

## Israel punishing those who had nothing to do with Oct. 7 attacks

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The “two-state solution” called for by United Nations Mandate 181 in 1947 and approved of by Israel decrees that both Israel and Palestine must have their own independent states within the boundaries of Palestine/Israel.

The Mandate allotted 56% of the land for Israel and 43 percent for Palestine. Many Israelis and many Arabs oppose this and work for only one state, the Israelis for an Israeli state and the Arabs for a Palestinian state.

And some on both sides call for the utter destruction of the other. So if one were to disqualify the Palestinians from having a state because many Arabs oppose an Israeli state and many call for the destruction of Jews, then the Israelis must also be disqualified because many Israelis oppose a Palestinian state and many call for the destruction of Palestinians.

So that argument cannot be rightly used to justify one side over the other.

The only difference is that Israel is actually carrying out its plan for one state by illegally occupying Palestinian land and by illegally killing Palestinians.

Today, Israel occupies 94% of the land and Palestine 6%. And the land the Palestinians occupy is totally controlled by Israel, and the Palestinians are treated like prisoners. Hence, they do not have an independent state.

And when the Palestinians strike back, they get blamed as the aggressor and Israel is turned into the defender and victim. For example, if an Israeli kills a Palestinian infant,



Protestor John Swonger, of Albuquerque, right, participates in a demonstration at Louisiana Blvd. NE during a rally for Palestine at the ABQ Uptown shopping center on Friday, Nov. 24. JON AUSTRIA/JOURNAL

and then, in retribution, a Palestinian kills an Israeli infant, the press only mentions the infant killed by the Palestinian. It not only presents him as the initiator of the infant killing but pretends that the Israeli did not kill the Palestinian infant.

When some Palestinians or Arabs strike back against Israel, Israel punishes whole populations indiscriminately and thus even those who did not participate in the attack and even those who opposed it.

