The Campus Protesters Explain Themselves

0:01

from The New York Times I'm Sabrina tavernes and this is the

0:08

daily I'm a student here I'm an English major please don't fail us don't fail us

0:17

over the past month protests over the war in Gaza have rocked college campuses across the

0:26

country really having a longdistance vision for the future Mar you are

0:31

enabling the genocide of the Palestinian people you know now I know that there's

0:38

a lot going on in the world right now and there are many places to express your views including other places in the

0:43

Coliseum but today is a day when we're celebrating our graduates as students graduate and go

0:50

home for the summer my daily colleagues and I talked to three of them about why

0:56

they got involved what they wanted to say and how they ended up facing off against

1:03

each other it's Friday May

1:12

[Music]

1:20

17th hello hi is this Mustafa yes how are yall doing good this is Sabrina and

1:27

Lindsay is also on the line with us lindsy Garrison my colleague hi nice to talk with you nice to meet you Lindsay

1:34

thank you for having me my name is Mustafa ya I'm 20 years

1:40

old and I study at the University of Texas at Austin I study civil engineering I'm a third

1:47

year Mustafa tell me where you grew up got you yeah I'm from Irving Texas my

1:55

dad's from Sherman Texas and my mother's from Naas philistine

2:00

I went to school in the United States my entire life I was born in the United States but I've always traveled back and

2:05

forth from here to Palestine it's a second home to me but my roots are in

2:11

the United States and what was it like growing up in Irving Texas

2:18

uh it was fine I mean we grew up in a house those uh we were in by no means

2:26

poor but only my dad worked and what was his job truck driver a tanker but uh we

2:36

had air conditioning the bills were paid you know I had guitars my dad buy me guitars so I was

2:43

comfortable but I didn't really have a lot I didn't know any Arabs I knew very

2:48

few other Arabs my high school is mostly Hispanic and African-American it wasn't weren't a lot of white kids and no no

2:54

Arabs or anything like that and your mom did she speak Arabic with you

3:00

yeah yeah yeah I speak like a broken Arabic with an accent but yeah we we all

3:06

speak Arabic was it part of your identity was it part of how you thought of

3:12

yourself for sure always yeah definitely part of my culture and it's Unique to be

3:18

able to go spend the summer in a totally different country environment you know I

3:24

always love being Palestinian I love my family over there I always enjoyed I always more of a community I felt a lot

3:33

more tight-knit than the United States where you just don't have that close M

3:38

of a community as over there do you have a memory of what that felt

3:44

like for sure yeah just waking up in the morning going to my grandma's house and

3:51

my grandmother my grandfather had 13 kids my mom was the ninth one so there's

3:57

people going in and out of her house and everyone's just around and it would

4:02

always smell like you know rice and vegetables whatever dish they were making

4:08

lamb got the TV going crazy show they're

4:14

watching dramatic uh soap

4:20

opera because the city's small it's meant for walking so I just walk around

4:25

and just going around see the city with my cousin just following them around

4:30

hanging out and I would go outside the start of the day and I wouldn't come back in until I go to

4:39

bed was it beautiful yeah I would sit at my Grandma's apartment building and look

4:45

down at the city from the top of the mountain and take it in Nabis is just

4:52

it's a valley two big mountains and then everything in between it's like a cereal

4:57

bowl you want to think of it like that and then the stars are a lot clearer the

5:06

cool wind is blowing at night it's beautiful 60 something 70 something degrees I'll be in a sweater just

5:12

looking down at the city looking at the mountains trying to notice details trying to see where I walked that day

5:18

trying to map out the path and recognizing building that sort of thing and then uh the beautiful sound of

5:27

the Adan it echoes through when you're up high it's got that natural Reverb that

5:34

natural delay which is uh which is always [Music]

5:43

[Applause] [Music] [Applause]

5:49

[Music] cool breaking news now from the occupied

5:57

West Bank this has turned turned into one of the deadliest days in years

6:02

Palestinian leaders say Israeli forces have killed at least nine Palestinians during an arrest raid in a flasho area K

6:10

during an Israeli raid of a refugee they protested what they say is the rising wave of violent attacks by extremist

6:16

Jewish [Music]

