

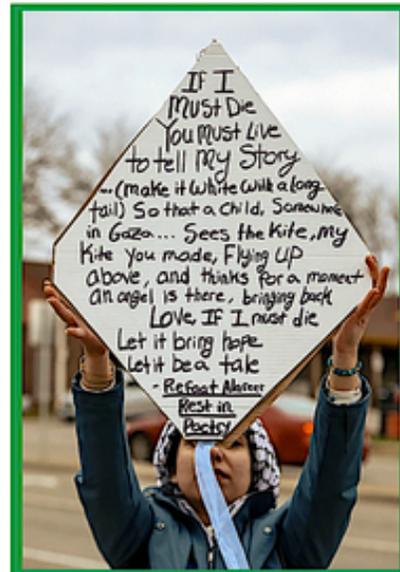
# SARAH LAWRENCE COALITION FOR PALESTINE

STUDENTS • FACULTY • STAFF • ALUMNI

## KITE

FROM KIMBALL

A newsletter from the  
**SARAH LAWRENCE COALITION  
FOR PALESTINE • VOLUME 5  
SPRING SEMESTER 2026**



VOL. 5 NO. 4 : MONDAY FEBRUARY 9, 2026

*Welcome to our weekly newsletter KITE, from  
the Sarah Lawrence Coalition for Palestine.*

*KITE is open to contributions from within and beyond our  
Sarah Lawrence community. If you or someone you know would like to contribute—an event*

*announcement, an event report, an opinion piece,  
a response to something we've published, a quote, a poem —  
please send to [sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.me](mailto:sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.me).*

*Copy deadline is Sundays at noon. Thank you.*

---

## Since our last newsletter:

- *Monday February 2* Norway suspends celebrated diplomat [Mona Juul](#) in Epstein probe. Her husband [Terje Roed Larsen](#) exposed asking Epstein in an email, "Have you heard the saying: when you meet an Indian and a snake, kill the Indian first!"

[Craig Mokhiber](#): "Mona Juul and Terje Roed Larsen, the Norwegian husband and wife team that were the architects of the disastrous Oslo process (which side-stepped international law, devastated Palestinian rights for three decades, and consolidated the Israel regime's unlawful position in Palestine), are revealed in the Epstein files as having close relations with (Mossad-adjacent Israel regime operative) Jeffrey Epstein, and taking personal loans from him, and their children were reportedly left \$10 Million in Epstein's will."

Israeli forces drop unknown chemicals on agricultural lands in southern Lebanon, UN peacekeeping force says. [AlJazeera](#)

Israeli forces blow up the Morag Water Station, which supplied water to roughly one third of Rafah's residents before October 2023. Soldiers captioned a posted video of the explosion: "We specialize in paint jobs and small renovations. DM for details." [Younis Tirawi](#)

Former Google employee has filed a confidential SEC whistleblower complaint alleging the company violated its own AI ethics rules by assisting an Israeli military contractor with analyzing drone surveillance footage in 2024, according to reporting by [The Washington Post](#).

• *Tuesday February 3* Researchers at Human Rights Watch Resign Over Blocked Report on Palestinian Refugee Return [JewishCurrents](#)

“What Happens to the Educators When the Schools Have Been Destroyed? Hamada Abu Layla spent 22 years earning three degrees from Gaza universities. Now they mock him from a garbage dump.” [Ismail Nofal](#)

“Before I leave, I see a boy running through the rubble, barefoot, laughing, a kite made from a plastic aid bag fluttering behind him. It catches the last light of the setting sun.

“For a second, it feels like color has returned.

“The street is broken, silent, waiting.

“But it refuses to die.” [Ali Skaik](#)

• *Wednesday February 4* “This morning, the Israeli army violated the ceasefire again in Gaza killing 10 Palestinian civilians including 4 children. One of the them was the 5 months old infant Saqer Hatou.” [Mustafa Barghouti](#)

Israel cancels travel coordination for the third group of medical patients scheduled to leave Gaza via the Rafah border crossing today. [GazaNotifications](#)

At least 18 Palestinians killed since last night in ongoing Israeli airstrikes across Gaza. [Maha Hussaini](#)

“It appears the ‘non-toxic’ chemical Israel dropped on Lebanon was ‘a very high concentration of the herbicide glyphosate.’ Cancer research institute linked to WHO classifies glyphosate as ‘probably carcinogenic to humans’ specifically linking it to non-Hodgkin lymphoma.” [Gabriel Elizondo](#)

Brandeis Center for Human Rights Under Law keeps Harvard law professor, Holocaust Museum trustee and board member Mitchell Webber, who emailed Epstein on the legality of transporting minors for sex. [Forward](#)

