

## YOUNG ISRAEL CALLS ON YU AND CARDOZO LAW SCHOOL TO RESCIND INVITATION TO JIMMY CARTER

The National Council of Young Israel today called on Yeshiva University and the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law to withdraw an invitation to former President Jimmy Carter to attend an award ceremony at the law school on April 10. Carter is slated to be the recipient of the International Advocate for Peace Award, which is an award that is given each year by the school's Journal of Conflict Resolution.

"The National Council of Young Israel strongly urges Yeshiva University, the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, and the school's Journal of Conflict Resolution to do the right thing and rescind the invitation that has been issued to former President Carter," said Farley Weiss, the president of the National Council of Young Israel. "We believe that honoring President Carter as an International Advocate for Peace Award may be consistent with this organization's past of honoring another demonizer of Israel, Bishop Desmond Tutu, but it does not mean that bad decisions should be repeated over again; rather, they should learn from the past and honor those who truly deserve to be honored. We would further like to hear from Yeshiva University and Cardozo Law School, which is my wife Jessica's alma mater, that steps will be taken by the university to prevent the recurrence of such honorees in the future."

"Mr. Carter's well-known animus and bias towards the State of Israel has earned him widespread condemnation from Jews and non-Jews alike, and he is certainly not deserved to have any honor bestowed upon by him by an entity that has ties to the Jewish community and the Jewish State," continued Weiss. "We hope that Yeshiva University and Cardozo will do the right thing and reconsider its decision to permit Mr. Carter on campus and not allow its students to pay honor to someone who has done much to hurt the honor of the State of Israel."

In April 2008, Carter deliberately and wantonly ignored the wishes of the United States government when he traveled to Syria to meet with Khaled Mashaal, the head of Hamas' terrorist organization. Carter not only met with Mashaal but embraced Hamas, a terrorist group that has repeatedly called for the destruction of the State of Israel. This action by Carter was not one for conflict resolution, but was a slap in the face to Israel, the U.S., and Jews everywhere.

Carter has also shown his repeated denigration of Israel not just through his actions, but through his words as well. In 2006, Carter wrote a book entitled "Palestine: Peace Not Apartheid." Carter's use of the word "apartheid" in the book's title was outrageous. Although apartheid is the rule of dominant minorities, Carter inexplicably used the divisive term to describe Israel, a country which is by no means ruled by a dominant minority.