A. M.A.

Professor of Music and Philosophy School of Language and Liberal Studies

Fanshawe College

London, Ontario



# OUTLOOK

#3-6184 ASH STREET, VANCOUVER BC  
CANADA V5Z 3G9  
TEL: (604) 324-5101  
FAX: (604) 325-2470

RECEIVED  
SEP 07 2011

Sept. 1, 2011

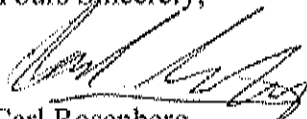
To whom it may concern:

I am the editor of *Outlook: Canada's Progressive Jewish Magazine*, based in Vancouver, BC, which publishes political and cultural commentary, including a range of opinion on the Israel/Palestine situation, Zionism, and related issues.

Our magazine has published two articles by Edward C. Corrigan, an Ontario lawyer specializing in citizenship, immigration and refugee law: "Should the Jewish National Fund be entitled to Charitable Tax Status?" (Sept./Oct. 2008) and "Is it Anti-Semitic to Defend Palestinian Human Rights?" (Nov./Dec. 2009 and Jan./Feb. 2010).

Mr. Corrigan's writings provide a detailed overview of Jewish critiques of Israeli policies and Zionism, on the part of Jews inside and outside Israel. His writings display a thorough and detailed knowledge of their subjects, often documented by references from the Israeli press. They are informed by strong opposition to all forms of bigotry and discrimination on the basis of race, ethnicity and religion, whether anti-Semitism, anti-Arab racism, or Islamophobia; and support for democratic, egalitarian, non-discriminatory and pluralistic societies.

Yours Sincerely,



Carl Rosenberg  
Editor, *Outlook Magazine*  
[cjoutlook@telus.net](mailto:cjoutlook@telus.net)  
[www.vcn.bc.ca/outlook](http://www.vcn.bc.ca/outlook)

**CANADA'S PROGRESSIVE JEWISH MAGAZINE**





# MIDDLE EAST POLICY COUNCIL

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To Whom It May Concern:

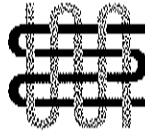
I have recently become aware of some disturbing charges of "anti-Semitism" against Canadian barrister and solicitor Edward C. Corrigan. Mr. Corrigan is an academic specialist in Jewish anti-Zionism, and he has written often on that subject for the American quarterly journal *Middle East Policy*, which I have edited for the past 27 years (see list of his articles attached). This is a theme on which we often publish, as there is a need to distinguish between the two terms. Knowing his expertise, we approached Mr. Corrigan to review *Prophets Outcast: A Century of Dissident Jewish Writing about Zionism and Israel*, edited by Adam Shatz, which was published in *Middle East Policy* (Summer 2005, pp. 139-143). We also published two other reviews by Mr. Corrigan of books written by dissident Jews.

The last five years have seen the rise in the American Jewish community of a number of groups—J Street, for example—that are critical of the state of Israel for its military occupation of Palestinian lands and other policies. No one would call these groups anti-Semitic, although their ideas differ from those of the current government of the state of Israel. Mr. Corrigan's academic work anticipated this trend. He has studied the thinking of distinguished Jewish scholars and statesmen who sought over the past six decades to bring Israel into harmony with its neighbors and into conformity with international law and practice.

There seems to be no basis in fact for the allegation that Mr. Corrigan "is one of the most notorious anti-Semites in Canada." Only one conclusion suggests itself: He is being harassed and defamed in order to silence him regarding the actions of the state of Israel and its illegal occupation of Palestinian lands.

Sincerely,

Anne Joyce  
Vice-president, Middle East Policy Council; editor, *Middle East Policy*



Review of *Prophets Outcast: A Century of Dissident Jewish Writing about Zionism and Israel*, edited by Adam Shatz, *Middle East Policy*, Summer 2005, pp. 139-143.

Review of *Reframing Anti-Semitism: Alternative Jewish Perspectives*, Jewish Voice for Peace, eds., *Middle East Policy*, Spring 2006, pp. 156-161.

Review of *The Other Israel, Voices of Refusal and Dissent*, Edited by Roane Carey and Jonathan Shainin (New York: New Press, 2002), *Middle East Policy*, Fall 2006, pp. 140-150.

"Is Anti-Zionism Anti-Semitic? Jewish Critics Speak," *Middle East Policy*, Winter 2009, pp. 132-145.

**4 Crestway Parade,  
The Crestway  
Brighton  
BN1 7BL  
01273 5407177**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2011

**To Whom It May Concern**

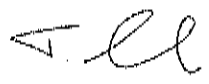
I am Jewish and the son of an Orthodox Rabbi.

I understand that Mr Edward C Corrigan has been accused of being anti-Semitic on account of his support for the Palestinians and his opposition to Zionism.

I have known Mr Corrigan through his writings, primarily on the Alef List which is hosted by Haifa University, for a number of years.

Although we have often disagreed on different subjects I have never known Mr Corrigan to indulge in any racist or anti-Semitic argument or abuse. On the contrary his anti-racism is evident from his passionate support for the Palestinians and the terrible wrongs they have suffered.

I am happy to give this testimonial in Mr Corrigan's support and if necessary to give witness evidence to rebut the charge that he is in any way anti-Semitic or racist



Tony Greenstein MA (London), Dip. Law, Dip. Legal Practice.

**Ismail Zayid**

---

531 Young Avenue,  
Halifax, NS.  
B3H 2V4

RECEIVED  
SEP 20 2011

Sept. 11, 2011.

Mr. Edward Corrigan,  
383 Richmond St., Suite # 902  
London, ON.  
N6A 3C4

Dear Mr. Corrigan.

I heard the disturbing and surprising news that that you have been accused of being "one of Canada's worst anti semites, and idiotic spammers", in reference to your writings related to the Palestine/Israel conflict.

We find this charge completely baseless. I have seen your writings and contributions on this subject and there is not the slightest evidence to suggest this false label. Your writings include criticism of Israeli policies related to its illegal occupation of Palestinian territories, and the practices of the oppressive policies practiced against the Palestinian people.

These practices have been condemned by all international human rights groups, including Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch, as well Israeli human rights groups, including B'Tselem. These practices are in violation of virtually every article of the Fourth Geneva Convention, and are defined, by international law, as war crimes.

The charge of anti-Semitism is regularly used by Israel and its supporters, worldwide, against any person who has the courage to criticise these Israeli policies or speak in support of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people, who have been ethnically-cleansed from their homeland, dispossessed and illegally occupied.

This label is systematically used in this fashion , as clearly confirmed in this interview, <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0kWAqZxJVE> with Ms. Shulamit Aloni, a former Israeli cabinet minister, who confirms that Israelis use this charge of anti-Semitism, and she calls it a trick used against all those who criticise Israeli policies against the Palestinian people.

I trust this confirms the falsehood of the charge used against you.

Yours sincerely,



Ismail Zayid, MD.



GLOBAL AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PROGRAM

RICHARD FALK  
Mail Code 7065  
Santa Barbara, California 93106-7065  
p: (805) 893-7899  
f: (805) 893-8003  
e: falk@global.ucsb.edu

September 14, 2011

To Whom it May Concern:

A LETTER IN SUPPORT OF EDWARD C. CORRIGAN

I am extremely sorry to hear that you are being unfairly and outrageously attacked as an anti-Semite. To call you "one of Canada's worst anti-semites, and idiotic spammers" is, in my opinion, false and defamatory.

To smear someone who speaks out on behalf of Palestinian human rights as an anti-Semite is a frequent technique used by extremist Zionists, that is, those who unconditionally support Israel and defame even the most responsible critics by charging anti-semitism. I have been myself targeted by these groups on frequent occasions. In my opinion it is also a dangerously deceptive tactic to insist that all Jews must show their total support of Israel and its policies or be labeled as enemies of the Jewish people.

I have written elsewhere that in my opinion the Palestinians are among the most victimized peoples in the world. Symbolically, the Palestinian struggle is one that engages people of conscience everywhere in the world in a manner that has similarities with the way the anti-apartheid movement worked effectively to undermine South Africa's claims of sovereignty and legitimacy.

I have met with and read many of Mr. Ed Corrigan's articles on Jewish criticism of Zionism, on refugees and other international matters. I have received many of his emails, many from the Israeli and Jewish press. In my opinion there is nothing I have read in these articles or emails that can in the remotest sense be regarded as anti-semitic by a responsible and objective person.

The fact that this writing focuses on the many Israelis, and other Jews, who criticize the policies of past and present Israeli government's treatment of the Palestinians actually provides a constructive contribution to the Jewish community. It

helps show the Arab and Muslim world, and beyond this, the majority of people throughout the world, that many Jews do not support the inhumane conditions officially imposed on the Palestinians living as refugees or under occupation.

In my opinion Mr. Corrigan's contribution to the discussion of the Israel and Palestine issue is valuable, especially in helping people understand that to be a Jew is not at all synonymous with being a Zionist. I would go a step further and say that being a Zionist is far from synonymous with endorsing the policies of the Israeli state. I have had several controversies along these lines with Israeli diplomats and others who want to blur these distinctions by invoking a catchall 'anti-semitism' as a response to any criticism of Israel.

It is important to resist a new wave of repressive efforts around the issue of human rights for the Palestinians in North America. Norman Finkelstein's denial of tenure at DePaul and Joel Kovel who lost his special professorship at Bard College comes to mind. They were attacked even though both were well-published academics and Jewish. There are many other cases where academic freedom and free speech has come under assault and defenders of Palestinian human rights attacked with ugly smear campaigns.

Former US President Jimmy Carter, former South African President Nelson Mandela, Arch Bishop Desmond Tutu, former Irish President Mary Robinson, former Canadian Supreme Court Justice Louise Arbor, also a former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, and a former Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda and since 2009 serving as President and CEO of the International Crisis Group, South African apartheid expert John Dugard who served as Special Rapporteur for the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, and many other prominent individuals, have been accused of being anti-semites for defending Palestinian human rights. Even Judge Richard Goldstone, an ardent Zionist, was accused of anti-semitism immediately after the release of the Goldstone Report showed that Israel's attack on Gaza at the end of 2008 was carried out in violation of international criminal law.

Many Jews are also attacked as anti-semites, or since they are Jews, as "self hating Jews," including the most distinguished MIT professor and world famous linguist, Noam Chomsky. All of these attacks are attempts to suppress discussion of the Palestinian issue and to protect Israel from justified criticism. It is a propaganda technique I have described as the politics of deflection, attack the messenger to avoid addressing the message.

In any event, I commend Mr. Corrigan's willingness to put up a fight against these attempts to silence him from speaking out or writing on this most important human rights issue.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard Falk  
UN Special Rapporteur for Occupied Palestine.  
Milbank Professor of International Law Emeritus, Princeton  
University  
(since 2002) Visiting Distinguished Professor, Global Studies,  
University of California at Santa Barbara

Mira Khazzam  
4800 de Maisonneuve West, apt. 607  
Montreal, QC H3Z 1M2

September 20, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

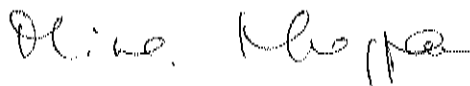
I met Ed Corrigan at the founding convention of Independent Jewish Voices Canada in 2008. I participated in conversations with him at various times during the conference and was never given any reason to believe that Mr. Corrigan had anything but absolute respect for Jews.

Over a period of many years I have been receiving articles of interest from Mr. Corrigan that relate to the issue of Palestinian human rights. Never have I received anything from Mr. Corrigan that could possibly be construed as anti-Jewish/anti-semitic. As a Jew who has occasionally experienced anti-Jewish sentiment, I am sensitive to it and quick to pick it up. This has never been my experience with Mr. Corrigan, neither in conversation with him nor as reflected by the numerous articles I have received from him over the years.

Branding someone as anti-Jewish/anti-semitic for the sole reason that they voice criticism of zionism and the policies of Israel towards the Palestinian people is a cheap and ugly defense against recognizing the crimes that have been committed and are still being committed against the Palestinian people. The aim is clearly to deflect responsibility off those that undertake or support such crimes and onto those that blow the whistle. This attempt to silence the truth will not ultimately work. It seems to be the only defense left, as awareness throughout the world, and in the Jewish communities as well, of the crimes against the Palestinian people committed by Israel increases at an accelerated pace. No one who cares about justice and humanitarian values could possibly defend zionist and Israeli policies.

Ultimately this ugly branding of critics of zionism and Israeli policies as anti-Jewish/anti-semitic will fail in its goal of silencing those who care about and speak up about these crimes. However, what I strongly believe it will achieve is a serious undermining of legitimate attention to real anti-Jewish/anti-semitic sentiment and acts when those do occur. "Wolf" has been cried out too many times. No one will listen anymore when the wolf is really at the door.

Sincerely yours,



Mira Khazzam



RECEIVED  
SEP 30 2011

45

**Collier Levine**

Barristers & Solicitors

phone 250 960 2169  
fax 250 960 2196  
toll-free 877 960 2169

1140 Third Avenue  
Prince George British Columbia  
V2L 3E5 Canada

Via: mail

September 20, 2011

Ed Corrigan  
383 Richmond St. Suite 902  
London, Ontario N6A 3C4

Dear Sir:

I first became familiar with you after I joined the Canadian Bar Association's immigration email listserve. It was clear from your postings on the listserve that you had strong views about the treatment of Palestinians by the Israeli government and defense forces. My impression was that you thought Palestinians were victims of widespread and serious human rights violations by Israeli acts and policies. Most of your postings were simply links to newspaper and magazine articles which supported your point of view, and were drawn from a variety of reputable sources, both literary and political. Unsurprisingly, many of the authors of the articles were Jewish.

I was surprised and disappointed when certain members of the listserve objected to your postings on the grounds they were irrelevant to immigration law and were solely political in nature. I also understood the objections to relate to a perception that your postings were anti-Semitic. I was surprised because, while they certainly had political implications, I never understood your postings on the listserve to be anti-Semitic. I was of the view your postings were relevant to refugee issues and were therefore properly the subject of our listserve. I believe there was some suggestion by certain members on the listserve that some sort of action would be commenced against you in relation to your posts. I recall being bothered by this prospect, as I thought a listserve made up of lawyers should not be calling for censorship of a fellow member of the bar for what seemed to me to be purely political reasons.

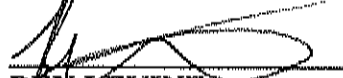
I cannot recall the exact details, but I believe as a result of the controversy caused by your postings you created a new listserve where people could post freely about Israeli-Palestinian issues. You sent out invitations to join and I accepted, mostly because the information being shared by you was very informative and thought provoking. I have never met you nor spoken to you, and I don't know whether or not you are anti-Semitic. Based on my knowledge of you I have no reason to believe you are. While it is clear you feel strongly that Palestinians are victims of Israeli oppression, and actively advocate this view, nothing you have posted or communicated to me has been anti Semitic, in my view.

My sense is that you are a committed advocate for human rights and that you oppose human rights abuses of all kinds regardless of the victim. I would describe your expression on the

Palestinian-Israeli conflict as contributing to a healthy and vibrant debate that should be embraced rather than shunned.

Our democracy depends on it.

Yours truly,



**BEN LEVINE**

Mira Khazzam  
4800 de Maisonneuve West, apt. 607  
Montreal, Quebec H3Z 1M2  
September 22, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Ed Corrigan has considerable academic expertise in Middle East politics, refugee and human rights law and has published over 60 academic articles on Zionism, Middle East politics and Immigration and refugee law. He is Certified as a Specialist by the Law Society of Upper Canada in Citizenship and Immigration and Immigration and Refugee Law. He has over the past 20 years established an excellent reputation as a refugee lawyer and has successfully represented many Palestinian refugee claimants.

We meet at the Conference in Toronto where Naomi Klein was the key note speaker. Over 100 Jewish activists gathered at that conference which led to the founding of Independent Jewish Voices (Canada). This organization which has a membership in excess of 100 and many share Ed Corrigan's views on the Palestinian issue and on Zionism. Around the world and especially in Israel tens of thousands of Jewish have similar views or even much stronger criticisms of Zionism and the treatment of the Palestinians.

We have corresponded over the internet for about four years.

I have been on Ed Corrigan's mail list for a number of years and that most of his emails were from the Israeli and Jewish press. None of Ed's emails, in my opinion, can be construed as anti-Semitic. It is important that the Jewish community and the rest of the World be aware of the debate in Israel, and within the Jewish diaspora, on Zionism and Israel's government policies toward the Palestinians. Many Jews, myself included, do not support the present Israeli policies toward the Palestinians.

Ed Corrigan's articles focus on Jewish criticism of Zionism and the debate within the Jewish community and also the debate within Israel. His articles almost exclusively quote Jewish academics, politicians and activists. This activity and academic writing cannot be consider anti-Semitic. Hundreds of Jewish scholars, religious leaders and activists have written articles extremely critical of Israel's treatment of the Palestinian, frequently in much harsher tones than Ed Corrigan. Ed Corrigan is doing a great service to make us aware of this debate and criticism. To ignore facts and resort to ad hominem attacks like the accusation of "anti-Semitism" just shows the bankruptcy of the arguments in support of Israel's current policies and is an attempt to smear individuals and to suppress any discussion of the facts of the Palestinian issue.

Sincerely yours,



Mira Khazzam

I am pleased to lend my support to Ed Corrigan in his legal action against outrageous and false charges that he is an anti-Semite. I know Ed Corrigan as a firm defender human rights and dignity. He is a friend of the Jewish people and an opponent of anti-Semitism in all its forms.

As a Jew and a Holocaust survivor I know anti-Semitism well, from countless experiences in many countries and over several decades. It is vital to focus the struggle against anti-Semitism on its real manifestations -- expression of Jew hatred and anti-Jewish discrimination still manifest in our society.

I am appalled that charges of anti-Semitism have been circulated against Ed Corrigan on the basis of his views on legitimate questions of political debate. Defending Palestinian human rights and publicizing Jewish criticism of Israel's policies toward the Palestinians is not anti-Semitic.

Defamation of Ed Corrigan undercuts the battle against anti-Jewish prejudice and is damaging to Jewish people everywhere.

Suzanne Weiss

RECEIVED  
SEP 26 2011

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----- Original Message -----

From: ewener@sympatico.ca

To: corriganlaw@edcorrigan.ca

Sent: Monday, September 26, 2011 4:17 PM

Subject: Anti-Zionism vs Anti-Semitism

Dear Ed,

I'm just writing to express my support for you in this difficult time, and my gratitude for your activism and generous information-sharing over the years. I don't think you and I spoken since Western, but I've kept a very keen eye on your activities over the years! And I've certainly been impressed.

I wish I had money to send you towards your defence, but moral is the only kind of support I can offer. That you have in spades -- not just from me, but from people who respect your commitment and admire your work, all around the world.

For what it's worth, I also have an argument, once that I've rarely seen pursued, but which seems to me pretty strong. You certainly know what holds legal weight better than I. But it seems to me that, if one is arguing that anti-Zionism is equivalent to anti-Semitism -- as your pursuers do -- one has to explain how some of the most fervent pro-Zionists are in fact anti-Semites, as traditionally defined. I'm referring of course to the so-called "Christian Zionists" -- their whole motivation in supporting the most aggressively expansionist Israeli policies is that they believe it will hasten the prophesied Battle of Armageddon, in which some segment of the Jews will convert to Christianity, and the rest will be killed. As I say, the traditional definition of anti-Semitism most definitely includes people who think all the Jews ought to either convert or die.

I may have muffed a couple details, but I'm certain that this is the burden of right-wing Christian Zionist theo-politics. The internet will be jam-packed full of more details. Glenn Beck, I see, was rapturously greeted in Israel this month by senior politicians, and he'd be a good place to start looking for wingnut theology.

But the key to the argument is this -- how can one logically assert the equivalence of anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism when pro-Zionism is demonstrably consistent with anti-Semitism? It at least goes to show that the equivalence is false and logically invalid, that while this or that individual anti-Zionist may be anti-Semitic

too, there is no more logical need for an anti-Zionist to be anti-Semitic than to be brown-eyed.

Anyway, you'll be the judge of the legal value of this argument. But I, and people who believe in democracy in every country, have already been judges of the character and quality of the work you've been doing. And we respect and admire you, and back you 100%.

In solidarity,  
Jeff Ewener

---

Jeffery Ewener  
21 Madison Avenue, Apt. A  
Toronto ON  
Canada  
M5R 2S2  
416.921.2887  
jeff@jefferyewener.com

**Subject:** To Whom It May Concern letter  
**From:** falasteensadiqa <falasteensadiqa05@yahoo.com>  
**Date:** Tue, 27 Sep 2011 15:52:37 -0700 (PDT)  
**To:** edcorrigan@edcorrigan.ca

To Whom It May Concern:

It seems somewhat strange that I find myself actually writing a letter to vouch for the character of Ed Corrigan, a person who I have known for a number of years, and who I consider to be of great moral and ethical principles.

On the one hand, you have Mr. Corrigan, accused of being one of Canada's "notorious anti-semites," and on the other hand, you have people such as myself who are accused of being "notorious self-hating Jews." I am all too familiar with these kind of attacks.

I did not ask Israel to speak on my behalf, to make representations on my behalf, nor to carry out crimes on my behalf, yet that is exactly what it does. It appears that anyone regardless of who it is who dares to voice harsh criticisms and condemnations ultimately have to undergo character assassinations with accusations of anti-semitism, Mr. Corrigan being a perfect example.

I remember well the Civil Rights Movement in my country. One did not have to be an African American to support desegregation, and equal and just rights, yet there were many white people who were condemned and attacked for any support they gave. The same applies to South African apartheid.

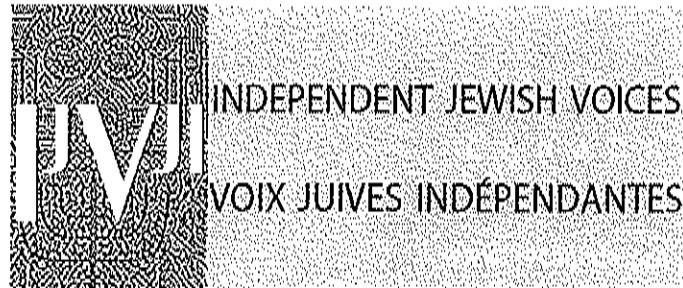
Even more memorable in my own mind are those brave people who were considered lacking in any character if they did not support their Nazi government back in Germany. Those people could have easily minded their own business, had a good life, and might even be alive today, such as members of "The White Rose" (Sophie Scholl, Hans Scholl and Christopher Probst).

I am sure that Mr. Corrigan could very easily remain silent as well since it does not personally affect him, and he would not have to deal with the demonization of his character, as many people have had to contend with. However, Mr. Corrigan's moral conscience does not permit him to remain silent, which I applaud and have the greatest respect for.

We condemn those who turn away and remain indifferent, yet we attack those who have the courage to speak out. One is damned if he does, and damned if he does not.

So I say, bravo to Mr. Corrigan. May there be many more like him to make this world a just place for all, and not presently the one in existence where we are selective of who those rights belong to and to whom they should be denied.