British jury acquits six Palestine Action activists who broke into Elbit, an Israeli arms factory, and destroyed quadcopter drones. They had been jailed since August 2024. The Filton 24 Defence Committee: “The jury understood that it is not those who destroy Israeli weapons which are guilty,

rather the guilty party is the one that deploys such weapons to commit genocide in Gaza." [ElectronicIntifada](#)

Israel has killed at least 89 Palestinians in Gaza in the last 5 days. Since the declaration of the 'ceasefire,' Israel has killed 559 Palestinians in Gaza. [B'Tselem](#)

- *Thursday February 5* Palestinians arrested by ICE are being flown to the West Bank, bound and shackled, on a private jet belonging to Israeli-American tycoon Gil Dezer. +972

Five martyrs were killed by the occupying forces' gunfire in the Gaza Strip since this morning. [Osama Abu Rabee](#)

The annihilation of the Kuwait Secondary School for Girls, next to the Indonesia Hospital, showcased by an Israeli engineering battalion among its "achievements" in the ongoing campaign to erase what remains of northern Gaza. [IsraelGenocideTracker](#)

- *Friday February 6* "Leaving this world in an age of lies and cruelty, my last message is simple: don't give up on truth." "Objectivity is not the same as neutrality. If there is an aggressor and a victim, a liar and an honest person, a corrupt individual and an honourable one, then your task is to describe all that clearly and forcefully. I'm sick of those who believe that being a journalist means reporting both sides' versions, without filters, without challenging their veracity, especially—and this is worse and all too common—when you know that one side isn't telling the truth." [Carlos Hernández](#)

- *Saturday February 7* Mediterranean dockworkers shut down over 20 ports in solidarity with Palestine. [TheCradle](#)

Reporters and international activists arrested while covering settler assaults. [PalestineChronicle](#)

- *Sunday February 8* Leqaa Kordia, arrested during a protest at Columbia in April 2024, was detained at a routine ICE check-in in March 2025. She's the only person who remains in detention from the

Columbia campus demonstrations. On February 6 she was [hospitalized](#), with no information shared with her family or legal team, and there is no record of her in any local hospital. [AlJazeera](#)

Israel's cabinet approves changes to land registration in the West Bank, allowing demolition of Palestinian homes, enabling settlement construction and continuing the process of annexation. [Ramy Abdul](#)

---

- 
- [March 27, 2025 letter from the House Committee on Education & Workforce to 5 colleges: Pomona, Bowdoin, Northwestern, Barnard, & Sarah Lawrence.](#)
  - [June 11, 2025 letter from the House Committee to Sarah Lawrence](#)
  - [August 5 lawsuit](#) filed by 10 Sarah Lawrence students & one faculty member against the College & the House Committee, to prevent shared attempts to equate anti-Zionism & anti-Semitism & to interfere with pro-Palestine anti-genocide protest.
- 



• FROM THE FACULTY & STAFF •

“Welcome to Sarah Lawrence.”

On Wednesday, January 28, Ezra Klein spoke at Sarah Lawrence, hosted by the president; students from SJP protested, acting on a sense of Klein that we of FSJP share: that he is an obfuscator, whose job

in the crisis since October 2023 has been to delay recognition of the unfolding Israeli genocide in Palestine, then to frame conflicts between those who sympathize with the state of Israel and those determined to resist it as differences between two opinions equally worthy of respect. He does his work in a voice with wide appeal, platformed by the *New York Times*, which in our view continues to publish propaganda vital to the genocide's continuance, from the [beginning](#) of this phase of the genocide to the [present](#).

Students briefly interrupted the event at its beginning, and continued to chant outside for its duration. As they stood outside the event's closed doors, they were met by what's become a customary pair at Sarah Lawrence when dealing with student protest, as long as it involves Israel and Palestine: the Dean of Students and the uniformed head of Campus Safety.

The day before Klein's appearance, a student on the "free speech board" insulted him, calling him a "Zionist pig"—which for us as well as for the students refers to (a) someone who is a Zionist, who may or may not be Jewish, who supports the state of Israel as it commits a genocide, and (b) in this moment of uniformed police terror of so many varieties, someone who polices. Of course not everyone who polices wears a uniform—and at Sarah Lawrence, we're seeing not policing of immigration status but policing of discourse. One difference between opinions expressed as interruptions of official events and opinions whose holders summon Campus Safety is that only one of those is backed by structural power.

When news of the protest made its way to Twitter, a contentious dialogue ensued; while some accounts chimed in to agree with early posts mocking and criticizing the Sarah Lawrence protest (one of the earliest was from the New York correspondent for the [Times of Israel](#)), more and more started to weigh in in defense of it. "Ezra Klein runs around affirming every single one of the atrocity propaganda lies Israel uses to justify its crimes," one account wrote, "while claiming he disagrees with the end product. It's a basic function of liberal Zionism that you're naively helping to facilitate here." Someone else: "Sorry is this Ezra 'Charlie Kirk did politics the right way' Klein or Ezra 'One reason I have stayed away from the word 'genocide' is that there is an imprecision at its heart' Klein?" Someone else: "You're still tone policing random protesters when there are daily pogroms in the West Bank? When there are hundreds of thousands of dead innocents in Gaza?" *Drop Site* News journalist [Alex Colston](#), who participated in the Sumud Flotilla to Gaza and was detained by the

Israeli army, wrote: "My view is that if you've never been brutalized by the state, you've never stood up for anything in the face of state or institutional violence and persecution, and you've made a living as a political commentator, you have no business condescending to protestors and organizers." The next day he was fired.

