

BAD, BAD ISRAEL

Multiple Choice Quiz

1 *The Municipality of Jerusalem, with state support, built and is now operating a fixed-rail system with 23 stops, including nine in predominantly Arab neighborhoods.*

Please choose:

A) Israel is bad because it has built in East Jerusalem, erasing the “Green Line,” and effectively making re-division impossible, and defying international will against building in Occupied Palestine.

B) Israel would be bad had the stops not been built in Arab neighborhoods, as it would have been building an apartheid system for Jews only and ignoring the needs of Arab residents and citizens.

C) Israel would be bad had it not built the system at all, as it would be developing predominantly Jewish areas such as Tel Aviv but not investing in mixed cities such as Jerusalem.

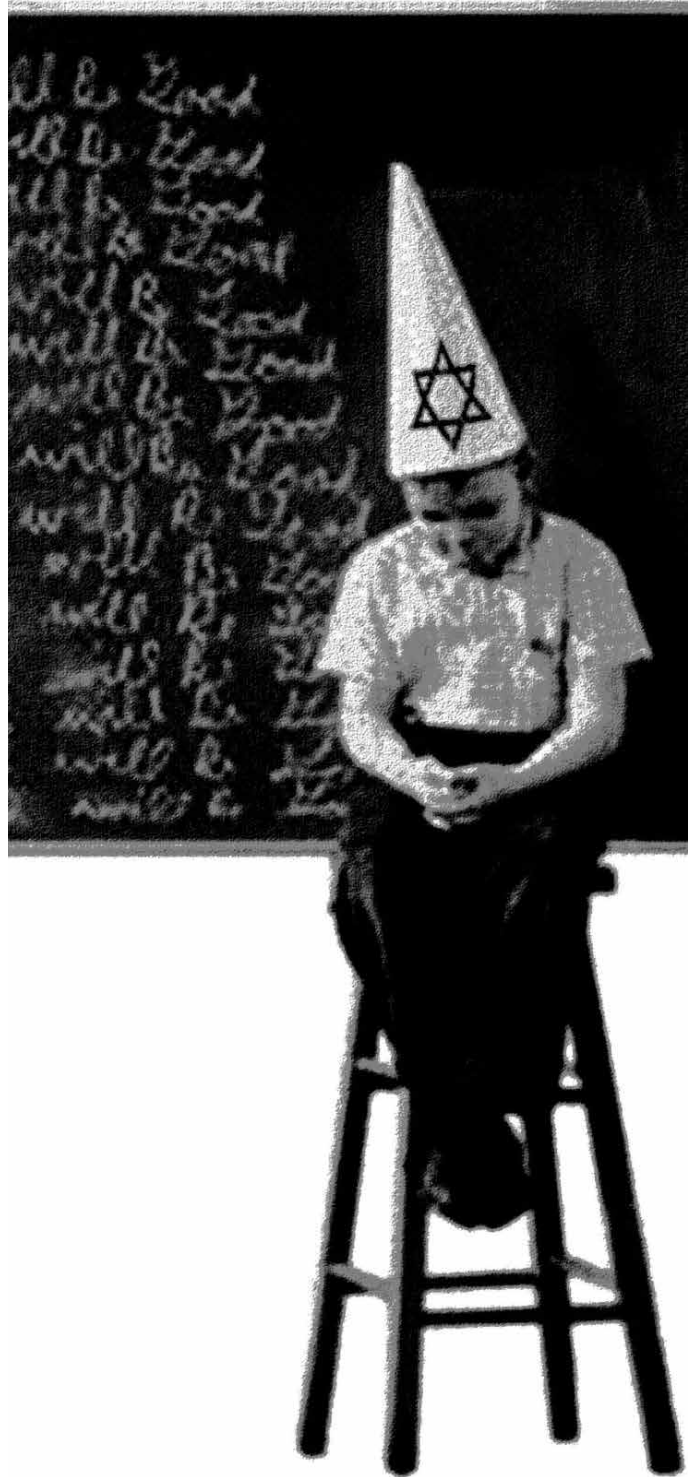
2 *Israel protects Gay Pride parades in its major cities and recognizes American and other same-sex marriages.*

Please choose:

A) Israel is bad because protecting rights of sexual preference, gender expression and women’s rights is inconsistent with fundamentalist Islam, offends and antagonizes its neighbors ranging from HAMAS to Saudi Arabia, and is a colonialist imposition of foreign culture on the Middle East. It imposes secular Jewish values on non-Jewish Israelis.

B) Israel is bad because news coverage of Israel’s position on these issues distracts attention from Israel’s oppression of its Arab subjects and discrimination against Arab citizens. It has made gays a propaganda tool against the Palestinian Arabs.

