

Dear DoSAA community,

Recently, you may have seen a [petition](#) being circulated by Psychologists for Justice in Palestine (PJP). We write to share that the DoSAA Executive Committee (EC) has made the decision to endorse this petition, which calls for APA to clarify that criticizing the state of Israel is not inherently antisemitic. Given how complex and sensitive conversations around Israel and Palestine can be, we want to share how and why we arrived at this decision.

During multiple EC meetings, we carefully discussed the implications of endorsing this petition. In light of growing risks and backlash faced by those advocating for Palestinian rights, we approached this decision with caution. We sought to engage in advocacy while remaining mindful that not everyone in our community is in a position to take on those risks. While endorsing PJP's petition does carry some level of risk, the EC ultimately agreed that it aligns with our values and commitment to justice.

DoSAA's values center around understanding the social, emotional, political, and personal influences that affect South Asians in psychology and fostering spaces for meaningful change in support of South Asian mental health and well-being. While the issues raised in PJP's petition may seem geographically distant, we believe that struggles for justice are interconnected and very much alive and present in our lives and country today. Standing in solidarity with movements that resist oppression, including advocating for the mental health and human rights of Palestinians, is consistent with our mission and our broader commitments to anti-racism, decolonization, and global mental health equity.

We also recognize that our community is diverse and holds a range of perspectives. Our intention is not to speak for every individual but to act in accordance with our collective values as a division. We hope this message helps convey the thoughtfulness behind our decision-making. If you have feedback you would like to share, please consider reaching out to the EC directly at dosaa.communication@aapaonline.org.

With care,



DoSAA Executive Committee