

NYU Law Students for Justice in Palestine (LSJP)

As a group formed in response to the indifference with which people of color are treated in another part of the world, NYU Law Students for Justice in Palestine (LSJP) stands in solidarity with the family of Michael Brown and the statement issued by the Black Allied Law Students Association (BALSA) this morning.

The failure of the Ferguson grand jury to issue an indictment reflects a deeply disturbing reality: the systemic oppression of minorities remains a prevalent and pervasive part of life in the United States. This resonates with the families of hundreds of Palestinian civilians who were killed this summer with impunity and [without any viable avenue for legal redress](#). The assumption that we live in a post-racial society or that military-style police force is reasonable only perpetuates the systems of injustice that killed Michael Brown.

We reiterate the [messages of solidarity](#) that Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza sent to the people of Ferguson after the shooting of Michael Brown. At the time, [Palestinian civil society organizations](#) stood in solidarity with the people of Ferguson, issuing a statement that read in part, “We the undersigned Palestinian individuals and groups express our solidarity with the family of Michael Brown, a young unarmed black man gunned down by police on August 9th in Ferguson, Missouri... **We recognize the disregard and disrespect for black bodies and black life endemic to the supremacist system that rules the land with wanton brutality. Your struggles through the ages have been an inspiration to us as we fight our own battles for basic human dignities.**”

We also note that the tear gas canisters and the “[counter-terrorism](#)” tactics used against the people of Ferguson this summer are the same as those routinely used against Palestinians living under military occupation. Indeed, some of the police departments that deployed military tactics against protesters in Ferguson this summer had been [trained by Israeli security forces](#).

That there are so many parallels between the situation of Black people in this country and a population living under military occupation should give us all pause.

Black lives matter. Brown lives matter.

We invite the over 200 students who supported the formation of LSJP to attend tonight’s discussion in Kushner at 6 p.m. and the protest at Union Square at 7 p.m.

In solidarity,

Law Students for Justice in Palestine

<http://www.law.nyu.edu/studentorganizations/justiceinpalestine>