C) Israel is bad because protecting the rights of such persons promotes dissension within Arab society, leading some to seek refuge in Israel, part of Israel’s “divide and conquer” strategy with the Arab world.



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Quiz

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3 *The State of Israel has conducted back-channel communications and accommodation with HAMAS for many years over a variety of issues such as trade and prisoner exchange. Please choose:*

A) Israel is bad because cooperating with HAMAS undermines the political power of the Palestinian Authority and its dominant FATAH faction, thereby perpetuating Palestinian Arab division and undermining efforts toward the “Two-State Solution.”

B) Israel is bad because cooperating with HAMAS strengthens that organization, encourages further violence against Israeli citizens and world Jewry, and undermines the global effort against terrorism and fundamentalist Islam. Israel supported the Brotherhood in the 1980s as an alternative to FATAH and look how well that turned out.

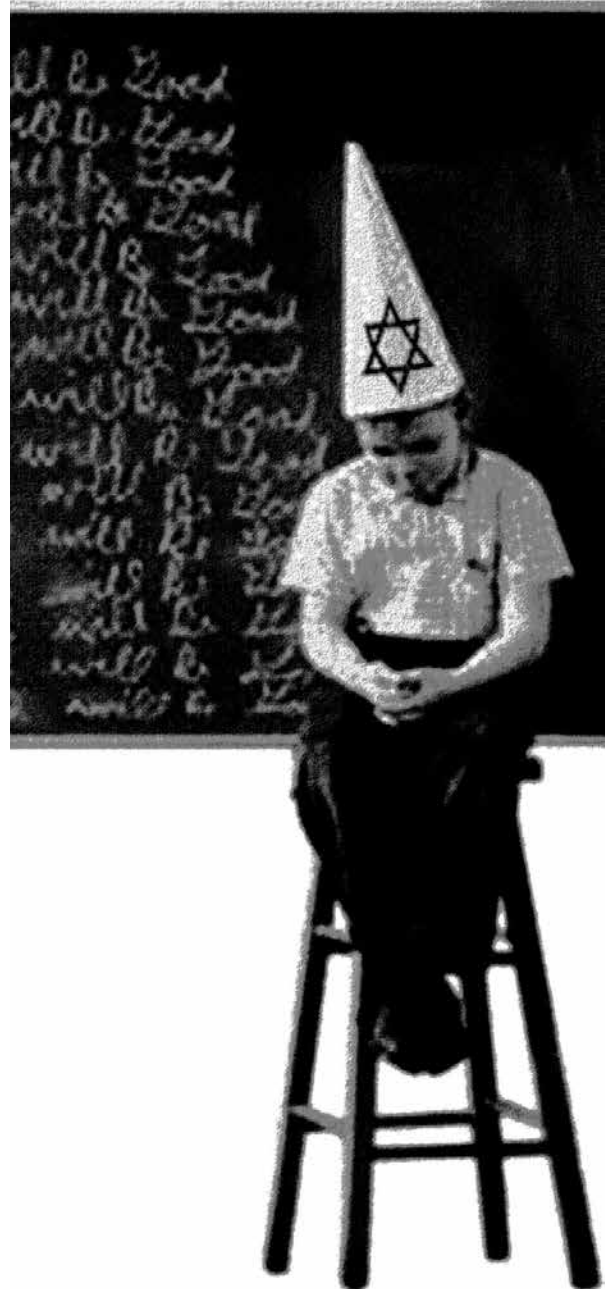
C) Israel would be bad had it not communicated with HAMAS because failing to communicate and cooperate creates further intransigence, antagonism and extremism among HAMAS supporters and shows Israel to be intransigent. You have to make peace with enemies, not with friends.

4 *The State of Israel has removed or demolished structures built by Arabs in the West Bank for failure to obtain building permits, violation of building codes, or for lack of title to land. Please choose:*

A) Israel is bad because demolishing Arab homes, which are demolished by Israel twice as often as Jewish homes (outside of war), is a hostile act of ethnic cleansing and discrimination, thwarts Palestinian Arab national and economic aspirations, and undermines home ownership, which is a foundation of civil society.

B) Israel would be bad if it failed to do this because international law requires an occupying power to enforce existing civil codes such as building regulations and land use. Failure to comply with international law is the trademark of an illegitimate outlaw state.

C) Israel would be bad if it failed to do this because it would effectively endorse illegal appropriation of private or public land and the construction of unsafe buildings in an earthquake-prone region. Just wait to see who gets the blame when the earthquake strikes and structures not built to code collapse causing injury and death.



ANSWERS

Is the whole world upside down, or just you?