Alex Colston's boss was Ryan Grim, who has built bridges with Nazi-tattooed Blackwater mercenary Graham Platner ("If being angry as a young man disqualifies you from running for office later as a Democrat, Dems will have basically no men running"), *Bannon's War Room* intern Valerie Winters ("I think the media is badly underestimating her talent even if I disagree with lots of what she says") and Bannon himself ("The left can acknowledge and even applaud Steve Bannon's wing of MAGA when he's right about the oligarchs"), and called propagandist Chris Rufo's book "extraordinarily well done." Briahna Joy Gray addressed him: "Don Lemon arrested, historical numbers of Palestinian journalists killed, Hasan Piker censored, gulags being built by ICE, and you're mad at a guy who is mad at a NYT journalist who has spent the last months defending the honor of a racist ghoul who supported Trump's regime?"

[Writers Against the War on Gaza](#): "This is who they were protesting. This is what he was saying on his podcast on Nov. 10, 2023. Ezra Klein's critiques of 'Israel' are animated by concern for settler safety, and the students, who want justice for Palestinians in Gaza, are right to call him out for liberal Zionism." *Al Jazeera* journalist Sana Saeed: "Calling a group of Palestinian students who have faced university, media and state demonization and suppression in addition to experiencing the loss of their nation "CIA"—for rightfully protesting someone who has supported egregious domestic and foreign policies that have been detrimental to countless communities—is putting those students in danger. It also dismisses legitimate concerns about white liberal punditry that has propelled fascism in this country."

If we as an institution find ourselves divided on the question of whether to oppose a genocidal state, we could at least listen to our students, as messengers of the future. As former Sarah Lawrence Dean Barbara Kaplan said in our second issue of KITE, "We always thought that there was something in what they were saying. They were sometimes difficult to deal with, but there was something right in what they were saying, and we respected that...I guess we recognized that this was not just some disciplinary situation, no matter how it may have seemed. While it was upsetting, it was also an

expression of something that was important to students, an attempt to come to grips with social issues that were difficult for all of us...We might not have appreciated the tone of much of the discussion, but there was still something to respect."

"We curl into obedience in really quiet ways," writer and professor Felicia Denaud has said about the time in which we live. If we as an institution find it impossible to hear and respect what these students are saying, we could at least refrain from teaching civility and obedience in a time of fascism and policing them.

## Lawsuit brought by Sarah Lawrence Palestine activists to protect anti-genocide protest

On August 5, 2025, ten Sarah Lawrence students, past and present, joined by one member of our faculty, filed a suit in federal court to try to prevent further attempts by the College and the House Committee on Education & Workforce to equate anti-Zionism and anti-Semitism, and to surveil, stigmatize, discipline, and prevent campus protest against the Israeli genocide in Palestine.

We of FSJP are hopeful that a supportive decision on this case could prevent further harmful cooperation of the College with the House Committee, and could protect the College from further Committee demands for information about Palestine-related protest. The suit aims to constrain both the College's cooperation with the Committee and the illegitimate operations of the Committee's sham "investigations."

For us the plaintiffs in this case represent the best of the values of Sarah Lawrence: a willingness in a time of political danger not to assist in projects of persecution, as in the time of Senator Joseph McCarthy's similar Committee, but to stand up for the values undergirding our Principles for Mutual Respect: to respect each other; to work with integrity and honor; to foster honest inquiry, free speech and open discourse; to embrace our diversity in all its dimensions; and to inflict no harm on one another, or on anyone else, near or far. In a time of genocide, silence is complicity. We commend our

fellow community members for continuing to break that silence, and look forward to this upcoming year's conversations about other ways that work might continue.

---

*CALL FOR DIALOGUE AND PARTICIPATION. SL FSJP would like to extend a special invitation to our fellow staff and faculty members to participate in making our weekly KITE newsletter.*

*What you might think of as a small contribution—a brief observation, a contentious letter, a note from a meeting, an interview of only a few questions, a captioned photograph, a quote—would benefit us all, whether contributed with attribution or anonymously. As above, you can reach us at [sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.me](mailto:sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.me).*

---

• FROM THE ALUMNI •

## Open Letter About the Ezra Klein Event

February 5, 2026

cc: Dave Stanfield, Shadia Sachedina, and Elke Zuern  
(for the Board of Trustees)

Dear Cristle Collins Judd,

It seems to us that the purpose of the SJP protest at Ezra Klein's appearance last week was misunderstood by many people. Perhaps, to judge by your community email of January 29, it was somewhat misunderstood by you as well. We are writing to clarify some points about the protest, partly in response to the investigation you mention, and partly to open some dialogue about the SJP movement on your campus.