6:24

settlers and Mustafa noblis is of course a city in the West Bank was there a

6:32

sense of the problems between Palestinians and Israel what was your

6:38

sense of of that as a kid yeah it's it's

6:44

kind of nature there like it goes without saying you know

6:49

there is this enemy I mean that's how my family got there you know my grandparents were from

6:56

yaffa which is a part of Israel now and they were forced in the Nabis they

7:01

refugees in the nabas there would be conflicts or the

7:06

the IDF would come in and arrest somebody or something and it would be throwing rocks and it' be chaos and I

7:12

was too young to comprehend it and then uh I saw a raid an IDF raid up close and

7:21

you could go after they left you go look at the door that they blew off with the grenade and like this big metal door

7:27

mangled and twisted and as obviously the idea of driving off people throwing rocks but uh did your cousins ever talk

7:35

about it do you remember as a kid grown-ups at the dinner table talking about

7:41

it that's the thing is it was never like somebody was like hey this is what's happening it was just that's just

7:47

reality it's like you don't remember learning that the sky is blue you don't

7:53

remember learning that airplanes exist so to answer your question

8:00

no because like I said every single day that's reality for

8:05

them did you see ises was that part of your family's life there well yeah so

8:13

actually it's changed a lot so before you just see them through the bridge so there's Israeli soldiers at the Israeli

8:19

checkpoint they got their big machine guns and their fancy hats but recently

8:25

when I was in high school more and more illegal settlements in the West bank and

8:31

Israel just taking over all the highway systems and Travel Systems there you do see traveling City to City the car has a

8:39

yellow license plate than it's Israeli settlers was it changing from Summer to

8:44

Summers as you were growing up like every summer was different yeah every summer more settlements you know

8:50

Billboards of a like a young Jewish Family young man young woman holding their young Jewish baby and something in

8:57

Hebrew kind of advertising like this is a settlement call this number

9:02

encouraging Israelis to move there all across the highway you see that more and

9:08

more like I remember having a conversation my uncle was

9:13

delivering maybe chlorine I forget what he was delivering but we drove to Jericho we're seeing all the Billboards

9:20

and the the tanks driving by us and the yellow license plates in the settlements I remember talking to him about what

9:27

Israel's end goal is and like what his mind and the Palestinians mind what do we want like what's the ideal situation

9:35

from us practically practically what what could happen and he spoke of it as

9:41

if I asked him what the weather was he explained that the cities can't expand

9:46

so they want to again move us out of Palestinian land into Jordan or into Egypt and have us as refugees but uh he

9:56

talked about how most Palestinians want the the West Bank and Gaza they want

10:01

that two-state solution and not be annexed by Israel like they are now and it's scary to think about

10:10

because obviously that's the other half of my family and you know that's why I'm so invested in it

10:17

here because it matters so much so you go to Austin Texas to go to

10:25

University of Texas how was your experience on campus I

10:32

mean were you friends with Arab students Arab American students definitely yeah

10:38

Palestinians and Arabs in general I would meet them around campus here and there and I knew about the Palestinian

10:45

solidarity Community I knew about Arab Student Association but I wasn't active in until last

10:51

fall after October 7th there was some increase Palestinian demonization or

10:59

like it's racism if you want to call it there were a couple of things in West

11:04

Campus somebody like a Muslim guy got stabbed by uh he was it wasn't a Jewish

11:12

guy it was just a white guy and then uh there was a Palestinian

11:17

solidary committee meeting and there were I two IDs soldiers had infiltrated

11:22

the campus Building and like harassed the people outside of the meeting

11:31

I'm not doing just saying you are [ \_\_ ] terrorist no violence your

11:38

colors no violence this just your [ \_\_ ] terrorist and you [ \_\_ ] terrorist no violence we're not we're

11:45

asking that you just don't go into the room where I'm not going into the room I'm not going to stand here you know is

11:51

what is Palestine it's not even you don't even know

11:56

St Israeli army soldiers at University of Texas firste Minister H I guess

12:01

former IDF Soldier grown men right grown trained military men they come in and uh

12:08

harassing people outside town and we're going to we're going to do this we're going to do that I don't remember their words

