FACE IN THE CROWD

Meet Mona’s parents

Mona’s mother: Ghotam Abu Ayash

Mona’s father: Ali Abu Ayash

In February, alongside a group of experienced and thoughtful JVP organizers, I helped plan an act of civil disobedience at the Israeli Consulate, an event designed to help demonstrate that we are not afraid to say the truth in the United States and abroad, and they are not afraid to say the truth in the United States and abroad, and to speak the truth in the United States and abroad.

We’re Not Alone - So What?

"We are making space now to plan and strategize about how to best deploy our resources, awareness, and expertise to do this right, because we have to.

As a human, I am alarmed. As an educated hope, to explore and educates me to assert our popular praxis to assert our determination, with hope and action for justice and rights and to mobilize the people of color, to movements for racial, social, economic, environmental, and gender justice.

Let our action for justice trump our fear and despair!

The rise of the xenophobic right parties elsewhere, causing immense suffering to many of us and their efforts to silence our popular praxis to assert our determination, with hope and action for justice and rights.

The BDS movement for Palestinian human rights, defender, co-founder of the BDS movement for Palestinian human rights.

Omar Barghouti

Palestinian human rights defender, co-founder of the BDS movement for Palestinian rights.

JVP News

Winter 2016

Jewish Voice for Peace Newsletter

With hope and determination.

Rebecca Vilkomerson

Executive Director

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Their own purposes, damaging fully human while their land and total respect, and who is treat it with deep caring by similar feelings that I had.

At Standing Rock, I was struck the entire time we were there.

Rock.

of the Sioux tribe at Standing North Dakota State House in a

joined with thirteen other people

been surreal. The week before, I

The week of the election has

exploitation – the growth in

US financial/military interests

while it may have Christian

importance, but with a much

deeper, lived connection to

political roots, but with a much

explore this analysis; JVP open

ical education continue to

Jews.

Muslims, of immigrants, of

inequality unchecked is more

And the inevitable result of

We will have more Standing Rocks, more militarized police

of the Global South.

I would love to see JV-politi-

will lead to a better under-

leadership.

This reality is one that we

or staying at home.

So, yes, direct action

experience is one that

of the United Nations.

wasting our time.

It was just a wildly popular session.

That shift in power is

happening in our base: it was time to

stand the similarities between

other struggles, because in many ways you come to this work from

other struggles, because Israel/ Palestine sits at the center of so much

issue we also, literally by building another, more just, more

interconnected, multifaceted, multilayered. That time is now.

Because you know how to organize, because in many ways you come to this work from

other struggles, because Israel/ Palestine sits at the center of so much

issue we also, literally by building another, more just, more

interconnected, multifaceted, multilayered. That time is now.

The work of the election has

been surreal. The week before, I

joined with thirteen other people (including Miriam Ginsburg and

Alana Krivo-Kaufman, co-chair of the chapter

JVP at the National Urban League) to

direct action to prove the oil pipeline that is destroying the

lives and our future. The lives of the

Sisseton tribe at Standing

Rock.

JVP was extremely supportive of our regional campaign. At Standing Rock, I was struck by

the unity of those who were there. When I went to Palestine last summer.

This was an indige-

ous people who live on the border who meet with deep caring and

true respect, and who is continuously disarmed as they are not only

fully human while their land and their culture are destroyed for their own purposes, damaging

as it once was. Palestinians and Native Americans share this experience. While our historical

differences have remark-

able similarities.

militarized police and anti-Arab racism, in support of

American workers for

and standing Rock, and with all

movement to discipline those who use anti-Semitism, anti-

apartheid, and whitewash.

No small task, to say the least,

in the US and abroad. I simply say that the situation in

and the size of our

powerful and our numbers are actually much

always they're surprised because

the number of people we have in their district – and almost always they're surprised because

our numbers are actually much greater than loss of organizations with higher profiles in DC.

Alana: And I think our activist

leaders then see that – and

it's really helpful to understand

both the limits and possibilities

of what we're able to push

forward. The work at Standing

that's crucial to making sure that

we can support the indig

Can I add to that? Last

summer on the Iran Deal, there

was a chapter who met with

their reps and then they get called back

and there was a movement impact on their

postion. And that totally
disappointed them.

Alana: Her Chief of Staff

reached out to us, which was
totally shocking!

What finally convinced me was

this interaction our chapter had with

Elizabeth Warren's office, who,

and other chapters who met

with their reps and then they get called back

and there was a movement impact on their

postion. And that totally
disappointed them.

Alana: And I think that's a meaningfull

point, which is not the automatical-

ly win, but that the size of our

ask is so small. The public,

ask has to be backed up by the

petition that we can leverage, so a lot of my and Joseph's work is in...
Power in DC Grows Outside DC

More than ever, we have to think through the connections between building a grassroots movement and policy change. That’s why we held the National Mission Meeting (NMM) this year. How did the NMM go? We still need your support from JVP – help make JVP’s largest ever convening accessible: nmm.jvp.org

How do you work together on a daily basis?

Alana: It’s totally the opposite! Oh [JPV Board Member] Karen Adamson sends us both instructions!

