

# CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS TO TEACH MEDIA LITERACY IN EVERY GRADE

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Assembly Bill (AB) 873, authored by Assemblymember Marc Berman (D-Menlo Park), was signed on Oct. 14. By integrating media literacy instruction into the four core subjects that all students learn from kindergarten through 12th grade in California, AB 873 will bring California in line with a small but growing number of states teaching media literacy in grade school. The post California Schools to Teach Media Literacy in Every Grade first appeared on Post News Group.

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**By Joe W. Bowers Jr.**

**California Black Media**

OPINION

On Oct. 7, 2023, Hamas terrorists crossed the Israel-Gaza border and indiscriminately slaughtered Israeli civilians in their homes.

They killed nearly 300 young people at a music festival and took at least 200 hostages including 30 children. The atrocities they committed included massacres of families, abduction of the elderly and children, burning of babies and rapes of women.

The horrific surprise attack deserves universal and unequivocal condemnation. President Joe Biden called what Hamas did "an act of sheer evil" and pledged to defend the lives of Israelis and Jewish Americans.

He said, "Let there be no doubt. The United States has Israel's back. We'll make sure the Jewish and democratic state of Israel can defend itself today, tomorrow, as we always have."

Hamas killed approximately 1,400 people including 32 Americans. Citizens from 40 different

countries including the United Kingdom, France, Mexico, and Thailand were killed or reported missing.

Hamas fighters breached Israel's border defenses on the final day of Sukkot while soldiers were away due to the holiday and launched attacks on 22 towns outside the Gaza Strip. This security lapse has been described as a catastrophic failure of Israel's intelligence agencies..

Hamas is an extremist Islamist militant organization that has governed the Gaza Strip since 2007. It is recognized as an Iranian-backed terrorist group by the U.S. and the European Union and has a long history of violence against Jews and Palestinians, the latter of whom they often use as human shields.

## Trending

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While there have been plenty of groups who have unequivocally condemned the massacres, there are a number who haven't, including organizations such as the Democratic Socialists of America (DSA), Black Alliance for Peace, Red Nation, and independent Black Lives Matter (BLM) chapters (excluding the national Black Lives Matter Global Network Foundation).

The DSA San Francisco chapter put out a statement on Oct. 9 that said, "Socialists support the Palestinian people's, and all people's, right to resist and fight for their own liberation. This weekend's events are no different."

Student organizations at a number of [universities and colleges in California](#) signed a solidarity statement titled "Resistance Uprising in Gaza" from Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP). The statement attributes the violence of the Hamas attack to what it refers to as Israeli apartheid and occupation.

The SJP statement written by Bears for Palestine at UC Berkeley says, "We support the resistance, we support the liberation movement, and we indisputably support the Uprising." Essentially, these students are indirectly associating themselves with Hamas' barbaric acts under the guise of "resistance."

Signing the statement were 51 student organizations including those from Stanford, UC Berkeley, UCLA, UC Davis, UC San Diego, CSU Sacramento, and USC.

A [statement signed by 34 Harvard student organizations](#) said, "We, the undersigned student organizations, hold the Israeli regime entirely responsible for all unfolding violence."

Many university leaders, where these students are enrolled, have been guilty of failing to unequivocally condemn Hamas and for inadequately addressing their students' expressed support for Hamas.

Several Stanford faculty members, including three Nobel laureates, condemned Stanford's

administrators' weak response to acts of terrorism and the expression of pro-Hamas sentiments by students on campus.

Israel unilaterally [withdrew](#) from Gaza in 2005. It dismantled 21 Israeli settlements in the territory and handed them over to the Palestinian Authority.

The assault by Hamas on Oct. 7 was not an ordinary clash with Israel. Hamas' actions resulted in the deadliest single day for Jews since the Holocaust.

While there are valid reasons for protesting Israel's treatment of Palestinians and a real reckoning with the Israeli government on its policies is long overdue, nothing justifies Hamas' attack.

Israelis who were killed largely had nothing to do with the conditions of Palestinians in Gaza. Some of the victims weren't even Israeli — they were just tourists.

The students blaming Israel for the atrocities committed by Hamas have faced criticism. Some groups have withdrawn their endorsements because of the backlash aimed at them. Others have doubled down on their activism. SJP held a "National Day of Resistance" on several campuses.

Several CEOs have asked Harvard to disclose a list of members from the organizations assigning responsibility to Israel to insure they do not hire any of their members. A Berkeley law professor has also urged firms not to hire his students who have publicly blamed Israel for the war.

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**There are no comments yet.**