12:13

exactly were you there I was not there no it was the fact that I wasn't there

12:19

that that made me really feel the need to be more present in the

12:24

community I had a kind of fire in my body that you should been there when

12:30

you're in a tight-knit community you feel bigger you feel more fulfilled and

12:36

for me to not be there was made me feel small so I participated in the protest

12:45

through downtown Austin I saw the stuff on it for social media or on social

12:51

media so I walk from campus to the capital and then uh I come into the

12:58

capital whatever part of the capital long it was just see this huge crowd and

13:04

wow just the giant massive people taking up the entire Road and then holding signs chanting

13:13

people with their kids and then you look up at the parking garages and buildings you got people waving Palestinian

13:20

Flags I've never seen anything like that in America before

13:26

[Applause] had you ever been to a protest before

13:33

no and uh to see it it's totally different than what you can

13:39

imagine it's like uh I show you a picture of the beach and you're like yeah it's going to be nice and then you

13:45

go there and then you see the beach you're not surprised it's pretty but you

13:50

know it still means something when you actually go see it

14:01

that was before campus protest began but within the Palestinian solidarity

14:07

committee we held more events more teaching events and then a March to the Tower

14:15

with more Channing and and that was a few hundred people students all

14:20

[Music] students I remember talking to it with my Arab friends how we were surprised

14:27

that it wasn't just Arabs it wasn't just Muslims at the protest it was like regular students we saw you know regular

14:35

white guys that could have been in a frat or they got on their coats and their backpacks and they just they don't

14:41

look like they're part of any group that would have already been conscious of the situation and it was very surprising to

14:48

see that see that many people take the time out of their day for it to be that

14:54

important to them like it is important to me is definitely meaningful

15:00

and what did that mean to you meant so much cuz optimism optimism that I never

15:06

had before kind of one of the reasons that I wasn't as president in the Arab

15:12

Community is kind of like how I describ back in Nas the Israeli occupation is

15:20

just reality but to have this reaction it it felt like this cause is not

15:27

hopeless it was like all of your life it had just

15:33

been this fact exactly right yeah it was hopeless before like you're

15:39

screaming at a brick wall but now yeah you feel big when everybody's

15:45

yelling the same thing you are [Music]

15:59

[Music]

16:14

and are they continuing to organize and plan

16:20

protests what's happening now right now so every day this week There's been

16:26

sitting teaching lunch studying going on on the south tower lawn what's

16:33

the mood like it's peaceful it's nice sometimes you'll have the Zionist

16:39

come in and the the counter protest or something like that but generally it's

16:44

been fine not not very much

16:49

tension who Mustafa who are the Zionist when you say Zionist who are you

16:56

talking about you mean like the definition of a Zionist Zionist is someone who believes

17:04

that the entire land should be the state of Israel and is their god-given

17:10

right and that is how the illegal occupation illegal settlements that's how all that is Justified it's the idea

17:17

of Zionism so it'll be people holding

17:23

Israeli flags and their their their intention there is to show their support

17:28

for isra and kind of be Israel's voice in in this situation you can go up there

17:35

and talk to him and that sort of [Music]

17:41

thing I would show up to the other side protests with my Israeli flag because it

17:47

was very important to me even in the face of hate to not be bullied or scared

17:53

off campus and it was important to me as someone who felt confident and comfortable enough to do that that I

18:00

kind of acted as you know a voice for my peers around me who kind of were anxious

18:05

and didn't want to be

18:12

seen we'll be right back I consider myself as proud a

18:20

Zionist as can be and what that means very simply is that I believe in the Jewish people's right to a state in

18:28

their historic Homeland and that's something that

18:35

people misunderstand about Jews is that we're not just a religion we are a people and we've always considered ourselves to be a people right the first

18:42

Covenant is with Abraham I'll make you a great nation my colleague daily producer

18:49

Jessica Chung talked to Alicia Baker a sophomore at Columbia [Music]

18:56

University I'm studying Middle East history and Arabic language I also studied

19:02

Hebrew my whole life and I feel like as somebody who's studying the Middle East and wants to for my life to participate

19:08

in Middle East diplomacy and conversations about the future of the Middle East it was necessary for me to

19:14

both learn the history from New Perspectives and learn Arabic language I grew up in Brooklyn

19:21

Massachusetts right outside Boston yeah I when I went to Jewish Day School my entire life growing up in Brooklyn was

