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The dissenting Jewish intellectuals should have sufficiently good memories to recall the viciousness of the PLO attacks on civilians in Israel, their merciless and arrogant attacks on other Arabs, and their relentlessly hostile rhetoric. Now that Israel is capable of destroying this menace, we should encourage her, not throw up roadblocks.

Moreover, the same "intellectuals" should not fall apart at the first appearance of moral ambiguities. Of course it is wrong to kill civilians -- as it is wrong in any war. But morally responsible people must make choices. My choice is the Talmudic one: "If one comes to kill you, rise up first to kill him." And if the PLO locates its military centers in hospitals, schools, and refugee camps, it is they who are culpable and deserving of contempt, not the Israelis who have made valiant attempts to minimize civilian suffering.

At a time when Israel is being savaged by the world media, especially television, and when it is unpopular to support her, it takes no great courage for dissenting friends of Israel, as well as the Stone's and the Chomsky's of the world, to join the rhetorical pogrom on the Jewish State.

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