

On Macklemore

Dear Wall Street Journal, Friday's issue contains

(1) "One Phone Call Put Sheeran Tour at Risk" (Sep[18, pages A1, A9 , by Andrew Beaton, Katherine Sayer, Elias Leight)

We are told of the events around Macklemore's "pro-Palestine" messages on stage. We are told of his earlier dressing up with a hook nose and fake beard, but this is dismissed because he apologized. His calls for "from the river to the sea" (the end of Israel) are omitted. The similar pronouncements of Dua Lipa, Chappell Roan, etc. are mentioned.

The net effect is to ignore who started and continued the war in Gaza, and to place all onus and blame on Israel. **There is not a word in the article about the hypocrisy of Macklemore et al.** Instead the article validates Macklemore and paints this as a free speech issue. imagine if artists called for the destruction of any other people under the guise of freeing another group?

Why do all these "artists" omit mention of Hamas' initial atrocities and the 50 000+ missiles subsequently launched at Israel from multiple countries? Why do they not mention Hamas' genocidal goals? Why do they omit that every Palestinian faction has rejected every two state solution and all say they will destroy Israel? Why do they embrace a "cause" whose sole goal is to destroy another people?

Why do they never mention the other far more deadly wars in the region, or for that matter elsewhere? Almost 380 000 have died in the ongoing Saudi-Houthi war. The war in Sudan has claimed over 150 000 lives in the last two years. Why do they never mention Iran, where tens of thousands of protesters have been killed in recent months by the Iranian regime? As always, no Jews, no news.

Why is it that there is a hyperbolically hostile focus on Israel, which was attacked on an ongoing basis, and such omission of other more deadly regional or global conflicts? No doubt the way the media and social media have covered this war plays a role. We are told of "Free Palestine" "from the river to the sea" in endless articles but never that this is part of over a century of warfare to destroy Jewish self determination.

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