

Subject: Re: Ben & Jerry's ignores appeal on behalf of Human Rights Campaigner Omar Barghouti
From: Jeff Furman
Date: 5/19/2016 8:12 AM

Thank you for your email regarding the threats towards Omar Barghouti. I write to you as an individual and not as an official Ben & Jerry's Board member.

I have twice traveled to the West Bank, met twice with Omar and other non violent Palestinian activists, and have gone on record challenging Israel's illegal occupation and other apartheid actions. I am aware that these threats to him have escalated specifically from Israel officials. I know that these threats are real and that they often begin with the label of "terrorist". We have seen this in other countries with the recent killing of Berta Caceres (Honduras), jailing of Omot Agwa Okwoy (Ethiopia), and death threats against Maxima Acuna (Peru).

Several weeks ago I signed the JVP petition in support of Mr. Barghouti. I am deeply impressed by his vision, his dedication, his commitment to human rights, and his commitment to non-violence. He shares the courage of those mentioned above and has helped bring worldwide attention to the Palestinian struggle.

Thank you for your concern to bring an end to these abuses wherever they may occur. I share that commitment.

Lastly, I apologize in advance that I will not be able to respond to any responses to the above. Thank you for your understanding.

Best, Jeff