Sincerely  
Marlene Newsri  
New York City/USA



**P.O. Box 23088  
Ottawa, Ontario K2A 4E2**

September 30, 2011

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter is written in support of Ed Corrigan and in response to the allegation that he is "one of the most notorious anti-semites in Canada."

Ed Corrigan is well known to the Jewish peace activist community as a prolific writer, activist and supporter of human rights for all -- including the Jewish and Palestinian peoples. He is a strong opponent of racism in all of its forms, including anti-Semitism, and its much more prevalent contemporary form, Islamophobia.

Ed Corrigan has considerable academic expertise in Middle East politics, as well as refugee and human rights law. He studied Middle East Politics at the University of Western Ontario and has a Master's degree in Political Science, as well as his law degree. He has published dozens of articles on Zionism, Middle East politics and immigration and refugee law.

Mr. Corrigan has been published in journals such as *Middle East Policy*, *Middle East International*, *Outlook* (published by the Jewish Outlook Society) and in the Israeli publication *Occupation Magazine*. Our organization has distributed some of his articles, as they are well researched and informative. We have even posted one of his articles, *Israel and Apartheid: Is It a Fair Comparison?* on our web site.

As a lawyer, Mr. Corrigan has successfully represented many Palestinian refugee claimants. He is outspoken on a number of human rights issues and has a strong commitment to ensuring that the human rights of Palestinians are respected. Our organization, Independent Jewish Voices, shares this commitment, as do other Jews in Canada and around the world.

Ed Corrigan attended the founding conference of our organization in Toronto in March 2008, where journalist Naomi Klein was the keynote speaker. Since that time, our organization's membership has grown into the hundreds. We now have chapters in Halifax, Montreal, Toronto, Hamilton, Winnipeg, Vancouver and Victoria.

Our organization works with Jewish Voice for Peace, Not in Our Name (NION) and other



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Jewish and Israeli organizations which share our concerns over the treatment of the Palestinians. In Israel, many Israeli Jews share our criticisms of the treatment of the Palestinians. This debate is an integral part of the democratic discourse in Israel. Attempting to squelch this debate is anti-democratic and amounts to an attack on free speech.

The accusation that non-Jewish critics of Israel's policies are anti-Semitic -- or that Jewish ones are "self-haters" -- is often deployed as a smear tactic to attack the defenders of Palestinian human rights. Its purpose is to deflect attention from substantive criticisms of Israel's policies. In our view, it is the Israeli treatment of the Palestinians that constitutes a violation of Jewish ethical and religious traditions, while it is the Jewish critics of Israel's wrongheaded policies who are upholding traditional Jewish ethical values.

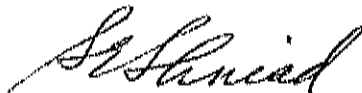
Our organization has posted articles on this subject on our website, including *Is It Anti-Semitic To Criticize Israel?* by IJV steering committee member Bob Rosen, which was originally published in TEACHER, the News Magazine of the BC Teachers Federation.

A number of Canadian Jews, including IJV members, have written rebuttals to the charge of anti-Semitism that has been used to deflect criticism of Israel's policies toward the Palestinians. These include Zalman Amit, Mordecai Briemberg, Larry and Judy Haiven, Michael Mandel, Michael Neuman, David Noble, Yakov Rabkin, Judy Rebick, Allan Sears and journalist Naomi Klein, among many others.

I, personally, am on Ed Corrigan's mail list, as are many of our members. The vast majority of his email postings are from Israeli or Jewish publications. In fact his postings are frequently re-posted to IPME-L (the Israel Palestine Middle East List), the email news service that we provide. Posting such emails provides readers with a valuable service. It helps inform the wider public, as well as members of the Law Union and others who are concerned about human rights. Based on our exposure to hundreds of Mr. Corrigan's emails, we have not seen any material that can be construed as anti-Semitic.

In our opinion, Ed Corrigan, is doing important work to make Canadians aware of important news and criticism related to events in Israel. To label such efforts with the accusation of "anti-Semitism" constitutes an attempt to smear individuals who engage in criticism of Israeli behaviour. To deem Ed Corrigan "one of the most notorious anti-semites in Canada" is an outrageous example of this unfortunately popular tactic. To label him -- and by extension, numerous other supporters of Palestinian rights -- this way is unfair, malicious, irresponsible, untrue, designed to bring them into disrepute, and injurious to their reputations.

Yours truly,



Sid Shniad  
Spokesperson, Independent Jewish Voices (Canada)



*Canadians for Justice and  
Peace in the Middle East*  
9880 Clark St., Suite 225  
Montreal, QC H3L 2R3  
438-380-5410

September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011

Mr. Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister & Solicitor  
383 Richmond Street, Suite 902  
London, Ontario, N6A 3C4

Dear Ed,

Thanks for your ongoing support for CJPME's work. I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming event in London with Israeli human rights journalist Amira Hass.

I was appalled to learn of the statement published on the Law Union listserv about you: "And below is a posting by Ed Corrigan, one of Canada's worst anti semites, and idiotic spammers."

I have known you for ten years and, and while you are an energetic and opinionated individual, I also know you to be a successful and respected immigration lawyer with a record of success second to none. I also know that no-one who knows you would dream of calling you an anti-Semite. Such an accusation against you would be slander, and must be repudiated.

Unfortunately, it would appear that you are the victim of an insidious and growing phenomenon in this country and elsewhere, that sees anyone who criticizes Israeli government practices and policies labeled an anti-Semite. If it is of any comfort, you are in excellent company among those who dare to criticize Israeli government policy: President Jimmy Carter, Mahatma Gandhi, Desmond Tutu and even Hillary Clinton (among hundreds of other distinguished men and women.)

What should be of special concern to all Canadians is that attempts to widen the "traditional" definition of anti-Semitism (outrages that we would all readily recognize and rightly condemn) to include the "new anti-Semitism" (criticism of Israel) now have the support of the highest levels of government, and support from senior members of the three major political parties.

This became very apparent with the formation of a group called the Canadian Parliamentary Coalition to Combat Antisemitism (CPCCA), which held an Inquiry into antisemitism in Canada in 2009/2010. Despite its name, the CPCCA has no formal association with the Canadian parliament, although it received nearly half a million dollars in government funding and more from undisclosed private sources. It also used, and continues to use, parliamentary facilities, offices and translators. The CPCCA Inquiry began with its major thesis already announced: antisemitism is a large and growing problem in Canadian society generally and on our university campuses specifically.



CJPME conducted an analysis of the evidence presented to the Inquiry, and published a Critique (available via our website) this month. We found that the CPCCA heard almost exclusively from people and organizations who supported their thesis, excluding those who might have brought a different perspective (including CJPME) and ignoring (indeed suppressing) their submissions.

The CPCCA Inquiry *did* hear objective testimony from senior Canadian law enforcement officials and university administrators. Almost all of them denied that antisemitism was an issue in their towns, cities, provinces and campuses. This testimony was either entirely ignored, however, or disparaged because it did not meet the afore-mentioned CPCCA thesis.

There is much more that came to light in our analysis of the CPCCA Inquiry report, most of it disturbing. Although all of our findings are included in the Critique I would just mention that the most disturbing element is the promotion, by the CPCCA, of the "EUMC Working Definition of Antisemitism". This "Working Definition" was in fact drafted by Mr. Kenneth Stern of the American Jewish Committee. It has been adopted by no other country and, you will not be surprised to hear, broadens the definition of anti-Semitism to encompass criticism of Israel. Last week a ceremony was held in Ottawa where cabinet ministers Baird and Kenney signed the "Ottawa Protocol" on behalf of the government. Approving of this "Protocol", which incorporates the "Working Definition", was the principal recommendation of the CPCCA report.

The writing is on the wall. Canadians who believe in freedom of expression must oppose any move by the government to outlaw criticism of Israel and diminish the right of all Canadians to voice their political views. Your lawsuit to defend your good name is one part of a much wider campaign. I wish you, indeed all of us, every success in the coming battles.

Please use this letter, in full, as you deem fit.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Woodley  
President  
Canadians for Justice and Peace in the Middle East

**JEFFREY BLANKFORT**  
**POB 548**  
**Ukiah, CA 9548**  
**707-467-0518**

4 October 2011

To whom it may concern,

I am writing in support of Barrister Ed Corrigan's defamation suit regarding the allegations made by certain parties that he is "one of Canada's most notorious anti-Semites." Such an allegation is not only without any basis in fact, it is spurious and malicious in Mr. Corrigan's case.

It is unfortunate that the term, "anti-Semite," which has a very real and sordid history is now being used, not to defend Jews, individually or collectively, from public opprobrium and possible physical danger, but to silence legitimate criticism of the state of Israel.

As a Jewish-American critic of Israel I have been called that term myself during my 77 years although "self-hater" is more common when those questioning Israel's actions towards the Palestinians happen to be Jewish. The intended effect, however, is the same, to exempt the government of Israel from the same forms of criticism that are directed against other governments when they transgress international law.

The accusation of "anti-Semitism" is also a reflection of the failure of those making such a charge to present arguments to counter the criticisms of Israel made by those willing to do so in a public manner as Mr. Corrigan has courageously done during the years I have known him. In the end it is nothing more than "name calling," but unlike other types of name calling, the charge of "anti-Semitism" has unfortunately proven over the years to have had damaging effects on the careers and incomes of many of those so labeled, irrespective of their lack of substance.

Under the circumstances, it is important for the courts of Canada to send a message to those defenders of Israel who are inclined to play fast and loose with the term to think twice before doing so in the future. A finding in Mr. Corrigan's behalf will do just that.

Thank you for taking these comments into consideration.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Blankfort

October 4, 2011

Dr. David Landy  
Assistant Professor  
Department of Sociology  
Trinity College Dublin  
3 College Green, Dublin 2  
Ireland

To whom it may concern.

I have been asked to write a letter concerning Ed Corrigan and the accusation of anti-Semitism from which he is defending himself. I am more than happy to do so. Firstly about myself: I am an Irish-Jewish academic, lecturing in Trinity College Dublin. My recent monograph, published by Zed Books, is entitled 'Jewish identity and Palestinian Rights, Diaspora Jewish opposition to Israel'. The book analyses the rapid recent growth of Diaspora Jewish groups who support Palestinian rights. It was in this context that I first encountered Ed Corrigan's name, as someone who has written on the long tradition of Jewish opposition to the state of Israel, opposition which is grounded both in traditional Jewish anti-Zionism and from concern for the human rights of Palestinian people.

On one hand, it is astonishing that Ed Corrigan has been accused of anti-Semitism; on the other, there is a grim inevitability to the accusation. The reason for astonishment is clear once one has read his writings on the issue. There is absolutely nothing that would indicate a hatred of the Jews; far from it, more than most involved in Palestine solidarity, Ed Corrigan has shown great respect for and acute awareness of the fact that Jews disagree on the issue of Israel. Thus he does not fall into the trap of essentialising Jews or believing that all Jews (or even all Israelis) support Israel's maltreatment of Palestinians - an unfortunate opinion which is common to many anti-Semites and Zionists alike. Instead he has taken a nuanced approach to Diaspora and Israeli Jews, an approach which one could call the polar opposite of anti-Semitism.

However, as mentioned, there is a grim inevitability to the accusation. It is difficult to be a friend of Palestine, a critic of Israel, or even someone who advocates for the application of international law and human rights law to the situation in Israel/Palestine, without being accused of anti-Semitism. The British academic Jenny Bourne noted back in 2004 that as Israel has become less popular and its actions less defensible, its advocates increasingly rely on the slur of anti-Semitism - less to win the argument and more to silence opposition to Israel, to close down the conversation. It is unsurprising then that Ed Corrigan, a long-term advocate for Palestinian rights and the application of international law, be tarred with the anti-Semitism brush.

In that the slur of anti-Semitism is used so widely, it may appear that it is a frivolous accusation, one that does not need to be taken seriously. On the contrary. We are fortunate to live in a time when popular revulsion against any manifestation of anti-Semitism is at an all time high. The accusation of anti-Semitism needs at all times to be taken seriously, and it serves to destroy people's reputations and their personal standing. This is as it should be, when dealing with real anti-Semites. However the power of the accusation has led to unscrupulous supporters of Israel

wielding this accusation as a weapon to attack supporters of Palestinian rights, rather than to defend against anti-Semitism.

Parenthetically it should be noted that there is something truly morally disgraceful about cheapening the seriousness of the charge by throwing it around in such a fashion. Either way, it does not take a university professor to point out that criticism of Israel is not anti-Semitism, especially the criticism based on international and human rights law which Ed Corrigan offers. The existence of an increasing number of Jews who criticise Israel – often in a far more trenchant manner than Ed Corrigan – is testament to this fact.

In defending against this accusation of anti-Semitism, Ed Corrigan is not only defending his personal reputation, but defending an important principle of public life – that those who seek to advocate for human rights for Palestinians should not need to fear having their reputations damaged in such a way. In taking this stance, he is to be thanked.

Yours sincerely

David Landy

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OCT 17 2011

GABOR MATÉ M.D.  
941 WEST 22<sup>ND</sup> AVENUE  
VANCOUVER, B.C. V5Z 2A2

Phone: (604) 736-4716 Fax: (604) 736-4733 e-mail: gabor@drgabormate.com Cell: (604) 790-4716

October 4, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Mr. Edward C. Corrigan

I understand that Mr. Corrigan has been accused of being an anti-Semite, a charge he considers libelous, and that his case has become the subject of legal proceedings.

I write as Canadian of Jewish origin, an infant survivor of the Nazi genocide in Hungary and the child of survivors; as a former Zionist youth leader; as the former member to two Vancouver Jewish congregations and a present member of the Vancouver Jewish Community Centre; and as the parent of three adult children whom I have each helped to live one year in Israel as participants in a Zionist youth group. I also write as a contributor to several Canadian publications, including the Vancouver Sun and the Globe and Mail, both of which have carried articles of mine critical of Israeli policy.

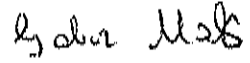
I cannot know whether or not Mr. Corrigan is an anti-Semite, since I do not know him personally and cannot know whether or not he harbors animus toward Jewish people in general, seeing them as a group in negative terms or, worse, wishing them harm. I can assert unequivocally, however, that nothing I am aware of in Mr. Corrigan's writings or public statements even vaguely or remotely suggests any hint of anti-Semitism—not unless we define any criticism, harsh or mild, of Israeli policy, as being anti-Semitic. He has been forthright in his critique of Israeli actions, but no more so than I have been along with many fellow Jews and others of all ethnic backgrounds and a broad range of political views.

Anti-Semitism, whatever form it takes, is a virulent belief system and a completely irrational and aggressive psycho-emotional stance. For that very reason, it is no light matter to accuse someone of anti-Semitism, especially given its horrific resonance in wake of the Nazi atrocities.

In recent years international support for Israel has dwindled over what many people—Jews and non-Jews, including a highly articulate minority of Israelis—perceive as that state's practices of occupation and the suppression of Palestinian rights. Parallel with that decline, this charge of anti-Semitism is increasingly leveled at those who voice criticism of Israeli policy. I perceive that to be a dangerous trend, one that wittingly or not may intimidate people from engaging in earnest public discussion of Middle East issues and, specifically, of Canadian foreign policy. I consider it important that a clear distinction be made between the racist advocacy that anti-Semitism represents, on the one hand, and the legitimate—and, in a democracy, necessary—unfettered political discussion and debate on any subject, no matter how sensitive.

I am pleased to testify in this case on behalf of Mr. Corrigan, should he and his legal advisors deem that of potential help and should the court find me a witness of interest.

Sincerely yours,



Gabor Maté M.D.

GM/lg



RECEIVED  
OCT 17 2011

6 Brookfield  
Highgate West Hill  
London N6 6AS  
United Kingdom  
5<sup>th</sup> October 2011

To whom it may concern

I am Jewish, a retired academic and publisher, and active in support for human rights worldwide. In the last decade I have been particularly concerned by the situation of the Palestinians and for much of this period, until recently, was chair of Jews for Justice for Palestinians, a UK-based group which has over 1,600 signatories (see [www.jfjfp.org](http://www.jfjfp.org)).

As a Jew whose (great)grandparents emigrated from Eastern Europe (countless relatives were less lucky) I have a personal interest as well as a deep and abiding concern with issues of antisemitism, historically and in the world today.

Nothing is more infuriating than to find the issue appropriated as a defence of and justification for actions of the Israeli state and the human-rights violations it allows and/or sanctions on an almost daily basis in the occupied Palestinian territory, in clear breach of international law and the Fourth Geneva convention.

I have written about this abuse of the term antisemitism and its use to delegitimise criticism of Israel, most notably in my essay "The New Antisemitism" in *A Time to Speak Out: Independent Jewish Voices on Israel, Zionism and Jewish Identity* (co-edited with A. Karpf, J. Rose and B. Rosenbaum), Verso, 2008; and in "Hue and cry over the UCU" *OpenDemocracy*, 1st June 2011 (online at [www.opendemocracy.net/richard-kuper/hue-and-cry-over-ucu](http://www.opendemocracy.net/richard-kuper/hue-and-cry-over-ucu))

I do not know Ed Corrigan personally but have read some of his writings. I have found in them robust criticism of the state of Israel and its actions. It is entirely legitimate comment and in no way can or should it be construed as antisemitic. To do so devalues the real meaning of antisemitism and undermines the struggle against it.

Yours sincerely



Richard Kuper

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# UNITED JEWISH PEOPLE'S ORDER – Toronto Section

585 Cranbrooke Avenue Toronto, Ontario M6A 2X9

Telephone: 416-789-5502 Fax: 416-789-5981 Email: [info@winchevskycentre.org](mailto:info@winchevskycentre.org)

Website: [www.winchevskycentre.org](http://www.winchevskycentre.org)

October 12, 2011

RECEIVED  
OCT 19 2011

Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister & Solicitor  
Certified Specialist in Citizenship and Immigration  
and Immigration and Refugee Protection  
Suite 902, 383 Richmond Street  
London, Ontario  
N6A 3C4

Dear Mr. Corrigan:

From our beginnings in 1926, the United Jewish People's Order (UJPO) has been an independent, progressive organization that strives for economic, social and environmental justice. Over the years we have worked to promote peace, human rights, universal health care, and access to education, gender equality, unionization and better conditions for all workers, affordable housing and an end to racism and bigotry. Throughout its history, the organization has made a significant contribution to the life of the Canadian Jewish community and to the community at large.

We are committed to democratic principles of open discourse and debate. We have become especially concerned about what has been termed "*the new anti-Semitism*" whereby criticism of political Zionism and the policies of the state of Israel are considered to be anti-Semitic. We view this situation as an attack on democratic principles. The policies of any state should always be open to scrutiny and debate.

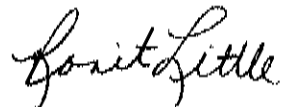
Political Zionism arose during the last years of the nineteenth century with the first Zionist Congress held in Basel Switzerland in 1897. Unlike Judaism, it is a rather new development on the world stage, and while many political Zionists have insisted that Zionism and being a Jew are synonymous, the conflation is contrived in order to shut down legitimate debate and criticism of Israeli state policies.

When criticism of Israel comes from a Jew, that individual is falsely labeled as self-hating. When it comes from a non-Jew, the unfounded charge of "anti-Semitism" is applied. This leaves absolutely no avenue open in which to critically engage state policies. By falsely attributing "anti-Semitism" to human rights advocates who are critical of political Zionism and Israeli state policies, the apologists for political Zionism also provide aid and comfort to anti-Semitism; they legitimize it and reinforce it.

As a Jewish organization we are very sensitive and attentive to actual anti-Semitism. A charge of anti-Semitism is offensive and damaging to one's reputation. We are very concerned that you have been labeled as "one of Canada's most notorious anti-Semites" and have found nothing in your writing to warrant such a charge. Your work is well thought out and stems from a genuine concern for human rights.

We are providing this letter and a contribution in the amount of \$50.00 as an expression of our support. It is our sincerest hope that the damage to your reputation can be repaired.

Yours truly,



Ronit Little

Director, United Jewish People's Order -Toronto Section



UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD  
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THE PAULING CENTRE,  
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RECEIVED  
OCT 21 2011

15.10.2011

To whom it may concern:

I have been shocked to learn that Mr Ed Corrigan has been accused of anti-Semitism. As a scholar with a degree in Arabic with Medieval and Modern Hebrew, I have a long-standing concern for peace in the Middle East and mutual respect between Arabs and Israelis, and for that reason I have for several years been on Mr Corrigan's mailing list. I have never once in all that time received any document that could be described as hostile to Jews or Judaism, nor to Israelis as Israelis. In his concern for justice to be done to both sides in the conflict between Israel and the Palestinians, he has forwarded many articles critical of Israeli policy, but since when has the Israeli Government, alone among governments, been immune to criticism? I believe in fact that it is contrary to the interests of Jews the world over to hold them in any way responsible for oppressive policies pursued by Israel in the Occupied Territories contrary to international law and natural justice or for the denial of equal rights to non-Jewish citizens of Israel. Mr. Corrigan's views are fair criticism and in no way anti-Semitic.

Philip J Stewart

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ph Stewart'.

University Lecturer (retired)

To whom it may concern

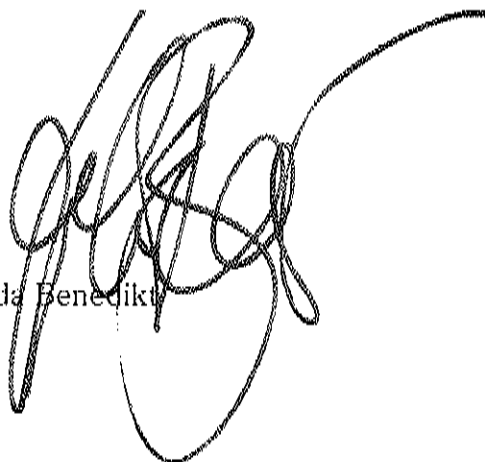
I have heard about the accusation against Edward C. Corrigan a couple of days ago. And I had to laugh. It was not necessarily a merry laugh. The charges are grave. But the motive for them is laughable for it is so obvious.

I am a journalist and writer from Munich, Germany. My subject of interest and my area of expertise is the Israeli-Palestine conflict. For more then twenty years I have lived on and off in Israel and occupied Palestine. I have studied the history of Zionism, of the Israeli State and it Occupation. I wrote a book on Yitzhak Rabin and I am currently writing another book about my long and increasingly uneasy relationship with the Israeli State. More than once my critical writing on Israel's policies was met with knee jerk reactions. No matter what I wrote or said -focussing solely on Israeli politics- I was always found guilty of being an anti-Semite.

This accusation is cheap and robs the term and all it stand for of its true meaning. Being anti-Semitic describes an irrational hatred of all things Jewish. Yet, criticism of Israel is nothing but what it says: it questions and challenges the policies of the Israeli State. Defending Israel's illegal state practices, racist laws and legally enshrined inequalities is becoming increasingly difficult. How do you defend an assumed democratic state for its blatant undemocratic behaviour? You simply cannot without making a fool of yourself and distorting the definition of democracy. Thus so-called "friends" of Israel are turning to the term anti-Semitism as a last and nasty resort. By doing so they besmirch legitimate criticism with the nasty stain of wild hatred and purposely blur the boundaries between what is actually said and what the supposed motive is. Criticism of the policies of the Israeli State is as legitimate as criticism of German policies is, or of Italy or the Untied States of America.

