

Dear UNIVERSITY administrators,

I write to you today as a [STUDENT/PARENT/ALUMNUS] of the UNIVERSITY community, watching in horror as my homeland is massacred. Early on the morning of October 7th in Israel, Hamas began its assault on Israel via land, sea, and air, including over 6,000 rockets fired at civilian targets. As we watch horrific scenes play out on the news, we are heartbroken and terrified. Your response as an institution thus far has been at best disappointing and at worse offensive.

Parents are being slaughtered in front of their children. Hundreds of young people at a music festival were stabbed and shot at point blank range by Hamas terrorists. Women were raped and then paraded around the streets of Gaza with blood gushing from their bodies. Babies were beheaded and then set on fire. Over 200 hostages have been taken back to the Gaza Strip, including women, children, and the elderly, and their status is currently unknown.

Meanwhile, in the US and across the world, especially on college and university campuses, rallies are being held protesting Israel's self-defense. Swastikas are held up next to the Palestinian flag in our major cities. This is antisemitism plain and simple. It is not enough to say that you are saddened by the violence in the Middle East. This is terror. Hamas perpetuated a horrific attack on innocent unsuspecting Israelis. These are not "militants" these are terrorists. You, as the leaders of our community, must condemn Hamas outright. Additionally, calls for peace and de-escalation are simply performative. The world did not call for the US to deescalate on September 12, 2001. Israel has the right to defend herself and her people. Please issue a clear condemnation of Hamas terrorism against Israel. That is what our community needs from you.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with additional questions regarding this assault on Israel, or about additional ways you can provide emotional support for our families during this difficult time.

With gratitude,

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