

Gender Studies Departments In Solidarity With Palestinian Feminist Collective

Signed by [Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality at the University of Chicago](#),
with [link to its institutional web page](#), [link here signature at end of document](#)

We stand in solidarity with the people of Palestine. We unequivocally answer and amplify the call from the Palestinian Feminist Collective for “feminists everywhere to speak up, organize, and join the struggle for Palestinian liberation.” We condemn the forced removal of Palestinians from their homes in **Sheikh Jarrah**, the raiding of the al-Aqsa mosque, the indiscriminate bombing of **Gaza**, one of the world’s most densely populated areas, and the de facto annexation of East Jerusalem, which by international law is **illegally occupied territory**. Israeli settlers, with the support of Israeli police and military forces, are taking over streets, invading homes, and brutalizing Palestinians. This right wing, ethnonationalist violence is often accompanied with the vile chant “Death to Arabs.” We do not subscribe to a “both sides” rhetoric that erases the military, economic, media, and global power that Israel has over Palestine. This is not a “conflict” that is too “**controversial and complex**” to assess. Israel is using violent force, punitive bureaucracy, and the legal system to expel Palestinians from their rightful homes and to remove Palestinian people from their land. Israeli law systematically discriminates against Palestinian citizens of Israel. Illegal Israeli settlements choke and police Palestinian communities, and Palestinians are **cut off from each** other by a network of checkpoints, laws, settler-only highways, and a separation wall that swallows illegally occupied Palestinian land. Both **Human Rights Watch** and **B’Tselem** have concluded that Israeli policies and practices towards Palestinians amount to apartheid.

As gender studies departments in the United States, we are the proud benefactors of decades of feminist anti-racist, and anti-colonial activism that informs the foundation of our interdiscipline. In 2015 the **National Women’s Studies Association** wrote that our work is “committed to an inclusive feminist vision that is in solidarity with Indigenous peoples and sovereignty rights globally, that challenges settler colonial practices, and that contests violations of civil rights and international human rights law, military occupation and militarization, including the criminalization of the U.S. borders, and myriad forms of dispossession.” We center global social justice in our intersectional teaching, scholarship, and organizing. From Angela Davis we understand that justice is indivisible; we learn this lesson time and again from Black, Indigenous, Arab, and most crucially, Palestinian feminists, who know that “**Palestine is a Feminist Issue**.” In solidarity, we call for the end of Israel’s military occupation of Palestine and for the Palestinian **right to return** to their homes. As residents, educators, and feminists who are also against the

settler colonialism of the U.S., we refuse to normalize or accept the United States' financial, military, diplomatic and political role in Palestinian dispossession. Furthermore, we will not tolerate any censorship or retribution against Palestinian scholars, activists, and those openly critical of the Israeli state. We join a vibrant, vast, and growing international solidarity community, composed of those raising their voices in support of Palestinian's right to freedom, return, safety, flourishing, and self-determination.

May 15th marked the 73rd anniversary of the **Nakba**, an ongoing ethnic cleansing of Palestine that drove over **750,000** Palestinians out of their homes, villages, and cities between the years 1947-1949. Today the vast majority of these Palestinians and their descendants are refugees in bordering countries and in the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem. Palestinians have been resisting settler colonialism for more than one hundred years. We hail the fortitude and determination of the Palestinian people, who remain, despite the fragmentation of their populations, united in their demands to end their oppression.

Please tweet and post the solidarity statement from your department social media accounts with the hashtag **#PalestineisaFeministIssue**

Endorsed By:

Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, Rutgers University New Brunswick

Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Rutgers University Newark

Department of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Department of Feminist Studies, University of California Santa Cruz

Department of Gender and Women's Studies, University of California Berkeley

Department of Feminist Studies, University of California, Santa Barbara

Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Stony Brook University

Gender and Women's Studies Program, University of Illinois Chicago

Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies, University of California, Irvine

Program in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Winona State University

Program in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Connecticut

Department of Gender Studies, University of California, Los Angeles

Women's, Gender, & Sexuality Studies Program, Yale University

Women's and Gender Studies Program, Mount Royal University (Calgary, Treaty 7, Canada)

Department of Gender and Women's Studies, University of Arizona
Program of Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies, Colby College
Women's and Gender Studies, University of Regina, Canada
The Harriet Tubman Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Maryland
The Center and Program in Gender, Sexuality & Women's Studies, University of Pennsylvania
Program in Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Stanford University
Department of Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies, University of Massachusetts Amherst
Department of Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Scripps College
Women's and Gender Studies Program, University of Toronto/Mississauga
Program in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Washington State University
Department of Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, University of Washington Seattle
Department of Gender Studies, Queens University. Kingston, ON Canada (Traditional Lands of the Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples)
Gender Studies Program, University of Notre Dame
Feminist, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, Wesleyan University
Women's Studies Program, Langara College, Musqueam Territory / Vancouver
Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Barnard College, Columbia University
Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Oregon State University
Women's & Gender Studies Program, Southern Connecticut State University
Program in Gender and Women's studies at Pomona College
Colorado College Feminist and Gender Studies Program
Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
Program in Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies, Williams College
Department of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Cincinnati
Women and Gender Studies Program at Saint Mary's University, Halifax, Canada
Susan B Anthony Institute of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, University of Rochester
African Feminist Initiative, Penn State University
Department of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Ohio State University
Institute for Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Georgia State University
Study of Women and Gender Studies Program, Dominican University
Women's and Gender Studies Department at SUNY Oneonta
University of California San Diego Critical Gender Studies Program

