

Our team was appalled today by the words of a once-celebrated vegan activist, Gary Yourofsky. We were aware of his hateful opinions regarding the Palestinian people from years ago and had hoped that he had changed his ways. Those hopes were dashed today when Gary gave his explicit support for the genocidal-colonial regime of Israel during a livestream with vegan activists Catherine Klein and Natalie Fulton.

During the same livestream, Gary also made derogatory remarks about trans and intersex people, voiced his support of efilism (an extinctionist “philosophy”), and implied that lethal violence against non-vegans is acceptable.

We want to be clear: we officially condemn Gary’s words today. Many of us can identify with the weary attitude displayed by a longtime vegan activist and appreciate his work to alleviate the suffering of many animals through his activism, but that is no excuse for his hateful misanthropic beliefs or words. We call on fellow organizers and platforms to avoid elevating voices that promote bigotry, genocide apology, or violence.

The animal rights movement has no place for hate, and we will always stand by marginalized groups, even if they are not comprised of perfect victims.

The Aponist Society