

Dear Editor,

I attended the J Street presentation held at the Federation recently. Colette Avital, a former Knesset member, was their speaker.

The program was listed in the Reporter as J Street NH. The next day I Googled J Street NH and found there is a street by the name, J street in Conway NH, but no listing for the organization that was presented in the Reporter. However, there is a website you can get connected to. Much to my surprise, on the same Google page, the New Hampshire Jewish Federation J Street is listed. When you click on the Federation listing you receive the J Street website.

I am concerned the organization is tying itself on the internet to the Federation for political benefit.

What bothers me is J Street was allowed to make a political presentation without an opposing opinion held within a reasonable amount of time afterwards.

Israel has a remarkable history of progress and being a democratic society. The Palestinians do not share the same record. We need to show our younger generations how important our values are. No one wishes for war to continue. Israel never started it and wishes to conclude it. Will the opposing side ever recognize the state of Israel no matter what its borders are?

If not, why are we hosting an organization funded by someone who is Jewish but working against the nation of Israel? I also learned there is a major contributor to J Street from Hong Kong to the tune of hundreds of thousands of dollars and no one knows who this person is. They may not even be Jewish. Why, is still the question?

Joe Smiga, Author-Writer

Manchester