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NCJW Mission Statement

*Approved at NCJW Convention
March 2008*

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

SAVE THE DATE!

Election 2008: What's At Stake

An evening with NCJW Legislative Director,
Sammie Moshenberg



Tuesday, September 16, 2008

Light Reception—6:30 PM

Program—7:00 PM

Ms. Moshenberg is the recipient of the National Capital Area YWCA's Racial Justice Award, NCJW's Hannah G. Solomon Award, the Ruth Osborne Award from the Women's Studies Program at George Washington University, and was selected by Women's Enews as one of 2008's "21 Leaders for the 21st Century." She has also appeared on the "Forward 50" list of most influential Jewish individuals three times, most recently in 2005.

She has been a pivotal leader and voice for NCJW on Capital Hill for over 30 years, and is considered one of the top public affairs strategists among liberal non-profit groups.

What's At Stake in 2008 - An Insider's View

Investing in federal programs aiding women, children & families:

Legislative and budget priorities highlighting the importance of programs serving women, children and families including housing, home energy, nutrition, healthcare, and education.

Federal Judicial Appointments: Appointments to all federal judicial benches, including the potential of three vacancies on the U.S. Supreme Court.

Reproductive Freedom & Justice: Protection of contraceptive and reproductive access nationwide, and implementation of funding for medically accurate sex education for youth and the ineffectiveness of abstinence-only sex education.

Civil Rights: From immigration reform to protecting the rights of women, minorities, and increasing rights of the GLBT community.

SAVE THE DATE!

President's Message



I am so pleased to be stepping into shoes recently filled by Rose Singer, as President of the Seattle Section of NCJW. Rose, who works at bringing people together both professionally and in our organization, was able to accomplish making NCJW a louder voice, not just in the community at large, but also in Olympia. We were able to take

stands on a multitude of progressive issues statewide, and most importantly, make a difference.

I plan to move forward along the same path as Rose. It was under her leadership, alongside Lauren Simonds, our Executive Director, that I was first attracted to NCJW. I discovered the Seattle Section places value on the same things that I personally think matter a great deal.

No one should have to live in an abusive situation. It was heartwarming to see *Shalom Bayit* bring women beyond abuse to a place of empowerment and choice.

As a child of the late 60s, freedom of choice was a huge victory. It saddens me to see this hard won right hanging by a thread. The Seattle Section is fighting to keep contraceptive rights a choice by lobbying in Olympia and educating people on why it really does matter to vote for legislators who support freedom of choice and expansive civil rights.

I am only touching on some of the many issues our advisory boards and committees bring to the table at our board meetings. Just keep reading our newsletters to see what we are doing and I believe something we are involved with affects you personally or someone you know.

Of course, the biggest challenge facing the Seattle Section and all charitable organizations today is funding. We, as a board, will continue to create fundraising events that the community at large can enjoy such as *The Vagina Monologues*.

We need to raise awareness throughout the community about what NCJW does and why it is important to give more money so we can keep doing what we do so well. We will be reaching out more than ever to keep up with rising fuel prices (which affects furniture pick-up and delivery costs for *Shalom Bayit* and even the cost of trips to Olympia for lobbying), the rising cost of college tuitions (which affects our ability to give out scholarships), and even the rising price of rents (which affects the cost of our office and warehouse space).

We have a growing population with more needs than ever and our cost to comply with these needs keeps rising. We will continue to ask you to open your wallets along with your hearts so we can keep up. The thing to remember is that the Seattle Section isn't just a discussion board: we take action and accomplish change!

Notes from National



When I was informed of my nomination to the National board, I was surprised. Other than attending National events, I had not served on any National committees. I knew that the board was restructuring to better align with the new 5-year strategic plan. I thought the perspective I could bring to the National board as a leader from one of the

nine sections with an Executive Director, facing the changing needs of volunteer organizations, and coming from the West coast would be beneficial. I also figured my professional background as an organizational development consultant couldn't hurt; but I was truly surprised when I was selected. The National board has gone from over forty members to just twenty-eight.