I never blamed the "Jews", I never singled out the "Jews" and I will never do so. No matter how other people will try to turn me into something that I am not, I will adhere to my right of scrutinising and analysing the policies of the Israeli State as I will the policies any other state. Israel calls itself a democratic state. Thus it must be and can be judged according to democratic rules and standards. Doing so is anything by anti-Semitic. Accusing critics of Israel as being anti-Semitic is nothing but a rather transparent manner of trying to silence critical voices. As I said earlier: I will not be silenced and nor should Edward C. Corrigan be silenced. We all should not be silenced but listened too. If one can one should refute our criticism by facts, but certainly not by wild and baseless accusations.

Sincerely,



Linda Benedikt

RECEIVED  
OCT 16 2011

**Subject:** Support

**From:** "Eichten, Bea" <beichten@fslf.org>

**Date:** Sun, 16 Oct 2011 13:11:23 -0500

**To:** "edcorrigan@edcorrigan.ca" <edcorrigan@edcorrigan.ca>

I am an American citizen who did a study tour to Palestine three years ago. I was appalled by the conditions the Palestinians lived with due to the Israeli occupation of the West Bank. I have since followed the situation in Palestine and Israel and continue to be dismayed by the continuing encroachment of the West Bank being perpetrated by Israel. My country - ordinary folks and some legislators - is slowly becoming aware that uncritical support of Israel is wrong and does not promote justice and fairness for the Palestinians.

I strongly believe that criticism of Israeli actions and policies is not anti-Semitic but rather a voice for justice and thoughtful discussion about issues and policies affecting both the Palestinians and right-minded Israelis.

Bea Eichten

Beatrice Eichten, OSF  
116 8th Ave. SE  
Little Falls, MN 56345  
[beichten@fslf.org](mailto:beichten@fslf.org)

Sent from my iPad

**Subject:** Support letter  
**From:** "Beate Zilversmidt" <otherisr@actcom.co.il>  
**Date:** Sun, 16 Oct 2011 00:31:45 +0200  
**To:** edcorrigan@edcorrigan.ca

Dear Ed Corrigan

I follow your writings for years. If your criticism of Israeli politics make you an antisemite in Canada, then I think Israel has more freedom of expression than Canada. Things which you write can be found regularly on the pages of Israeli papers. Columnists of the respectable Haaretz daily like Akiva Eldar and Gideon Levy, and correspondents like Amira Hass don't spare the Israeli government their criticism and say it sometimes more blunt than I ever saw you doing.

I am saying this as a jew surviving in Holland the Nazi occupation, and living in Israel since 1987. My experience, growing up in Holland in the traumatized Jewish community, has given me a fine nose for antisemites. Exactly the fact that you don't apologize for your criticism (which I share) with fake philosemitic phrases, is proof for me that you are free of guilt feelings which often reveal a double agenda.

Feel free to use this letter, as you see fit.

yours

Beate Zilversmidt  
7, Uziel St. app. 10  
Holon 58343  
Israel

Phone:  
at home: +972-3-5565804  
cellphone: +972-54-2340750

----- Forwarded message follows -----

**From:** Dorothy <dor\_naor@netvision.net.il>  
**To:** <@googlegroups.com;>

**Subject:** [newprofile message:4440] Fw: October 14, 2011 Update on Ed Corrigan's libel trial against the accusation he is anti-Semitic

**Date sent:** Sat, 15 Oct 2011 23:29:39 +0200  
**Send reply to:** dor\_naor@netvision.net.il

RECEIVED  
OCT 25 2011

October 17, 2011.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter with regard to the charge made against Ed Corrigan that "he is one of the most notorious anti-semites in Canada." This charge is both extremely serious and politically motivated. It is also, in my opinion, without merit. Although I have not met Mr. Corrigan, I have read many of his pieces via a number of listserves. I have always found his comments or articles to be of interest and of sound academic quality. Nowhere have I seen evidence of a shred of anti-Semitism on his part.

The attack against Mr. Corrigan is part of an assault on what has been referred to as the "new anti-semitism," a belief that anti-semitism is growing around the world. However, many authors—including a number in Israel—have argued that this "new anti-semitism" in reality is nothing more than an attempt to silence critics of the policies of the State of Israel. Mr. Corrigan's crime—which of course is no crime at all—has been to stand up for the rights and freedoms of the Palestinian people.

Similar charges of "anti-semitism" made against others have led to the absurd situation where one is now less able to openly criticize the state of Israel in Canada than to criticize our own government. As a Jew, I obviously have a personal interest in seeing anti-semitism addressed wherever it appears. However, as a social scientist I feel the term is currently being used without much precision; indeed, it might be said that the term has become totally misappropriated for political purposes.

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has referred to himself as "the leader of the Jewish people" and the Canadian Jewish Congress (which has existed since 1919) recently rebranded itself as the Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs. Thus, if Jews see support for the State of Israel as an essential part of being Jewish—and the only thing between them and another Holocaust—then any criticism of that State or its policies will be seen, *de facto*, as an attack on Jews as a group, and will be opposed. In the face of growing global opposition to current Israeli government policies, many Jews—who simply cannot accept that their people would do anything immoral—have turned to both blaming the victim ("the Palestinians started it") and blaming those who support the victim (they're anti-semites or, when the criticism comes from within the community itself, "self-hating Jews").

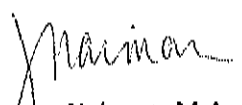
The London Declaration—the antecedent to the "Ottawa protocol" released this summer by the Canadian Parliamentary Coalition to Combat Antisemitism—stated that "calls for the destruction of the State of Israel are inherently anti-semitic." Is a call for the end of a theocracy and the creation of a fully democratic Israeli state, where all citizens—of whatever religion or background—are treated equally and humanely then anti-semitic? This may seem like an absurd possibility, but for most Jews this is indeed the case. Allowing equality of rights and freedoms to all its citizens, regardless of religion, would diminish the "Jewishness" of the State of Israel, and therefore it is *de facto* anti-semitism.

This leaves those—such as Mr. Corrigan—who believe in universal rights and freedoms, and who are critical of current Israeli policies, in an impossible situation. If people criticize the policies of the Islamic State of Iran, or they call for human rights and equality for all its citizens, are they anti-Islamic? Was opposition to the Apartheid regime of South Africa anti-White? Israel has been charged on many occasions with gross violations of both the Geneva Conventions and international humanitarian law. The ever-increasing cries of anti-semitism by those in the Jewish community are a way of deflecting attention from this fact and from the real horrors—the daily humiliations, evictions, land expropriation, mass imprisonment and killings—currently being inflicted on the Palestinian people by Israel.



The escalation of charges of anti-semitism in Canada against certain individuals and groups is extremely troubling, and is an unacceptable attack on freedom of speech in this country—the right to criticize governments (including our own) when we disagree with certain of their policies. To describe Mr. Corrigan as “one of the most notorious anti-semites in Canada” is not only ludicrous but also malicious and injurious to his personal reputation. There are some *real* anti-semites in Canada and elsewhere promoting vile and disgusting notions about Jews via the Internet. It is unfortunate that the Jewish community in Canada is so busy trying to find examples of the “new anti-semitism” that they are in large measure ignoring the old-fashioned—and truly worrying—variety.

Sincerely,



Joanne Naiman, M.A., B. Ed.  
Professor Emerita, Department of Sociology  
Ryerson University, Toronto

2305 W. 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Vancouver V6K 2A8  
British Columbia

RECEIVED  
OCT 25 2011

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Dear Mr. Corrigan,

October 17, 2011

I am writing to offer my support in your civil case against those who have falsely and dishonestly accused you of anti-Semitism. I am an American Jew. My identical twin brother is a prominent member of an ultra-Orthodox sect of Judaism and I have close ultra-Orthodox relatives who live in Israel. My younger brother is a former president of one of the largest reform synagogues on the East Coast of the United States.

Up until the middle of the Second Lebanon War, in the summer of 2006, my views were similar to those of Abraham Foxman, head of the Anti-Defamation League, Marvin Hier, head of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, and noted attorney and law professor Alan Dershowitz. Like them I considered most criticism of Israel to be motivated by anti-Semitism or Jewish self-hatred. My fear for Israel's survival led me to become a member of AIPAC (the American-Israel Public Affairs Committee).

But then, in response to a series of painful arguments with close friends, I decided to undertake a conscientious study of the history of Israel/Palestine. My goal was to find the truth to the best of my ability. The majority of my research came from authors with access to the Israeli state archives, Central Zionist archives, IDF archives as well as other Israeli government sources. I examined differing viewpoints and routinely checked sources cited by these authors to make sure they were quoting their sources accurately.

What I discovered not only shocked me but compelled me to reflect upon a lifetime of unexamined beliefs and assumptions that I had taken for granted. Among these was the belief that Arabs want to push the Jews into the Sea; that the world, especially the Arab world, hates Jews. Most significant was the realization that the fear of another Holocaust was the underlying influence or filter through which I saw the world in its relationship to Israel's existence.

My relinquishment of this indoctrination enabled me to see from all perspectives and it awakened in me compassion for all beings regardless of race or religion. I learned that my blind loyalty to Israel had induced me to ignore the suffering of an entire society and to label as anti-Semitic or self-hating those who criticized Israel. Like the majority of Jewish supporters of Israel I equated Arabs with Nazis and other persecutors.

As a core belief and element of Jewish identity, this assumption affected my attitude toward others, how I interpreted events, what I noticed and what I didn't notice. It necessarily created (in my mind) a hostile world toward my people and a need for brutal force to insure my people would not be treated brutally. Only when the suffering contained within this and other unexamined assumptions and beliefs was resolved did I become capable of seeing the true motivation of those who criticize Israel.

Most critics simply want Israel to abide by international law. And nearly every Jewish critic I know believes that by opposing policies that relegate Palestinians to lives of second-class citizenship, they are rescuing the integrity of their religious tradition. If the roles of Israelis and Palestinians were reversed, most of these people would be fighting for Israeli equality.

As a result of my concern for all people rather than some people and as a result of my willingness to research Israeli history, rather than passively accepting as truth the words of others, including Foxman, Hier, or Dershowitz, who have done no objective and comprehensive research, I

have been labeled an anti-Semite (and self-hating Jew). Interestingly, the only people who have slurred me are people who do not know me. Those who know me, including staunch Zionists, have never slurred me because they know that I do not hate Israel.

Did David Ben-Gurion suddenly become an anti-Semite or self-hating Jew when he admitted to Zionist leader Nahum Goldmann that Israel had "stolen" the land from the Palestinians? Was Ehud Olmert guilty of self-hatred when he admitted that Jewish settlers in Hebron were conducting "pogroms" against Palestinians?

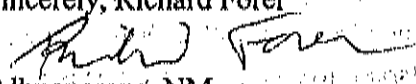
Where is the hatred? The hatred is in the minds of those who are afraid to ask why someone is critical of Israel. Rather than doing honest research to refute or confirm the criticism, the hater panders to his feelings of fear, confusion and anger, all of which are animated by unexamined beliefs and images within his own mind. This mind colors his perception so that he sees the world in terms of personal victimhood versus the world's hostility. Because he is unconscious of this deeper thought process he can only project his perception onto the world and then assume that the world he sees proves the reality of his perception. Unconsciously creating his own suffering, he narcissistically scapegoats the world (in this case Palestinians and their sympathizers) for the suffering.

I have not met one defender of Israeli policy who has impartially studied the actual history. The real conflict for these defenders is the inability to integrate the hard-to-believe but inescapable awareness of Israel's treatment of non-Jews with unquestioned loyalty to the Jewish state. One consideration recognizes Israel's dark side. The other denies the dark side exists.

I have written a book titled *Breakthrough: Transforming Fear into Compassion - A New Perspective on the Israel-Palestine Conflict*. I have also become a public speaker. My message is twofold: 1) Without a truthful awareness of the history of Israel-Palestine, peace is not possible; 2) By denying the humanity of the other we invite the other to deny our humanity; and in supporting policies designed to drive an indigenous people from their homeland we guarantee that peace is not possible.

Mr. Corrigan, I define anti-Semitism as an attack upon Jews who sincerely appeal to Israel to abide by international law and treat the other as it would want its own people to be treated. And I define as anti-Israeli an attack upon any who sincerely appeal to Israel to abide by international law and treat the other as it would want its own people to be treated.

I cannot imagine that an unbiased judge or jury will find that standing up for human rights is anything other than an expression of caring for all people, including those who would slander you in the name of the Jewish people. What if, in the darkest days of 1930s and 1940s Europe no German or other European citizen could be found who cared about the humanity of the other? Your words act as a mirror that reflects back to your accusers their anti-humanity. Because of the preciousness of their unexamined beliefs to their mortal identities, they (unconsciously) must label you a hater. That enables them to avoid looking at their inner hatred and seeing that in reality they are the ones they accuse. Their blindness insures that not only Palestinians but Jews will suffer unnecessarily.

Sincerely, Richard Forer  
  
Albuquerque, NM



Richard Forer

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[www.Breakthrough-Book.com](http://www.Breakthrough-Book.com)

[www.RichardForer.com](http://www.RichardForer.com)

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[richforer@gmail.com](mailto:richforer@gmail.com)

(505) 265-1898

**Subject:** Support letter re "anti-Semitism"  
**From:** Brisna and Gerry <rowe\_caxaj@videotron.ca>  
**Date:** 10/17/2011 6:12 PM  
**To:** edcorrigan@edcorrigan.ca

To whom it may concern:

It should be clear to any impartial observer that criticism of the policies of the State of Israel does not satisfy a reasonable definition of the term "anti-semitism", to wit, "suspicion of, hatred toward, or discrimination against Jews for reasons connected to their Jewish heritage" (Wikipedia). Conversely, it is only by falsely conflating and indeed making identical the distinct concepts "Jewish heritage" and "State of Israel" that such a charge could be levelled against a principled critic of the latter.

As concrete evidence of my support for the libel action of Edward C. Corrigan in this regard, I will be sending him a cheque for \$100 to defray expenses related to this case, as well as a signed copy of the present letter.

Gerald E. Rowe  
Saint-Laurent  
Quebec

To Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister and Solicitor  
383 Richmond Street  
Suite 902  
London, Ontario  
Canada NGA3C4

RECEIVED  
OCT 17 2011

I am writing in regard to Edward C. Corrigan's libel and slander law suit. I am motivated to come to the defense of Mr. Corrigan as a Jew, as a retired secondary school teacher committed to anti-racist education, as a former leader in the movement against South African apartheid, and as the first recipient of OSSTF's Human Rights Award. For the past six years I have been involved in the movement in solidarity with Palestine and have worked with many fellow Jews who feel that it is our moral obligation to speak out against the State of Israel's flagrant violations of human rights and international law.

Born in Oshawa in 1950, I grew up in a virulently anti-Semitic environment, acutely conscious of being "the other" by the time I was four-years-old. The anti-Semitism to which I was subjected in my formative years and my early childhood knowledge of the Holocaust which deprived me of my entire Polish family on my mother's side fuelled my determination to challenge injustice in all its manifestations.

I know anti-Semitism first-hand and continue to be vigilant against it. However, the concept of "the new anti-Semitism", purporting that criticism of Israel is tantamount to incitement of hatred against Jews as a collective, is a problematic assertion. It aims to exempt the state of Israel from criticism, an exemption not afforded to other nations.

The Israel lobby's insistence on the inextricable link between Zionism and Judaism provides the rationale for granting Israel permission to act with impunity in the name of protecting world Jewry. This premise poses several dangers: first, to the cultural and religious integrity of Jews as a people and their reputation in the international community; to civil liberties generally; to peoples of Middle Eastern descent or adherents of Islam who are commonly profiled as anti-Semites; and finally, to the Palestinians who continue to suffer as a dispossessed, subjugated people.

Criticism of Israel's discrimination against its Palestinian population and its continued occupation and annexation of their land warrant public condemnation. While the Jewish people historically have been victimized during various periods, and collectively are haunted by the horrors of the Holocaust, it is inaccurate to position Israel within the framework of victimization while it has been established by a host of international bodies that it is an expansionist, aggressor nation, and ranks as one of the world's largest military powers whose nuclear program was revealed in 1986 by Mordechai Vanunu, a former Israeli nuclear technician. In this context, unquestioning support of Israel as the Jewish state, rather than making the world safer for Jews, I fear, has the opposite effect. The assertion that Jews and the state of Israel are indistinguishable holds every Jew responsible for the crimes Israel commits ostensibly in our name.

Furthermore, allegations of anti-Semitism made against people like Ed Corrigan are shameful attempts to quash legitimate public discourse. I am appalled that there are those in powerful positions who would make no room for dissent by labeling it as hate. After all, debate and dissent are integral to a democratic society.

Finally, these allegations distract us from addressing the humanitarian catastrophe in the Occupied Territories as well as the increasing discrimination to which Israeli Arabs are subjected.

Most criticism of Israel emanates from a vast range of legitimate sources in the international community, including Israelis like Shulamit Aloni who served as Minister of Education under Yitzhak Rabin, characterizing her own country as an apartheid state and B'Tslem, the Israeli Human Rights organization, which has done meticulous and extensive research documenting Israel's violations of Palestinian human rights. Breaking the Silence, founded to expose the IDF's human rights abuses in the Occupied Territories, has issued soldiers' testimonials about atrocities Israel committed against the people of Gaza during Operation Cast Lead. Gush Shalom, the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions, Rabbis for Human Rights, and Yesh Din are just a few examples of the many Israeli human rights organizations that challenge the narrative promulgated by their own government.

One has only to read reports by all the major human rights bodies in the international community – from Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch to the United Nation's last two Special Rapporteurs, John Duggard and Richard Falk, to conclude that Israel is guilty of far-reaching human rights abuses, creating a matrix of control over the Palestinian people.

Inarguably, there is wide consensus on Israel's violations of international law established by numerous UN resolutions. In fact, Israel has violated 28 resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, and almost 100 resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly. As well, Israel is in violation of the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 2004, condemning the separation wall Israel has almost completed building throughout the occupied West Bank. Furthermore, Israel committed war crimes in its attack on Gaza, which include the use of Palestinian children as human shields, the targeting of medics and hospitals, targeted attacks on densely populated urban areas, the use of deadly accurate unmanned drone aircraft to kill civilians, as well as the use of depleted uranium and white phosphorus against a civilian population. This is not the first time that Israel has violated the Geneva Convention.

Apologists for Israeli's behaviour insist that Israel is simply acting in self-defense. Yes, Israel, as any other state, has a right to defend itself. But what do the destruction of olive groves, home demolitions, separating people from their farms, their relatives, their schools, their work, their water supplies, expansion of settlements on appropriated land, the bombardment of an entire population, destroying medical facilities, schools – what do these things have to do with self-defense? Could these acts have more to do with making life so miserable, so unsustainable, that the Palestinian people will be driven out for good? Indeed, allegations of Israel's ethnic

cleansing referred to as “transfer” in Zionist parlance are well substantiated. The architects of Zionism (and subsequent Israeli leaders) asserted the need for the transfer of the population living on the land in order to realize (and now maintain) the Jewish state.

In light of Israel’s historical violation of international law, it is preposterous to assert that criticism of that nation is tantamount to a hate crime. To make such a judgment is to remove oneself from the framework of international law.

Ed Corrigan’s criticisms of Israel are in concert with countless legitimate voices of the international community, including the UN General Assembly former president, Miguel d’Escoto Brockmann, Nobel Peace Prize recipient Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and U.N. Special Rapporteurs John Dugard and Richard Falk. An increasing number of Jews are adding their voices to this chorus.

Edward Corrigan has written well informed critiques of Israel’s shameful human rights record. He is in good company, and in my opinion, is on the right side of history.

Respectfully,

Lynda Lemberg,  
41 Regal Road,  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada  
M6H 2J6

Please refer to the following sites for further information:

Below are three resources to learn about the Palestinian narrative of the history of Israel / Palestine. The fourth resource examines the disparity between the two historical narratives – the Zionist one and the Palestinian one.

1. Palestine Remembered <http://www.palestineremembered.com/index.html>

An excerpt from its Mission Statement

Purpose

- To emphasize that the CORE issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict are the DISPOSSESSION and ETHNIC CLEANSING (compulsory population transfer to achieve political gains) of the Palestinian people for the past six decades. In our opinion, the conflict would have been at the same level of intensity even if both parties had been Jewish, Muslims, or Christians.



- To create an easy medium where refugees can communicate, organize, and share their experiences amongst themselves. The refugees are encouraged to attach their stories, memories, pictures, movies, music files, join discussions at the message board and guest book sections, directory service listing of the refugees and their contact information, and URL links related to each listed town.
- To provide a comprehensive source of information about the villages and cities that were ethnically cleansed, looted, and destroyed by the Israeli army. At each town's homepage, you will find pictures (both before and after 1948), the current status of the town, the Israeli colonies that occupy the town's lands, a brief history of the town before and after Nakba, detailed accounts of atrocities and any acts of terror, personal accounts from the refugees themselves, and above all live interviews from refugees reciting their experiences before, during and after al-Nakba.
- To preserve the memories and the experiences of the Palestinian people around the world, especially the 726,000 Palestinians refugees who were ethnically cleansed from their homes, farms, and businesses as a result of the 1948 war. Currently, the dispossessed refugees number 6.5 million and constitute the great majority of the Palestinian people. On the political front, so far their voices have gone unheard, and we at PalestineRemembered.com hope to amplify their voices in cyberspace.
- To increase refugees' awareness of their rights to return to their homes, farms, and businesses based on United Nations General Assembly resolution 194. Based on this resolution, every single refugee has the right to go back to his or her home, and to be compensated for any loss of their properties, pain, and suffering.
- To respond to the widely popular Zionist myth that: "Palestine was a country with no people for people with no country", at length we have responded to this myth. With the help of our online community (made up of tens of thousands of refugees), visitors to the site can verify how Palestine has its people who are rich with history, culture and values.
- To reach out to Israelis so they can feel the human behind this "Palestinian" or "the enemy", who was forced out from his home, farm, and business to make way to persecuted European Jewish refugees. We are proud to be one of the few mediums where Israelis and Palestinians can reach out to each other and meet, of course other than at the humiliating checkpoints. It should be noted, that the majority of the site's page views comes from Israel, and many of the pictures and films that we have of the destroyed villages were shared by Israelis. We understand that many Israelis and Jews around the world support the Palestinian struggle for justice and are willing to do their part in bringing an end to the wrongs of the past.
- To send clear and an unambiguous message to all the Westerners that the Palestinian people cannot be crossed for what they have sinned against their Jewish citizens. Palestine and its people cannot be the saviors for their tortured consciences and souls for what they have done to the Jews who used to call Europe home. Their blind support to the "Jewish state" and its racist policies is

blindly guided with their guilty conscious. Locking Jews, Palestinians and Arabs into eternal struggle will neither bring peace to the Middle East nor to the whole world.

