

# Leaving Mitzrayim: Introducing JVP's New Campaign

*Before the 8th and 9th plagues, we read, Pharaoh tells Moses and Aaron that he would let the men go free, but the rest must remain enslaved. They refused Pharaoh's deal. Even though the Israelites were desperate and afraid, they would not abandon one another. They said, in essence, "It's all of us or none."*

## **This is how we get out of Mitzrayim.**

We will not sacrifice one another. We will not protest the oppression of black and brown lives here at home while ignoring the oppression of Palestinians in Israel/Palestine. We cannot call out militarized police violence in the US while remaining silent about Israel's military violence against Palestinians. We must acknowledge that domestic state violence and Israeli state violence ultimately come from one common system of oppression.

That's why we are launching a new campaign-- **Deadly Exchange: Ending US-Israel Police Exchanges, Reclaiming Safety**

One of the most dangerous places where the far-right regimes of Trump and Netanyahu converge are in exchange programs that bring together police, ICE, border patrol, and FBI from the US with soldiers, police, and border agents from Israel. In these programs, "worst practices" are shared to promote and extend discriminatory and repressive policing in both countries including extrajudicial executions, shoot-to-kill policies, police murders, racial profiling, massive spying and surveillance, deportation and detention, and attacks on human rights defenders.

**As a Jewish organization dedicated to safety and justice for all peoples, we see it as our duty to draw the line at these exchanges.**

The organizers of the exchanges are predominantly U.S.-based Jewish organizations, including the Anti-Defamation League, the American Jewish Committee, the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs, and AIPAC, among others. *We believe civil rights organizations and Jewish communal institutions have no business participating in further endangering those in Trump's and Bibi's crosshairs by dispatching police, ICE and FBI agents to exchange tips with an occupying army.*

**Join us to reclaim safety for all by demanding an end to this Deadly Exchange.**

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Discussion questions for your seder table:

1. How does the choice Aaron and Moses made in the Passover story connect to the way our communities understand safety today? In what ways have we lost our way?
2. Why do our communal institutions support and run these deadly exchanges? How can we end that support?
3. Why, in your view, is ending these police exchange programs vital to the ongoing struggle for justice for Palestinians?