The first and most basic thing to say is: yes, the protest was an interruption. There doesn't need to be any question about that. It is, of course, a method and a purpose of protest to intervene at the point of the thing being protested. And so protest must always be at odds with policies which prohibit "disruption." We note, in this connection, that protesters outside the venue were also threatened with disciplinary action. What form of protest, then, is acceptable? If you can't protest inside the venue and you can't protest outside the venue, where can you protest? Sarah Lawrence calls freedom of expression a "core value"; that it "respects and upholds students' right to express their views through protests, marches, sit-ins, and other forms of expression." We note the conflict between §2.7 and §4.6 in the Student Handbook. How do you decide that some protests will be "respected and upheld" while others will be called "disruptive"?

Your next question might be: what on earth could be the purpose of making a protest at this event? It may be that the impact of the intervention seems magnified by a sense that Klein least of all should have been a target of an SJP protest (insofar as he is not, say, a pro-Israel or Israeli politician; insofar as his self-appointed role is as a moderator for dialogue). We can admit that the point being made might not have gotten across to many people who were not already read into the brief.

A simple version might sound like this: when people are dying every day in Gaza, why should Sarah Lawrence host a speaker who has perpetually skirted the ongoing genocide against the Palestinian people with an endless series of equivocal questions about the definition of the word? How can we all sit around talking about "is-it-or-isn't-it-genocide" when these murderous policies are being executed in real time? Don't we have a larger moral obligation to do something more than merely "understand each other"? How about we save lives first and have a dialogue later?

SJP is making the point that Klein's is a kind of accommodationist politics designed to make people believe that they are engaging with problems while not actually doing anything about them (or: so as

not to do anything about them). Note this parallel: last July, Klein said of Jeffrey Epstein that “this guy had a lot of powerful friends, and that he was a predator and a pedophile, and those sides of his life were mostly separate.... I mean, there’s smoke around Prince Andrew, but we don’t really know what was going on there.” Klein’s politics protect power and the powerful while pretending to give recognition to problems. He equivocates about definitions while the plain facts of issues are right in front of everyone’s eyes. He muddies the waters, he dithers and delays. Quibbling about language to distract from larger realities is a feature of his politics and not a bug.

But the Israeli genocide in Palestine is not an abstract question up for debate. After years of disputing the Palestinian Ministry of Health’s figures for war dead, Israel over this past weekend blandly accepted its count: more than 73,000 Palestinians killed and counting. Other reputable agencies report much larger estimates—orders of magnitude larger—for indirect deaths from starvation and disease. In the two weeks leading up to Klein’s SLC appearance (i.e., Jan. 14–28), forty-three Palestinians were killed by Israeli forces; three days after his appearance, thirty more were killed, including several children. “Ceasefire” or not, the killing continues. On the very day that Klein came to Sarah Lawrence, Israeli settlers set fire to three Palestinian villages in the West Bank (Masafer Yatta); Israel revealed that its Rafah “humanitarian center” would be under military supervision and surveil internees with facial recognition software; and the Israeli Supreme Court affirmed its ongoing prohibition of media access to Gaza. That was just business as usual on a typical Wednesday. The resources allocated by Sarah Lawrence to hosting Ezra Klein would have been much better used in virtually any way that would have defended human lives being snuffed out at that very same moment.

You may or may not agree with this critique of Klein. But we would like you to at least understand what the point was. That there was a point. That this was an interruption with a purpose.

Making this interruption was not something SJP wanted to do, but something they felt they had to do. They were well aware of the need to balance a right to protest with Klein’s right to speak and the community’s rights to hear. Two SJP speakers spoke for under a minute each and then exited the forum. They were not, as some have said, unwilling or afraid to engage in debate: they were there to make their point and then let the event proceed. That was a deliberate strategy. SJP made two brief and visible interventions at the beginning of the event and then the evening continued without interruption. Klein spoke to and with your audience for an hour and a half; the protesters spoke for

two minutes total. The actions of the protesters might not meet Emily Post's definition of good manners, but they did employ a plan that made a brief and pointed protest while giving plenty of space for other people's rights to assemble, hear, speak, and engage. This was an interruption, not the disruption of an event in its entirety or even a substantial holdup. The action did not "interfere with the College's ability to function as an educational institution."