2. Zochrot ["Remembering"] is a group of Israeli citizens working to raise awareness of the Nakba, the Palestinian catastrophe of 1948.  
<http://www.zochrot.org/en>

The Zionist collective memory exists in both our cultural and physical landscape, yet the heavy price paid by the Palestinians — in lives, in the destruction of hundreds of villages, and in the continuing plight of the Palestinian refugees — receives little public recognition.

Zochrot works to make the history of the Nakba accessible to the Israeli public so as to engage Jews and Palestinians in an open recounting of our painful common history. We hope that by bringing the Nakba into Hebrew, the language spoken by the Jewish majority in Israel, we can make a qualitative change in the political discourse of this region. Acknowledging the past is the first step in taking responsibility for its consequences. This must include equal rights for all the peoples of this land, including the right of Palestinians to return to their homes.

3. Nakba – The Ongoing Ethnic cleansing of Palestine <http://www.60yearsofnakba.org/>  
 You can download for free, this 40-page booklet which is a concise description and history of invasion, displacement, and mass imprisonment that have continued to the present day, blocking all efforts at justice, equal rights and peace.

4. Truth Against Truth – A Completely Different Look at the Israeli- Palestinian Conflict  
<http://zope.gush-shalom.org/home/en/channels/downloads/truth>

This historical overview examines the disparity between the two historical narratives – Israel's national narrative vs. the Palestinian narrative. It has been produced by an Israeli peace organization, Gush Shalom, whose objectives are as follows:

The primary aim of Gush Shalom is to influence Israeli public opinion and lead it towards peace and conciliation with the Palestinian people, based on the following principles:

- Putting an end to the occupation,
- Accepting the right of the Palestinian people to establish an independent and sovereign State of Palestine in all the territories occupied by Israel in 1967,
- Reinstating the pre-1967 "Green Line" as the border between the State of Israel and the State of Palestine (with possible minor exchanges of territories agreed between the parties); the border will be open for the free movement of people and goods, subject to mutual agreement.
- Establishing Jerusalem as the capital of the two states, with East Jerusalem (including the

Haram al-Sharif) serving as the capital of Palestine and West Jerusalem (including the Western Wall) serving as the capital of Israel. The city is to be united on the physical and municipal level, based on mutual agreement.

- Recognizing in principle the Right of Return of the Palestinian refugees, allowing each refugee to choose freely between compensation and repatriation to Palestine and Israel, and fixing by mutual agreement the number of refugees who will be able to return to Israel in annual quotas, without undermining the foundations of Israel.
- Safeguarding the security of both Israel and Palestine by mutual agreement and guarantees.
- Striving for overall peace between Israel and all Arab countries and the creation of a regional union.

Israeli sites:

Breaking the Silence – Israeli soldiers talk about the occupied territories  
[http://www.shovrimshatika.org/index\\_e.asp](http://www.shovrimshatika.org/index_e.asp)

B'Tselem – The Israeli Center for Human Rights in the Occupied Territories  
<http://www.btselem.org/English/index.asp>

Coalition of Women for Peace <http://coalitionofwomen.org/home/english>

Gisha: Legal center for Freedom of Movement <http://www.gisha.org/>

Gush Shalom [http://zope.gush-shalom.org/index\\_en.html](http://zope.gush-shalom.org/index_en.html)

HaMoked: Center for the Defence of the Individual <http://www.hamoked.org/home.aspx>  
 The Israeli Committee Against Home Demolitions <http://www.icahd.org/eng/>

Machsom Watch – Women Against the Occupation and for Human Rights  
<http://www.machsomwatch.org/en>

Mizrahi-Palestinian Coalition Against Apartheid in Israeli Anthropology (CAAIA)  
[http://www.kedma.co.il/index.php?cat\\_id=99](http://www.kedma.co.il/index.php?cat_id=99)

New Profile – Movement for the Civil-ization of Israeli Society  
<http://www.newprofile.org/english/>

Women in Black [http://coalitionofwomen.org/home/english/organizations/women\\_in\\_black](http://coalitionofwomen.org/home/english/organizations/women_in_black)

Yesh Din – Volunteers for Human Rights

<http://www.yesh-din.org/site/index.php?page=about.us&lang=en>

Zochrot (Remembering) <http://www.zochrot.org/en>

Jewish Sites Outside of Israel:

American Jews for a Just Peace (US)

Jewish Voice for Peace <http://www.jewishvoiceforpeace.org/> (US)

Jews for Justice for Palestinians <http://jffjp.com/?p=9817> (UK)

IJAN International Jewish Anti-Zionist Network <http://www.ijsn.net/home/>

Independent Australian Jewish Voice <http://www.home2.iajv.org/node> (Australia)

Independent Jewish Voices <http://www.independentjewishvoices.ca/> (Canada)

NION, Not in our Name – Jewish Voices Opposing Zionism <http://nion.ca/> (Canada)

Rabbis for Human Rights <http://rhrna.org/who-we-are/rhr-israel.html> (North America)

**Subject:** support with argument  
**From:** António Colaço <pimentelcolaco@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Tue, 18 Oct 2011 22:37:39 +0100  
**To:** edcorrigan@edcorrigan.ca

Dear Mr. EDCorrigan,

I've have come across something like charges against you being anti-semite or anti-jew just on account of comments that seem to defy Israeli Government politics.

First some presentation on the issue. Mr. Corrigan, I do not know you and you are a complete stranger to me, just the way I'm to you. My name is António Bernardo Colaço, justice of the Supreme Court of Justice of Portugal - jubilee. I respect all the peoples of the world and do not mix up the eventual atrocities committed at a certain epoch of one people's history, with the nature and the identity of that specific people. The French(Napoleon) invaded Portugal, early in the 18th century and the invasions lasted for long 15 years. Does this historical episode generates any Portuguese hatred against the French? Definitely not. In fact during Salazar's dictatorship, the biggest portuguese emigration headed to France.

What we can say is that the people of any country are not complicated and are in fact not responsible for the insanity of the political behaviour of the Government at a certain moment of their history. We may hate what Napoleon did but we cannot make the French people responsible for his imperialistic ambition. Just see that the napoleonic invasions started immediately after the French Revolution!

We have a portuguese saying: *Para um bom entendedor meia palavra basta*, meaning "half a word is sufficient for the one that easily understands the meaning of things". Napoleon's memory is gone in history. However, in some contemporary States there are governments whose belicist activity sometimes ressembles that of Napoleon, and if not, does not correspond to the national will of living in peace and security.

In this case not defending Israeli Government politics does not means one is against the Jews, or is anti-semitic.

Mr.Corrigan, I'm not a Jew and I like Jews as a poeple. I do not mix their interests with State interests although the Government has the duty to fulfill the poeple's will.

Best of luck.

António Bernardo Colaço

(Justice of the Supreme Court of Justice - Portugal - jubilee)

**Subject:** Letter of support

**From:** Neturei Karta International <nkusa.org@gmail.com>

**Date:** Tue, 18 Oct 2011 12:39:07 +0100

**To:** edcorrigan <edcorrigan@edcorrigan.ca>

To Whom It May Concern:

We are an Orthodox Jewish organization to bring out the opposition of the true Torah Jews to Zionism and the State of Israel, on the grounds that it violates the Jewish basic principle, as well as the Jewish (and universal) principles of morality and respect for others.

There are some supporters of the State of Israel who wish to equate anti-Zionism with anti-Semitism. Some make this accusation against any criticism of Israeli policy; others apply it only to those who oppose the entire existence of a Jewish state.

The truth is that neither of the above is anti-Semitism. There is nothing anti-Jewish about the contention that a particular piece of land should not be ruled by Jews because it rightfully belongs to others. This is all the more true when we realize that the existence of the State of Israel is no benefit to the Jewish people, but on the contrary, it is the leading cause of anti-Semitism in the world today, especially in the Arab lands, where we once enjoyed a golden history.

We know Mr. Corrigan well and we know for a fact that he is not at all anti-Semitic. He is a man of conscience who stands up for those who are suffering. He would do exactly the same thing for suffering Jews or any other suffering people in the world.

Regarding the accusations flung at Mr. Corrigan, it is well known that the Zionists have been using this trick ever since World War II, silencing anyone who dares to speak against them by calling them anti-Semites.

We suggest that anyone judging this case read through Mr. Corrigan's articles carefully, and we are certain that the truth will emerge.

Yours sincerely,  
Rabbi Elhanan Beck  
Neturei Karta - UK

**Subject:** Ed Corrigan's libel trial against the  
**From:** "Lisa en Guus Hoelen" <ahoelen@hetnet.nl>  
**Date:** Wed, 19 Oct 2011 19:39:15 +0200  
**To:** <edcorrigan@edcorrigan.ca>

Dear mr. Corrigan,

Incredible that criticism can be called antisemitism. On the contrary, real friends of Israel concerned about Israel's future, should warn for immoral activities contradicting international law and human rights, in time.

Even the former speaker of the Knesset could then be called an anti-semite according to the following information, saying that Israel is not a real democracy for all its inhabitants.

"Palestinians should vote in Jerusalem elections. We are the only democracy in the Middle East, but for Jews alone." By Avraham Burg  
<http://www.haaretz.com/print-edition/opinion/palestinians-should-vote-in-jerusalem-elections-1.389494>

We wish you strength and tenacity,

Guus Hoelen, Taskgroup Turningpoint, Netherlands

**Ed Corrigan Law Office**

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**From:** <elizabethblock@netzero.net>  
**To:** <corriganlaw@edcorrigan.ca>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2011 2:10 PM  
**Subject:** Supporting letter from NION

Ed Corrigan is not an anti-Semite.

Ed Corrigan has criticized Israel. So do we, and we are a Jewish group. Some of us have also been called anti-Semites by Bernie Farber and others of his ilk. That is what Zionists do. They say, and presumably believe, that criticism of Israel is ipso facto anti-Semitism. It is not.

It is a pity that these attacks on Ed Corrigan's reputation were such as to require him to take legal action to protect himself. But since they were, we support him, and hope that he will be vindicated in the courts.

If he is not, all of us who criticize Israel, however justified that criticism, even if we ourselves are Jewish, will be vulnerable not only to similar attacks, but possibly to prosecution.

Elizabeth Block  
NION (Not In Our Name): Jewish Voices Opposing Zionism

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**57-Year-Old Mom Looks 25**

Mom Reveals \$5 Wrinkle Trick That Has Angered Doctors!

[ConsumerLifestyles.org](http://ConsumerLifestyles.org)



**Jüdische Stimme** für  
gerechten Frieden in Nahost e.V.  
European Jews for a Just Peace Germany

RECEIVED  
NOV 03 2011

Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister & Solicitor  
Certified Specialist in Citizenship and Immigration  
and Immigration and Refugee Protection  
383 Richmond Street, Suite 902  
London, Ontario, Canada  
N6A 3C4

Berlin, 26-10-2011

Dear Mr. Corrigan,

Please find enclosed our brief letter of support. In view of the well expressed and in-depth support you are receiving elsewhere, we have kept our letter succinct. Please let us know if there is any further support we can give you.

In hope that the charges against you will be dropped,

Yours,

*Michal Kaiser-Livne*

Michal Kaiser-Livne

Executive Committee

Jüdische Stimme für gerechten Frieden in Nahost

(Jewish Voice for a just Peace in the Middle East) Germany

**Jüdische Stimme** für  
gerechten Frieden in Nahost e.V.  
European Jews for a Just Peace Germany

26. Oktober 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

We are a group of Jews who live in Germany (Germans, Israelis and from other backgrounds) and are part of the organisation "European Jews for a Just Peace".

We urge you to consider the accusations of antisemitism against Ed Corrigan without bias and in full consideration of the facts. His views on Israeli politics are well researched, well founded, fair, and never prejudiced.

To accuse him of antisemitism is therefore unfounded and slanderous.

To confuse criticism of Israel with antisemitism is actually dangerous: It serves to blur the recognition of true antisemitism where it occurs, and of racism in general. And it can in fact generate antisemitism as a response to the unquestioning support received by Israel in face of the grave injustices it commits.

Yours

*Michael Kaiser - Stimme*

Executive Committee

Jüdische Stimme für gerechten Frieden in Nahost  
(Jewish Voice for a just Peace in the Middle East) Germany

Haus der Demokratie und Menschenrechte  
Greifswalder Str. 4  
D- 10405 Berlin

## A LETTER IN SUPPORT OF ED CORRIGAN

October 27, 2011

I am an Israeli Jew living In Israel who knows Ed Corrigan since 1987 when I lived in Canada and worked as a lawyer acting for refugees, many of them Palestinians but others came from countries like China after the events of Tianamin Square.

While the Jews in Europe and even in the US and Canada have been discriminated and persecuted before the creation of the Israeli state in 1948, the attempt to create a safe heaven for the Jews in historical Palestine resulted in the mass expulsion of the Palestinians in 1947-8 and in the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza in 1967.

The building of settlements in the new occupied land has added to the violation of the human rights of the Palestinians including the return of the refugees expelled by Israeli in 1948. This right is recognized by the International law. Resolution 194 of December 11, 1948 (:A/RES/194 (III) (Document) calls for the return of refugees to their homes. The resolution consists of 15 articles, the most important ones are:

- Article 7: protection and free access to the Holy Places
- Article 8: demilitarization and UN control over Jerusalem
- Article 9: free access to Jerusalem
- Article 11: calls for the return of refugees

Israel has never respected this Resolution and by this has violated basic human rights protected by International law.

Israel occupied the West Bank and Gaza in 1967. According to International law after one year of occupation the occupied territory is becoming a colony and colonialism in International law is a crime. Not only this but the Israeli regime in the 1967 occupied lands under a system of apartheid.

Colonialism and apartheid are especially serious international law breaches because they fundamentally violate core legal principles and values.

The International Court of Justice (ICJ) affirmed self-determination as an essential principle of international law. All states must respect and promote it. Colonial occupation is in clear violation.

The 1960 Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples (the Declaration on Colonialism), condemns "colonialism in all its forms and manifestations," including illegal settlements.

According to the 1973 International Convention for the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid (the Apartheid Convention), this practice is state-sanctioned discriminatory "inhuman" racism "committed for the purpose of establishing and maintaining domination by one racial group of persons over any other racial group of persons and systematically oppressing them."

Apartheid is an international crime. The above definition builds on the 1965 International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD).

In addition, the 1998 Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court calls apartheid a crime under the Court's jurisdiction. Israel is flagrantly guilty but yet to be held accountable.

International laws prohibiting colonialism and apartheid are "peremptory." As a result, they're recognized by the world community as standards permitting no derogation. Every country is legally bound to respect and observe them.

Since 1967, Israel willfully violated the law under a dual discriminatory regime. Its occupation and land seizures are illegal. Its Jewish settlers are protected under civil laws assuring them free movement and essential services.

In contrast, Palestinians are governed by military law. Its tribunals violate international judiciary standards. Israel's High Court affirmed a bifurcated system that discriminates lawlessly between these two groups, affording them different rights, protections, and life chances in the same territory.

While Israel violates the International law, any decent person who fights against the racist attitude toward the Palestinians is smeared with the accusation of Anti-Semitism.

Anti-Semitism directed against Jews because they are Jews exists in many places and fighting against the real Anti-Semites is necessary. However, the equation of criticism of those who oppressed the Palestinians with Anti-Semitism is to advocate racism

In the same way any decent person had to side with the Jews when they were persecuted in Europe, the US or Canada. I would expect the same attitude in defense of the Palestinians suffering from oppression by the Israeli state. Many Jews around the world are against the discrimination and oppression of the Palestinians and oppose the racist laws and practices used against the Palestinians.

To give the latest clear example to what I call racism directed against the Palestinians, I will just mention the case of the spiritual leader of Israel's ultra-orthodox Shas party, Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, who called for the annihilation of Arabs on Channel 11, Israel TV.

"It is forbidden to be merciful to them. You must send missiles to them and annihilate them.

They are evil and damnable." He sang while his supporters repeated the same words after him.

Rabbi Yosef is one of the most powerful religious figures in Israel. He is known for his outspoken comments and has in the past referred to the Arabs as "vipers"

Was any leading Christian in Canada or elsewhere calling for the annihilation of all Jews and was not prosecuted by the legal authorities it would be a clear case of Anti-Semitism. Yet strangely enough, those who stand up against this ugly racism are accused by the Zionists as Anti-Semite.

Unfortunately and very cynically criticism of Israel or Zionism is used by the defenders of Israel's crimes to accuse the defenders of the Palestinian rights as anti-Semites.

David Matas, and B'nai Brith, and the Defendant, in their defence against the law suit of Ed Corrigan are hiding behind the facade that accusation that criticism of Israel amounts to Anti-Semitism. Their intention is to silence those who criticize the illegal actions of Israel. If they succeed it will create the situation where the Anti-Racists are labeled racists.

As a lawyer who has defended human rights for many years I support Ed Corrigan in his law suit to clear his case and call on all decent people Jews and Non Jews to support his case and that he is not an anti-Semite.

Yossi Schwartz  
Haifa Israel

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**Middle East Crisis Committee**  
**Box 3626, Woodbridge, CT 06525**

RECEIVED  
NOV 08 2011

Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister & Solicitor  
Certified Specialist in Citizenship and Immigration  
and Immigration and Refugee Protection  
383 Richmond Street, Suite 902  
London, Ontario, Canada  
N6A 3C4

October 28, 2011

To Whom it May Concern:

I'm Stanley Heller, a Connecticut (US) school teacher retired after 40 years of service, Jewish-American, and moderator of the listserv JewsWhoSpeakOut. I'm Chairperson of the Middle East Crisis Committee and host a television show called "The Struggle" that has been seen on many cable channels in the northeast US for the last seven years.

My great-grandmother and more distant members of my family was wiped out in the Holocaust. From early childhood I was taught about anti-Semitism and the horrors of Nazi Germany and I've been very sensitive to any anti-Jewish statements or slights.

For decades I was a blind supporter of Israel, but after learning in 1982 about the terrible attack on Lebanon which left thousands of innocents dead I began rethinking my position and am now a firm supporter of Palestinian rights and an opponent of Zionism. Zionism is not a set of ideas supporting human rights of Jews to live in the former biblical homeland of the Hebrews (as a I once believed), but an exclusionary nationalism that seeks to justify making the area between the Mediterranean and the Jordan River a home to a Jewish superiority state. The adoption of Zionism after World War II by most Jewish leaders was a tragic mistake that has led to the dispossession of the Palestinian people and the creation in Israel of a state responsible for many unnecessary and cruel wars, a state that is in violation of a score of U.N. Security Council resolutions. It is quite proper to attack or condemn Zionism if one is criticizing this core of its doctrine.

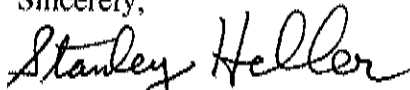
I do understand that some who claim to criticize Zionism do in fact "have it in" for the Jews as Jews. I've broken off contact with several people whose anti-Zionism is basically rooted in anti-Semitism. I write many articles on the subject of Palestine and Israel, but stopped writing for websites that also publish anti-Jewish "anti-Zionists".

I've met Ed Corrigan only once for a few minutes and heard him speak once years ago at a conference. I've received many emails from Ed Corrigan over the years on the subject of Israel and Palestine. I think most of the emails were articles from the Israeli press or authored by Jewish writers with a short comment by Corrigan. Some were articles

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written by Corrigan. I cannot recall any messages from him that advocated anything that was in the least anti-Semitic.

It would be a grave mistake if criticism of Israel or Zionism was automatically confused with anti-Semitism and if the critics were libeled, slandered and silenced. It's not just a matter of freedom of speech. It's a moral obligation for people of the world to stand with victims of nationalism, chauvinism and racism. Canadians should be allowed to speak out against human rights abuses by the Israeli government or its blind supporters without fear.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stanley Heller". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Stanley Heller  
Chairperson

RECEIVED  
NOV 14 2011

Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister and Solicitor  
383 Richmond Street  
Suite 902  
London, Ontario  
Canada N6A3C4

Montreal, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011

This letter is in reference to Edward C. Corrigan's libel and slander law suit.

Over a number of years I have read both articles written by Mr. Ed Corrigan and articles written by others on the subject of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and the question of Palestinian human rights forwarded by Mr. Corrigan. Never in any of those articles was there any comment or even allusion to anything remotely resembling anti-Semitic remarks. Quite often the authors of these articles were themselves of Jewish faith and occasionally citizens of Israel. The number of works critical of Zionism and Israeli policy vis-à-vis the Palestinians written by Jewish authors are too numerous to list here. If one were to claim that these authors, among the latter eminent Jewish journalists like Amira Hass and Uri Avnery who write for the Israeli newspaper HA'ARETZ, are anti-Semitic because they are critical both of Zionism and Israeli policy toward the Palestinians, one would be laughed to scorn. Those attacking Mr. Corrigan have chosen him as a target precisely for the reason that he is not of Jewish faith. They wish to intimidate Mr. Corrigan into silence as a warning to others who dare to exercise their right under the Constitution of Canada to freely express an opinion on the subject of Zionism and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict which does not meet with their approval.

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines anti-Semitism in the following way:  
"hostility toward or discrimination against Jews as a religious or racial group."(1)

There is nothing of a pejorative or discriminatory nature concerning Jews in any of the material written or forwarded by Ed Corrigan, hence there is nothing of an anti-Semitic nature in that material. As criticism of Israel's occupation of the Palestinian territories (illegal under international law) has risen, so correspondingly has there risen an attempt by certain lobby groups and some politicians who support that occupation to equate the criticism of Zionism and Israeli policy with anti-Semitism. Zionism is, however, a political nationalist movement which shares a conceptual basis with Eastern European nationalist movements of the twentieth century and cannot, therefore, be equated with Judaism, a religious philosophy and a set of values based on the four books of the Torah. Zionism is not Judaism, hence to criticize Zionism is not an attack upon Judaism and is therefore not the expression of anti-Semitism.

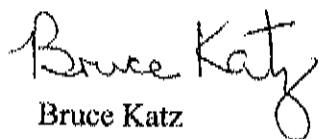
To accuse Ed Corrigan of being 'one of Canada's most notorious anti-Semites' is a vicious, salacious and libellous attack upon the person and reputation of Mr. Corrigan. To be accused of anti-Semitism in light of the history of the persecution of Jews by true anti-Semites is no mere whimsical comment. It can easily destroy an individual's reputation.



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This libellous attack upon Mr. Corrigan is intentional, hence malevolent with  
aforethought.

To this, my own letter in support of Mr. Corrigan's lawsuit for libel against those who  
unjustly accuse him of being anti-Semitic -- a necessary lawsuit in defence of the  
principle of free speech under the Charter of Rights and freedoms of the Constitution of  
Canada - I add a letter published in the New York Times on December 4th, 1948, written  
and signed by twenty-eight prominent American Jews, among them Albert Einstein and  
Hannah Arendt, denouncing the visit of Menachem Begin to the United States. The letter  
refers to Begin's political party as 'the terrorist party,' 'a Fascist party,' and makes  
reference to the massacre of Palestinians in the village of Deir Yassin, adding the  
following comments: 'This is the unmistakable stamp of a Fascist party for whom  
terrorism (against Jews, Arabs, and British alike), and misrepresentation are means, and a  
"Leader State" is the goal.'

