

Bay Area Women in Black



Bay Area Women in Black, a group of Jewish feminists and allies, stands in solidarity with Jerusalem Women in Black, who have held a silent vigil weekly for 14 years to protest the Israeli occupation and settlement of the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem. We also stand in solidarity with the more than 150 Women in Black vigils all over the world in protest against all forms of violence, oppression and injustice. Women in Black of Jerusalem and Serbia have been nominated for the 2001 Nobel Peace Prize.

Bay Area Women in Black calls for an end to the Israeli Occupation of Palestinian land—the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem. During the course of the second Palestinian intifada (uprising) over the past year, the Israeli government has responded with disproportionate and devastating force. The army has besieged cities and towns, severely curtailed Palestinians' freedom of movement, depriving them of their livelihood and delaying their access to needed medical services, demolished homes, and destroyed thousands of fruit trees

While Palestinian violence is to be deplored and all terrorism is inhumane and abhorrent, it is the Israeli Occupation and illegal building of settlements on Palestinian territory that is the foundation of the violence on both sides.

As Jews and allies, we protest the violence and injustice being done in our names. As American citizens, we have been dismayed to see our government support the policies of the Sharon government, which is clearly opposed to the just peace for which we stand.

BAWIB mourns the loss of life caused by organized violence—terrorism, collective punishment, militarism, force of arms, and coerced movement of populations—to resolve conflicts between nations and peoples.

BAWIB supports the peacemakers all over the world, including those in Israel and Palestine, who work against such difficult odds to move their governments and their societies toward just peace and genuine coexistence.

BAWIB affirms the covenant of Israel and Palestine as a land of promise for both peoples. We embrace the historic compromise of the Palestinian people and the Jewish people in accepting the 1967 border as the border between the State of Palestine and the State of Israel. We embrace the efforts of individuals and organizations on both sides of this violently contentious border to reach out to one another and work together to promote a non-violent resolution to this ancient conflict.

BAWIB has initiated a black ribbon campaign to symbolize our opposition to the Israeli Occupation. Show your support for the lives and futures of the peoples of Israel and Palestine by joining us in this visibly powerful action.

For resources and information, contact: BayAreaWomenInBlack@earthlink.net

Bay Area Women in Black
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There are other Women in Black groups in the Bay Area. Berkeley Women in Black stand every Friday from Noon-1:00 P.M. at Bancroft and Telegraph. San Francisco Women in Black stand the first Friday of every month, 5:00-6:00 P.M. at Montgomery and Market. The latter is women only.

THE BLACK RIBBON CAMPAIGN