You yourself celebrated that right to protest when you offered your good-natured "Welcome to Sarah Lawrence." But you can't have it both ways: you can't make so many points about how proud you are of your students' challenging curiosity, their fire and their passion, but then sanction it when it is uncomfortable. Your students exercised free speech. No one was hurt, no one was threatened, nothing anti-Semitic was in play (see below). Klein himself not only endorsed the protesters' speech rights but even went on to say that if one believed that a political process was a dead-end, an interruption like that was exactly what people should do; this is why he even took issue with the framing of "building bridges." Klein obviously believed that the protesters were misguided about who they were protesting, and that the political process is not at a dead-end. But he nevertheless made generous space to see the legitimacy and logic of their purpose, as we hope you will.

We won't waste much time on the thread of discourse that's beneath contempt: the accusations of anti-Semitism. "Zionist" is not an anti-Semitic slur. It is a political position. That's why we have two separate words: "Zionist" and "Jewish." And no one said anything about Jews. "Pig" is not a nice word, but it's not anti-Semitic, either. Some people wrap themselves in the flag of an ethno-state and declare that anyone who opposes what they do (including, say, killing 73,600 people) is "anti-Semitic." By transmutation, "anti-Zionist" suddenly means "anti-Jewish.": this is just about the oldest rhetorical maneuver of a right-wing community that wants to shut down all criticism, by labeling its critics as bigots. It is much of that right-wing community that now voices its anger on social media and letters to your office telling you that these young people are basically racists. But it's a lie. Enough. The SJP protesters are interested in defending a population against slaughter, not in hating anyone for their religious beliefs, let alone "Semites."

Yours,  
Molly Herron ('87)  
Seth Richardson

## Fundraisers

**The Sameer Project** is a donations-based aid initiative in Gaza led by Palestinians. Their multiple campaigns serve families across Gaza with medical supplies, food, tents, and other necessities. [linktr.ee/thesameerproject](https://linktr.ee/thesameerproject)

**Amal for Palestine** is an organization founded in 2021 providing financial help, services, and meals for families in Gaza. Since the escalation of the genocide, Amal for Palestine has continuously raised funds for food and other necessities for displaced Palestinians in the north of Gaza. [givebutter.com/SevBF8](https://givebutter.com/SevBF8)

**Gaza Soup Kitchen** is run by the Almadhoun family and their friends. Gaza Soup Kitchen sources ingredients from remaining farms, and buys supplies as soon as they hit the market in order to provide hot meals for displaced families. Based in the north of Gaza, they feed around 3,000 people daily. [tinyurl.com/gazakitchn](https://tinyurl.com/gazakitchn)

**Water for Khan Younis** is an initiative to support clean drinking water for displaced Palestinians in Al-Mawasi, in southern Gaza. With the donations so far, they have been able to deliver two drinking water trucks on a daily basis (6,000L or 7,500L each day). [tinyurl.com/khanyouniswater](https://tinyurl.com/khanyouniswater)

---

---

• FROM THE STUDENTS •

**FAMILY AND  
LAWYERS SEEK  
ANSWERS  
FROM ICE  
AFTER LEQAA  
KORDIA IS  
HOSPITALIZED**

DALLAS MORNING NEWS



@freeleqaakordia, imamomarsuleiman, wearthepeace, txcivilrights and muslimadvocates

"She told me that she literally feels like she's slowly dying. And then ... four or five days later, this happens."



– HAMZAH ABUSHABAN  
COUSIN OF LEQAA KORDIA

@freeleqaakordia, imamomarsuleiman, wearthepeace, txcivilrights and muslimadvocates



slc.sjp 23h



**Democrats as  
Counter-insurgency**



When Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey told ICE to "get the fuck out of Minneapolis," it went viral.

When asked if he supported abolishing I.C.E., he said no.



This is not Frey enacting a contradiction. It is Frey fulfilling Democrats' cultural and political role.

Democrats' function is counterinsurgency:

Absorb revolt

Perform empathy

Stabilize the system



**Carolyn Hinds** #FreePalestin... · 2h  
 Not only is ICE holding 73,000 men, women, and children in concentration camps, they're planning to build for-profit "schools" for children. These will be forced assimilation institutions aka residential schools, as was done to Indigenous people here in Canada and the US.

A for-profit virtual education company accused of defrauding investors and other harms is set to run a new school at an immigration prison in Texas, according to job advertisements. Stride, Inc., an S&P 600 corporation based in Virginia, is hiring across various positions, including a school principal, counselor, and teachers for English, math, and science. All will work on-site at the South Texas Family Residential Center in Dilley, one of the largest detention centers in the U.S., the job ads state. The facility is managed by CoreCivic, one of two major for-profit prison operators, whose fortunes have risen drastically under the Trump regime, [as I reported in August](#).

**More Perfect Union** @MorePer... · 8h  
 The number of people currently in ICE custody is now over 73,000, the most in history.

