

Regarding the April 13 (printed) news article “Critics challenge Israeli delegation”: I found the reporting of the Knesset members’ meeting with the Chapel Hill Town Council to be very one sided. The critics came to challenge Israel’s decades-long brutal occupation of Palestinian lands by respectfully posing questions about the occupation to the four members of the Knesset, the Israeli legislative body that orchestrates that occupation. You reported the Israeli delegation’s criticism of the critics, and the threadbare propaganda tropes about no partner for peace, the complexity of the situation, denial of apartheid policies, etc. Yet you had nothing to report about the clearly stated specific criticisms of the occupation.

Nor was there reporting of the incident of the council member who became so upset that she walked out. A Palestinian-American citizen in the audience said in anguish that the lives of his family members are so constricted by the occupation that they cannot breathe. A Knesset delegate jumped up and stridently taunted “You can’t breathe, but you can stab.,” a remark the council member later said, “was a horrible thing to say.” Please help the voices of the critics be heard and not give cover to the oppressor.