

BAY AREA WOMEN IN BLACK

*This Holiday Season, Let's
Give the Gift of Peace and Justice*



What's on your gift list this holiday season? Do you know that profits from what you purchase today may be applied to the expansion of illegal Israeli settlements and the persecution and displacement of Palestinians? **Bay Area Women in Black** and friends encourage you to avoid buying products from corporations that profit from and perpetuate Israel's brutal occupation of Palestine (see other side).

Recognizing that the international boycott against the apartheid government of South Africa resulted in the dismantling of its racist policies, **Bay Area Women in Black** joins with the **Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions National Committee of Palestine** and the international human rights community in their call for boycott to end the practices of the military government of Israel, including land and water theft and ethnic cleansing.

We also call for an end to US aid to Israel until it ends its occupation of Palestinian land – ongoing now for 67 years. Despite its prosperity and high standards of living, Israel is currently the largest total recipient of US foreign aid since World War II, some of it going to Israel's \$2 billion a year nuclear industry and even to aiding the US in militarizing its urban police. Since 2012, the United States has been giving Israel \$3.1 billion a year (or an average of \$10.2 million a day) and is considering increased military aid through 2018. At the same time as our tax dollars flow so lavishly to support Israel's human rights violations, we in the US are threatened with deeper cuts in Education, Health and Human Services, and Housing and Urban Development.

Black Lives Matter activists in the US have allied themselves with the people of Palestine, stating that they "wholeheartedly endorse Palestinian civil society's 2005 call for ... BDS against Israel and call on Black and US institutions and organizations to do the same. We urge people of conscience to recognize the struggle for Palestinian liberation as a key matter of our time."

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A Few Products to Avoid and Reasons to Avoid Them, *plus a few victories**

AHAVA beauty products are made in the illegal West Bank settlement of Mitzpe Shalem, using minerals from the Dead Sea. Israel prohibits Palestinians from accessing this area. **Abigail Disney renounced her shares of Ahava – the National Cathedral (DC) Gift Shop removed Ahava products – Costco has stopped selling Ahava.*

HEWLETT PACKARD (HP) owns Electronic Data Systems and the Basel system, providing biometrical technology to control Palestinians at Israel's West Bank and Gaza checkpoints.

L'ORÉAL uses minerals from the Dead Sea (area prohibited to Palestinians). L'Oréal Israel's factory is in Migdal Haemek, established on lands belonging to the Palestinian village of al-Mujayhdil, whose original inhabitants are denied the right to return to their homes.

MOTOROLA supplies Israel with surveillance systems around settlements, checkpoints, and military camps in the West Bank.

SABRA HUMMUS is half-owned by Strauss Group, which supports the Golani Brigade, UN-documented violators of human rights. **Businesses in Boston, Brooklyn, and Chicago have stopped selling Sabra.*

SODASTREAM makes carbonation devices and flavorings in its plant in Mishor Adumim Industrial Park, part of the illegal settlement of Maale Adumim, built on land taken from Palestinian villages Abu Dis, al-Eizariya, Al-Issawiya, At-Tur and 'Anata. **Soros, TIAA-CREF and Earth Day Network have divested from SodaStream – Scarlet Johansson no longer pushes SodaStream.*

Actions

Contact the President: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

Contact the Secretary of State: <http://contact-us.state.gov/app/answers/list>

Contact your U.S. Senators (California)

Barbara Boxer: <http://boxer.senate.gov/en/contact/policycomments.cfm>

Dianne Feinstein: <https://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/e-mail-me>

Find your Congressional Representatives: <http://www.govtrack.us/congress/members/CA>

Encourage your academic institution to stop investing in illegal occupation. **Student governments at five of the 10 UC campuses have voted for divestment.*

Urge your favorite entertainers to cancel gigs in apartheid Israel, following the example of Snoop Dogg, Lauren Hill, Cassandra Wilson, and Stevie Wonder.

More Information

<http://www.whoprofits.org>

<http://www.blackforpalestine.com>

<http://www.bdsmovement.net/bdsintro>

<http://www.ifamericansknew.org/stat/usaid.html>

<http://www.endtheoccupation.org/article.php?id=4503>

<http://www.timesofisrael.com/bds-push-gains-traction-at-us-colleges>

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/nov/09/obama-netanyahu-us-visit-military-aid-israel>

<http://thefreethoughtproject.com/u-s-police-routinely-travel-israel-learn-methods-brutality-repression>

<http://www.ampalestine.org/index.php/key-topics/us-aid-to-israel/626-us-aid-to-israel-2015-fact-sheet>