



Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.

October 16, 2007

St. Jerome Publishing
Mona Baker
Consulting Editor
The Sign Language Translator & Interpreter
2 Maple Road West, Brooklands
Manchester M23 9HH, UK

Dear Ms. Baker:

The Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) Board of Directors would like to make you aware of the following recently adopted diversity statement:

"To actively foster an inclusive environment in which the Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf (RID) embraces diversity as an integral part of the association. RID is committed to establishing and maintaining a diverse, accessible, civil and supportive environment that adheres to RID's philosophy, mission and goals. RID is committed to providing growth opportunities that allow members to reach their full potential and maximize member value. RID pledges to seek partners who share our philosophy and commitment to upholding high standards of diversity within the association."

It is our belief that in this age of globalization, we need to accept and embrace the differences that all races and ethnicities bring to our culture today. This is especially true in academia as it is truly the last bastion of civilization. If you take away the opportunity for open discussion in our institutions of higher education, what will the short- and long-term educational, philosophical and societal impact be?

From what we read regarding your boycott, it is a political statement that you are trying to convey. Boycotts do not teach acceptance and openness, and boycotts do not provide a forum for greater understanding. Boycotts result in divisiveness. Politics is encrusted in every part of our lives, including education; however, political sentiment cannot be an impediment to an open educational arena.

While we do not anticipate that this letter will cause you to cease your boycott of Israeli institutions or anyone affiliated with an Israeli institution, we hope that you will better understand that RID, the largest network of interpreters worldwide, cannot condone this practice as it not only goes against our newly adopted diversity statement, but it prohibits the presence of an open forum in higher education.

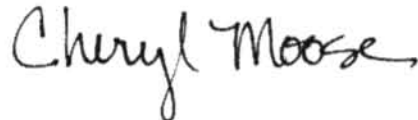
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RID/October 16, 2007page 2

Please know that we will be sharing the details of the St. Jerome Press boycott of Israeli institutes with our 13,000+ membership so that they can make the informed decision of whether or not to conduct business with your publishing company.

We would appreciate any correspondence you may have to address the issues we present in this letter. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Cheryl Moose in cursive script.

Cheryl Moose, *CI and CT*
RID President

Handwritten signature of Matthew O'Hara in cursive script.

Matthew O'Hara, *M.S., NAD IV, CAE*
Acting Executive Director