19:28

probably the best thing that could have happened to me I grew up in a in an observant modern Orthodox Jewish

19:35

Community but I went to pluralistic Jewish Day School which meant that at school I was around Jews with all sorts

19:42

of different backgrounds and you know different ways of practicing their religion so far Mitzvah season was very

19:49

fun for me because you know one week I was Orthodox synagogue and the next week I was in a reform synagogue where they

19:54

were playing guitar and drums and that was very good for my know my Jewish

19:59

religious literacy can you tell me like a story from childhood about something that maybe happened to you that first

20:07

got you to understand what it is to be a Jewish person yeah that's such a good question you know I've lit I have never

20:13

been asked that question so there was one year I can't remember exactly what

20:20

year but in middle school there so every year we have a a fast day and it's it's distinct from Yom kipor because Yom

20:26

kipor is about repentance it's also a fast day but Kabab is really a fast day of morning and it's a sad day it's like

20:34

the saddest day of the year and so one of the things you're not allowed to do

20:40

is you know watch a comedy or do things like for pleasure can't watch the office

20:46

on Tab as much as I love the office so when I was younger what that meant was

20:51

watching movies about the Holocaust and I remember in like sixth grade probably

20:56

I watched for the first time I'm the boy in the strip pajamas I'm

21:02

broo sorry I'm scho

21:08

Sho no one's called Shmo what happens is there's a Jewish

21:13

Boy in the Striped Pajamas who's in one of the death camps and a German general

21:21

a Nazi who lives near the death camps and his son is the same age as the Jewish boy and they kind of developed

21:27

this like thing like this secret friendship or whatever are you not allowed

21:33

out why what have you done I'm a

21:38

Jew and in the end the Jewish boy sneaks the German boy into the camp and they

21:44

end up in line for quote unquote the shower no it's just the

21:51

[Music] showerer and and the German boy they go into they what the gas chamber

21:59

[Music] and the German general tries to get

22:04

there in time to stop it and doesn't get there in

22:10

time and I was just balling at the end when when you see his face through the

22:16

window the tiny little window of the gas chamber and the German kid who by the

22:22

way tragically dies as well because He follows his Jewish friend cuz he didn't

22:27

understand the difference cuz he just saw him as a human being and my god did that stick with me and still has stuck

22:34

with me um in terms of just understanding how brutal and inhumane

22:41

the Holocaust

22:47

was well certainly you grew up in an observant family but did you grow up in a political family at all like did your

22:54

parents ever talk to you about the state of Israel or Palestine and did that ever come up definitely I mean I went in 10th

23:01

Grade and 11th grade I was like all right I need to know about this conflict

23:07

more than I already do and I was like you know I know my narrative and I know my people's history and I would love to

23:12

know their narrative though I read Edward SED question the question of

23:18

Palestine and orientalism I read rashid's 100 Years War in Palestine I

23:24

read Rashid ki's Palestinian identity I also read d with his book on called The

23:30

Case for Israel and Yosi Klein Levi's letters to my Palestinian neighbor and Daniel gordis to Israel kind of

23:37

foundational text on both sides of this and I would come to the dinner table and

23:43

be like all right like well what the heck happened in 1948 you know who's fault with it that

23:51

the that many Palestinians had to leave and at the end of the day like it is definitely clear that it's complicated

24:00

[Music] so I came to Columbia in search of a an

24:07

academically serious environment with peers from different backgrounds who because of our

24:15

different backgrounds we might learn so much from each other but what I'm feeling right now is

24:23

some of these people don't believe that I have a right to be at that table

24:28

[Music] I want to get to the protests and what's

24:35

been happening on campus but just to reel it back a little bit what happened

24:40

in the days after October 7th morning mour it was a time for mourning and for

24:46

being with our community and then on October 12th we found out that students

24:52

for by the way students for justice in Palestine and Jewish voice for peace the token Jews who support anti-semitic and

24:58

violent uh rhetoric they were planning a an allout for Palestine rally on October

25:03

12th wait a second what the hell are you talking about you're planning a rally on October 12th like we were literally

25:10

still bagging bodies in the South Israelis who were

25:18

massacred to me that was like the most inhumane

25:24

unsensitive really just morally reprehensible thing that I had ever seen in my entire