Here is a clear example of criticism on the part of prominent Jewish intellectuals of a man  
who would later become Prime Minister of Israel and of a 'terrorist' party which would  
metamorphose into the Likud Party which now governs Israel. The criticism levelled at  
Begin and the party he represented -- while written in terms that some might consider  
contentious -- hits the mark and in no way can it be termed anti-Semitic in nature. Those  
who falsely and maliciously accuse Ed Corrigan of being an anti-Semite must necessarily  
also accuse Albert Einstein, Hannah Arendt and the twenty-six other Jews who signed a  
letter in 1948 criticizing the same sort of state-sponsored terrorism which victimizes the  
Palestinians in the Palestinian occupied territories today of being anti-Semites as well.  
They would not dare and we all know why.



Bruce Katz

Teacher (retired) and social activist

30, rue de Maricourt, apt.4

Île Perrot (Quebec) J7V 2J5

(1) Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary. Thomas Allen & Son Ltd. Toronto, Ontario,  
1979, page 50.

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<http://writingrights.org/2010/06/22/protest-against-menachem-begin-founder-of-likud-by-albert-einstein-hannah-arendt-and-others>

**Letters to The Times New York Times December 4, 1948**

**New Palestine Party Visit of Menachem Begin and Aims of Political Movement Discussed**

TO THE EDITORS OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

Among the most disturbing political phenomena of our times is the emergence in the newly created state of Israel of the "Freedom Party" (Tnuat HaHerut), a political party closely akin in its organization, methods, political philosophy and social appeal to the Nazi and Fascist parties. It was formed out of the membership and following of the former Irgun Zvai Leumi, a terrorist, right-wing, chauvinist organization in Palestine.

The current visit of Menachem Begin, leader of this party, to the United States is obviously calculated to give the impression of American support for his party in the coming Israeli elections, and to cement political ties with conservative Zionist elements in the United States.

Several Americans of national repute have lent their names to welcome his visit. It is inconceivable that those who oppose fascism throughout the world, if correctly informed as to Mr. Begin's political record and perspectives, could add their names and support to the movement he represents.

Before irreparable damage is done by way of financial contributions, public manifestations in Begin's behalf, and the creation in Palestine of the impression that a large segment of America supports Fascist elements in Israel, the American public must be informed as to the record and objectives of Mr. Begin and his movement.

The public avowals of Begin's party are no guide whatever to its actual character. Today they speak of freedom, democracy and anti-imperialism, whereas until recently they openly preached the doctrine of the Fascist state. It is in its actions that the terrorist party betrays its real character; from its past actions we can judge what it may be expected to do in the future.

**Attack on Arab Village**

A shocking example was their behavior in the Arab village of Deir Yassin. This village, off the main roads and surrounded by Jewish lands, had taken no part in the war, and had even fought off Arab bands who wanted to use the village as their base. On April 9 (THE NEW YORK TIMES), terrorist bands attacked this peaceful village, which was not a military objective in the fighting, killed most of its inhabitants—240 men, women, and children—and kept a few of them alive to parade as captives through the streets of

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Jerusalem. Most of the Jewish community was horrified at the deed, and the Jewish Agency sent a telegram of apology to King Abdullah of Trans-Jordan. But the terrorists, far from being ashamed of their act, were proud of this massacre, publicized it widely, and invited all the foreign correspondents present in the country to view the heaped corpses and the general havoc at Deir Yassin.

**The Deir Yassin incident exemplifies the character and actions of the Freedom Party.**

Within the Jewish community they have preached an admixture of ultranationalism, religious mysticism, and racial superiority. Like other Fascist parties they have been used to break strikes, and have themselves pressed for the destruction of free trade unions. In their stead they have proposed corporate unions on the Italian Fascist model.

During the last years of sporadic anti-British violence, the IZL and Stern groups inaugurated a reign of terror in the Palestine Jewish community. Teachers were beaten up for speaking against them, adults were shot for not letting their children join them. By gangster methods, beatings, window-smashing, and wide-spread robberies, the terrorists intimidated the population and exacted a heavy tribute.

The people of the Freedom Party have had no part in the constructive achievements in Palestine. They have reclaimed no land, built no settlements, and only detracted from the Jewish defense activity. Their much-publicized immigration endeavors were minute, and devoted mainly to bringing in Fascist compatriots.

**Discrepancies Seen**

The discrepancies between the bold claims now being made by Begin and his party, and their record of past performance in Palestine bear the imprint of no ordinary political party. This is the unmistakable stamp of a Fascist party for whom terrorism (against Jews, Arabs, and British alike), and misrepresentation are means, and a "Leader State" is the goal.

In the light of the foregoing considerations, it is imperative that the truth about Mr. Begin and his movement be made known in this country. It is all the more tragic that the top leadership of American Zionism has refused to campaign against Begin's efforts, or even to expose to its own constituents the dangers to Israel from support to Begin.

The undersigned therefore take this means of publicly presenting a few salient facts concerning Begin and his party; and of urging all concerned not to support this latest manifestation of fascism.

**ISIDORE ABRAMOWITZ, HANNAH ARENDT, ABRAHAM BRICK, RABBI JESSURUN CARDOZO, ALBERT EINSTEIN, HERMAN EISEN, M.D., HAYIM FINEMAN, M. GALLEN, M.D., H.H. HARRIS, ZELIG S. HARRIS, SIDNEY HOOK, FRED KARUSH, BRURIA KAUFMAN, IRMA L. LINDHEIM,**

**NACHMAN MAISEL, SEYMOUR MELMAN, MYER D. MENDELSON, M.D.,  
HARRY M. OSLINSKY, SAMUEL PITLICK, FRITZ ROHRLICH, LOUIS P.  
ROCKER, RUTH SAGIS, ITZHAK SANKOWSKY, I.J. SHOENBERG, SAMUEL  
SHUMAN, M. SINGER, IRMA WOLFE, STEFAN WOLFE.**

**New York, Dec. 2, 1948**

Robert Silverman

Conscious Jews

## In Defence of Dissidence

Conscious Jews look at Israel policies toward Palestine

By Bruce Katz

As a faith, Judaism underscores the sanctity of the relationship of Man to God. As such, Judaism is the religious expression of the integrity of the individual, his or her binding and unique relation to God with all of the individual moral responsibility inherent in that relation. Accordingly, Judaism has always been the expression of the transcendent as opposed to the material, the holiness and sublimeness of the individual's relation to God over and above the relation of the individual to the State. This predominance of faith over the concept of the State has cost innumerable Jews dearly over the centuries, more particularly in the Occident, as that refusal to sacrifice the transcendence of faith to the dictates of the monarch or the State has been tested over and over again. Not surprisingly, this resistance to the kings of the earth has bred many original Jewish thinkers, a number of whom have expressed dissident views of the powers-that-be, not as an exercise in anarchy, but out of a sense of duty to a higher moral principle.

The present situation in the Occupied Territories of Palestine, which has seen the systematic abuse of the rights of its Palestinian inhabitants by the Israeli government, is also the test of those individuals who make up world Jewry - the test of whether or not Jews as individuals will stand upon the rock of those higher Judaic principles of justice and basic morality to denounce what is immoral and unjust, though this mean a severe critique of the policies of the State of Israel; for the concept of the State is not a faith, and the State of Israel is not itself Judaism, though there be many in the Jewish community who expressly blur the distinction. By blurring the distinction they have facilitated the absorption of Judaism into the State, and this we hold to be both a transgression of faith and a blow to the idea of the liberal democratic state. If the individual Jew's obligation is first to God and to the observance of a higher moral principle, then it follows that it is the moral obligation of all Jews to stand against all forms of injustice. If that means that he or she must stand against the State itself when the latter transgresses basic morality, then that is in keeping with the principle of faith in God.

Briefly stated, Judaism is a faith; it is not the expression of ethnicity nor is it nor should it be bound to the State. This is what we, Jews who are dissident in respect to the policies of the State of Israel vis-a-vis the Palestinian people, proclaim by the very act of that dissidence. We reject wholly the attempt by individuals within the Jewish community to intimidate other Jews by descending an iron curtain of tribal

collectiveness over the entire community, the weight of which is meant to crush those points of view which dissent from their own. No religious or tribal elite has any right to impose a blind conformity upon the other members who remain first and foremost individuals though they share certain articles of faith and culture. The observance of ritual is not in itself the expression of morality. One can be observant of ritual strictly as the attempt to "keep up appearances" while actually believing in nothing. The test of faith and moral integrity is met when one is able to stand even against one's own tribe in the defence of justice. We hereby express our dissidence with the present policies of the government of Israel, and in so doing we declare our own freedom as Jews and individual human beings.

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Op-ed Submission of Robert Silverman and [Bruce Katz](#) submitted to the Montreal Gazette and rejected.

[Guest Gems](#) | [Welcoming Page](#)

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Statement in support of Edward C. Corrigan, Barrister and Solicitor

B'nai Brith's slander against Edward Corrigan is hardly an isolated incident. Many critics of Israel, both Jewish and non-Jewish, have been the victim of that organization's attacks. While I am not party to the inner councils of B'nai Brith, it seems reasonable to suppose that the attacks are part of a campaign to suppress criticism of Israel. I can testify from personal experience that these attacks can be extremely damaging to one's reputation, and are quite capable of damaging careers.

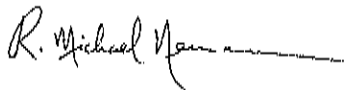
It never ceases to amaze me that such slanderous claims get any traction. Simply put, not all Jews are Israelis, not all Jews are Zionists, and not all Jews support Israel. Indeed, since the very birth of Zionism, many of the most orthodox Jews passionately opposed the movement, and regarded the very idea of establishing a secular state in Palestine as sacrilege and disobedience to God's judgement that the Jews should suffer exile. These views were recently documented by the eminent Jewish Canadian scholar Yakov Rabkin in *Au Nom de la Torah: L'Opposition Juive au Sionisme*, published by Laval University Press in 2004.

The secular Jewish opponents of Zionism, too, are legion. This is hardly arcane knowledge, nor is it of recent vintage. Already in 1974 a book-length collection of essays was edited by Gary V. Smith and entitled *Zionism: The Dream and the Reality. A Jewish Critique*. Even such supposed red lines as speaking of 'Israeli apartheid' seem absurd when one notes that the Israeli Jewish academic Uri Davis published a work called *Apartheid Israel* in 2003.

Logic, then, would seem to require that to attack Israel, however virulently, cannot be to attack Jews, and therefore cannot be antisemitic. Israel is a country; Zionism is political movement. Neither is the Jewish race or religion. Neither by any stretch of the imagination represent all Jews, and it is mere insolence for Zionists or the state of Israel to claim such status. Mr. Corrigan has criticized Israel and Zionism, that is all. That cannot be antisemitic.

Against this argument has been deployed only a pathetic and deeply paranoid supposition: that while criticism of Israel is not antisemitic, those who voice such criticism are covert antisemites. The response has the virtue of being immune from any considerations of evidence. Does the critic passionately protest his innocence? Is his discourse utterly devoid of anything remotely resembling identifiably antisemitic discourse? Does he accuse his critics of slandering him? Well - goes the response - that just shows how clever a covert antisemite he really is. These absurdities would be comic were not their consequences so serious.

It is not beyond conception that there are covert antisemites. It is possible that such people would criticize Israel out of antisemitic motives. It is even possible that some deeply sick Jewish individual engage in such practices. But to suppose that many thousands of Jews, scholars and men of faith alike, criticize Israel out of antisemitism, not only defies belief. As an accusation, it transcends the bounds of good-faith discourse. The same can be said of the accusations brought against Mr. Corrigan, a scrupulously careful, decent and moderate critic of Israel whose efforts have won him the admiration of many Jews.



Michael Neumann  
Department of Philosophy,  
Trent University.

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November 8, 2011

Dear Ed Corrigan:

As you know, I am a Full Professor (with tenure), and Head of the Department of Gender Studies at Queen's University, in Kingston, Ontario. I write this as an individual, based on my own experiences and knowledge.

During the course of my professional and personal activities I have had the opportunity to get to know you and your work, as we have attended many of the same events over the years. I am a Jewish Canadian citizen, as a scholar and writer, and a citizen committed to humanrights and social justice.

I am saddened to hear that there is any charge that you are anti-Semitic. I am very familiar with anti-Semitism, and it is not to be treated lightly. You are not anti-Semitic. You have been, along with myself and many others, a critic of the state of Israel's actions that violate human rights, especially the rights of Palestinians. Such violations are well-documented.

I am Jewish. My family and I are familiar with anti-Semitism and have suffered profoundly from its consequences. Our experience with anti-Semitism spans across continents and generations. It includes my grandparents' victimization in the East European pogroms, and their forced flight leading them to immigrate to the United States. It includes the death of my aunt on my mother's side of the family in the gas chambers of Nazi Holocaust. It includes my parents' experience as a young graduate student couple in the heartland of the United States, where they were urged to separate to ensure the prevention of future Jewish offspring, and where my father was forced to leave one university on the grounds that "too many Jews" were gaining doctoral degrees. It includes daily experiences today, in Toronto and Kingston and other parts of Canada, where I and my family continue to be met with anti-Semitic stereotypes, despite my parents' efforts to protect their children from discrimination by changing our family name.

Israel's actions, particularly in terms of its policies and practices toward Palestinians, have been criticized widely, including at the level of the United Nations. Voices within the Jewish community are also involved in advancing such criticisms. To defend Palestinian human rights, to discuss and debate the nature of



the Israeli state including the applicability of the term apartheid, to critically analyze Zionism as a political strategy or policy, or to call for Israel to adhere to principles of international law, are not manifestations of anti-Semitism. In fact, to equate such criticism with anti-Semitism trivializes the experiences of Jews who are very familiar with and suffer from real anti-Semitism and its consequences.

I have never heard, seen or known anything remotely anti-Semitic in our encounters.

I have written and spoken extensively on the topic of why criticism of Israel is not anti-Semitic. I am concerned to advance an educated understanding of Israel as a political state, one that is subject to legitimate public and scholarly critical assessment and comparison. Claims that Israeli state practices, especially those that deny Palestinian human rights, represent the interests of all Jewish people internationally are clearly without foundation, regardless of rhetorical expressions by recurring Israeli governments. This assertion should be recognized as a legitimate subject of discussion and debate. This approach is consistent with academic scholarship, and, moreover, with responsible citizenship. Efforts to silence such discussion and debate blur the complexity of citizenship loyalties and ideological constructions, and risk creating a punitive atmosphere that can affect all areas of public discourse. Jewish identity, Jewish culture and Jewish religious doctrine are complex and varied realities. The historic tradition of Jewish social criticism is consistent with criticism of Israel's policies toward Palestinians.

Yours sincerely,

Abigail B. Bakan

Sheryl Abbey  
03-180 Cherryhill Circle  
London, Ontario N6H 2M2

519-438-5104 tel/fax

November 8, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Ed Corrigan for close to 20 years. We met when we worked together on the Executive for the Liberal Association here in London, Ontario. Ed was always a hard worker and made everyone he worked with feel that they were always working for a good cause. Even through tough times Ed always prevailed.

Ed and I also ran in several municipal elections where Ed succeeded in getting elected and had a seat on City Council. Again Ed was very helpful with his knowledge and experience with my campaigns and was always supportive even though I missed getting elected by several hundred seats for a different ward.

Ed and I moved from acquaintances to friends with our mutual likes and interests. We were often found volunteering and running for common causes.

Our religions were very different and so were our backgrounds. I was a Jewish single girl from Montreal, Quebec and Ed was a Catholic married man (at that time) from London, Ontario. There was nothing but interest and respect for each other and Ed was soon part of the family coming to celebrate our Jewish traditions each Jewish holiday. We have come to expect Ed at our table along with his friends and family as he has become like family to us. We would be lost if Ed were not present with us at these times of celebration.

Ed Corrigan is a fine man, a hard worker, an excellent lawyer who does express his own views on many issues. At no time has he ever been anything other than a great friend and now a part of our family. Whoever claimed that he was anti-Semitic was greatly mistaken. An expressed view or idea you may not agree with does not make the man anti-Semitic.

If you would require any further information, please feel free to contact me — Sheryl, Ed's Jewish Best Friend!

Respectfully Yours,

Sheryl Abbey

Sheryl Nestel, PhD  
50 Ellsworth Ave.  
Toronto, Ontario M6g2k3

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Re: The law suit of Daniel Corrigan against Will Hechter

I am writing to offer my support for Ed Corrigan's lawsuit against Will Hechter (SCC 1937-10). Charges of anti-Semitism are increasingly used to silence those who would speak out against Israel's ongoing policies of dispossession and violence against Palestinians. As a Jew, an Israeli citizen, and a longtime activist against Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, I can testify that legitimate criticism of Israeli policies have been voiced by Jews and by other concerned individuals for decades. Hechter states that a "reasonable person" would regard Corrigan's statements as anti-Semitic. Among those who have criticized Israel's action are some of the most important intellectuals of our times (many of whom are Jews); this is not a group that can seriously be charged with being "unreasonable". Largely, this group has been applying the same universal principals of human rights to Palestinians as they would to any group suffering under extreme and prolonged oppression. Claims that this constitutes "anti-Semitism" are more than disingenuous, serving largely to divert attention from one of the longest ongoing injustices in the world today. I am deeply offended that Mr. Hechter has chosen to draw on the statements of the Interparliamentary Coalition for Combatting Antisemitism, a non-governmental, privately funded group which has worked largely to shut down legitimate debate about the Middle East conflict. Astonishingly, Hechter also relies on Prime Minister Steven Harper as an expert on anti-Semitism, further weakening his allegations against Mr. Corrigan.

I am supporting Mr. Corrigan's suit because I feel that it is imperative that we continue to challenge those who support Israel without regard for the continuing injustices it inflicts on indigenous Palestinians and who use their considerable political resources to stifle criticism voiced by Jews and non-Jews alike.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Nestel PhD

# Department of Anthropology

19 Russell Street Toronto Ontario Canada M5S 2S2 Telephone 416/978-4805 Fax 416/978-3217

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UNIVERSITY OF  
TORONTO

November 8, 2011

FROM PROFESSOR RICHARD B. LEE  
IN THE MATTER OF EDWARD C. CORRIGAN

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

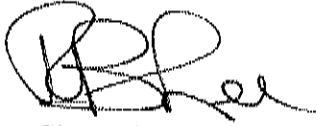
As a academic, I have long been committed to fighting racial and ethnic discrimination in all its forms. As an anthropologist and a Jew, I would consider myself as someone who is sensitive to evidence for and accusations of Anti-Semitism. Anti-Semitism has been one of the scourges of the twentieth century and must be combated by all right-minded people.

At the same time it is not an accusation to be rendered lightly. I see a disturbing tendency in contemporary society for defenders of the state of Israel to answer even the most legitimate criticisms of Israel's policies with the counter-charge that their critics are Anti-Semitic.

No state's policy's are immune from criticism and Israel is no exception. Mr. Edward C. Corrigan, a lawyer and human-rights activist based in London Ontario, has been accused of Anti-Semitism. He has taken warranted legal action to defend himself against these charges.

In my long acquaintance with Mr. Corrigan I have never perceived any evidence of Anti-Semitism on his part. He has levelled criticisms of the state of Israel's long-standing policies of discrimination and repression against Palestinians. In these criticisms Mr. Corrigan is exercising the right of free expression guaranteed to all Canadians under our Charter of Rights. Furthermore his criticisms have been echoed by countless others, both within Canada and around the globe, including many critics from within Israel.

In their accusations of Anti-Semitism, his critics are attempting to delegitimize Edward Corrigan. I wish to add my support to the many Jewish and non-Jewish intellectuals and scholars who see the accusations of Anti-Semitism against Corrigan as a crude attempt to silence him and to deflect legitimate criticism by a smear campaign of irresponsible accusations.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Lee', with a large, stylized initial 'R'.

Sincerely

Richard Borshay Lee, Ph.D.; FRSC  
University Professor Emeritus  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Toronto

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11/8/11

To whom it may concern,

Permit me to introduce myself. I'm now an atheist, but I was born into an Orthodox American Jewish family and I've authored and edited four books and dozens of articles on Zionism and Jews. As such a historian, I categorically reject the notion that anti-Zionism equals anti-Semitism.

"Two Jews, three opinions" is the classic Jewish proverb that applies to Zionists or believers in any ideology held by Jews. Most American Jews are not Zionists. Serious Zionist scholars admit that most U.S. Jews never give a penny to any Zionist cause. And America's Jews are the most traveled stratum of American society, but the Israeli government admits that more U.S. Jews visit Britain than Israel.

Israel is officially an Orthodox Jewish state, but only about 10% of American Jews are Orthodox. Most young Jews now intermarry with gentiles and they increasingly reject any form of sectarianism, Judaic or otherwise, and they reject Zionism, which they see as either a modern form of Judaic sectarianism, or ethnic separatism.

Is this ever-growing majority of young, highly educated, non-Zionist Jews anti-Semitic? Of course not! Do they believe that an anti-Zionist gentile is an anti-Semite? Again, no! They are for ethnic and religious equality in their country of birth. They define someone as anti-Semitic if he or she is for legal or social discrimination against Jews in the U.S. or Canada or anywhere else. They increasingly reject Israel because it legally discriminates against the Reform and Conservative Judaic sects, whose rabbis can't legally marry or divorce Jews in Israel, and they have no problem with gentiles who oppose such a state, while supporting equal rights for Jews of any sect or none, in the U.S. and everywhere else.

Ed Corrigan supports equal rights for Canada's Jews. Therefore he is not an anti-Semite, and that is the end of the matter.

Lenni Brenner

646-556-5162

BrennerL21@aol.com

[www.smithbowen.net/infame/brenner](http://www.smithbowen.net/infame/brenner)

[www.youtube.com/LenniBrenner](http://www.youtube.com/LenniBrenner)

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NOV 08 2011

Stanley Walinets  
'Greenacres',  
Mickleton  
Barnard Castle  
Co Durham DL12 0LG  
England

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12<sup>th</sup> November 2011

Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister & Solicitor  
Certified Specialist in Citizenship, Immigration and Refugee Protection  
383 Richmond Street, Suite 902  
London, Ontario,  
CANADA  
N6A 3C4

Dear Mr Corrigan,

I am a British Jew, in my late seventies. I have just learned of the accusation that you are "one of the worst anti-semites in Canada". I am aware of your writings and am amazed and depressed that someone has accused you of anti-semitism, and so vehemently.

Though on reflection, I am not so amazed. For I'm increasingly aware in recent months of the cynical public relations ('hasbara') tactics emanating from the Israeli Government itself, by which it dismisses all critics of its behaviour towards Palestinians as 'anti-semitic'; accuses such critics, if they are themselves Jews, of being 'self-haters'; and labels all such criticisms, even the mildest comments, as attempts to 'delegitimise' the State of Israel.

I have been all the more dismayed - indeed, disgusted - that such libellous allegations against Jews like myself are increasingly voiced by some of my fellow Jews, here in the UK, in the United States, and now in Canada. But the greatest aspect of my despair at this trend is that it is so utterly **self-destructive**, by Israel itself, of the decent reputation Israel so desperately needs. I mentioned my age, because I'm old enough to remember the days after the Holocaust when Israel was created, when the whole world was in sympathy with we Jews and the state we were creating. It is only over the years since then that successive Israeli Governments have conducted such harsh policies against the displaced Palestinian people, that respect and sympathy for Israel has steadily diminished; and anti-semitism has grown.

