

I believe this hit piece has one aim: to get faculty fired for the free expression of political views, and to undermine gender and ethnic studies as valid fields in higher education.

Faculty in GWSS don't take accusations of antisemitism lightly. But we should ask who is making the accusations. In this case, it's the David Horowitz Freedom Center, a notorious far-right think tank. The founder David Horowitz believes that Muslims are trying to take over the world. Horowitz has a long history of Islamophobic acts on college campuses: in 2007, he worked with white nationalist political consultant Stephen Miller on "Islamofascism Awareness Week", bringing anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim speakers to over 100 campuses. Horowitz has donated to many far-right and xenophobic politicians, including Holocaust deniers.

We should also define antisemitism accurately. Rather than seeing all support of Palestine as antisemitic, we can look at other widely used definitions of antisemitism. This strengthens our ability to see real antisemitism when it happens. The [Jerusalem Declaration on Antisemitism](#) lists the following as *not* antisemitic: "evidence-based criticism of Israel as a state", calls for boycotts of Israeli products based on Israel's actions, and criticisms of Zionism as an ideology. It IS antisemitic to hold all Jewish people accountable for Israel's actions, or to use Jewish stereotypes when criticizing Israel's actions.

Since October 7, accusations of antisemitism have become an easy way to isolate politically active spaces for learning. Coming from this far-right source, they aid calls to ban ethnic and gender studies. We must see them for what they are: part of the larger campaign to support white supremacy by banning books about Black history, banning abortion, and banning or marginalizing queer and trans people. The departments on this list do teach about the real history of the United States and its role as a global power, and the history of attempts to suppress dissent. We stand with them.