At our first board meeting at the March National Convention Nancy Ratzan, NCJW's new President, set the stage for this board. She wants a strategic board that is not as tactical or hands on as in the past, but one that sets direction and provides oversight and accountability. In order to move in this direction, we need to learn together, trust one another and engage in robust dialogue. She highly values learning, taking risks and utilizing the skills, talents and experiences of each board member.

In May I attended our first board retreat. What an enriching, thought-provoking and stimulating weekend! Nancy asked me to design a relationship building activity for the first evening. Using four provocative questions, I used a "speed dating" approach for us to get to know one another at a deeper level in an engaging way. It turned out to be a fun way to kick off the retreat.

Throughout the weekend we learned about board governance – our role and responsibilities, and revisited our strategic plan to ensure goals set are still relevant and in alignment with our mission and direction. Gail Ball, NCJW's treasurer, joyously taught us how to question and understand financial reports and that financials really are interesting. At the actual board meeting, we applied what we learned the previous days.

I left the retreat feeling elated - knowing that I am part of such a dynamic organization that is positioned and committed to take NCJW to the next level. My term as President of the Seattle Section has served me well!

**B'shalom,
Rose Singer
Immediate Past President**

I look forward to your support as I step into my new role. Thank you!

**In peace,
Wendy Thomas
Seattle Section President**



Summer Musings

On learning to read...

My son, Reuben, who just finished kindergarten, is taking a summer reading class. I never realized how hard it is to teach a child how to read! This class meets in the middle of the afternoon on a weekday,

and at least one parent is required to attend for the first hour, so that parents can learn how to help their children learn. Both my husband, Chris, and I took time off from work to be at the class. While not shocked, I admit I was a little surprised that Chris was the only father attending. I decided to take an informal poll of the moms, and found that with the exception of one, all of them would be the sole parent coming to the class. I was disappointed. Clearly I cannot insert myself into the dynamics of other families, but Chris and I felt it was critically important for us to be on the same page (no pun intended) in helping Reuben learn to read. No matter how detailed my notes and explanations may have been (and believe me, I do fall on the side of overly-detailed), I could not have relayed to Chris the hands-on experience of learning to teach our child to read. And I wondered, what jobs did these dads have that they couldn't have taken an hour off from work? And what effect does it have on our kids that for the most part, Dads are missing from these classes? And, of course, I realize all of this pertains to children whose parents can prioritize their education – at least in some way; and that this is not true for far too many children in our country.

Extraordinary Donor Circle

The Seattle Section changed the tenor of the Annual Meeting this year, to a dessert reception which honored some extraordinary donors. These donors invested a minimum of \$1000 in the Seattle Section last year, and as part of their honor, they received hand-crafted jewelry, made only for Seattle Section donors, by local artist Andrea Savar. These original Star of David Safety Pins came in precious metals with gems: sterling silver with garnets (\$1000-\$2499), sterling silver with peach moonstone (\$2500-\$4999), 14K-gold filled with peridot (\$5000-\$9999), and \$14K-gold filled with iolite (\$10,000+). These extraordinary donors are: **Diddy Goldberg, Bobbie Simonds, Starr Niego & Mike Hopcroft, Jonathan Poneman, Rose & Max Singer, Cheryl Berenson, Janet Boguch, Shelly Cohen & Julie Shapiro, Arlene Ehrlich, Sandra Elman, Nancy Etsekson, Eileen Gilman, Margaret Rothschild & George Heidorn, Betsy Schneier, Ginny & Leonard Shulman, Goldie & Don Silverman, Wendy Thomas, and Jennifer Cole Wilson & Chris Wilson.**



The Seattle Section plans to continue our Extraordinary Donor Circle, and working with the talented Andrea Savar.

Looking Ahead

While summer may be slower for some, it is not for the Seattle Section office. The board and staff are working on a year of social and issues-based programs to keep you, our members and supporters, connected to one another, and up-to-date on progressive issues. We are also planning a series of events and activities focused on Election 2008! **SAVE THE DATE** for a personal evening with NCJW Legislative Director, Sammie Moshenberg, on September 16th (see ad on front page), look further into this newsletter for a recap of the 2008 legislative session, and issues we will be focusing on for 2009, and plan to join NCJW at the **Women's Legislative Reception** in Olympia on February 23, 2009!