It simply must be faced that Israel has itself to blame for much of this, because its Governments persistently refuse to consider legitimate criticism, even from its own people and Diaspora Jews: instead, they maintain a basic attitude of "Israel can do no wrong". And that is why I write to you now, in the hope that my own experience of this deplorable problem might add one more voice to the many fellow Jews who feel as you do - that Jews who offer criticism of Israel are actually *pro-Israel* and proudly Jewish, and simply wish that nation to behave as a legitimate, respected nation must.

I do believe that if this libel issue reaches the Canadian Court, that that Court will see the vindictive and unfounded nature of the allegations made about you, of which your short-sighted accusers themselves should be ashamed.

Your's sincerely,

Stanley Walinets



November 12, 2011

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To Whom It May Concern:

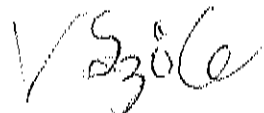
I write this letter in support of Ed Corrigan, who is a true fighter for social justice. His stance and his activism in the cause of Palestinian human rights are a testament to his very principled position on this issue and absolutely contrary to any kind of prejudice or bigotry. As the daughter of Holocaust survivors and a long time contributor to the cause of justice for Palestinians, I have been appalled by the attitudes of those, especially Jews, who cannot distinguish between opposition to oppression and anti-Semitism.

Judaism has a long history of fighting oppression, not only against themselves but also against other groups suffering from the same, in one form or another. Social justice is a basic tenet of true Judaism, so it's very difficult to understand how anyone calling her/himself a Jew can support the policy that has so denied justice to Palestinians for almost a century.

Most of my relatives died in concentration camps. My parents are almost sole survivors of their respective families. The attitude they conveyed to me was always that nobody, no matter of what group, religion, ethnicity or race, should suffer, any more than the Jews should have suffered for so many centuries.

Anyone who can call Ed Corrigan an anti-Semite is most grievously misled. The irrationality in their thinking reflects an ignorance of logic, not to mention an utter lack of morality, of the most basic kind. Any Jew of integrity should be outraged at what has been done by the State of Israel to the Palestinian people supposedly in the name of the Jews. I would be ashamed to call myself a Jew if that meant I was associated in any way to this lamentable history of injustice.

If Canada is actually a democracy, then calling Ed Corrigan an anti-Semite should be treated as the hate crime in question. I urge those with the power to rule on this case to do the right thing and ensure that Mr. Corrigan wins his suit. If he does not, the way is being further paved to a society in which the truth doesn't matter, the support for social justice Canada would claim to champion becomes a sham, and our heads can hang in shame for allowing bigotry and oppression to win over the human rights of any and all peoples in the world.



Vera Szöke  
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Toronto, ON M4C4N8  
547-438-9038



**Subject:** Ed Corrigan's Case  
**From:** "Mr. Claiborne Clark" <claiborne.clark@gmail.com>  
**Date:** 11/16/2011 3:56 AM  
**To:** IntelligentMinds@yahoogroups.com

November 15, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing today about the case Ed Corrigan brings against Will Hechter in the Canadian courts. It is my understanding that Mr. Corrigan alleges that Mr. Hechter libeled him by labeling Ed as one of "the worst anti-semites in Canada and idiotic spammers."

[See <http://tv.thestruggle.org/node/498>]

I suppose the questions before the court include:

Is Ed Corrigan an anti-Semite?

Is Ed Corrigan an "idiotic spammer"?

Are these labels defamatory?

Finally ... Did Will Hechter publish, via print, netcast and/or broadcast something that used these labels to characterize Ed Corrigan?

Taking the last question first: The court will no-doubt determine whether Mr. Hechter did, in fact, publish the words as alleged by the plaintiff. Some of my comments herein are based on the assumption that the words were published and were published by Mr. Hechter. If he did not publish the words, of course, he is not guilty of having published them.

I am familiar with the plaintiff Ed Corrigan because we have both haunted the same email list ("Intelligent Minds") for quite a few years.

Ed Corrigan is not an "idiotic spammer."

My experience with Ed Corrigan is that he is an

intellectual who uses words very carefully. The email I receive from him sheds light on important topics. The idea that Ed is an "idiotic spammer" is absurd. In fact, when one considers the sort of character that employs that kind of labeling on the internet ("idiotic spammer"), the label is laughable. The more serious issue in the case, and I think the reason Ed Corrigan brings it before the court, is the allegation that Ed Corrigan is some sort of racist, or one of "the worst anti-semites in Canada."

Ed Corrigan is not anti-Semitic.

On our email list, "Intelligent Minds," Palestinian human rights, international law and government policies towards Israel are frequent (though not exclusive) topics; and the list's participants include Jewish people, Muslims, Christians and "others."

Anti-Semitism is not tolerated by the group; and Ed is a frequent contributor who demonstrates informed sensitivity and concern

for Jewish people even as he (along with me and others) calls for changes in Israel policy.

The label would appear to be defamatory.

Defamation, I gather, is an act of communication that causes someone to be shamed, ridiculed, held in contempt, lowered in the estimation of the community, or to lose employment status or earnings or otherwise suffer a damaged reputation. Publicly labeling someone as one of "the worst anti-semites in Canada and idiotic spammers" is defamatory.

While the label "idiotic spammer" may be dismissed by some as harmless schoolyard banter, it is rendered defamatory when it is used to compound other defamatory offenses such as use of the obviously defamatory label, "anti-Semite."

Calling someone an "anti-Semite," or "anti-Semitic," is like calling them a racist. It is my experience and belief that these expressions

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are sometimes used against activists who criticize Israel by people who know very well that activist criticism of Israel generally focuses on human rights and international law. It is a strategy to divide and conquer free speech. If compassionate fair-minded people, those whose support we seek, can be led away from us because they don't want to associate with people who have been publicly scorned as "anti-Semitic," the Truth can remain buried and Justice can remain a distant star.

It is difficult to think that Mr. Hechter really believes Mr. Corrigan dislikes Jewish people or "has it in" for the Jewish religion. I think the defendant will have trouble producing any real evidence to support that false allegation. Moreover, I do not think he can show any evidence that he was reasonably led to believe Corrigan is an anti-Semite.

I do not know Mr. Hechter, but it seems more plausible to me that the defendant is inflamed because Mr. Corrigan is effective in criticizing

the ethics, logic and strategic wisdom of support for Zionism in Palestine/Israel. By "Zionism" I mean the movement that advocates and promotes international Jewish relocation to and sovereignty over Israel, or Palestine/Israel as I call it, without due respect to the rights of non-Jewish residents and refugees. The terms "anti-Semitic" and "anti-Semite" have been used by others to defuse meaningful discussion about ethics and international law as they relate to the Israeli government.

Is opposing Zionism or criticizing the Israeli government, as some would have us believe, the same as opposing Judaism or Jewish people? Let us conversely ask whether Jewish people or Judaism are enriched, protected, or uplifted by those who endorse a policy which favors Jewish sovereign rule over, and impoverishment of, a majority indigenous population, in perpetuity and despite international law. Let us also remember that many Christians and other non-Jewish people

do support Zionism, and many Jewish people oppose it.

Yet, to even express sympathy for the Palestinian people – a heritage and ethnicity which is, by the way, reliably Semitic – is said by some, ironically, to be "anti-Semitic." The "Palestinian people" includes millions in Palestine/Israel and elsewhere. They live as coerced expatriates, or as refugees, or under occupation. Some are second-class citizens of Israel, and some are in Israeli prisons. They are real men, women and children. Many are dead. This is a people which has, throughout my lifetime, been displaced by war and denied their right to return. They have seen their relatives wounded, killed and imprisoned. They have had their homes demolished, and they have been separated from their own land, their water, medical care and their relatives by walls and bureaucracy and lies. They are even denied, by Israel and Israel's "allies," the right of self-defense. The Palestinians deserve sympathy in the same way the people of the

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First Nations deserve sympathy, and in the same way African Americans deserve sympathy, and the same way that Jewish people deserve sympathy, and for the same reasons.

My personal experience with Jewish people in the United States is that they are generous, compassionate people who are supportive of human rights and progressive policies. It is not surprising, then, that – despite efforts by some to indoctrinate – many Jewish people oppose Zionism and criticize Israel's human rights record for these reasons. Some Jewish scholars even say that the establishment of a Zionist state is directly oppositional to scriptural teaching. I am not a Jewish scholar, but I do know the Golden Rule.

Furthermore, I am neither a lawyer nor a Canadian, but do I know why many advocates of Zionism label human rights activists as anti-Semites. They seek to hurt our feelings, distance others from us and shut us up. The



"anti-Semitic" label is generally willfully defamatory and it should, in that case, be prosecuted civilly as Ed Corrigan is kindly doing, and also criminally because it seeks to violate the constitutional rights and even human rights of millions. I perceive it to be inflammatory hate speech, pure and simple.

Moreover, because of the military, geopolitical and economic implications of continuing to support an intractable, costly, no-win, internationally illegal and unethical policy – denying the libel charge would tend to further repress meaningful discussion that Canada, Israel, my United States and the whole world needs. This is about effective criticism that seeks to save lives and treasure in Canada as well as in Palestine/Israel and elsewhere.

Thanks very much.

Mr. Claiborne Clark  
Activist, Producer and Writer  
Durham, NC, USA

cmclark@gmx.com

14 November 2011

To Whom It May Concern

As a former Israeli citizen, a former soldier in the Israeli army, and as an activist for Palestinian rights I would like to lend my support for Ed Corrigan's case. Mr Corrigan is no more an antisemite than I or any Jewish peace activist.

It is vital to distinguish between criticism of the policies and behaviour of a nation state and an expression of racism. The labelling of critics of the state of Israel as antisemites is nothing more than a transparent and well-known tactic deliberately designed to silence opposition to Israel's policies, and divert attention away from Israel's apartheid and oppression of the Palestinian people. Those who employ this tactic are ignoring the fact that there is a growing number of Jews around the world who are also questioning Israel. Should they too be labelled antisemitic even though they are Jewish?

I have recently edited the book, *Beyond Tribal Loyalties: Personal Stories of Jewish Peace Activists* (see attached poster), which will be available next month. Each of the twenty-five stories included in the book automatically lend support to Mr Corrigan's case because the contributors are all Jewish, and they are all openly critical of Israel's policies against the Palestinians. It would be nonsensical and discriminatory to claim that a non-Jew who criticises Israel is an antisemite but a Jew isn't. Yet, to call a Jew an antisemite is absurd and dilutes the real meaning of antisemitism.

The accusation against Mr Corrigan simply does not make any logical sense and is uncalled for. Moreover, it is malicious, it causes serious offence and could potentially harm Mr Corrigan's reputation. It is

unacceptable in any democracy for such slanderous tactics to be used just because some people do not like legitimate criticism of Israel (or any country for that matter) and wish to silence it. In the name of decency and democratic values such tactics must be fiercely opposed.

Sincerely,

Avigail Abarbanel  
Psychotherapist/Counsellor  
Kilmalieu Cottage, Croy  
Inverness-Shire  
IV2 5PW  
United Kingdom

([www.fullyhuman.co.uk](http://www.fullyhuman.co.uk) & [www.avigailabarbanel.me.uk](http://www.avigailabarbanel.me.uk))

Avigail Abarbanel | Psychotherapist/Counsellor | Partner

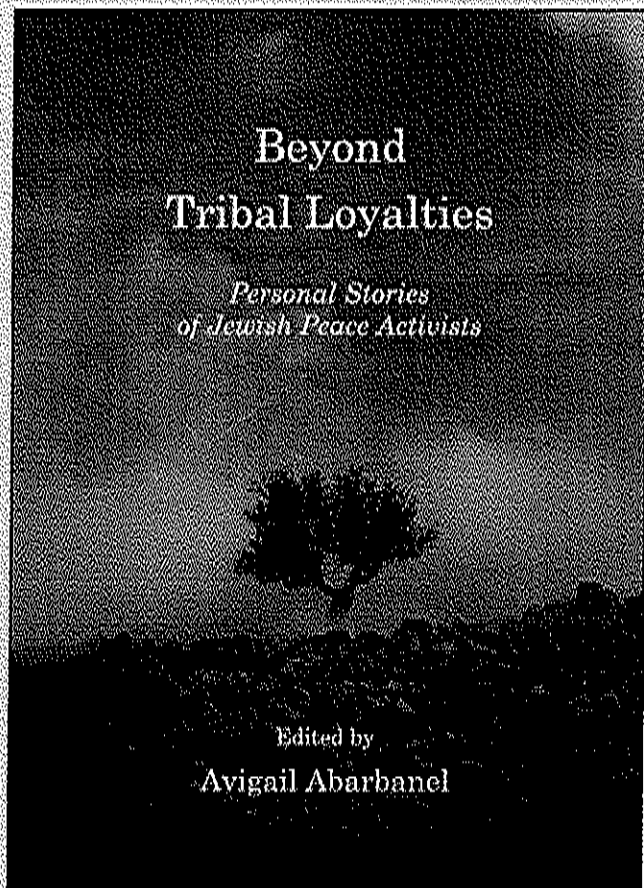
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# Beyond Tribal Loyalties

Personal Stories of Jewish Peace Activists

Edited by Avigail Abarbanel



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Our books are sold worldwide on Amazon,  
Blackwell and Ingram.

There is an expectation in Jewish communities around the world that all Jews embrace Zionism and offer unquestioning support for Israel, 'right or wrong'. Jewish identity and Zionism are commonly and deliberately blurred. Jews who criticise Israel or question Zionism are often excluded, vilified and threatened. If they express sympathy for the plight of the Palestinian people, they risk being branded as traitors and accused of 'supporting the enemies of Israel'.

*Beyond Tribal Loyalties* is a unique collection of twenty-five personal stories of Jewish peace activists from Australia, Canada, Israel, the United Kingdom and the United States. There is an age difference of more than fifty years between the oldest and the youngest contributor. The stories focus on the complex and intensely personal journey that Jewish activists go through to free themselves from the hold of Zionist ideology and its requirement to support all Israeli policies.

This is an inspiring book for anyone who is interested in the experience of being a peace activist. It offers a fresh and unusual angle on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and is a unique contribution in a field where political analysis is common, but where the personal angle is often lacking.

Avigail Abarbanel is a psychotherapist in private practice and an activist for Palestinian rights. She was born in Israel in 1964 and served in the Israeli army during Israel's 1982 invasion of Lebanon. Avigail moved to Australia in 1991 where she lived for eighteen years and where she completed her undergraduate and postgraduate studies. She now lives and works near Inverness in Scotland. Her activist work consists mainly of writing and public speaking.

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EXPERT SUBMISSION BY PROFESSOR YAKOV RABKIN

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This statement (consisting of seven pages each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have willfully stated anything in it, which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Qualifications and experience

Professor Rabkin has taught contemporary Jewish history and the history of science at the University of Montreal since 1973. Full Professor at the Department of History since 1987, he recently developed and taught seminars on Islamic and Judaic attitudes to science and technology. He has served as a Visiting Scholar at several universities, including Yale, Johns Hopkins, Hebrew and Tel Aviv universities, Université Louis-Pasteur and the Smithsonian Institution. He has also worked as a consultant for major international organizations (such as NATO, OECD and World Bank) as well as Canadian government agencies.

Professor Rabkin has been invited to appear as an expert witness before the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Parliament of Canada as well as before the Immigration and Refugee Board in Montreal and before the Crown Court in Leeds, Britain.

Professor Rabkin developed an interest in Jewish studies in the late 1970s. Besides university courses taken in Baltimore, Jerusalem and Montreal, he has also studied at the Jerusalem Academy of Jewish Studies, the Pardes Institute, the Shalom Hartman Institute and the Bet Morasha Centre for Advanced Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, at the Centre Rachi in Paris as well as in private sessions with several rabbis. He has published scholarly and general articles on Jewish and Israeli topics and has given lectures on Judaica and Jewish history in several countries. He assisted Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz of Jerusalem to open the first official Jewish educational institution in Moscow in 1988. He was an Associate

*Yakov Rabkin*

Member of the Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs for over a decade, and took part in the Canadian Academic Study Circle on Zionism. Professor Rabkin served as a member of the board of Hillel Foundation of Greater Montreal, organized and headed the House of Jewish Knowledge and the Russian-Jewish Association affiliated with the YMHA in Montreal.

His publications include *Science between the Superpowers*, a study of Soviet-American relations in science and technology (Priority Press, 1988), *The Interaction of Scientific and Jewish Cultures in Modern Times* (The Edwin Mellen Press, 1995), *Diffusion of New Technologies in Post-Communist Europe* (Kluwer, 1997), a major overview of science in pre-Revolutionary Russia that appeared in *L'Europe des sciences* (Seuil, 2001) and a comparative analysis on science in the Soviet Union and Nazi Germany in *Science and Ideology* (Routledge, 2003).

Professor Rabkin's most recent book is *A Threat from Within: a Century of Jewish opposition to Zionism* (Zedbooks/Fernwood, 2006; originally published in French in 2004). This book was nominated for the Governor General Award in Canada, for the Hecht Prize for Studies on Zionism in Israel and was distinguished at the *Rendez-vous de l'histoire* in Blois, France. It is now available in ten languages. He has published over a hundred scholarly articles on the entry of Jews into modern science, on science and religion interface, and on relations between science and culture. His analyses of Jewish and Israeli issues have appeared in *Tikkun*, *Jewish Chronicle*, *Baltimore Sun*, *Aqdamot* and *Jerusalem Post*. He has also authored articles published in Canada, France, Israel and the United States addressing the issue of Jewish dissent and antisemitism.

*I have been asked to define antisemitism in the Canadian context, paying particular attention to public criticism of the state of Israel, its agents and sympathizers, as well as public response to such criticism on their part.*

Antisemitism, i.e. racial and religious rejection of Jews, has a long and infamous history in Canada, both English and French. Jews

*Yael My*

were discriminated against for centuries, from the obligation to produce a baptismal certificate upon disembarkation in New France to the statement than "none is too many" with respect to Jewish refugees from Nazism attributed to Prime Minister Mackenzie King. This antisemitism began to abate in the aftermath of the Second World War. Promulgation of charters of human rights in Canada and Quebec, Vatican II as well as the secularization of society have further eroded antisemitic attitudes, and Jews have come to be accepted in terms of choice of occupation, residence, leisure and education. Conversely, antisemitic acts, words and attitudes have declined, and, more importantly, have become an object of scorn and rejection.

This trend has continued in spite of occasional acts of violence and abuse directed at Jewish individuals and institutions in the last twenty years. Most of these acts have been identified as related to the conflict in Israel/Palestine as they reflect the ebb and flow of hope and despair in the Middle East. They also reflect a mistaken conflation between Jews and Israelis as well as between Judaism and Zionism.

Antisemitism has provided the state of Israel its *raison d'être* for over a century. According to the Israeli author Tom Segev, the founder of Zionism Theodore Herzl considered antisemites «our friends and allies»: antisemites want to be rid of Jews while Zionists want to gather them to Israel.

This is why many Jews opposed Zionism from its very beginning in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century: they saw that Zionists played into the hands of their worst enemies, the antisemites. In the wake of the Holocaust, many prominent Jews, including the philosopher Martin Buber and the political scientist Hannah Arendt, warned that establishing an ethnic state for Jews would not help to combat antisemitism.

Insistence on Jewish solidarity with the state of Israel has proven itself effective for the promotion and the defense of Zionism. At the same time, this insistence has engendered antisemitic reactions. The standard Zionist claim that Israel - a distant and beleaguered state most Jews neither control nor inhabit - is "the state of the

*Yael My*



Jewish people" implicates Jews in Canada into what Israel is and does. This foments antisemitism in Canada and elsewhere. Ironically, while Zionists contribute to the growth of anti-Jewish sentiment in Canada, they direct accusations of antisemitism at critics of Israel. Yet, it seems that it is this consistent effort to stifle all criticism of Israel that generates resentment and feeds antisemitism. Conversely, Canadian Jews who criticize Israel undermine fundamental antisemitic beliefs. They embody the diversity of Jewish life - "two Jews, three opinions" - that flies in the face of the antisemitic canard of the world Jewish conspiracy.

By promoting the slogan of "Israel - the state of the Jewish people", Israeli and Zionist officials have enhanced this association, which legitimizes the state of Israel in terms of Jewish ethnic, linguistic and religious continuity. At the same time, Israeli and Jewish scholars have questioned claims to such continuity while many Jews have vocally opposed Zionism and decried Israel's policies.

In fact, Jews, secular, Reform and particularly ultra-Orthodox, have been the most unrelenting critics of Israel. The insistence of many Jewish community leaders on unconditional support for Israel has had the effect of eliminating, among the general public, all distinctions between Zionism and Judaism, between Jews and Israelis. It is to resist this confusion that the Jewish critics of Zionism—while remaining widely divergent on other issues—have denounced the subordination of the interests of the Jews of the Diaspora to those of the state of Israel. "Whether this is apathetic ignorance, lack of solidarity, or a cynical world view that regards any increase in immigrant applications as the sole goal to be pursued, - one reads in the Israeli daily *Haaretz* - Israel, which regards itself as guardian of the the world's Jews, may discover it is the source of their troubles."

Nowadays Jews in Canada and other countries are increasingly associated with Israel's bomber aircraft, gun-toting soldiers and Zionist settlers that fill the TV screens of the world. However, Zionists are not concerned that their policies towards the Palestinians breed antisemitism around the world. To the contrary,

Yael My

the rise of antisemitism supports their claim that only in Israel can a Jew feel safe.

While Jews are deeply divided in their attitudes to Zionism and Israel, tens of millions of Christians have become committed Zionists and ardent defenders of the state of Israel. The number of Christian Zionists is apparently four to five times greater than the entire Jewish population of the world. Nonetheless, Zionist organizations in Canada and elsewhere continue to equate the interests of the country's Jews with those of the state of Israel. This can be seen in the very appellation of one of the most active Zionist bodies: Canadian Council for Jewish and Israel Advocacy. Israeli flags fly in front of many Jewish institutions, including old-age homes, turning them into symbols of Zionist commitment.

Zionist ideology is predicated on the impossibility of a Jew to be fully accepted in any country except Israel. It is quite clear that many Jews do not share this belief. This is why, when given a chance, most of them prefer peaceful pluralistic democracies to the perennially threatened Israel. Over a million Israeli citizens have left their country for liberal democracies elsewhere. The number of Israeli Jews who have settled in Canada is many times greater than the number of Jews who have left Canada to settle in Israel. Many of these Israeli-born Jews have become public critics of Zionism.

The growth of dissidence among Jews provokes understandable concern in Israel's ruling circles and their allies in other countries. One of the first to discredit Jewish dissidents in a systematic manner was a report prepared for the American Jewish Committee five years ago. It analyzes the phenomenon of Jewish critique of Israel and concludes that the issue of Israel has acquired more general political characteristics and has become a focus of tension between the left and the right. Jewish leftists who criticize Israel, according to this logic, "objectively promote new antisemitism". This includes questioning the Zionist nature of the state, which advocates of Israel frame as "the right of Israel to exist". In other words, any critique of Zionism is portrayed as an 'existential threat'. The apocalyptic overtone of this formulation reflects a profound concern among Israeli elites about their state's legitimacy.

