

Bh, I note in your commemoration of the Black Studies Dept. that you will have Angela Davis as your keynote speaker. While her alum status is perhaps a factor in your decision, I find it outrageous that a person who calls Israel an "outdoor Prison for Palestinians" and supports the BDS EFFORT TO DISMANTLE THE ONE AND ONLY JEWISH STATE should be given the honor of keynote address at Brandeis. This University's namesake, Louis Brandeis, the great American jurist, wrote in 1917 to his mother in law that his Zionist work "was the most worthwhile work of all I have attempted."

It is noteworthy that as an institution, you reversed an overture to give Ayaan Hirsi Ali an honorary degree for her feminist critique of Islamism because it distressed some progressive and Islamic students. Yet it appears that in this case there is no consciousness when it comes to rankling Jewish sensibilities.

Where is the judgment of the current leadership at Brandeis? This is the classic case of Jews seeing injustice in everyone's circumstances except their own. BDS is just a veil for anti-Semitic attempts to delegitimize and dismantle the State of Israel. I for one, as a Brandeis JCS graduate ('82), am sorely distressed with this lapse of judgment.

Sincerely
Rabbi Ian Silverman