Have a great remainder of the summer, and stay safe and hydrated!

B'shalom,
Lauren Simonds,
Executive Director

NCJW Supports Initiative-1000: Death With Dignity

Supporters of I-1000, the death with dignity initiative, have earned a place on the November ballot with the help of volunteers from across Washington. Initiative 1000 would allow mentally competent, terminally ill adults to request and self-administer medication in order to die on their own terms. The initiative is based on an Oregon law that has been in place for over a decade.

Like the Oregon law, the Washington death with dignity initiative includes numerous safeguards. These safeguards have proved effective in Oregon, where ten years of independent data shows no evidence of abuse or coercion. The safety of the death with dignity law has been confirmed by the Washington State Psychology Association, which found no evidence of manipulation or pressure on vulnerable groups.

Patients and families in Oregon also report that peace of mind is one of the law's greatest benefits. Decriminalizing aid-in-dying allows patients to have an open, honest conversation about how they want to spend their last days.

For more information visit www.yeson1000.org

Legislative Update

2008 Washington Legislative Session Update

Family Planning Funding:

Additional funding of \$8 million was requested for family planning as an effort to help avoid a potential emergency of reduced services. Of the \$8 million, \$5 million was included in the final state budget.

Title V – Federal Funding for Abstinence Only Sex Education:

The federal government funnels millions of dollars into abstinence only sex education programs, even though it has been proven they are not effective. Legislation was introduced which would allow Washington state to decline federal funds which were earmarked specifically for abstinence only programs. Sixteen other states have already stepped up to decline these federal dollars. The measure failed to survive the final policy committee cut-off date. It will be re-addressed in the 2009 session.

Domestic Partnership Expansion:

A bill granting 170 new rights expanding domestic partnerships comfortably passed both houses of the legislature and was signed into law on March 12, 2008. Though this is a good step in the right direction, GLBT families still have less than 1/7th of the rights afforded their heterosexual counterparts.

Pharmacy Refusal:

In 2007, after months of hearings and a great deal of political wrangling, the Board of Pharmacy passed a rule requiring a pharmacy to fill prescriptions with the caveat that a pharmacist could refuse to fill a prescription provided there was another pharmacist in the same pharmacy that could perform this duty or if the prescription could be referred to another nearby pharmacy without any delay for the patient. Two pharmacists and their pharmacy, Ralph's Thrifway in Olympia, funded by the Alliance Defense Fund (ADF), filed an appeal in the US District Court for the Western District of Washington. In November 2007, Judge Ronald B. Leighton issued a temporary injunction prohibiting the new pharmacy rule from being enforced. An appeal was filed in March 2008 with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to overturn the injunction and to declare the Board of Pharmacy rule legal and binding. NCJW was included in one of the supporting Amicus Briefs on behalf of faith communities and faith-based organizations. The Ninth Circuit heard arguments on the case in July.

Working Families Tax Credit:

This ground-breaking legislation will cut taxes for more than 350,000 low-wage earning families by adding 10% to their federal Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) refund. This legislation will reduce the tax bill for low-wage workers by as much as 30%, mitigating the unfairness of Washington state's regressive tax structure; boost a minimum-wage worker's earnings by up to 31% when combined with the federal credit, supporting families who are working to move out of poverty; and bring additional income to communities across the state, particularly rural areas and smaller towns.

Civic Engagement

What is civic engagement? One useful definition of civic engagement is: individual and collective actions designed to identify and address issues of public concern. Civic engagement can take many forms, from individual voluntarism to organizational involvement to electoral participation. It can include efforts to directly address an issue, work with others in a community to solve a problem or interact with the institutions of representative democracy. Civic engagement encompasses a range of specific activities such as volunteering with our furniture bank for survivors of domestic violence, serving on a non-profit board of directors, writing a letter to an elected official and of course, voting. But the civic engagement we will focus on this summer has to do with Election 2008 – and will take the form of Voter Education, Voter Registration, and Get Out The Vote (GOTV).

