

# No Pride in Israeli Apartheid

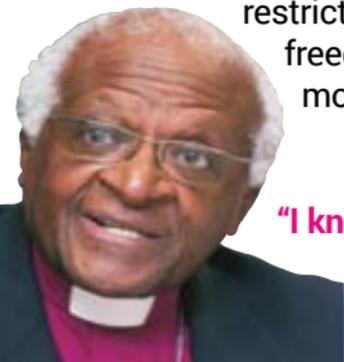
Palestinian citizens of Israel, whatever their sexual orientation or gender identity, are second-class citizens who face legally sanctioned discrimination and racism in all areas of life. Apartheid in Israel is reflected in institutions such as racially-based family reunification laws, racially-based municipal development practices, racially based approval of building permits, non-recognition of Palestinian villages and racially-based inequalities for Palestinian citizens.

Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank are subjected to collective punishment, restricted freedom of movement,

routine human rights abuses, detentions and checkpoints.

In the West Bank and East Jerusalem, the manifestations of apartheid include Jewish-only roads, Jewish-only housing (i.e. colonies) and the application of different systems of law for Palestinians and for Jewish colonists.

LGBTQ Palestinians living in Gaza are living under siege. LGBTQ Palestinians living under the illegal Israeli occupation suffer alongside the rest of the community, denied basic human rights that we take for granted – such as the right to walk down the street without fear of being shot, the right not to have your home bulldozed or your land stolen.



**"I know firsthand that Israel has created an apartheid reality within its borders and through its occupation." Desmond Tutu**

# No to Pinkwashing

## What is pinkwashing?

Pinkwashing is a well documented strategic campaign by the Israeli state to rebrand itself as a “safe haven” of tolerance for lesbians, gay men, bisexual, transgender and queer people. This is part of a general public relations strategy to portray Israel as a progressive society and divert attention from its systematic human rights abuses against the Palestinians.

## Isn't it good that Israel supports LGBT rights?

Israel does have some good laws on LGBT rights. But pinkwashing is not aimed at supporting LGBT rights.

It promotes the idea that Israel is

a great place for all LGBTQ people to try to enlist people outside Israel to defend it and to counter criticism of its occupation of Palestine.

## What do LGBT Palestinians say?

The Palestinian LGBTQ movement opposes pinkwashing. See [www.pinkwatchingisrael.com](http://www.pinkwatchingisrael.com)

Say no to pinkwashing. Stand in solidarity with Palestinian LGBTQ organisations and with the Palestinian people.

For more about our campaigning in Britain, go to [www.nopinkwashing.org.uk](http://www.nopinkwashing.org.uk) or [facebook.com/notopinkwashing](https://www.facebook.com/notopinkwashing)

**“When you go through a checkpoint it does not matter what the sexuality of the soldier is.”**

Haneen Maikey, Al Qaws group, which runs a phone support line, queer parties and cultural and health projects in Palestine.