Yael M.

In response to the opprobrium that the state of Israel attracted in the wake of the second intifada, its attack on Gaza in the winter of 2008-9, and the violent arraignment of the peace flotilla in the summer of 2010, Israeli and Zionist officials decided to deflect criticism by means of accusing critics of the state of Israel of antisemitism. These accusations aim at suppressing criticism of Israel among Jews and non-Jews alike. This is how the octogenarian Jewish philosopher Edgar Morin was accused of antisemitism for publishing an article critical of Israel in the daily *Le Monde*, convicted as charged, and then saw the verdict overturned by a higher judicial authority in France.

Similar attempts to intimidate critics of Israel have been made in other countries. For example, Judge Richard Goldstone of South Africa, a Jew and a prominent donor to Israel's Hebrew University, was accused of antisemitism for authoring a United Nations report on human rights violations during Israel's attack on Gaza in 2009/10. The political scientist Norman Finkelstein, also a Jew and author of several books, was accused of antisemitism, which helped deny him tenure by De Paul University in spite of the unanimous approval by his peers.

Nevertheless, Jews appear less inhibited to criticize Israel than their non-Jewish compatriots, who often refer to the Israel/Palestine situation as "too complex and too delicate". This is why Jewish critics of Israel currently bear the main brunt of Zionist organizations, which routinely accuse them of antisemitism. Consistent efforts are also underway in Canada to frame all criticism of Israel as "new antisemitism". Canadians, such as Irwin Cotler and Jason Kenney, have greatly contributed to a coordinated campaign to define and target "new antisemitism" around the world, a campaign that betrays an obviously political objective: to shield the state of Israel and its unconditional supporters from public scrutiny. This would establish the exceptionalism of the state of Israel.

Accusations of antisemitism directed at Jews may appear nonsensical but, nonetheless, they cause serious damage to the accused. Such accusations undermine their standing in their respective social and professional milieus, effectively exclude them

Yal Mf

from the Jewish community and may even cause tensions within the immediate or extended family.

*I have also read several articles authored by Edward Corrigan on Israel and Palestine, and asked to give my opinion as to whether they contain disparaging remarks about Jews as a racial, ethnic or religious group, and can therefore be considered antisemitic.*

The articles discuss political and humanitarian aspects of the situation in Israel and Palestine. He also addressed the issue of Israel advocacy in Canadian society. They contain no accusation or intimation of alleged "Jewish influence" or "Jewish control" of our society, which would have appeared antisemitic. That some organizations find his articles objectionable is consistent with their mandate of discrediting criticism of Israel as antisemitic. These pro-Israel organizations employ Jews and non-Jews alike, just as there are Jews and non-Jews among those who protest Israel's policies and the state's Zionist nature. One may add that Mr Corrigan's arguments certainly pale in comparison with those regularly articulated in Israeli press and alternative media.

It is not germane to the matter at hand that officials and supporters of the state of Israel often describe that state as Jewish. If one accepts the conflation between Israel and the Jews it would be impossible to engage in political debate about Israel for fear of appearing antisemitic. Similarly, one may be inhibited to discuss the Islamic Republic of Iran lest one be accused of Islamophobia. Just as Iran has no exclusivity on Islam, Israel has no exclusivity on Judaism. Founded largely by agnostics and atheists, Israel is inhabited by followers of various faiths, and a significant and vocal majority of people without religious faith. I therefore conclude that the articles contain no antisemitic or other racist statements and accusations.

Yalov

Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister & Solicitor  
Certified Specialist in Citizenship and Immigration  
and Immigration and Refugee Protection  
383 Richmond Street, Suite 902  
London, Ontario, Canada  
N6A 3C4

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Subject: Is criticism of Israel anti-Semitic?

My name is Phillip Little. I am a retired Roman Catholic priest, married and member of Corpus – an association of retired and married catholic priests. I remain in good standing with the Church, and after leaving ministry I worked for 26 years with the Toronto Catholic District School Board (formerly M.S.S.B.) working in the Guidance department and also as a teacher of “religion” at the high school level.

Throughout all my courses, I included classes dealing with the subject of our relationship with the Jewish religion and the Holocaust. One of my students won the yearly senior high school essay contest on the Holocaust, sponsored by the Holocaust Education Centre in Toronto.

I was also a volunteer grievance officer for the local unit (Toronto Secondary Unit) of O.E.C.T.A. In the 1990’s I was assigned by the president of the unit to assist a Jewish teacher who taught at St. Michael’s Choir school who came to school one day to find the outside wall of the school

spray painted "Fucking Jew get out". Other displays of swastikas were also found on other occasions. This teacher had been assigned against his will, under the provisions of Bill 30, to work in a Catholic denominational school. He taught history, including 20<sup>th</sup> Century history including the second world war.

As the assigned grievance officer I explained to the teacher that if such a message were spray painted on a synagogue the "hate" message, while threatening, was directed at all Jews. In this case, being that he was the only Jew on the faculty of the school, this was a matter of personal concern for his well-being and safety.

This was without a doubt an act of anti-Semitism.

As the school administration and the school board officials did not seem to be concerned over these events, and there was a noticeable lack of support to the teacher, he filed a grievance through the union. The response of the school superintendent for the area was to formally put a letter of reprimand in the teacher's file for "his lack of sensitivity to Catholic culture".

That was without a doubt another act of anti-Semitism.

I say this to assure you that I do know what anti-Semitism is and I know that anti-Semitism, as actions and words, is hateful and damaging not only to those targeted but to all Canadians as it harms the good of our society.

So I do know what anti-Semitism is all about. I do believe that it is important that we combat anti-Semitism and all

other forms of hate mongering and hate crimes – whether the victims be Jewish, Muslim, gay, first-nation, Roma, or whatever.

As a teacher it was my obligation to teach by word and by example. When I heard students using such words as “fag” or other derogatory language referring to others, I saw this as an educational opportunity to sensitize students and to highlight the harm done to others and to themselves by such hurtful speech. When the language or actions were deliberate, then disciplinary action would be the only recourse.

Hateful language and action cannot be taken lightly.

To classify the criticism of the State of Israel as anti-Semitic diminishes the very definition of anti-Semitism. In seeking to broaden the concept of anti-Semitism to include responsible criticism of the policies of a government and its policies and actions demeans the struggle against anti-Semitism.

It is a bit of the story of the boy who cried “wolf” too often, and then when there was a real threat by a “wolf”, no one believed him any longer and were willing to come to his assistance.

As previously stated I am a Roman Catholic, trained in ministry and ordained. I served eight years as a missionary in South America (1972-1980). Over the years I have seen much about my church that is not positive. I have learned much about the governance of my church that is NOT

exemplary. The on-going scandal of pedophilia by clergy, across the world, and the involvement of church administrators, from bishops, cardinals and even including the present Pope in protecting the perpetrators rather than the victims is more than an embarrassment. As a Catholic I must protest the actions and inactions of my church in this scandal. My displeasure is not that of a “self-loathing” Catholic, but rather my responsibility. Recently the Irish Prime Minister issued a blistering critique of some Irish bishops, the Papal nuncio, and the Vatican officials who were more interested in protecting the reputation of the church rather than protecting children. His criticism was not “anti-Catholic”.

There is such a beast as anti-Catholicism. It was alive and well in the Toronto of the 1930’s to 1950. There were signs that “Jews and Irish (i.e. Catholic)” were not allowed in some places. Catholics were not able to apply for employment for some jobs in the civil service.

So anti-Catholicism did exist and probably still does exist, but it does not rear its ugly head when nearly half the population of Ontario is Roman Catholic, at least in name.

I know very few people who are Muslim. While I did teach a world religions course, my understanding of Islam is still minimal. Trying to understand this religion of 1 ½ million Canadians is not easy. But I do know that there is plenty of anti-Islamic sentiment that is hateful and dangerous in our society today.



In many countries, which receive a lot of western press, we read about the abusive practices of governments or regimes that claim to be Islamic. I have participated in letter writing campaigns that are critical of these regimes, but I do not think I can be accused of being anti-Islamic.

My years working in South America made me more conscious of the beauty and special privileges that come with being a Canadian citizen. I know persons who have been killed because they dared to speak out against oppression and evil. So my being back in Canada, where freedom of speech is not only a privilege but a responsibility, lays a special burden upon me.

As a teacher I was instrumental in founding the first Amnesty International youth group in the TCDSB at St. Joseph's College School on Wellesley Street, across from Queen's Park. As expected it was a very small group but through A.I. students became more sensitized to world issues and more empowered to respond responsibly. The group actually received one response – very unusual for A.I. writers – from the warden of a prison in South America to assure us that the prisoner was being treated fairly. We don't know if it was true – but it was an acknowledgment that our concerns were being noticed.

It was possible to write to Presidents and Prison Wardens in Colombia without being anti-Columbian. It was possible to write to the King of Saudi-Arabia without being anti-Islamic. It was possible to write to Chinese authorities to protest the imprisonment of Catholic priests without being anti-Chinese.

So too – it is possible to criticize the actions and policies of the government of Israel without being anti-Semitic.

Canada was at the forefront of the campaign against apartheid in South Africa and there was a significant boycott of South African produce and companies, even by the Canadian government. No doubt the government of the time in South Africa was not pleased, but eventually world opinion helped to create a climate for change in South Africa.

There are many troubling aspects to the policies and actions of the state of Israel. There are many Jewish groups, within Israel and throughout the world community that are highly critical of the government of Israel. The other evening I listened to a Jewish journalist from Israel, Amira Hass, speak about the situation in Israel and in the occupied territories as defined by UN resolutions. She was critical of Israel, and equally critical of the Palestinian Authority and Hamas. She sought to educate us and to help the audience better understand the complexity of the situation.

Her presentation was not anti-Semitic. But it was critical of the actions of Israel and its historical record regarding agreements and treaties such as the Oslo Accord.

So it would seem logical that Israel as a state must be evaluated, as all other states including our own Canada, and critiqued and criticized when appropriate. By the same measure, those organizations which support programs of injustice must also be scrutinized and properly criticized

for their participation in the spiral of violence and injustice that may be found.

Conclusion:

To claim that criticism of the State of Israel is anti-Semitic is a preposterous exaggeration that clouds and diminishes the real problem of anti-Semitism. The State of Israel cannot hide behind the religion of its majority, just as Ireland cannot hide behind the religion of its majority or the same for any other country. The policies and actions of a nation cannot be reduced to matters of religion.

Anti-Semitism is a real problem, throughout the world and in Canada. There are real hate filled persons and groups though out our nation that propagat hatred towards identifiable groups and individuals because of their creed, sexuality, ethnic origin, ancestry, or other distinguishing characteristics. It is our responsibility to combat hatred and the merchants of hate.

I am critical of the so-called Christian Zionist movement that is wrongfully thought to be pro-Israel. The Christian Zionists who support Israeli expansion in the occupied territories do so with a strange anticipation for the final showdown with celestial powers and the Armageddon. This it is believed will lead to the annihilation of all Jews who have not converted. This support of Israel is fundamentally anti-Semitic, as weird as it may appear.

This responsibility to combat hate groups and their message is made more difficult when the evil is blurred and diluted

by proposing that something other than the real evil is also part of the problem. Criticism of the State of Israel and participation in actions critical of the government, its agents (army) and its policies is not in itself anti-Semitic.

Anti-Semitism is the problem. The correct and responsible criticism of religious leaders is not the problem. The correct and responsible criticism of the state of Israel – its policies and actions – is not anti-Semitic.

Sincerely,

Phillip Little

10846 – Grandview Road

Ladysmith, B.C. V9G1Z7

Telephone: 250-2457245



Canadian Friends of Sabeel

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NOV 17 2011

Edward C. Corrigan  
Barrister & Solicitor  
383 Richmond Street, Suite 902  
London, ON N6A 3C4

September 20, 2011

Dear Ed,

I write as Chair of Canadian Friends of Sabeel, inviting you to share these comments as you wish.

We are pleased that you have openly challenged these false accusations of anti-Semitism. We know your long-standing criticism of Israel's violence and oppression of Palestinians has at the same time openly opposed all forms of anti-Semitism.

The willful confusion and conflation of criticism of Israel's policies and practices with anti-Semitism now extends to the top levels of government, including Canadian Cabinet Ministers. All the more must your challenge proceed, to expose those who falsely label many of us committed to human rights advocacy. It is most curious that these attacks extend only to those who are singled out for advocating human rights of Palestinians, as if somehow Palestinians are to be the only people not to be entitled to have their rights or their humanity upheld.

We know from first-hand experience. On the front page of our parent organization's website ([sabeel.org](http://sabeel.org)) is a video of Sabeel founder Naim Ateek calling upon all people to support the Palestinian Christian call to oppose Israel's occupation as illegal and morally evil, while at the same time to oppose all expressions of violence. In that video he advocates the non-violent application of international law; he too has been accused of anti-Semitism. Moreover, his presentation is preceded by a clip of Sabeel's international patron, Archbishop Desmond Tutu addressing the same conference — his comments at that conference were falsely labelled anti-Semitic by defenders of Israel's violations of Palestinian human rights. Now the first signatories on the so-called "Ottawa Protocol on Combating Anti-Semitism" are two prominent Cabinet Ministers. While we support the provisions therein to combat actual anti-Semitism, its alarmist and willful equation of some criticism of Israel with "seeking its destruction" and therefore "hateful" anti-Semitism is disingenuous and destructive. Archbishop Tutu's comments could easily fall under such criticism of Israel falsely labeled anti-Semitic.

It might be worth noting that immediately after 9/11, the Canadian Jewish Congress' attacks on the Arab cultural exhibition at Ottawa's Museum of Civilization were wholeheartedly condemned by Parliament.



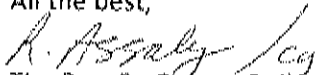
Canadian Friends of Sabeel

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Nonetheless, days later the same CJC boldly insinuated in the Ottawa Citizen that I, an Arab-Canadian, was a supporter of anti-Jewish terrorism precisely because of my public criticism of Israel's human rights violations. Condemnation of the CJC's remarks against me by several Canadian heads of Churches did not stop them from accusing others falsely. That is, even a highly respected organization like the CJC engages in these false accusations and fear-mongering when lifting the veil on Israel's human rights violations or exposing the humanity of Arabs is at stake.

I hope it is enough to know that the false accusation against you, while risking your being targeted by those supported by top Canadian politicians, puts you in good company. At the same time, it is terribly unfortunate that the struggle against real anti-Semitism is diminished and undermined by these bogus accusations.

All the best,

  
The Rev. Fr. Robert C. Assaly

Chair

Canadian Friends of Sabeel

From: Mohammad Mulla <momuone@gmail.com>  
Date: Thu, 17 Nov 2011 22:38:52 +0300  
Subject: Edward C. Corrigan

Docket No. SC-11-117399-00

This is a note in support of Ed Corrigan, based on the experience I have had here in Saudi Arabia being a member of the Intelligent Minds group of which Ed is a member. I can testify that I have not experienced the slightest slur against any ethnic or religious group during the exchanges of our messages dealing with the wide spectrum of political, cultural, and sociological topics relating to the Middle East and indeed sometimes beyond.

Indeed, my personal experience in this group has been most refreshingly and assuredly that any slight hint of slur would be dealt with summarily and with zero tolerance. I have received the strongest of support and understanding when I felt one member, who was simply forwarding a politician's extreme opinions of the Muslem community presence in her country, was immediately censured.

In this light, I have never heard Ed Corrigan in any shape or form expressed or even forwarded any messages to our group.

I hope that he will be given a fair hearing of his case and our testimonies be given their due weight because they are based on a sustained and long-term experience of the fellowship with Ed during which time any such negative predilections would have been transparent.

Ed Corrigan has everyone's support of his honest and upright as well as respectful character.

Mohammad Mulla, Ph.D.  
Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Toronto Small Claims Court  
Toronto Courthouse  
47 Sheppard Ave. East  
Toronto ON M2N 5N1 CANADA

November 17, 2011

Re: *Edward C. Corrigan v. Will Hechter*, Docket No. SC-11-117399-00

Your Honor,

I have been following Ed Corrigan's work as an Intelligent Minds Moderator for many years and recently discovered he's been publicly called anti-Semitic. Ed Corrigan has never demonstrated any evidence of anti-Semitism.

This is utter nonsense and seems like character assassination for spurious reasons. We must ask who will gain by these unjustified attacks to silence him.

Chris Wrinn  
Intelligent Minds Moderator  
Milford, CT, USA  
203-882-0166

Via Electronic Mail



**From:** Laura Dawn Lewis  
**Date:** Thu, 17 Nov 2011 09:23:45 -0800  
**Subject:** Ed Corrigan

Via Email:

Toronto Small Claims Court  
Toronto Courthouse  
47 Sheppard Ave. East  
Toronto ON M2N 5N1 CANADA

*Edward C. Corrigan v. Will Hechter*, Docket No. SC-11-117399-00

Your Honor,

For the past ten years I've been an active participant and moderator for a group of intellectuals, politicians, journalists, lawyers, academics and others from all faiths who focus on events in the Middle East. Ed Corrigan has been an integral part of this group, sharing insight into various issues and bring articles from all over the world to the attention of the group on various issues ranging from the build up to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan to the political, financial and moral costs incurred by the continued military occupation of Palestine by Israel. At no point has he stated, written or brought to the attention of the group ever hinted at any sense of anti-Semitism. Criticisms, observations and comments by Ed focus on the principles, facts, international law and human rights. To be anti-semitic, one must hate people or people of semitic ethnicity simply because they were born that way. Such an accusation borders on ridiculous in relation to Mr. Corrigan.

The group is comprised of close to 30% Jewish and we have had to eliminate people from the group for showing racist tendencies toward those of the Jewish faith as well as toward those of the Muslim faith. Mr. Corrigan is one of our oldest members has never made a single statement in the group that could even remotely be considered racist. Ed has never addressed an issue or made a comment relating to current or historical events that served to blame, chastise, ridicule or target any group or ethnicity due to their association or ethnicity. He has addressed policies.

He has addressed inconsistencies in behavior and hypocrisy in statements versus actions. None of these criticism qualify as attacking a person or group because of who they are, which is racism. If humanity has gotten to the point that legitimate questions cannot be raised about actions by any group which contradict international law, humanism and its own stated purpose as well as projected image, then no person on this planet is safe. Questions must be able to be asked. Statement must be made and policies must questioned when lives are at stake. To punish anyone for asking questions, pointing out hypocrisies or protesting over human rights and direct violations of international law and treaties simply because they are part of a specific ethnic group sets a dangerous precedent. People must be free to ask questions and not fear being criminalized because of it. If we do this,

protect any ethnic group from criticism and debate, than we create a world in which one group of people has higher value than any other. Mr Corrigan is not anti-Semitic. He asks the questions others are afraid to ask lest they too be accused.

Laura D Lewis  
Moderator, Intelligent Minds.

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**Admitted in:**  
Oregon, Washington, and  
Idaho

***Via Electronic Mail***

November 17, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I understand that Ed Corrigan's character has been attacked - specifically, that he has been alleged to be "anti-Semitic," which I interpret his attackers to mean that he is prejudiced against Jews. I further understand that Mr. Corrigan is seeking redress in the Canadian judicial system for those attacks. I have corresponded extensively with Mr. Corrigan over a number of years as an member and participant in an online forum, "Intelligent Minds," and based on these communications I believe that the allegation of anti-Semitism is patently false.

I have been practicing law for over 38 years. In the past decade I have been able to devote myself almost exclusively to civil and human rights matters in service of a broad spectrum of clients. My current client base includes Native Americans (Aboriginal Americans), African Americans, East Africans, North Africans, Iranians, and Arabs. Because of my background and present work I am extremely sensitive to, and strongly oppose, all forms of racism, and I consider anti-Semitism a particularly insidious and repulsive form of racism. At the same time I believe that the State of Israel's treatment of Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza is reprehensible; I base this opinion upon numerous trips to Israel and Palestine on legal matters such as prisoners' rights and civilians' rights to protection in the event of armed conflict.

My fundamental point is that one who opposes the illegal and illegitimate policies of the State of Israel regarding Palestinians does not mean that that person is anti-Semitic; indeed, in my experience many of the most outspoken - and most effective - critics of Israel's policies towards the Palestinians are Jews.

Again, I think that the claim that Mr. Corrigan is anti-Semitic is false and libelous.

Please let me know if you have any questions; my contact information in on the letterhead.

Very truly yours,



Thomas H. Nelson  
Attorney at Law

Tanya Cariina Hsu  
Advisor & Policy Analyst: Saudi Arabian - US Foreign Affairs

Toronto Small Claims Court  
Toronto Courthouse  
47 Sheppard Avenue East  
Toronto, ON M2N 5N1  
Canada

November 18th, 2011  
Submitted via electronic mail

*Edward C. Corrigan v. Will Hechter*

Docket No. SC-11-117399-00

Your Honour,

More than a decade ago, I co-founded the online-subscription 'Intelligent Minds' private list. This was, and remains, an active area for academics, journalists, government officials and activists in Middle Eastern political issues, able to share materials of importance and relevance amongst colleagues. Due to the invitation-only policy we maintain, only those who meet rigorous standards of entry (including demonstrable elevated IQ levels, e.g., Mensa membership, PhDs etc.) are permitted to be included.<sup>1</sup> We have stringent rules of membership, one of the criteria including a zero tolerance for racism or incivility in any form - to any person or group of people. Such behaviour would result in an immediate suspension from the site until the list's five Moderators review the incendiary material and vote upon the penalty of subsequent permanent removal. We have 100 members from around the world who have met, and adhere, to these requirements. The reason for such scrutiny is evident: we are professionals who do not entertain vilification or denigration that may potentially damage our reputations and/or tenure or career.

Unlike many other online sources of information, the IM list is not a recent creation, and has been solidly in place for over ten years. One of the first members of IM was Mr. Ed Corrigan Esq. As someone who long understood the political dynamics of the Israeli-Palestinian situation and efforts for peace negotiations between the two nations, Mr. Corrigan contributes valuable materials from sources worldwide for our collective benefit and analysis.

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<sup>1</sup> Mensa International High IQ Society; website <http://www.mensa.org/>

After the events of 9/11, we suffered denial-of-service attacks that were traced and identified to Israel and Korea. We suffered the attempted attacks or hacking from people aiming to destroy our accumulated content, or malign our membership. This is par for the course for anyone who attempts to understand and explain the complexities of the Middle East political situation. It has been an ongoing price paid by many who write on Israeli politics, for 75 years; and it increased exponentially since 2001. Those of us whose careers are invested in understanding the situation in the region are subject to more examination, ridicule and challenge than any other political group.<sup>2</sup> There is no choice but to grow a thick skin. That being said, such repeated attacks have not deterred Mr. Corrigan from continuing his life's investment – peace between the two states.

