

Thoughts / Perspectives on the Conflict Between Israel/Hamas

People are making a big deal about the civilian death in Gaza and blaming Israel and its treatment of Gaza before 10/7. While I think there is room for constructive talk about what Israel should or should not have been doing to the Palestinian Populations in Gaza and the West Bank and how it could have been better and how these contributed to the events on Oct. 7. Would the same people have protested (or did protest) when there were civilian deaths in Iraq and Afghanistan after the US and allies invaded after 9/11? The argument here is that the deaths in Gaza are occurring over a shorter period of time but dead is dead, whether it's two months after the start of a war, or two years... And if the deaths on 9/11 were proportionate, it would have been 50,000 Americans dead, not ~3,000!

Trauma is deep seated
It is easier to destroy than build
Humans are capable of unfathomable cruelty
Happenstance play an indelible role in our lives
Generosity and courage persist, but are not necessarily victorious
There are many many things I do not understand

The people of Gaza are also hostages and terrorized by Hamas. Yes, weapons have been found in a shockingly large number of homes in Gaza. Maybe some are there because the people support Hamas and Islamic Jihad but I am certain that many knew that saying no would mean death.

The actions on 10/7 - and continued holding of hostages, some of which are children as well, and some are dual citizens of the US, Netherlands, etc.- seem far more barbaric than what has been going on in Gaza. Few are calling for Hamas to release the hostages, criticizing them for the murders, rapes, and so forth that were committed on that date.

I was wrong. I thought that given the responsibility to rule Gaza, Hamas would moderate its radical position and commitment to destroy Israel to instead invest in a better life for those living in Gaza. Sadly, the oft heard sentiment that "we are all human beings who just want a good life for ourselves and our children" does not apply to Islamic terrorists.

The Hamas attack showed that peace with Palestinians is not achievable not now, not in the near future and probably not for generations to come. The only way to ensure the existence of Israel and safety of its citizens is for Israel to be strong and feared by her enemies.

Returning the hostages should be given higher priority and done more quickly.

They (Hamas/Islamic Jihad) snuck into sovereign territory and killed people and took people. Now they hide behind the human shields of the innocents in Gaza. "We do not negotiate with terrorists". We SHOULD NOT negotiate with terrorists.

Had a two state solution already have been implemented, it would have in no way appeased or stopped Islamic terrorists from continuing to do everything possible to destroy Israel and kill Jews.

If we let these terrorists get away with attacking, kidnapping and murder, what will they try next? For the answer, just take a look at Russia. We let Putin take Crimea, and then he tried for the rest of Ukraine.

Humanitarian aid to Gaza should be tied to the release of hostages. This is Israel's only leverage. The US and other countries are sabotaging the efforts to bring back the hostages, by pressing Israel to give more aid without any return.

The humanitarian situation in Gaza is not Israel fault, the blame lies solely on Hamas

When Hamas perpetrated the atrocities on October 7, I believe they were smart enough to know two things: first, that Israel would respond with all their might; second, they knew that much of the world would sympathize and empathize with Israel until they saw Israeli might, and then would turn against the Jewish state. That turnaround would in some cases be the result of rooting for the "underdog" and in some cases hatred for Israel and in some cases antisemitism.

A dead Israeli is a victory for Hamas, and a dead Palestinian is a victory for Hamas.

The lack of a cease fire is wanted far less by Hamas than by Israel.

The perspectives, policies and priorities of Netanyahu's right wing, ultra religious, nationalist, settler influenced government are a threat to the safety and security of Israel.

I've seen a lot of increased social media posts about how Israel is an apartheid state, has been committing genocide for about 70 years, is a colonizer state, that we're "more European now than middle eastern" Never minding that half of (jewish) israelies are from the Middle East/North Africa, and that even if we've not been a majority - we've always had a presence in israel. And there's archeological and historic evidence for our presence there for 2,000 + years. And if we were "committing genocide" - and I've seen other's bring this up - wouldn't it be easier to start with the 2,000,000 Arabs that live inside Israel? And while intent is part of what makes genocide, genocide.... Shouldn't the Palestinian Arab population have gone DOWN not increased? One upsetting social media comment was that we Jews should have gotten the message when the Romans 'kicked us out'.

When/If the hostages are returned, Israel should stop the attack and IMMEDIATELY turn all efforts to helping in Gaza. I mean make a big show of it. Go overboard. They need to do that to regain status on the world stage.

The US and other western countries are hypocrites. They would respond to the Oct 7th attack the same way Israel did. They are also hypocrites for holding Israel to international war laws but not holding Hamas to the same laws, even though the Hamas are not just a minority terrorist group, they are the government of Gaza.

The reason the October 7th attack and what follows were so severe, is because in all previous wars, Israel stopped before finishing dealing with the problem. Hamas grew stronger and stronger. Israel can't make the same mistake again.

October 7th happened also because of the arrogance of Israel's Politicians and Army commanders.

I do not approve of Netanyahu's government, but he is now between a rock and a hard place because he does not have a legitimate partner with whom to negotiate. "The Arabs never miss an opportunity to miss an opportunity".

The events on both sides are horrific. People seem to be more critical of Israel's actions than of Hamas' - and of Palestinians' in general. Though I realize - as I don't want to paint with too broad a brush - at least some Palestinians are more interested in having a lasting peace with Israel as a good neighbor than wiping Jews/Israel off the map. And here I'm using the word peace in more of the meaning of the Hebrew word Shalom (not just a lack of fighting/being 'at peace' but working together for a common good, even if that 'good' looks different on each side of the border.. and both sides prospering from the state of affairs). Few if any are being openly critical of Hamas using civilians as shields. I think a lasting peace will happen when both sides acknowledge that each side has a right to exist, self determination and that working together is better than lobbing bombs at people, raising kids to be martyrs, etc.