Voter Education:

NCJW plans to work with a community of coalitions to provide our members, supporters, and the community-at-large with non-partisan information about ballot initiatives and issues.

Voter Registration:

In May, Executive Director, Lauren Simonds, had the honor of giving the PIMA Medical Institute Commencement speech. One of the issues she focused on was exercising the civic duty of voting. Not only did she talk about the hard-fought battles for suffrage, but that the work we all do on a daily basis has a political nature to it, as there is little we do which is not legislated in some manner. At all public events between now and the last day people can register, NCJW will push voter registration. Additionally, we will be contacting synagogues in the hopes of working with them to target youth turning 18, to register to vote.

Green by Golden

Summer is here and our thoughts turn to getting outside – eventually. Here are some tips to enjoy summer in an environmentally friendly way.

- Yucky, moldy plastic lawn furniture can be cleaned using old fashioned washing soda (also called soda ash) which is sodium carbonate. It is found in the laundry section of grocery stores and has long been used as a laundry booster that neutralizes odors. Dissolve ½ cup of the soda in 1 gallon of hot water. Slather it on the furniture and let it sit 10-15 minutes, then rinse off. (Repeat if your furniture is super-grungy, leaving the soda mixture on for ½ hour.)
- What's an outdoor meal without ants and flies? Enjoyable! Before reaching for chemical pesticides (bioresmethrin and pyrethroids are suspected endocrine disruptors and toxic to fish), try some of these ideas:
 - Deter ants from heading indoors with vinegar sprayed around doorways. Boiling water poured over their tracks eliminates their scent trail. Chalk does the same thing (and it can be used on vertical wall surfaces). Cinnamon and cloves also work.
 - Eradicate ants with one of these: full strength Listerine (the original brownish stuff) sprayed on the ants; OR make a mixture of 1/8 teaspoon of borax powder and ½ teaspoon sugar – the workers take the poisoned sugar back to the colony (Note: this small amount will not harm curious household pets); OR sprinkle dry grits near the ant colony – when the ants drink, the grits expand and blow up the little suckers – clearly these ant destroying plans are not for Buddhists).
 - For flies, there is good old fly paper; fly curtains (those long strings of beads so popular in the 60's); fly-repelling plants on the table – catnip, mint, marigolds and mums; and citronella candles. A “green” fly spray is supposed to be coming on the market soon.
- Save big bucks by buying a Brita water filter and 3 replacement filters. The cost for one year: about \$40.00. The cost of bottled water for a year (@ 79¢ a bottle) is \$288.
- When you finish a box of tissues, put the empty box in your kitchen and stuff it with plastic grocery bags. When the box is full, keep it in your car. Reuse the bags when you make an emergency run for more ice cream.
- Finally, save energy and money by turning the temperature up on your air conditioner – 70-72 degrees is still comfortable. Do make sure your compressor and ducts are cleaned every other year, and your filters changed at least twice a year. Then, open your windows at night and catch the breeze.

Enjoy your summer!

Debi Golden
NCJW Advisory Board of Directors

It's Back ... Challenge for \$10,000

In May, Bobbie Simonds, the Seattle Section's largest donor, underwent brain surgery to remove two tumors. A few weeks after her release from the hospital she wrote this note to the Seattle Section.

“Dear NCJW members,

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your kind thoughts and prayers and generous donations on my behalf to my favorite non-profit organization. All of your caring certainly comforted me and I credit it, along with the enormous outpouring of positive thoughts which I received, for my recuperation which I think is going wonderfully. It is three weeks from surgery and I am getting out and driving and so very thankful to be on the road back to life as I love it.

I also am ready to make another \$10,000 challenge this year for you. Are you ready to meet it?”

NCJW Seattle Section's 2008 CHALLENGE FOR \$10,000

Bobbie Simonds will match, dollar-for-dollar, all donations of \$250 and above, until they total \$10,000! This challenge was met by the Seattle Section last year, and Bobbie challenges us to be the philanthropists she knows we can be, and give to support our staff programs, and ideals.

For your donation to be counted towards The Challenge for \$10,000, it must be received by November 30, 2008.

