

WHAT KIND OF "SCHOLAR" IS NORMAN FINKELSTEIN?

What do other Academics Think of Finkelstein's Scholarship?

"No facts alleged by Finkelstein should be assumed to be really facts, no quotation in his book should be assumed to be accurate, without taking the time to carefully compare his claims with the sources he cites,"

says University of Chicago historian Peter Novick, whom Finkelstein has cited as an inspiration. Novick also noted that Finkelstein's book is characterized by "false accusations," "egregious misrepresentations," "absurd claims" and "repeated mis-statements."



Finkelstein praises the terrorist organization Hezbollah, whose leader (pictured above) once said, "If they (Jews) all gather in Israel, it will save us the trouble of going after them worldwide."

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"Norman Finkelstein is a notorious distorter of facts and of my work, not a serious or honest historian,"

says Israeli historian Benny Morris, whose work is extensively cited by Finkelstein.

How Extreme is Finkelstein's Ideology?

Finkelstein lauds Hezbollah, a fundamentalist terrorist group responsible for numerous bloody attacks, including the bombing of the Jewish community center in Buenos Aires, which killed 86 and injured over 200:

"I did make a point of publicly honoring the heroic resistance of Hezbollah to foreign occupation. ... Indeed, looking back my chief regret is that I wasn't even more forceful in publicly defending Hezbollah against terrorist intimidation and attack."

How Does Finkelstein Respond to Ideas He Doesn't Like?

Finkelstein calls Holocaust survivor Elie Wiesel the "resident clown of the Holocaust circus," ADL head Abraham Foxman "the Grand Wizard," and noted feminist Phyllis Chesler "an idiot" and "an imbecile." About such name-calling, Chuck Suchar, the Dean of DePaul's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (where Finkelstein currently teaches), said:

"I find the personal attacks in many of Dr. Finkelstein's published books to border on character assassination and, in my opinion, they embody a strategy clearly aimed at destroying the reputation of many who oppose his views. I find this to be an unfortunate characteristic of his scholarship—one that threatens some basic tenets of discourse within an academic community—to conduct inquiry with civility and without undue or unnecessary personal injury or attack."