It is important to note that there is a significant difference between anti-Zionist or anti-Israeli policy, and anti-Jewish (anti-Semitism). A majority of Israelis themselves are opposed to the Israeli government in power today, but this of course is not anti-Semitism by any definition.<sup>3</sup> Many brave souls during World War Two openly stood against the Nazi party, but they were not anti-Christian or anti-German. The very nature of politics demands one hold positions that oppose the other side or sides, and criticism of the State of Israel, the Likud Party or a Knesset decision is not a condemnation of Jews as a people or religion. If this distinction is not made and fully understood, we are all potentially subject to totalitarian obsequiousness.

No matter how much a person disagrees with a political position of such global consequence, it should never be permissible to publicly smear and malign a man's character with the sole intent to destroy his reputation.

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<sup>2</sup> Many academics and officials with strong ties – financial or otherwise – to Israel routinely issue accusations of anti-Semitism, against any prominent academics and/or professionals who critique Israeli policy. Professor Alan Dershowitz of Harvard University has been particularly robust in his efforts to silence critics with the 'anti-Semite' label. For example, when Professors John J. Mearsheimer and Stephen M. Walt released "The Israel Lobby and U.S. Foreign Policy," a John F. Kennedy School of Government Faculty Research Working Paper in March 2006, followed by their book *The Israel Lobby* (Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007), Alan Dershowitz wrote that criticism of Israel or the Israel lobby in the US Congress constituted nothing less than anti-Semitic Jewish conspiracy theorizing. See Alan Dershowitz, "Debunking the Newest – and Oldest – Jewish Conspiracy: A Reply to the Mearsheimer-Walt "Working Paper," Harvard Law School, April 2006. Dershowitz et al., have used various platforms in the media to discredit or destroy the reputations of many academics, including Professor Noam Chomsky of MIT and Professor Norman Finkelstein of DePaul University – who was denied tenure at DePaul University as a result. A cottage industry of 'anti-Semitic watching' has grown since 2001, exemplified by Daniel Pipes' "Campus Watch" organization, which publicly names and shames those who do not support its hard-line pro-Israeli position with this incendiary charge; its list of proclaimed anti-Semites can be viewed online at <http://www.campus-watch.org/docs/type/research>

<sup>3</sup> See for example the Ma'ariv News (Tel Aviv, Israel), May 25<sup>th</sup> 2011 poll showing 56% of Israelis opposed to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's policies; available online at <http://www.nrg.co.il/online/1/ART2/244/067.html>. Or, another poll revealing how 70% of Israelis in opposition to their government's position on Palestinian recognition by the United Nations, as reported in the Jerusalem Post (Jerusalem, Israel), September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011; available online at <http://www.jpost.com/DiplomacyAndPolitics/Article.aspx?ID=238855&R=R1>

The labelling of 'anti-Semite' is a canard that is used with increasing frequency of late -- many of those resorting to this ad hominem unable to accurately define the term themselves -- because it is so successful a term of hate. It has worked, as verified publicly by Israeli officials.<sup>4</sup> It has ruined many a career, tenure, character or position, and it continues to be used with reckless abandon.

If a legal system accepts this defamatory accusation as legitimate when so cavalierly repeated, it travels the same perilous path as the Second Red Scare of the McCarthy era with its witch-hunts against anyone unable to prove a negative: that the accused was *not* a Communist-sympathiser guilty of treason and subversion. Those of us in the profession of Middle Eastern political issues are familiar with the pressure so frequently exerted upon courts and tribunals by parties with an interest in perpetuating the smears. We hope the court will not succumb to such an exercise, or follow a route too often taken by others with less capacity for understanding harmful motives. Canada cannot succumb to overcompensation for past transgressions at the expense of Mr. Corrigan or others who may follow.<sup>5</sup>

The Intelligent Minds list has never once received a single example of anti-Semitism from Mr. Corrigan. Had this ever occurred, he would have been immediately removed from the list for breaking the rules, and other members would have instantly objected (in particular, I am certain, the Jewish members).

In conclusion, please note that every comment Mr. Corrigan has ever written to the Intelligent Minds list is archived. Over a period of ten years and often multiple submissions per day, this amounts to thousands upon thousands of recorded pages of opinion. There is no ability for Mr. Corrigan to delete these submissions; they are a permanent record.

With this track record of writing of over a decade, I can attest that there has never been any

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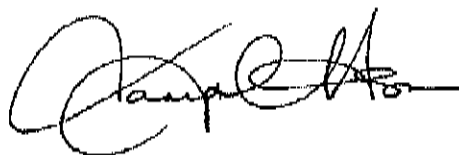
<sup>4</sup> Former Israeli Knesset minister and head of the Meretz Party, Shulamit Aloni, confirmed the tactic of accusing critics of Israel as anti-Semites. "Well, it's a trick, we always use it. When from Europe somebody is criticising Israel then we bring up the holocaust. When in this country people are criticising Israel, then they are anti-Semitic" she said when interview in America on August 14, 2002. Interview can be viewed online at [http://www.democracynow.org/2002/8/14/israels\\_first\\_lady\\_of\\_human\\_rights](http://www.democracynow.org/2002/8/14/israels_first_lady_of_human_rights) and <http://www.safeshare.tv/w/dwhPCAMuyK>

<sup>5</sup> Claude Bélanger, "Why did Canada Refuse to Admit Jewish Refugees in the 1930's?" Marianopolis College, L'Encyclopédie de l'histoire du Québec / The Quebec History Encyclopedia, 2006; available online at <http://faculty.marianopolis.edu/c.belanger/quebechistory/readings/CanadaandJewishRefugeesinthe1930s.html>

objectionable remark by Mr. Corrigan against any person of the Jewish faith, Israeli nationality, or any other ethnic group.

On behalf of the entire Intelligent Minds membership and volunteer staff, we fully support his efforts within the judicial system to clear his name of the libellous charges made against him.

Sincerely,



Tanya Cariina Hsu

International Fellow - Institute for Research: Middle Eastern Policy (IRmep); Washington D.C.  
Centre for Research on Globalisation; Montreal, Canada  
Friends of Charities Association (FOCA); Washington D.C.  
Owner and Co-Founder - Intelligent Minds Foreign Policy Group (IM)

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I was born in Italy, and lived there during the second World War, when Mussolini and Hitler held power. My father was a journalist, anti-fascist, and was taken to Jail by the SS for speaking of the "liberators" (US) in a bar, in Milano. They beat him, broke all his front teeth, and only released him when my mother intervened, citing her father's position as Justice of the Supreme Court in Roma (Consigliere di Cassazione). My father and his whole family were Catholics.

His younger brother was a well-known concert pianist who at 33 had performed at the Verdi Opera House in Trieste. He became depressed and checked himself in at the Sanatorio Triestino, for treatment. Unfortunately, during the week he was there, the SS conducted a raid and removed all the patients from the wing for mental treatment. They, with my uncle, were shipped to concentration camps: my uncle was gassed at Auschwitz. We were told by someone the Germans let out at the last moment, that his last words were: "But I am a Catholic!"

I start my letter of support for Ed Corrigan and the worthy cause he espouses by a bit of my family history, to explain why I am particularly suited to understand a) what the holocaust was; but also b) why I am a very unlikely person to be sympathetic to anti-semitism or to any form of racial, religious or ethnic discrimination. I am an academic: I hold doctorates in both philosophy (ethics) and law (international human rights). I returned to the University of Windsor after my retirement, and after receiving my second Ph.D. from Osgoode Hall Law School, and I now teach one course there for the Faculty of Law. I also teach one course for the Faculty of Milano (Erasmus students, in English), and a course on Ethics, Religions and Worldviews for the Royal Roads University in Victoria, BC. I belong to and I am an active member of the Law Union of Ontario, and many other associations.

I have published 24 books (ethics/law) and my 25th book, entitled "Faces of State Terrorism, is under contract with Brill, Leyden, The Netherlands (in press, out 2012). My 26th book is a collection on the interface between human rights, environment and public health (under contract with Earthscan, out 2012. My latest book to be published is Human Rights: the "Commons" and the Collective, just out from the University Press of British Columbia. For that book, as well as for my work on Globalization, Violence and Global Governance (Brill, Leyden, The Netherlands, 2011), and the forthcoming Faces of state Terrorism, my research was helped immensely by the many important postings provided by Ed Corrigan and other from the group Science for Peace, to which I also belong.

I have thanked Ed in the "Acknowledgments" for the State Terrorism book for his help and his contribution to my research (the "Acknowledgment" is here attached).

The Nazis knew how to brutally eliminate any criticism, implied or explicit, regarding their regime, and my own family suffered greatly for their violent intolerance. That is why most of my academic work reflects my belief that the defense of basic human rights, to life, to health, but also the right to have human dignity respected, as well as the freedom of expressing one's opinion, are the most important values, worthy to be cherished and supported.

The research that Ed Corrigan pursues is no more anti-semitic than my distaste and condemnation for Nazi forms of governance and practices are an expression of hate for Germany and Germans, without whose wonderful philosophy



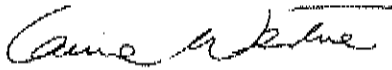


and music, the whole human race would be poorer. By the same token, I don't think there is anyone who liked or respected fascism, but that distaste certainly did not imply a dislike, let alone hate, for Italy's art, literature, music or its peoples.

We live (or used to live?) in a country where academics and others are free to express their opinion and not to have to worry about facing repercussions for their freedom of expression and peaceful dissent. I have expressed my distaste for Zionism, like all other forms of governance leading to racial discrimination, illegalities and apartheid. I have published my research in peer reviewed and respectable European and Canadian presses, and I remain grateful to those who, like Ed, helped me with information to strengthen my arguments.

It is ludicrous to accuse Ed Corrigan of racially based discrimination, when his whole effort through his list serve, is to provide information about the terrible effects of that crime.

Sincerely,



Laura Westra, Ph.D., Ph.D.(Law)  
Professor Emerita (Philosophy) University of Windsor  
Sessional Instructor, Faculty of Law  
Sessional Instructor, Faculty of Law, University of Milano (Bicocca)  
Sessional Instructor, Graduate Faculty of Environmental Studies, Royal Roads University

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voice: 905 303-8181  
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GEIG: [www.globalecointegrity.net](http://www.globalecointegrity.net)

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NOV 18 2011

150  
University  
of Windsor

thinking forward

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

After my return to Osgoode Hall Law School to pursue further studies and research on the effects of globalized power, the role of states (especially powerful Western nations and alliances) became increasingly clear. In the decade after the events at 9/11 both real and misleading information about what happened and what followed appeared to be everywhere.

As well, the power of those states extended everywhere in the world, and the harms imposed on vulnerable people were the culmination of global imperialism, pursued with almost total impunity (see my *Globalization, Violence, and World Governance*, Brill, 2011). I became convinced that the illegal and incorrectly named "war on terror" and the measures dubbed "counter terrorism" were nothing but forms of terrorism, perpetrated by states.

I am very grateful, for the copious research material received from numerous sources, to the lawyers in the Law Union of Ontario (especially Ed Corrigan), to the members of the organization Science for Peace (especially Edwin Daniel), and to my son Richard Westra.

As always, the help of Diane Rooke, law librarian at Osgoode Hall Law School was foundational to this work, and the thorough and understanding copy-editing of Hamish Ironside ensured the completion of the book in a timely manner. Heartfelt gratitude once again to Luc Quenneville for his outstanding technical assistance. Finally, thanks are due to Richard Falk, whose work, and especially his encouragement at his recent talk in Toronto, provided both inspiration and direction.



Toronto Small Claims Court  
Toronto Courthouse  
47 Sheppard Avenue East  
Toronto, ON M2N 5N1  
Canada

November 18, 2011

*Edward C. Corrigan v. Will Hechter*

To Whom It May Concern:

I write this letter in support of Edward C. Corrigan, who has been wrongly accused of using anti-semitic language.

The charge of anti-semitism is an extremely serious matter which, as a Jewish American woman, I do not take lightly. Anti-semitism still exists and, sadly, probably always will. My father's family escaped the pogroms in Europe, so I know what true anti-semitism is. I have worked on issues of peace education and justice for over seventeen years. I understand the need to be ever vigilant against all forms of bigotry and racism, including anti-semitism.

I have known Mr. Corrigan for over ten years through the Intelligent Minds listserv and have never seen him write or support anything that could remotely be deemed anti-semitic. In fact, while we invite all members to discuss various topics from their different perspectives no form of bigotry is ever tolerated on the list. In fact, when members join, they agree to keep discussions civil and respectful.

Please consider Mr. Corrigan's long history of promoting human rights. He applies the same standard of right and wrong to all situations, regardless of the specifics. I do not consider criticizing the government of Israel (or individual Israelis) as being anti-semitic if their actions warrant criticism. I support basic human rights for all people, no matter their religion or nationality. I believe that Mr. Corrigan does as well and the idea that Mr. Corrigan is an anti-semite is outrageous.

Sincerely,

Alta Schwartz  
Intelligent Minds Moderator

Atlanta, Georgia, USA  
[schwale@gmail.com](mailto:schwale@gmail.com)

Sent via email

Toronto Small Claims Court  
Toronto Courthouse  
47 Sheppard Ave. East  
Toronto ON M2N 5N1 CANADA

November 19, 2011

Re: Edward C. Corrigan v. Will Hechter, Docket No. SC-11-117399-00

Dear Sir or Madame,

In my experience with Mr. Corrigan (almost ten years), he has never expressed hostility toward those of the Jewish faith.

Mr. Corrigan, like myself and many others worldwide who concerned about the rights of Palestinian people, has spoken out about the injustices that they face on a daily basis. Unfortunately in Western countries, including the U.S and Canada, supporters of Israel have and continue to use the charge of Anti-Semitism to silence the voices of those who are openly critical of the Israeli government's actions in the Middle East.

The strategy of equating criticism of Israel's actions with anti-Semitism is one that has been recently employed by its supporters, not only to close discussion or debate, but also to marginalize or delegitimize those who have chosen to speak out in support of Palestinian causes.

To understand the impact of this strategy one not need look much further that the reaction to former President Carter's book "Peace not Apartheid" or President Obama's decision to veto several United Nations Resolutions including a recognition of Palestinian statehood and the Palestinian Bid to Halt Israeli Settlements (violation of U.N Resolution 446 which concerns the issue of Israeli settlements in the Arab territories that have been occupied by Israel since 1967, including Jerusalem).

Mr. Hechter's characterization of Ed Corrigan as anti-Semitic appears to be yet another attempt to silence criticism of Israel's policies!

Sincerely,

Timothy Stinson  
Delray Beach, Florida

Intelligent Minds Moderator  
Via Email

# The Belew Law Firm

1150 Connecticut Avenue, NW  
Suite 900  
Washington, DC 20036

Toronto Small Claims Court  
Toronto Courthouse  
47 Sheppard Ave. East  
Toronto ON M2N 5N1  
Canada

November 19, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I have recently become aware that my colleague Ed Corrigan has been accused of being anti-Jewish. I find these allegations to be preposterous.

I have come to know Ed through his regular cogent and valuable postings to an Internet discussion group devoted to public affairs. While he is critical of some policies and actions of the government of Israel, as am I, I cannot believe -and have not heard in these postings - that these views are based on antipathy to the Jewish faith or people.

Indeed, Ed is one of the most well informed and balanced of the participants in the group. As a fellow attorney, I respect his keen analysis and well-reasoned arguments.

In law school and in logic we are taught that the *ad hominem* argument is faulty and points to the lack of substantive grounds on which to base criticism. In this case, the effectiveness of Ed's analysis has led his antagonists to resort to this fallacious ploy.

With best regards

Wendell Belew, Esq.  
Washington, DC

Intelligent Minds Moderator  
Sent via electronic mail

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**From:** Jean's Art <lujean6333@gmail.com>  
**Date:** Sun, 20 Nov 2011 21:33:58 -0500  
**Subject:** Re: Ed Corrigan

Toronto Small Claims Court  
Toronto Courthouse  
47 Sheppard Ave. East  
Toronto ON M2N 5N1  
Canada

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

My name is Lujean Rogers. I live in Florida.

I have belonged to a group, "Intelligent Minds," made up of many well informed, well educated people from many areas of the world.

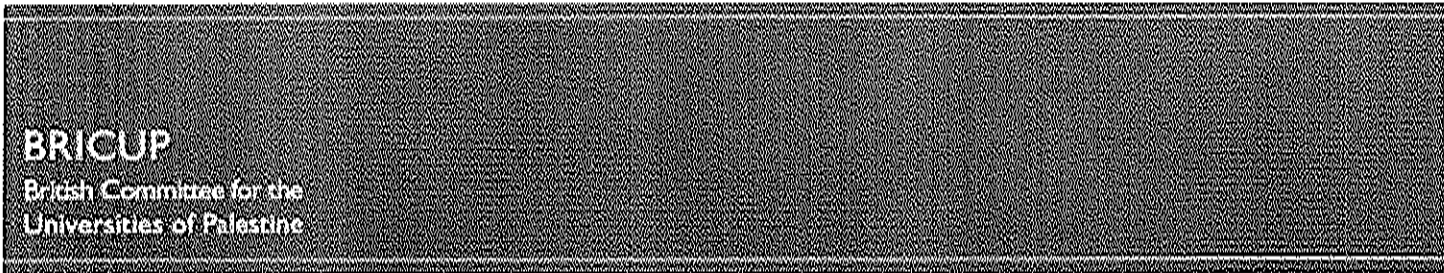
As a member, I have read many comments from many members, including Attorney Ed Corrigan. I have never read anything of his, sent to members, that is in any way anti-Semitic as that term is used. In fact, I was surprised to hear that he was being singled out like that.

I am concerned about freedom of speech in the United States and elsewhere. I am shocked that Ed is being attacked! It is a threat to all of us and cannot stand. So many freedoms are being threatened!

I hope that Ed is soon clear of this threat.

Sincerely,  
Lujean Rogers

Tampa, Florida  
Via e-mail



20 November 2011

Dear Ed Corrigan

I write on behalf of the British Committee for the Universities of Palestine (BRICUP), as the committee has requested me to do.

My organisation is formed of academics concerned about the effects on university education in Palestine resulting from the Israeli Occupation, and the many oppressive policies which spring from it. BRICUP is a working group rather than a membership organisation, though we do have some 500 registered supporters.

Rather over 40% of the members of inner group of BRICUP are Jewish. This is not due to any deliberate policy; I infer that this Jewish representation results from the rather natural concern among Jews that the Israeli government and its supporters frequently claim to be speaking, and acting, on behalf of all Jews everywhere.

BRICUP has been involved in organising meetings, speaking at debates, and publishing written and web-based material about Israeli policies, with special concern about their impact on Palestinian universities and students. We do find a repetitive pattern of *ad hominem* responses from supporters of Israeli policies, asserting that our arguments are, at the very least, tainted with anti-semitism. This strategy is pursued with great energy and indeed aggression. We experience this as an attempt to shut down debate, and in particular to avoid needing to address the substance of our arguments. The British university teachers union UCU, with a membership over one hundred thousand, has received and is currently receiving similar treatment.

Both BRICUP, and the UCU (of which I am a member) have an absolute commitment against racism of any kind, of which anti-semitism is one strand. There are some individuals, though very few in the UK, who engage in pro-Palestinian activities from an anti-semitic motivation. We are active in contesting their attempts to spread such ideas, as are other mainstream groups supporting self-determination for Palestine.

An accusation of racism in general or anti-semitism in particular is a grave one to make. It attempts to disseminate a slur both on the personal character and the political stance of the target individual. It is therefore particularly to be deplored that many committed pro-Israel individuals and organisations engage so readily in widespread and irresponsible accusations of this kind.

Your standing as a supporter of human rights internationally, and by no means only for the Palestinians, is well known to us. We are happy to offer you our support in your challenge to the far-fetched accusation of anti-semitism against you. Criticism of how Israel comports itself is not *per se* anti-semitic – indeed I believe it is actually in an honourable Jewish tradition.

Yours sincerely

(Professor) Jonathan Rosenhead  
Please reply to: BRICUP, BM BRICUP, London WC1N3XX  
email: [bricup@bricup.org.uk](mailto:bricup@bricup.org.uk)  
[www.bricup.org.uk](http://www.bricup.org.uk)

Valparaiso University School of Law  
656 S. Greenwich Street  
Valparaiso, Indiana 46383-4945

November 22, 2011

Toronto Small Claims Court  
Toronto Courthouse  
47 Sheppard Ave. East  
Toronto ON M2N 5N1 CANADA

Re: *Edward C. Corrigan v. Will Hechter*, Docket No. SC-11-117399-00

Your Honour:

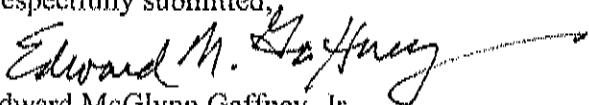
I am pleased to write as a witness to the good character of the plaintiff in this libel action. I offer the Court three reasons for my doing so.

1. For many years I have known of Mr. Corrigan's sterling commitment as a lawyer to rigorous honesty, accuracy, and clarity. It is imperative that the Court should not allow persons like the defendant to sully a lawyer's reputation as groundlessly as he did in the manner described in the Complaint.

2. As a professor of international law and the use of force, I read extensively about the conflict that has divided Israelis and Palestinians for over sixty years. Mr. Corrigan is, of course, well aware that people in both communities and in leadership positions in my country have frequently missed opportunities for the transformation of this conflict. Mr. Corrigan has consistently advocated a resolution of the conflict that is just and fair to both sides. The defendant's false characterization of Corrigan as "anti-Jewish" or "anti-Semitic" is a desperate attempt to silence legitimate criticism and to shift attention away from thoughtful advocacy of evenhanded justice. The defendant is free to urge the maintenance of troubled relationships between Israelis and Palestinians, but he is not free to slander Corrigan or others for urging their fellow Canadians to support an evenhanded policy encouraging both parties to reach an accord they can live with. In short, Corrigan is entitled as a matter of constitutional principle to argue that to prolong the status quo in the Middle East not only endangers the security of Israel and the well-being of Palestinians, but also threatens regional and global peace. Corrigan does not maintain that all human conflicts will cease to exist if the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is successfully resolved. Like a growing number of astute commentators on the Middle East, however, Corrigan realizes that on-going failure to reach a resolution of this conflict impedes the capacity of Canada to protect its interests in peaceful resolution of other conflicts. To tolerate the defendant's baseless slander of Corrigan offends against the Canadian Charter of Rights and Liberties, section 2, and degrades the quality of robust and vigorous speech necessary for a democracy to thrive.

3. I also write as a Christian engaged for over forty years in efforts to improve relations between Catholics and Jews. I am painfully aware of numerous libels or unjust accusations perpetrated against Jews for centuries by my fellow Christians, and I wholeheartedly reject all such libels—from the false charge of deicide in the fourth century to the bogus Protocols of Zion—as outrageously false ways of expressing contempt for an entire group. By the same token, I also object to slanders against Canadians such as Mr. Corrigan, who must be free to offer respectful criticism of political decisions made by the government of Israel at various times. To deny this basic freedom to non-Jews is as reprehensible as it would be to deny the same freedom to Jews. Diminution of civil liberties on the basis of religion degrades the very possibility of a mature conversation on controversial topics by people of all faiths and of none.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward McGlynn Gaffney, Jr.  
Professor of Law