But seriously there is a whole Congressional advocacy team in our membership – real brains who are always thinking about this who are part of shaping the work.

What we’re looking to give people are opportunities to express anger and display power. And I think people often are driven to the work by anger. Whether it’s individuals or groups or powerful relational coal for moving the reps who are closest to us –

The work of the election has been monumental. The truth is, the moment I joined with other people (including Minor Massinog and Alana Krivo-Kaufman) and JPVM members at the National Mission Meeting last year, it was clear that attempting to direct pressure on the pipeline destroying the Standing Rock was the most important thing we could do.

Our Power in DC Grows Outside DC

And using that grass-roots organizing against resources has a long history. Together with resources that have a rich history of organizing within and across communities, we at JVP need to continue to build relationships – with allies, both here in Palestine, against Islamophobia and anti-Arab racism, in support of activists for Women in Palestine, Standing Rock, and all with movement building to dismantle multiple oppressions and whiteness.

So, too, does powerful organizing against injustice. In this work, I was a chair of the chapter in Baltimore, and we call a couple every months saying “you guys should check in with our Congress members” and Congress members in DC.

What finally convinced me was this interaction our chapter had with Professor Elizabeth Warren’s office, which was really unlike anything we had before. They had an impact – that they were getting information about supporting the deal. In places where that happened, there were chapter leaders who were like “oh, that was huge, this has an impact.” And I think that’s a meaningful way for people to do this work, to move a Congressional office –

Rabbi Joseph Berman: I would have to at least say it was a chapter leader and really was driven by anger in this work. In 2013. And it was sort of a turning point: were even interested in the work was the analysis “Congress is horrible, we have no power, they’re never going to change, we’re just wasting our time.” And it was just a wildly popular session. That shift in thinking was really happening in our base: it was time to start engaging with DC.

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Alana Krivo-Kaufman: When we get a Member of Congress to do something, and they get pushback, that office then relies on us to provide support, and that’s when we know where to actually try to put our power.

Joseph: When we get a Member of Congress to do something, and they get pushback, that office then relies on us to provide support, and that’s when we know where to actually try to put our power.

Joseph: Can I ask to that! Last summer on the Iran Deal, there were a lot of chapters who met with their reps and then they get called back. It really is an impact – that they were getting information about supporting the deal. In places where that happened, there were chapter leaders who were like “oh, that was huge, this has an impact.” And I think that’s a meaningful way for people to do this work, to move a Congressional office –

And it really shows us that if you’re coming into maturity. In the election, there was a critical leadership role to play. And using that grass-roots organizing against resources has a long history. Together with resources that have a rich history of organizing within and across communities, we at JVP need to continue to build relationships – with allies, both here in Palestine, against Islamophobia and anti-Arab racism, in support of activists for Women in Palestine, Standing Rock, and all with movement building to dismantle multiple oppressions and whiteness.

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FAITH IN JUSTICE AND EQUALITY

Liberation theology is one of the most important strands of Christianity for me. I am proud to be part of JVP’s presence at the Democratic National Convention this year, and our participation in this battle is part of the wave of developing new and different ways of solidarity with JVP. As a spiritual leader, I am called to be part of the work of developing new and different ways of solidarity with JVP. As a spiritual leader, I am called to be part of the work of developing new and different ways of solidarity with justice and peace movements around the world. As a spiritual leader, I am called to be part of the work of developing new and different ways of solidarity with JVP.

PRESIDENT OF JVP

As ever: the more you give, the more we do, the harder it is to report back on even a decent slice of it! Here are a few highlights we don’t want you to miss:

August
August
September
September
October
October

Send to: 1611 Telegraph Ave, Suite 1020, Oakland CA 94612

October

We’re Not Alone - So What?

Let our action for justice trump our fear and doubt!
The Make America RBSG Again agenda has gone the Make Wall Street Even Greater agenda.

The rise of the xenophobic right in the US will undoubtedly boost the moral fibre of right parties elsewhere, causing immense suffering to many of us.

We put the ever-loving life that is fast dying from a distance.

Naked racism and unmasked anti-capitalism may help to shake every complacent progressive into action and incite us to double our efforts in fighting racism, sexism, and oppression in all forms.

But this possibility is only likely if our reflection and action for justice and rights could galvanize our political parties, deepen, and further enrich the 1% rally.

The challenge ahead requires all those struggling against racism, sexism, and all forms of oppression to join forces, to mobilize, to educate, to mobilize, to educate, to mobilize, to educate, to mobilize, to educate, to mobilize, to educate, to mobilize, to educate.

Omar Barghouti
Palestinian human rights defender, co-founder of the BDS movement for Palestinian rights.

Let our action for justice trump our fear and doubt!

With hope and determination.

Rebecca Vilkomerson
Executive Director

As we wrap up the year, some of our members reflect on the year’s most proud moments over the last twelve months.

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August

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Send to: 1611 Telegraph Ave, Suite 1020, Oakland CA 94612

Every dollar doubled, up to $12,314

YES, I CHOOSE TO SUPPORT JVP!

Make my gift monthly, join the Chai Club

Local Spotlight

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