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Conflating anti-semitism with criticism of Zionism or the state of Israel is a dangerous idea which is a threat to our democratic notion of free speech.

Zionism is an ideology which has led to the brutal colonization and ethnic cleansing of hundreds of thousands of Palestinians from their homelands, and now an ongoing genocide which has led to the deaths of 60,000 + Palestinians and the destruction of most of the homes, hospitals, schools, water well and infrastructure in Gaza by the state of Israel.

The point of this disingenuous legislation is to weaponize anti-semitism in order to stop the growing movement against the genocide in Gaza. It will not make Jews safer.

We do not have laws which criminalize criticism of any other country, including our own, nor do we have laws which criminalize criticism of Catholicism, Buddhism, Islam or any other religion. Why should Judaism be singled out in this way?

I strongly oppose the use of anti-semitism to silence the criticism of genocide.