Women's and Gender Studies Program, Northern Arizona University

Women's and Gender Studies Program, Wheaton College, Massachusetts

Women's and Gender Studies program, University of Michigan - Dearborn

Hamilton College Department of Women's and Gender Studies

Critical Theory & Social Justice Department, Occidental College

Women and Gender Studies Institute, University of Toronto

Gender Studies and Feminist Research Graduate Program, McMaster University, Canada

Gender and Political Violence Faculty Working Group at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA

Gender & Women's Studies Program, Le Moyne College

Department of Women's Studies at San Diego State University

The Department of Gender, Sexuality, and Women's Studies, University of California, Davis

Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Santa Clara University

Department of Gender and Sexuality Studies, University of Southern California

Women's and Gender Studies, Sul Ross State University

Women's and Gender Studies Program, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada

School of Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies, York University, Canada

Race, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, Butler University

Program in Gender and Intersectional Analysis Program at the Fletcher School, Tufts University USA

Georgetown University Gender+ Justice Initiative

Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's and Gender Studies, Carleton University

Women's and Gender Studies Program at William Paterson University of NJ

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department at California State University, Long Beach

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program at Mills College

Department of Gender & Women's Studies, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Feminist Media Studio, Concordia University

Department of Gender, Women's, and Sexuality Studies, University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC)

Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Loyola Marymount University

Gender, Sexuality and Women's Studies at College of the Holy Cross

Institute of Feminist and Gender Studies, University of Ottawa

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, University of North Carolina Greensboro

Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Syracuse University

Gender & Social Justice Program, University of Waterloo, Canada

Department of Race, Gender, Sexuality and Social Justice, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada

Institute for Research on Women, Gender, and Sexuality, Columbia University

Department of Gender & Women's Studies, University of Wisconsin—Madison

Department of Ethnic & Gender Studies, Westfield State University

Institute of Feminist and Gender Studies, University of Ottawa, Ottawa Canada

Department of Women's and Gender Studies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

The New School Gender and Sexualities Studies

The Program in Gender, Sexuality & Feminist Studies, Middlebury College

Women and Gender Studies, Hunter College/CUNY

The Gender Studies Program at the John Jay College-City University of New York

Women's Studies, California State University, Dominguez Hills

Texas Christian University Women and Gender Studies Department

Women's, Gender & Queer Studies Department, California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Program in Gender and Sexuality Studies at Bates College

Department of Women & Gender Studies, University of Lethbridge, Canada

Gender, Race, and Sexuality Studies program of Lesley University

Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality, University of Virginia

Department of Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies at University of Massachusetts Boston

Women's and Gender Studies Department, Sonoma State University

Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program, University of New Mexico

Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Kansas

Women's and Gender Studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee

Georgetown University Women's and Gender Studies Program

Gender and Sexuality Studies Program, Bryn Mawr College

Department of Women's and Gender Studies at California State University, Sacramento

Boston University Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Program

Gender, Women, & Sexuality Studies, Occidental College

Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies, Duke University

Department of Women's and Gender Studies, Merrimack College

Gender Studies, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, Canada

Gender Studies Program, Skidmore College, New York

Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality at the University of Chicago

Simone de Beauvoir Institute, Concordia University

Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies Department at The College of New Jersey

Program for the Study of Women and Gender (SWG) at Smith College

University of Nebraska at Omaha Women's and Gender Studies Program

Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, Washington University in St. Louis

Institute for Gender and Women's Studies, American University in Cairo

Their signature contains a
link to the U of C Gender
Studies web site

Associations and Chapters:

National Women's Studies Association

Feminist Geographies Specialty Group of the American Association of Geographers

Feminists for Justice in/for Palestine Interest Section, National Women's Studies Association

Centers:

Center for Race and Gender, University of California Berkeley

Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality, New York University

Center for the Study of Women, University of California, Los Angeles

Center for the Study of Women, Gender, and Sexuality at Rice University

Pembroke Center for Teaching and Research on Women at Brown University

Feminist Autonomous Centre for Research

Gender and Sexuality Equity Center, College of Charleston

Centre for Interdisciplinary Gender Studies (CIGS) in Leeds, UK

BiGS/Birkbeck Gender and Sexuality

Centre for Gender Studies, University of Stavanger, Norway

International Endorsements:

Centre for Gender Studies at SOAS, University of London

Instituto de Investigaciones de Estudios de Género, Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Gender Studies Programme, University of Iceland

Centre for Feminist Research, Goldsmiths, University of London

For Information from the Palestinian Feminist Collective and to sign a pledge, [go here](#):

Follow the Palestinian Feminist Collective [@PalFeminist](#)

To add your department, program, institute, or center, contact: solidaritygenderstudies@gmail.com

Please note, due to the overwhelming response we are only uploading names twice a day. Please be patient as we are stretched to capacity. Thank you.