



BEGIN FELLOW CAMPUS REPORT

Menachem Begin Leadership Fellow **Shai Dromy** is an Israeli currently enrolled at the University of Pennsylvania law school. His career in Israel thus far has included clerking at the Office of the State Attorney in the High Court of Justice Department and his volunteer experience includes working within the Bedouin and Druze communities. This is his report from Philadelphia.





Right after the Hamas attack on Israel, even before Israel took a single action in Gaza, antisemitism and hatred toward Israel started to raise its head. Pro-Hamas students are organizing protests on campus and around the city center in Philadelphia where they are expressing their support for Hamas and their antisemitism. During those protests, they used slogans such as "from the river to the sea, Palestine will be free," which advocates for the elimination of Jews from Israel. They are also chanting "There is only one solution" and "Intifada," which calls for violence against Israelis and Jews.

Unfortunately, the University administration sees those calls as academic expression and abandons the Jewish students on campus who suffer from repeated harassment. The management of the law school also issued a decision not to express a position and remain neutral. At that time, a professor from the faculty expressed her sympathy with Hamas and signed false statements calling for support for terrorism. The huge disappointment I had with the university increased my commitment to action.



Sometimes we go to protest against them, when it doesn't feel too dangerous.





Together with other Israelis and Jews, we show presence at every demonstration in the city, we describe and explain to students and professors about the situation in Israel and monitor any antisemitic activity that takes place on campus.

I am personally in direct contact with the management of the Faculty of Law to make sure that it does not allow any support for terrorism and Hamas (currently, the Faculty of Law at Penn is one of the few where there is no pro-Hamas organization by any of the student organizations).

The Jewish and Israeli community here is amazingly united, and at our demonstrations, we speak in terms of support and peace, while the counter-demonstrations glorify violence and murder . . . [it] proves that we will win this fight in the end.

-Shai Dromy



Anti-Israel speech on campus

Video screenshot

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Campus Israel march chanting "Hamas is ISIS." *Video screenshot*

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