Contact Lauren at 425.558.1894 or Lsimonds@kadiver.com to discuss your giving options!



Shalom Bayit: Furnishing Peaceful Homes

Summer brings with it the sun, and for *Shalom Bayit*, an increase in the number of items donated. As the items pour into the warehouse we become more and more in need of volunteers to help put items on the shelves. We have been lucky enough in the past few months

to have two groups come in and help us at the warehouse.

The first group was J-Serve, a youth group that was looking for a project for the Jewish Youth Community Service day on April 13th. Through this program, Jewish youth come together across the nation to serve their communities. We were lucky enough to be chosen and had 14 young adults come to the warehouse to help organize. They were able to sit down and ask questions about domestic violence, *Shalom Bayit* program, and many other questions – these kids kept me on my toes! The group was extremely bright and passionate about helping – they arrived with more than 60 towels which they had collected for the program. I am sure that these kids will be the movers and shakers of their generation!

The second group was Menschworks, which is part of the Young Leadership program at Jewish Federation. We had nearly 20 individuals come to the warehouse and they were able to not only organize the shelves but move furniture up onto the highest shelves of the warehouse. They were amazing! Never have I returned to the warehouse to drop off donations and been met with the amount of available space that they were able to create.

The *Shalom Bayit* committee will be looking at how we can engage more youth into our volunteer program. Groups that help us with large projects are always great, but our volunteers who are able to come in and support us in the office, at local events, fundraisers and helping out in the warehouse are crucial to the success of NCJW. I know that there are a group of volunteers who can always be counted on when the time comes. Their hard work and dedication to NCJW and the work that we do is indispensable. While we always have a small group of regular volunteers, it would be wonderful to expand to an even wider circle of volunteers. So what are you waiting for?

**In peace,
Rachel Love
Program & Volunteer Coordinator**

Celebrating a Century of Scholarship!

SEEKING ALL PAST NCJW SEATTLE SECTION SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

We would like to know who you are as we plan our centennial celebration of awarding scholarships for secondary education!

Contact Angie at angie@purestuff.com

Wish List

Cash Donations

Cash enables us to maintain and expand our programs! We use our funds to pay our professional movers, communicate with referring and collaborative agencies, pay rent on our warehouse/office space, and pay our staff, who are dedicated to our clients and our mission.

Gift Certificates

Household Items & Furniture
Stores: Bed, Bath & Beyond,
Linen's & Things, Fred Meyer,
Target, Ikea, Costco, etc.

Furniture

Mattresses – twin, full, queen
Boxsprings – twin, full, queen
Bed frames – twin, full, queen
Dressers & Bureaus
Kitchen & Dining Tables & Chairs
Couches/Sleeper Sofas/Futons
Family room furniture
Coffee tables
Night stands
Children's Furniture

Office Wish List

PowerPoint Projector
Professional Printing Services
Automatic Folding Machine
Paper Cutter
Xerox paper

Household Items

Linens – twin, full and
queen size sheet sets
Blankets & Comforters
Towels & Washcloths
Pots & Pans, Bakeware
Dishes
Mugs, Glasses
Cooking Utensils
Silverware
Kitchen towels
Coffee makers
Toasters/Toaster Ovens
Microwaves
Vacuum Cleaners
Phones
Lamps
Home Décor
Rugs
Home Electronics:
DVD players, TVs,
Stereo Systems
Basic tool sets
Suitcases

To donate goods to NCJW's furniture bank for survivors of domestic violence and other programs, please contact Rachel at 425.558.1894 x2 or shalombayit@ncjwseattle.org.



Creating a Legacy of Leadership Today for Tomorrow The Second Century Society

The **Second Century Society** honors and celebrates those who have included NCJW in their estate plans. By joining the **Second Century Society** you will be honored and recognized today for your commitment to tomorrow.

