



# Queers & Trans Against Pinkwashing

NOT IN OUR NAMES

## *What is Pinkwashing?*

In the case of occupied Palestine, pink washing is when the occupying force, known as so called 'Israel', "promotes itself [Israel] as a beacon of freedom within the Middle East because it has gay rights.

This liberal nation branding campaign obscures Israel's violations against Palestinians and silences Palestinian queer voices that, "argue that liberation is always already bound up with the liberation from any form of oppression."

## *What dangers does Pinkwashing impose?*

- 1** Given 'Israel' brands itself as a safe haven for the LGBTQ+ community, then by default the international community & the Zionist entity will revoke 'Israel' from accountability of its violent oppression and occupation of Palestinian queer & trans people in occupied Palestine.
- 2** This poses a serious risk for queer & trans Palestinians in occupied Palestine who are subjected to the violences behind the Zionist entities pinkwashing campaign.

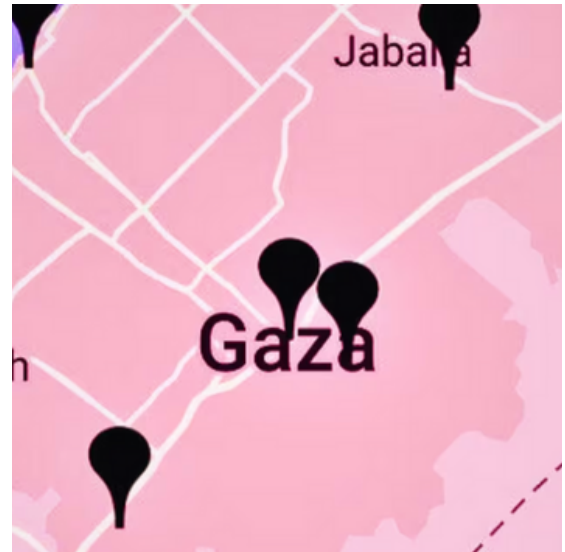
# Stories of Queer & Trans Palestinians

## ZEHAVA'S STORY

Zehava is a 22 year old Palestinian transwoman whose body was found in a public park in Haifa on Friday, October 8, 2023 .

She was found hanging, in grave condition. She died two days after her body was found. Prior to her tragic death, Zehava reached out to welfare institutions (like shelters etc.) within the Zionist entity, demanding basic rights and support.

She was rejected on the bases that “she did not appear feminine enough.” (Lee, Peleg. 2021). Police claim Zehava committed suicide, but it is apparent this was an act of neglecting a trans Palestinian woman’s call for help.



## QUEER PALESTINIANS SPEAK UP

During this horrid genocide Queer, trans and nonbinary people in Palestine are leaving behind emotional notes on an online map (Queering The Map), from grieving relationships that were never able to flourish, to the deaths of past loves killed over the past few weeks.

In a pin in Jabalia, Gaza, someone dropped a note that says >>

I don't know how long I will live, so I just want this to be my memory here before I die. I am not going to leave my home, come what may. My biggest regret is not kissing this one guy. He died two days back. We had told how much we like each other, and I was too shy to kiss [him one] last time. He died in the bombing. I think a big part of me died, too. And soon I will be dead. To Younus, I will kiss you in heaven. (Denny. 2023)

# Stories of Queer & Trans Palestinians

## ZIONIST'S VIOLENT OUTING CAMPAIGN



Zionist's in so called 'Israel' have a history of outing queer & trans Palestinians. They use social media pages and dating apps to identify & out queer & trans Palestinians with the purpose of inciting violence on them. On the left is an example of a case that went viral

In 2018 we saw this picture online for those two lovers kissing on the shores of Gaza.

An Israeli Facebook page posted it mentioned that some said “for the first time the disease of homosexuality appears in Khanyounis in the south of Gaza” and asked the Palestinians “after sawing this picture, what is your request from the Gaza ministry of interior?” In a very direct way of inciting violence against them in Arabic. (Musa Shadeedi. 2023)



## PINKWASHING GENOCIDE

We witness the pinkwashing of the genocide in Gaza, as a Zionist soldier proudly stands on top the rubble where Palestinians martyrs were murdered , while he holds a rainbow flag saying “ in the name of love”. This image captures the dangers of Pinkwashing.

During their campaign to pinkwash genocide Zionist entities strategically blackmail queer & trans Palestinians.

23-year-old Zuhair al-Ghaleeth from Nablus was threatened by Israeli forced to expose footage of him having sex with another man if he didn't comply with helping them receive information (Sharona. 2023).



# ISRAELI QUEERPHOBIA

Israel is not the LGBT+ safe heaven as it advertises. Homophobia and Transphobia exists in Israel as much as any other place around the world just like Tennessee in the U.S.A that passed an anti drag bill in 2023.

Homophobia and transphobia surged by 27% in Israel during the COVID-19 pandemic, as lockdowns trapped gay and transgender people at home with abusive families, one of the country's oldest LGBT+ rights groups said.

In August 2009, a teenaged girl and a man in his twenties were murdered and several others seriously injured when a masked gunman opened fire at an LGBT youth centre in Tel Aviv. (Canada: Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada. 2011).

Despite Israel showing that it is a safe heaven for LGBT+ people, In 2021, The Israeli LGBT+ community protested law ministers who have openly opposed LGBTQ rights. (France 24. 2021)

Just like how U.S.A has religious Christians who are anti LGBT+ rights, Israel has religious conservative jews who have long viewed acceptance of LGBTQ people's rights as an affront to the state's Jewish character. Considering that homophobia and transphobia a muslim problem is racist and is used to justify the genocide of Palestenains as well as other like the invasion of Iraq. (Avishai. 2023).



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