25:30

life and it really really pissed me off from the river to the Sea River to the

25:35

Sea will be free will be free and as a Jewish Community we you

25:42

know there was a there was a conversation what do we do about this everyone we're going to ask everyone to

25:49

gather in a circle so that we can sing together in a sign of Jewish unity and

25:54

so that we can stand strong in front of the people who want to tear us down they'll never tear us down come on and

26:00

we did 22 minutes of silence which at that time was 1 second for each of the

26:06

around 1300 [Applause]

26:14

victims and then got into a big circle and just sang songs of peace and unity

26:20

and perseverance it was really a moment for

26:26

community and it was all those so disheartening to see our peers celebrating October 7th

26:34

that was really you know that was a wakeup call to the fact that we have some real

26:41

problems but also I would try and talk to people and then you know sometimes the leaders would be like you know you're not allowed to talk to these guys

26:47

with the Israeli Flags once in a while I'd be able to talk to somebody and I was lucky enough that there was one person who was actually Palestinian and

26:55

you know friendly enough to to speak with me and then we know we got to talking and ended up getting

27:02

coffee we spoke a lot about narrative and the importance of narrative to

27:09

history and I would stress the importance of the Jewish story and be open to hearing obviously the

27:16

Palestinian [Music] side when the protests on Columbia's

27:22

campus started we were already hearing globalize the intifa from New York to

27:32

[Music] and this movement on campus continues that screamed in Revolution and there is

27:38

only one solution right intifa

27:47

[Music]

27:53

Revolution now as somebody who knows the Jewish story and the Israeli story I

28:00

know what intifa is it means violence against Jews the second intifa happened between 2000 and 2005 over a thousand

28:07

Jews were killed thousands were injured and it was basically a series of bus bombing suicide bombings stabbings

28:15

shootings perpetrated perpetuated by Palestinian terrorists so that's what I

28:22

hear when I hear in Tiana it is a call for violence against Jews everywhere very very simply so I raised that

28:29

concern and I said please shut it down because this is a threat against Jews and it's going to normalize violence

28:35

against Jews and I was told no the Arabic root of intifa is Naf

28:42

which means shaking things up and I said well you can't use eological roots to

28:48

reverse what the meaning has become and I was told well we're not calling for

28:55

violence and I would say well what are you calling for and there was never a concrete answer we've had this

29:01

conversation probably 10 times over lunch and

29:06

passing we're not going to agree it is a call for violence against Jews there is

29:11

no way that any other minority could get his claims of discrimination denied by

29:17

the use of an emical route everyone who has to go through Dei

29:23

training is taught that a microaggression is something that you

29:28

but you didn't mean to be racist but maybe might come off as offensive and we're taught that the impact of your

29:35

words matters more than your intent when you say it now I'm saying well here's

29:41

the impact of your words on me here's how I experience them as a Jew as a

29:46

minority and I'm being told no no no the intent of the speaker matters more than

29:52

the impact on you what kind of double standard is that [Music]

30:07

you mentioned earlier this phrase token Jew who are the token Jews it's to me I think there are it's

30:15

it's really sad There are some Jewish people who identify I guess as Jewish but reject the existence of the state of

30:22

Israel and what's happening is that they're saying oh you know I'm Jewish

30:28

and I'm anti-zionist so therefore anti-zionism is not anti-Semitism or therefore this movement can't be

30:34

anti-semitic because I'm a part of it that is textbook tokenization and who are they I don't

30:41

know who they are I don't know who they are but I do know that they do not know the Jewish story they just don't know it

30:48

they are signing statements and leading protests that are celebrating the murder

30:54

of Israelis and of Jews how in good conscience as a Jew

30:59

could you possibly do [Music]

31:12

that have you ever been called that token Jew oh my God I have been called

31:18

the self-hating Jew I've been told I want the extermination of Jewish people

31:23

I have not been directly called a token Jew but I have definitely been things online

31:31

that insinuate that myself and other Jewish people in this movement are and

31:37

[Music] um it hurts but

31:44

I well I I know it's not true I know that it is not an accurate

31:50

portrayal of me or my feelings but that it is an accurate portrayal of other

31:56

people's fear and desire for safety I also want my people to be safe but my

32:03

desire for safety is not built on the idea that it has to come to someone else's

32:09

[Music] expense my name is Jasmine Jolly I'm 25

32:18

I'm a student at calpoly humble and I'm a student of the child development department and I am at home in Arcada

