

Press Release

**Jewish Voice for Peace – Milwaukee’s Statement in  
Support of Rep. Clancy’s and Rep. Madison’s Conscientious Abstention from AJR 82**

Jewish Voice for Peace - Milwaukee

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At a time of deep suffering in Israel and Palestine, when Jewish grief is being weaponized to support the blockade and massacre of Palestinian civilians in Gaza, Jewish Voice for Peace – Milwaukee applauds state representatives Ryan Clancy and Darrin Madison for their conscientious abstention from Wisconsin State Assembly Joint Resolution 82, “Condemning Hamas’ barbaric attack against Israel.” Instead, both lawmakers argue for a more balanced approach to the conflict, acknowledging that “both Palestine and Israel have the right to self-determination,” as a press release from Madison’s office put it on Thursday.

Clancy has drawn ire from state elector Ann Jacobs, who responded negatively to his social media post documenting the loss of Palestinian and Israeli lives over the course of the past fifteen years. Apparently, recounting the reality of Palestinian and Israeli death and the historical roots of the current violence in Israel’s decades-long apartheid system is objectionable to Jacobs.

Jacobs, a Milwaukee Jewish Federation Board of Directors member, has falsely accused Clancy of antisemitism on the basis of his post and undemocratically called for his ouster from elected office. As Jews and people of conscience, we say that Jacobs and the Milwaukee Jewish Federation do not speak for all Jews or for all people in Milwaukee.

Recounting the historical origins of the current conflict, calling for an immediate ceasefire, or speaking out against the war crime of collective punishment of Palestinian civilians in Gaza is not anti-Semitic. It is a courageous and necessary step towards true peace, important for all.