@saulwilliams



**Calla** @CallaWalsh · 21m  
 "The legal justification for contemporary 'forever wars' emerges not from novelty or necessity, but from a centuries-long pattern and practice of unilateral, preemptive, and often extralegal military action originating in the settler-colonial conquest of Indigenous nations."

**Vpol** @VocalPolitics1 · 3h  
 Professor Nick Estes (@nickwestes) explains how Indian Wars serve as the legal, cultural, and ideological foundation for extralegal US military action abroad in his article "US Imperialism is an Indian War" (@MidEastCritique).

■ DOJ legal decisions allowing military action [Show more](#)

**CULTURAL, AND IDEOLOGICAL FOUNDATION FOR TODAY'S "FOREVER WARS."**

- **Wagons named Tomahawk and Bowditch**
- **Beaumont nicknamed "Savannah"**
- **Many territories labeled "Indian Country"**
- **Estes stresses that this is not just symbolism, but the living doctrine of empire**
- **US imperial violence is not aberrational, it is foundational. Settler colonial genocide at home became imperial war abroad, and without dismantling its root causes...**
- **US war doctrine relies on what Estes calls "savagery exception": "Whichever can be made Indian (or savage) is cast outside legal, political, and cultural norms reserved for 'civilized' nations," enabling a permanent state of quasi-war, justified as self-defense**
- **Palestine, Lebanon, Yemen, Syria, Iraq, and Iran are positioned as modern equivalents of "Indian Country," whose resistance, or the potential threat of it alone, justifies extraordinary violence**
- **In the 2018 DOJ ruling that presidents may wage war without Congress, the first example cited is "George Washington's different operations... in the 1790s war against the Northwest Indian Confederacy"**
- **Estes critiques debates over congressional**

@saulwilliams



slcmsa

# RAMADAN

## DROP-IN



Come grab dates & snacks for  
suhoor & iftar  
and/or drop by to ask any  
Ramadan questions & speak to  
an msa co-chair about any of  
your thoughts or concerns!



**Briahna Joy Gray**  @briebriejoy · Jan 31



They didn't protest Ezra Klein hard enough, actually.



Share full article



I think I should say, before I start this episode, where I am on the Epstein story. If you forced me to give you my best guess, I think this guy had a lot of powerful friends, and that he was a predator and a pedophile, and those sides of his life were mostly separate.

I don't think there is a list of boldfaced names. The reason I don't think there is a list is that there have been a lot of big law firms hunting for cases here. There is a lot of money to be made in suing anyone connected to Epstein. Very, very powerful firms — to say nothing of media organizations — that are capable of hiring excellent investigators are just not finding much.

## An open letter

I do not know Ezra Klein personally. I do know he platformed the late Charlie Kirk, by saying, 'He's doing politics the right way.'

As a photographer, mom, and community activist, I wonder what is Ezra Klein doing on campus? A few questions come to mind when I consider all of the public figures who could speak on campus. Does he teach? Does he learn? Does he serve the public good?

I am sure you were surprised and offended when Ezra Klein was heckled during his recent campus event. I would be offended if I were heckled at a public event. That said, I believe that Klein was NOT heckled due to his Jewishness or his faith beliefs. I believe that he was heckled because a population of students feel that Mr. Klein is leading the public discourse away from moral meaning. He is not the only one leading our country astray by any means. I am impressed by the students' bravery. Your students are the intellectual giants and leaders of tomorrow. Some of them start earlier than others and take action before they leave campus. I commend them. If you chose to listen to them, you might get their opinions and motivations directly, not from a parent so many states away.

I made a sin of omission and I ignored Charlie Kirk. He was a right-wing influencer and I thought I had no need of him, so why give him my time? When he was shot, I found out what he stood for, what people lined up to hear him say. But Kirk did more than give his opinions on various issues. He doxxed people, specifically, professors, whom he did not approve of. He created a list of professors available online and with or without his permission, and his followers harassed these publicly named professors. Kirk let his followers do the dirty work of singling the professors out. Is this doing politics the right way? He also doxxed high-ranking African-American women, for a number of reasons—often because he felt that they could not be smart enough to do their jobs. I found out about Kirk's beliefs from an Indian friend who sent me a video of an Irish priest reacting to Kirk and his practices and beliefs. Why is this important? Because the USA is lacking moral clarity, a free press, and stellar news reporting. Kirk was a man who wanted to bring back public televised executions, saying that would make his day. Politics the right way?

These brave future leaders are not perfect and that is not what I am trying to say. I'm saying they are brave and moral. One image came to mind while contemplating this event and the fallout from the disruption. Your students should be standing on your shoulders, and you would say, Wonderful, gryphons, what do you see from there? But instead, it seems your intention is occasionally to knock them down. It will be easier for them to shape a moral future if you let them stand on your shoulders. These are flawed energetic youthful humans with sharp intellect and a moral compass, and much of that is thanks to parents, professors and you, the SLC administration. Let those students back up onto your shoulders and the future will get a little brighter.

