

# BAY AREA WOMEN IN BLACK

Today we vigil to remember and mourn all the dead of Sept. 11, 2001, both those who died that day and those who have since been killed as a result of the U.S. response to the attacks. Immediately after the attacks of 9/11, the world mourned with us. But since then, our government has managed to turn the sympathy of the world to anger and resentment of the U.S.:

**The U.S. and Afghanistan:** Thousands of Afghans have died and continue to die as a result of the U.S. government's failure to help rebuild Afghanistan. We reject our government's policy of war and occupation in Afghanistan as lawless and violent. The appropriate response in Afghanistan would have been to focus on the perpetrators of the 9/11 attack and not on the country from which they came.

**The U.S. and Iraq:** We are outraged by the Bush administration's war on and occupation of Iraq. We reject the distortion of grief and fear into violent war against a country that did not pose a threat to us. The official death toll of U.S. military personnel in this war has reached over a thousand, and the Iraqi deaths, including many civilians and children, are over ten thousand. We grieve the deaths in and from both countries.

**The U.S. role in Israel and Palestine:** As American Jews and allies, we acknowledge that our government is the prime supporter of Israel's destruction of Palestinian lives, homes, economy, and mobility. We lament the continuing deaths in Israel and Palestine. We oppose the violence of individual terrorism and state-sponsored assassination. We continue wholeheartedly to oppose the Israeli occupation of Palestinian lands.

**WHAT CAN EACH OF YOU DO?  
VOTE AS IF YOUR LIFE DEPENDED ON IT. IT DOES.**

In collaboration with the National Women's Political Caucus, East Bay NOW, Access/Women's Health Rights Coalition and East Bay Votes! Bay Area Women in Black is targeting fitness centers, health clubs, yoga studios, beauty salons and nail parlors, and other sites women frequent to insure that the 22 million single women who didn't vote in the last presidential election become a part of the political process, not only in the "swing" states, but throughout our country.

Visit [www.oebnow.org](http://www.oebnow.org) to see suggested places and times.  
Visit [www.onevotefilm.org](http://www.onevotefilm.org) to view and download a five minute video  
for use in your registration efforts.

*This project will continue through October 14th.*

[www.bayareawomeninblack.org](http://www.bayareawomeninblack.org)

## Mourner's Kaddish

The kaddish prayer is recited during an eleven month-long mourning period. It has no mention of death, but is a testimony of faith made in the face of loss and of the uncertainties of life. The theme of the Kaddish urges us to work for a better world, for the establishment of peace in our hearts, and in the world around us.

*Yitgadal v'yitkadash shmei raba. B'alma di vra khirutey v'yamlikh malkhutey  
b'heyeikhon uv'yomeikhon uv'hayeit d'khol beit Yisrael, ba'agala u'vizman kavir v'imru: amen.  
Yehei shmei raba m'varach le'olam v'lalmei almayah.  
Yitbarakh v'yishtabah v'yitpa'ar v'yitromam v'yitnasei v'yithadar v'yitaleh v'yithalal shmei'd'kudsha b'rikh hu.leila  
u-leila min kol birkhata v'shirata tushbehata  
v'nehemata da'amiran b'alma v'imru: amen  
Y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'maya, v'hayim aleinu v'alkol Yisrael, v'imru: amen  
Oseh shalom bimromav, hu ya'aseh shalom aleinu, v'al kol Yisrael, v'al kol Yishmael v'al kol ha'olam, v'imru: amen.*

Let us make the Great Name known. Let us make the Great Name holy. Let the Name fill this world, formed by its will. may the earth be its realm. may it fill our lives and days. May it spread through all Israel, swiftly and soon. And let us say Amen. May the Great Name bless and be blessed as long as the universe lasts. Let the Name be praised, glorified, strong, lifted up, bathed in beauty, ascend in joy, be praised in song. Blessed be the Name. And yet the holy that we can name is far beyond all blessings, songs of praise, prayers of glory, all words that we utter in this world. So let us chant our praise, then cease, and say Amen. May the one who creates peace in the heavens, make peace on earth, on Israel, on Ishmael, and on all the world and let us say: Amen.

## Mission Statement

BAY AREA WOMEN IN BLACK, a group of Jewish feminists and allies, stands in solidarity with Israeli Women in Black who have held vigils weekly since 1988 to protest the Israeli occupation of the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem, and to mourn the Israeli and Palestinian lives that have been lost.

We call for:

- An end to the Israeli Occupation and the evacuation of the Jewish settlements on Palestinian land.
- Reduction in economic aid by the amount Israel spends on maintaining the settlements.
- The establishment of an independent Palestinian state alongside the state of Israel on the basis of the 1967 borders.
- Jerusalem as the shared capitol of both states.
- A just solution to the needs of Palestinian refugees, based on a negotiated combination of compensation and return taking the needs and concerns of Israelis and Palestinians into consideration.
- United Nations protection of Palestinian and Israeli civilians.
- Israeli and Palestinian women active in the leadership of all negotiations leading toward a cease-fire and a peace settlement.