Seattle Section Second Century Society Members

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Cheryl Berenson | Karyn & David King | Tina Novick |
| Marion Bergart* | Sarah Kramer* | Jack Radinsky* |
| Robin Boehler | Sandy Kraus | Mary Louise Reiter* |
| Lillian Clein* | Rose Mayers* | Bernice Stern* |
| Sara Efron* | Dorothy Muscatel* | Elsie R. Weiner* |
| Julie Feuerberg* | Gussie Stusser Nelson* | |
| Esther Gross* | Ann Nieder | |

*Deceased

**Join The Second Century Society
Creating a Legacy of Leadership**

**For more information contact Lauren at
425.558.1894/ncjw@ncjwseattle.org**

WORKPLACE GIVING

As a registered 501(c)3 Charity, NCJW and all its programs are eligible to receive workplace giving donation program funds!

WHAT IS WORKPLACE GIVING?

Usually once a year your employer will offer you the opportunity to designate an amount from each paycheck that will be donated to the charity of your choice. Examples of these types of programs are the **United Way Community Giving Campaign** or **Matching Donation Programs** run by your company.

These donations are TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

HOW DO I DESIGNATE NCJW?

Write in "**NCJW Seattle Section**" on your pledge form under "specific donation" or "donor designation."

NCJW's Tax Identification number is **91-6028118**.

WHAT IF MY COMPANY DOESN'T HAVE A DONOR DESIGNATION OPTION?

Talk with the person in charge of your workplace giving to find out what steps you can take to designate your donation to the charity of your choice.

To enable the economic power of individuals to benefit their chosen charities



Online shopping where a % of your purchase is donated to NCJW!
It's Easy
It's Free
(except for what you buy)
It Makes a Difference!



NCJW TRIBUTE FORM

Honor simchas, send blessings and good wishes to your friends and family, honor those who have passed away through NCJW Tributes. A beautiful tribute card will be sent to the person/family you are honoring. Tribute donations are fully tax-deductible and benefit the programs and services of the Seattle Section.

Honoree

Full Name of Honoree: _____
Honoree's Address: _____
Commemoration/Simcha Message: _____

Donor

Donor's Full Name: _____
Donor's Address: _____
Donor's Email: _____
Donor's Phone Number: _____

Tribute Amount

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other: \$ _____

I would like my Tribute donation to benefit the following NCJW Fund/Program:

- Seattle Section General Fund
- Shalom Bayit: Furnishing Peaceful Homes
- Scholarship Fund

Payment Method

Check Enclosed Credit Card* (MC/VISA/Discover only minimum charge \$18.00)

Credit Card #: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Zip Code: _____

**if using a credit card an additional 3% will be assessed to help cover the cost of the surcharge*



**A Message
from
Shari Eshet
NCJW Israel
Director**

According to a recent report by the Adva Center for Information on Equality and Social Justice (an NCJW Israel Granting Program grantee), inequality in the Israeli workplace has risen sharply in the past decade. Today, the top 1 percent earns more than the bottom 25 percent of the workforce. Not surprisingly, while 1.7 percent of all male workers are included in the top percentile earners, only 0.2 percent of all women are included. On April 22, NCJW marked Equal Pay Day in the United States by strongly supporting passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. This act will win back the right of women and minorities to contest unlawful discrimination, even when such discrimination has been hidden from them for years.

The issue of pay and equal opportunities is an issue that affects women all over the world and as the Adva Center reports, Israel has its fair share of discrepancies. NCJW helps women in Israel fight prejudice and inequality through its advocacy efforts and by funding organizations such as the Adva Center.

As I reported in the last Israel Program Report, access to abortion has finally become an "issue" here in Israel. Recently, I had an off-the-record conversation with a member of Knesset, who has informed me that the health committees that must approve free and legal abortions for those who qualify have become more and more restrictive. A public education campaign here in Israel is being implemented around this issue so as to prepare the ground for new legislation which would prohibit such restrictions. Again, NCJW will continue to monitor the topic.

Initiative 97 – The “Divest from War” initiative is not what it seems

Initiative 97 – What Is It?