When I read the phrase, "Palestine is everywhere," I didn't understand it at all. Now I understand—and this phrase can be applied to the "heckling" of Ezra Klein. What it means is: the effects of racism and bigotry are everywhere—and the effects of censorship are everywhere.

Your jobs are not simple, in which you have to juggle the needs of parents, staff, faculty and students, and donors. I would suggest two things to you. If you could see yourself from an international point of view—such as my small epiphany with my Indian friend, and Charlie Kirk—it may clarify your true goals as you view your work from a different perspective. More importantly, you may want to examine who you choose to platform on campus. Who should you book for a precious time slot? The man who normalizes Charlie Kirk and gives credence to Amit Segal with an invitation to converse on a podcast? How about inviting Isabel Wilkerson, Mosab Abu Toha, Norman Finkelstein, Chris Smalls, Linda Sarsour, Mamoud Khalil, Munir Atalla, or Samia Halaby, all of whom I've had the pleasure of listening to in the past few years. Don't knock the students off your shoulders—cheer them on and let them see the horizon for themselves.

## How to cross a road under apartheid

The army's new gates outside my village are a catastrophe.

[Humans of Masafer Yatta](#)

Feb 03, 2026

The road to Juwaya and other villages in Masafer Yatta was blocked off by the Israeli army in October 2023.

*This article by Shoug Al-Adara was [originally published](#) by Vashti Media, as part of the new Humans of Masafer Yatta X Vashti collaboration project.*

Before the war, I would walk to Juwaya with my two daughters, spending time together, laughing together. Me and my girls, and just a 30 minute walk.

Juwaya is the village where I grew up. It's just across the road from the village of Tuwani, where I now live with my husband Zakaria, and four children. Before the war, I would cross the road every two weeks to see my parents and siblings. Now, I go every two or three months; sometimes it's even longer.

A week into the war, soldiers installed a new gate on the road opposite Tuwani, which leads to the village of Birke in one direction, and to Juwaya in the other. And four months ago, in September, they [installed another one](#) on our side of the road, in Tuwani. The two gates are big, yellow, and can block the entire road if the army decides to close them. When the gate is closed and there are soldiers, we don't go. When the soldiers leave, we enter the village on foot. Our gate is not closed very often, but the one at the entrance to Juwaya has been closed since the war began.

My family still comes from Juwaya to visit me sometimes, but not like before. It used to be very easy for them to jump in the car, but now they have to walk, come on a donkey, or drive a long way around the gate to reach us.

Sometimes, before the war and before the gates, Zakaria would walk with me and our daughters. But now, Zakaria can't walk the whole way and he can no longer hold the children.

It feels like a disaster. A catastrophe. I feel like life goes on and I'm just standing, not doing anything. No work, no visiting families, no leaving the village.

After the war, my cousins got married and I couldn't go, because of Zakaria and my children.

To go visit my family now, I need to book a taxi, so I can take my four children and Zakaria with me. We must first cross the road and walk past the closed gate leading to Juwaya, where the private car picks us up and takes us the rest of the way to my family's home for 15-30 shekel. Then we spend

another 15-30 shekel on a taxi for the way home. If we want to go to Yatta or Hebron, we must pay more.

When I go to my family in Juwaya, or to see the doctor, or to run some errands in the nearby city of Yatta, Zakaria is always thinking about me and asking if I'm on the other side yet, wondering if I've arrived. He's very afraid for me.

But I cannot stay at home.

A few days after the war began, [Zakaria was shot in the stomach by a settler](#). It happened as he stepped out of the mosque after the Friday prayer. The bullet was an illegal "dum-dum" bullet which exploded inside his abdomen, causing severe damage to multiple organs. Since then he has undergone thirteen operations. Two years later, his condition is much improved, but he still cannot walk or get medicine and food for our children. So I must go instead of him.

Since the attack, he has been sentenced to lifelong suffering and disability. The doctors told him that his four broken ribs will take years to heal, that he will not be able to work for ten or more years.

Because of his experience, he is always afraid for the kids and for me. Just recently, settlers from Havat Maon, the settlement where the settler who shot my husband came from, drove through our village and attempted to ram into women crossing the road.

If I didn't have to worry about my children and my husband, I would walk home to my family right now, I would cross the road and go. I wouldn't care if something happened to me. But I am very afraid for them.

I have a real connection with the road. I feel like when I walk, I remember the old days. The road is unpaved and rocky, starting at the main traffic road, highway 317, and continuing on to the nearby city of Yatta. You can use it to get anywhere.

It used to be very beautiful. In the winter there was once much rain and snow, and it was very cold. I studied in Tuwani from sixth grade until the end of high school. When I would walk, at least twice a winter I would come back drenched with water. When I arrived home, my mother would look at my clothes and shout, "take them off!", bring me to the fire, and bring me new warm clothes.

