

# Hate Journalism: “Liberal” Guardian Published “Pro-Genocide” Ad Directed against Palestinians

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In-depth Report: [PALESTINE](#)

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*Despite an outcry from its own readers, The Guardian [went ahead and published this disgusting ad](#) in [its] print edition [August 11]*

*And it emerged today that they did so very consciously. A spokesperson for the paper [told The Morning Star that](#) the “decision to run any display advertisement in the Guardian is made on a case-by-case basis and there was a full discussion about accepting the advert in question.”*



This despite [an online petition](#) against the ad, [which the Stop the War Coalition says](#) was signed by 140,000 people within 24 hours.

Owen Jones, one of the paper's left-wing columnists, [today said on Twitter that](#) the ad was "vile."

The decision to run this virulently anti-Palestinian ad is symptomatic of a relatively recent turn at *The Guardian*. The Jewish anti-Zionist blog *Jews Sans Frontières* Saturday [looked at several recent problematic pieces](#) there and concluded someone is "pulling out all the stops to place *The Guardian* firmly in the Zionist camp."



Image: Blood libel: part of the ad as it ran in US papers ([click here for full image](#)).

Original article:

Any newspaper that published an advertisement accusing Jews of "child sacrifice" would rightly be condemned as anti-Semitic.

How is it, then, that Britain's leading "liberal" newspaper is set to publish just such an ad about Palestinians on Monday? [August 11]

The [Guardian's](#) media [columnist yesterday justified](#) publishing the ad, saying it does not mean "that it endorses the views and claims made within it."

This holds no water.

Newspapers can pick and choose the ads they run, and often turn down offensive submissions. As *The Guardian* notes, right-wing London newspaper *The Times* has, to its credit, rejected the ad.

The ad was composed by US TV personality [Rabbi Shmuley Boteach](#) and Nobel prize-winning author Elie Wiesel.

[Wiesel has been a chair](#) of the advisory board of [Elad](#), a group of fanatical religious Israeli settlers actively involved in ethnic cleansing of Palestinians from the [eastern sector of occupied Jerusalem](#).

The ad, already run in some US newspapers, is incitement to [genocide](#).

Its dog whistle reference about "child sacrifice" will be clearly understood by religious fundamentalists.

Blood libel

Despite Israeli propaganda refrains about Palestinian resistance fighters supposedly using the population of Gaza as "human shields," zero evidence has been presented.

This is a calumny, and a blood libel against the Palestinian people – one readily accepted by too many journalists.

In fact the BBC's Middle East editor [Jeremy Bowen wrote last month](#):

I saw no evidence during my week in Gaza of Israel's accusation that Hamas uses Palestinians as human shields. I saw men from Hamas on street corners, keeping an eye on what was happening. They were local people and everyone knew them, even the young boys. Raji Sourani, the director of the [Palestinian Centre for Human Rights](#) in Gaza, told me that Hamas, whatever you think of it, is part of the Palestinian DNA.

Like so many Zionist propaganda accusations against the Palestinian people, the "human shields" calumny is a projection.

It is Israel that [has a long record](#), documented by local and international human rights groups, of using Palestinians as [human shields](#).

A new piece by journalist [Max Blumenthal](#) this week documents how Israel even [uses its own civilians](#) as human shields.

Abuse of history

[A statement signed by more than one hundred](#) Jewish survivors and descendants of survivors of the Nazi holocaust condemns “Elie Wiesel’s abuse of our history ... to promote blatant falsehoods used to justify the unjustifiable: Israel’s wholesale effort to destroy Gaza and the murder of nearly 2,000 Palestinians.”

Circulated by the [International Jewish Anti-Zionist Network](#) yesterday, organizers are hoping to be able to raise enough money to run the statement as an ad in *The New York Times*, which published the Elie Wiesel ad.

Genocidal incitement



Image: “Child Sacrifice: We’re Not So Different Today” — [screenshot from](#) a modern evangelical website.

The dog whistle in the ad will be clear to anti-Palestinian religious fundamentalists from the language used. The reference to alleged “Canaanite practices of child sacrifice to Moloch” is explicit.

In the [Hebrew Bible](#), known to Christians as the Old Testament, the Canaanites were people who lived in the land before the mythical figure Joshua drove them out. The Bible depicts this as a bloody genocide.

(Most modern biblical scholars consider these accounts of genocide and ethnic cleansing to be mythical. The ancient Hebrew people of history arose gradually from a Canaanite milieu.)

[Leviticus 20:2 says](#): “Any Israelite or any foreigner residing in Israel who sacrifices any of his children to Molek [another way to transliterate Moloch] is to be put to death. The members of the community are to stone him.”

[Jeremiah 49 warns](#), “Ai is destroyed! Cry out, you inhabitants of Rabbah! ... for Molek will go into exile, together with his priests and officials.”

The [story goes that Ai](#) was a Canaanite city Joshua burned to the ground, leaving “a permanent heap of ruins.” After defeating its armed forces, Joshua “returned to Ai and killed those who were in it. Twelve thousand men and women fell that day — all the people of Ai.”

The implication of all this is clear: the Canaanites deserved to die, because they killed their own children.

This racist ad makes an explicit parallel between these ancient myths and modern-day Palestine, casting the Palestinian people as the modern-day Canaanites.

The implication of this disgusting ad is that the Palestinians, too, deserve to die during [Israel’s ongoing brutal assault in the Gaza Strip](#).

“The Canaanite practices of child sacrifice to Moloch are forever left behind ... Except they are not,” the ad reads. “I call upon the Palestinian people to find true Muslims to represent them.”

Cries for genocide

While the ad is ostensibly addressed to "[Hamas](#)," the implication is clear: the hundreds of Palestinian children that Israel has killed were actually "sacrificed" by Hamas. Israel must have been forced to kill them.

In the context of [ever-increasingly explicit cries](#) in Israeli society for complete genocide in the Gaza Strip, such [incitement](#) must be taken most seriously.

The deputy speaker of the Knesset, Israel's parliament, last week published a plan calling for the "conquest of the entire Gaza Strip, and [annihilation of all fighting forces and their supporters](#)."

Israeli army officers have recently called for "[holy war](#)" against Gaza by "[God's army](#)" – supposedly the Israeli army.

The Israeli press has recently printed calls for "[dismantling Gaza](#)," claiming there is "[no such thing as 'innocent civilians'](#)" in Gaza and even, in one now-deleted blog post on the *Times of Israel* website, musing on "[When genocide is permissible](#)."

That *The Guardian*, a supposedly liberal newspaper, seems to want to add fuel to these deadly flames by publishing such a disgusting ad speaks volumes about its anti-Palestinian agenda.

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