I-97 would prohibit the city of Seattle from investing employee pension funds in corporations that profit directly from the U.S. presence in Iraq, and also corporations that provide direct material support for the Israeli government within the West Bank, Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem and Golan Heights or corporations with a presence in any Israeli settlements in those regions. I-97 would also require the City of Seattle to divest from Israeli government bonds if Israel were to launch a military attack of any kind in Iran. **The anti-Israel provisions are hidden beneath the introductory language which would have the City of Seattle divest from companies that profit from the war in Iraq.**

Divestment from Israel – Why this is not the answer

NCJW supports a secure Israel and the well-being of all its people. NCJW is vitally concerned about and actively involved in efforts to promote peace in the region, and between Israel and the Palestinians in particular. We envision and support the development of two mutually respectful, democratic states with Israelis and Palestinians living side-by-side, cooperating to maintain the peace and security of one another.

Disinvestment from a country is a very strong political statement in opposition to policies of that country. Its purpose is to hurt the country's economy and force the government of the country to comply with the demands of those who are divesting. One government body divesting is, by itself, not significant. The goal of those supporting divestment is to create momentum, making it easier for other governments and organizations to also divest.

I-97 would penalize Israel for defending itself against terrorists and terrorist attacks. After an initial section that calls for Seattle to divest from Halliburton, it asks Seattle to divest from corporations that “provide direct material support for activities” of the Israeli government or that have “a presence” in the West Bank, Gaza Strip, East Jerusalem, and Golan Heights. This could include penalizing Israel for using US manufactured equipment to improve roads, water systems, communications and other vital infrastructure within these areas, even if the improvements are being made in Arab neighborhoods or Palestinian towns.

NCJW Opposes I-97

I-97 promotes a non-existent connection between the Iraq War and the struggle to create a just and lasting peace between Israelis and Palestinians. Conflating the two is misleading; it is not helpful; it is divisive and damaging to our community. It is one thing to oppose the war in Iraq (in 2007 NCJW called for the administration to quickly draw down troops and end the country's military involvement in Iraq); it is quite another thing to try to trick Seattleites into choosing sides between Israelis and Palestinians.

I-97 seeks to punish only one party, Israel, for the ongoing conflict and it blames only one party, Israel, for the stalemated or slow-moving peace talks.

But Israel has entered into peace treaties with Egypt and Jordan. Israel withdrew from the Sinai in exchange for peace with Egypt. It has voluntarily withdrawn from the Gaza Strip, without any benefit or reward from having done so. Israel and the PLO have recognized each other's right to exist and, in 2001, they came close to reaching an agreement. Although Arafat backed out at the last minute and started the Second Intifada instead, his successors have come back to the negotiating table to talk in good faith. And, most recently, it was disclosed that Turkey has been working with Israel and Syria in secret peace negotiations; Israel and Hamas have agreed to a six-month truce; and Israel and Hezbollah have agreed to a prisoner exchange.

Peace may not be around the corner, but it is clear that progress is being made. And that is the most important reason to oppose I-97: it is an out-of-date response to a rapidly changing situation.

For more information about the No on 97 campaign contact Rob Jacobs at 206-204-0676 or robjacobs@standwithus.com.

Welcome New Members!

Linda Corets
Sharon LeMire
Marjorie Levy
Michelle Molan

Joan Samson
Pauline Saxon
Rosalyn Schiller

Todah Rabah to our Volunteers

Betty Arfin
Jocheved Bahir
Molly Barger
Cheryl Berenson
Leslie Boguch
Danielle Brill
Mary Brown
Rachel Brown
Alexa Burns
Cheryl Cohen
Sharon Davis
Monica Droker
Zachary Drummond
Megan Elsayed
Gabe Fruchter
Michelle Hedeem
Erica Hodge
Amy Holan
Mary Holmes
Rachel Hynes
Brian Huggins
Francie Kaplan
Lena Kemel
Yohanna Kinberg
Hanna King
Sandy Kraus

Rebecca LaMarche
Sharon LeMire
Andrea Loeser
Heather Meyer
Dani Nurick
Zoe Pearce
Dan Piha
Rivka
Colton Robbins
Phillip Saltzman
Emily Shaffer
Evan Shapiro
Sabina Shapiro
Scott Shell
Goldie Silverman
Rose Singer
Stephanie Smith
Julia Snyder
Wendy Starling
Wendy Thomas
Megan Thyagarajan
Matthew Titelbaum
Renee Titelbaum
Aria Wexler
Sam Witus
Michelle Zheleznyak

