We are Reform Jews Who Want the Reform Movement to Stand with Israel

The Union for Reform Judaism’s nominee for President, Rabbi Richard Jacobs, does not represent the pro-Israel policies cherished by Reform Jews. He does not represent us.

Rabbi Jacobs serves on J Street’s Rabbinic Cabinet.

He told The Jewish Week, "I support the goals and visions of J Street." J Street consistently takes positions hostile to Israel. It opposed Iran sanctions, supported Goldstone and opposed the US veto of the UN Security Council condemnation of Israel. Rabbi Eric Yoffie, our current president, called J Street’s position on the Gaza offensive “morally deficient, profoundly out of touch with Jewish sentiment and also appallingly naive.”

Rabbi Jacobs serves on the board of The New Israel Fund.

During the time that Rabbi Jacobs has been on the board of The New Israel Fund, it has supported organizations that were loudly critical of Israel, were in the forefront of the lawfare campaign against Israel and which were involved in the boycott, divestment and sanctions (BDS) movement against Israel. While not supporting global BDS against Israel, Rabbi Jacobs will not exclude supporting BDS selectively.

In contrast, Rabbi Yoffie in criticizing the Ariel boycott, said, “But, please, no boycotts. Israel’s enemies don’t need any help.” ARZA, the Zionist arm of the Reform Movement, has started a campaign to educate Reform Jews about the BDS movement’s attempt to delegitimize and brand Israel an apartheid state.

Rabbi Jacobs joined the Sheikh Jarrah demonstrations in Jerusalem.

We question his judgment in associating himself with a group that the Jewish Agency condemns for "opposing the idea of Israel as a Jewish homeland and promoting an anti-Zionist agenda." The Sheikh Jarrah Movement describes its own actions as victories against the “’cowardly Zionists’ perpetrating an ‘apartheid state’ and ‘ethnic cleansing in Jerusalem’.”

We call on the Union for Reform Judaism to reconsider this divisive appointment. Do not drive mainstream Zionist Jews out of the Reform movement.

Paid for by: JADL, Jews Against Divisive Leadership

Contact us at: jadl@comcast.net

Committee in Formation