All my problems felt like they disappeared with the rain. It calmed me to walk in it.

It would wash away my problems, any stress inside me, my thoughts, my sadness and anger. When I would walk, especially in the rain, it would clear my mind. I would feel renewed. I loved myself with a smile, laughing all the time, thinking positive thoughts. I didn't want any of that to change, I knew that sometimes life can change, but I didn't want that.

In the spring, Juwaya is very green, full of poppies. We'd walk around our mountain to pick the flowers to bring to my mother and to admire their beauty. When I was walking on the road, I felt like I was in an animated movie. It's full of flowers and grapes and greenery. I would walk and enjoy the nature.

In the summer, it's like a desert, but it's so lovely. In the fall, it's cool, there's a beautiful breeze.

I would love to go back and walk from Juwaya to Tuwani. My brothers and I would race to see who could get to the other side first. We would get excited to make the crossing and there was nothing we feared or were nervous about. Now, in spite of everything, two of my younger sisters walk that same road to come to Tuwani for school every day. They come by after school to visit me for a short while.

The road also brought me to my husband. I would come from Juwaya to the school in Tuwani, and he would work in the store. I saw him in the shop and was shy. I was 17. One day, as I was going to my family home, he also walked in that direction and said hello. After we got engaged, he told me that he came just to say hello to me.

But there's a big difference between now and then. Now I have four children, including twins who are two years old. Now it's very dangerous to cross and I'm afraid that a car will hit us as we run to the other side. Now the settlers and soldiers can kill, shoot. Ben Gvir has empowered them, and given them permission. I know this very well because it happened to us, to my family.

Always being inside, I feel strangled. The kids cannot go wherever they want and they are not comfortable. It's a very difficult feeling when you're stuck and you can't do anything. Life passes before your eyes and you can't do anything.

The children want to go out, to play, to be children.

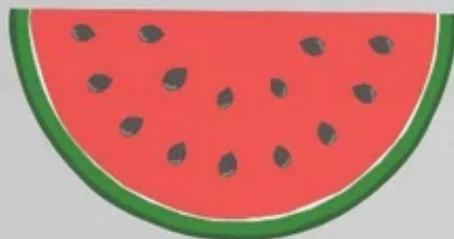
My home is not too big, not too small. There are two rooms, one kitchen, one sitting room with a TV. My children watch cartoons and I watch them watching.

We try to play together, exercise, do anything to change our routines. Because the twins are so small, and because they are just two of four, I'm always surrounded. Sometimes I feel alone because I can't get out to see my cousins, my aunts and uncles, my friends from before.

It's been so long since it was a 30 minute walk. Also since it rained.

KITE from Kimball  
newsletter to be  
published every  
Monday during  
the semester

contributions due via email  
every Sunday by noon EST  
[sl.fs.jpalestine@gmail.com](mailto:sl.fs.jpalestine@gmail.com)



## 5 Questions

We've had the honor of printing responses to these 5 questions from SL alums Sarah Ihmoud, Kathy Engel, Megan G, Miller Oberman, Randall Wallace, & Deborah Augustin, as well as from two current faculty members. We'd like to open our community-wide dialogue to anyone else who might be willing to answer them, whether by name or anonymously. As above, reach us at [sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.com](mailto:sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.com).

Here are the questions:

1 Can you say a little about your connection to Sarah Lawrence?

2 Can you say a little about what your life has been like since October of 2023?

3 Something the Sarah Lawrence administration has said consistently since the fall of 2023: the rights of Zionists must be respected. Can you say a little about what that means to you?

4 What's the role of a college or university in a time of genocide?

5 What are the values of Sarah Lawrence that you respect?

## Comments from our readers

- "Thank you and thank you again for your words. I have been longing to hear your voice and didn't even know it. The fact that you are there at Sarah Lawrence is a source of comfort and my greatest thanks."

- “I read this newsletter every Monday morning. I imagine that it is a major undertaking to put this together. I so appreciate the team for keeping it going through the summer.”
- “I’m always glad to receive this. Student and faculty journalists very much on the ball.”
- “Finally: just amazing kudos for the work you are all doing at SL and the newsletter, as testament to organizing across groups and standing strong, is so powerful!”
- “amazing amazing work.

keep it up.

so erudite. so clear so human. amazing writing. can’t be found anywhere else.

samud to u”

- “fabulous work, people!”

## Sarah Lawrence & Palestine

KITE is a newsletter from a coalition of Sarah Lawrence groups organizing for Palestine since the fall of 2023: faculty, staff, students, and alumni. We welcome all contributions, responses, and suggestions. You can reach us at [sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.me](mailto:sl.fs.jpalestine@proton.me).

Sarah Lawrence Coalition for Palestine, 1 Mead Way, Bronxville, NY 10708, USA

Powered by [Squarespace](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)