NCJW Seattle Section Legacies

The Estate of Marion Bergart
The Estate of Lillian Clein
The Estate of Sara Efron
The Estate of Julie Feuerberg
The Estate of Esther Gross
The Estate of Sarah Kramer
The Estate of Rose Mayers
The Estate of Dorothy Muscatel
The Estate of Gussie Stusser Nelson
The Estate of Jack Radinsky
The Estate of Mary Louise Reiter
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- ✓ Be labeled progressive and pioneering!
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The Seattle Section is grateful to the families and friends who participate in our Tribute program. It is a wonderful way to honor and recognize the people in your life, and support the programs and services of NCJW.

In Memory

- Mina Ames**
Toni Ameslav (in memory of her mother)
Debra Schwartz
- Shirley Bridge**
Jennifer Cohen & Michael Spiro
The Board & Staff of NCJW Seattle Section
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Cheryl Berenson

Mazel Tov

- Jeremy Alben, on your Bar Mitzvah**
The Berenson Family
- Ari Berenson, on your graduation**
The Berenson Family
- Cheryl Berenson, on your new position as Board President of Council House**
The Board & Staff of NCJW Seattle Section
Sandy Kraus
- Elana Berenson, on your graduation**
The Berenson Family
- Shira Berenson, on your graduation**
The Berenson Family

- Yael Berenson, on your graduation**
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- Hannah Cohen-Klein, on your graduation**
Dale & Earl Oller
- Chelsea Cowley, on your graduation**
The Berenson Family
- Rosie & Larry Epstein, in honor of your 30th Wedding Anniversary**
Jeanie & Harris Klein
- Michelle Etsekson, on your graduation**
The Berenson Family
- Nicole Jaffe, on your Bat Mitzvah**
The Berenson Family
- Jeri & Don Lederman, on your 50th Wedding Anniversary**
Ruth & Al Sanft
- Danielle Levy, on your Bat Mitzvah**
The Berenson Family
- Roberto Moreno, on your graduation**
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- NCJW Annual Meeting Honorees**
Mildred Rosenbaum
Betsy Schneier
- Sam Rausso, on your 80th Birthday**
Ruth & Al Sanft
- Lisa Shulman on your honor of receiving the State of Washington Rookie Technology Teacher of the Year Award**
Ginny & Leonard Shulman
- Wendy Thomas on your honor of receiving the NCJW Emerging Leader Award**
Janet Boguch
Eileen Gilman
Sandy Kraus
Sylvia Saperstein
Peggy Wolff
- Brianna Weinstein, on your graduation**
The Berenson Family

With Appreciation

- Robin Boehler, for your service as Board Chair to Jewish Federation**
Sandy Kraus
- Arlene Ehrlich, for your generous support of NCJW**
Natalie Gendler
Lila Greengard
- Eileen Gilman, for your generous support of NCJW**
Madeline Caplan
Lila Greengard
- Rabbi Yohanna Kinberg, for your outstanding leadership on the NCJW Board of Directors**
Ruz Gulko & Jeffrey Meyer
- Debbi & Sam Savar, for your love and support**
Andrea Savar & Laurent Gallego
- Goldie & Don Silverman, for your generous support of NCJW**
Leslie Boguch
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Speedy Recovery

- David King**
The Board & Staff of NCJW Seattle Section
Lauren Simonds
- Barbara Rait**
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- King County Coalition Against Domestic Violence
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The National Council of Jewish Women is a volunteer-based organization inspired by Jewish values that works through a program of community education, social justice advocacy, and community service to improve the quality of life for women, children and families and strives to ensure individual rights and civil liberties for all.

NCJW National Office
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1707 L Street, #950
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NCJW Seattle Section Contact Information

Wendy Thomas
Seattle Section President

Lauren B. Simonds, M.S.W.
Executive Director

Rachel Love
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1501 17th Avenue
Box 105
Seattle, WA 98122
425.558.1894
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