32:25

California I grew up in Sonoma County I'm of ashkanazi descent on my mom's

32:31

side my dad's a high school teacher and my mom ran a daycare for years and my

32:40

parents were both activists they took us to anti-war protest like when Bush

32:45

attacked Iraq they had us at protest and my mom

32:51

made us all shirts like I think mine said war is bad for toddlers my sister said war is bad for babies hers said war

32:58

is bad for moms my dad said war is bad for dads and what about your faith did

33:03

they practice Judaism were your parents more culturally Jewish my dad was raised

33:09

Catholic but I was raised really proudly like culturally Jewish so we always had

33:15

really big like family seders big Hanukkah parties we celebrated Russia Shana together I'm really openly Jewish

33:22

and I talk about it a lot I talk about the values through like my understanding

33:27

of Jewish tradition and just like historically for me holding on to that

33:34

title of Jewish and being able to passed on to my children one day is really really important so yeah like I'm raising

33:40

Jewish babies one day for sure but I have

33:46

been I've been in a lot of spaces where I didn't feel Jewish

33:51

enough and I've also been told a lot throughout my life that I don't look

33:57

Jewish I look like the Irish English Scottish

34:03

side of my family um so yeah like I don't in a lot of ways fit Jewish stereotypes

34:11

[Music] um and I've never been targeted because of it

34:18

um and that at least is like I'm sure partially because of how I

34:24

look and then two three years ago I had been giving a lot of consideration to the idea of Birthright Birthright trip

34:30

is a free trip that anyone who can prove Jewish ancestry is given to Israel it's

34:36

seen as a Birthright of Jewish people and then in my mid late teenage years I

34:43

had read about people walking off of their Birthright trip in protest and that sort of

34:49

sparked like a bit of a deeper dive beyond the honestly very little that I

34:54

knew about the country previously um I started reading about

34:59

that and I started reading about settler violence in the West Bank and I looked

35:06

at like historical maps and historical treaties and I was like oh this is really there there's some there's things

35:13

here I was like there's things here that I wasn't like told that people didn't tell me um like

35:20

what like about settler violence and this like pretty continuous push from

35:26

Israeli people onto Palestinian land and then expulsion of Palestinians from

35:31

their land but that was a really big turning point for me so you never went on the birthright

35:38

trip no and I won't and then mid October right around that time there

35:47

were the campus dialogues on race and for a class we were assigned to

35:53

go to two of these and to write about our experience there so one I went to was given by a Palestinian student on I

36:01

think they called it like tties like resistance embroidery and at that point I was

36:06

watching Israel's retaliation now more than 12,700 Palestinians have been killed as

36:15

watch the numbers of the Dead go up and I watched Family Lines being wiped out

36:22

people being pushed out of their homes families are bearing their dead in Mass

36:27

with little I seen hundreds and hundreds of images of dead children and dead families and bodies and mass Graves Gaza

36:34

becoming a graveyard for children the UN Chief says and all I could see in that

36:40

was this parallel to how my family was treated in Eastern

36:46

Europe and that was when the severity sunk

36:54

in I um come from a people who are

37:00

historically expelled and I felt like I was watching Israel do

37:06

what was done to my family and that was that was the

37:11

end of any way I could support that country for

37:16

me I felt like I was watching them inact Vengeance out of fear and I know exactly

37:25

where that fear of like Exile and extermination comes from in Jewish people because I feel it for my

37:35

family um when they had to leave Eastern Europe or for the few who went to

37:43

Western Europe instead of the US when they had to leave France and when they

37:48

died and I the lesson I learned I feel like from my history is that I have a

37:56

voice that is powerful I feel like my Jewish family

38:03

especially teaches me to ask questions and that is what I am trying to

38:13

do so I thought that if there was any way that my voice could influence an end

38:22

to violence I would try to make it loud so we had a couple of

38:28

for people who have died in godra where we read testimonies of their stories or some of their words that was when I got

38:34

more involved with humble for Palestine up here and eventually we shifted to

38:40

being at the Eureka courthouse on Fridays and we have been there every Friday ever [Music]

38:46

since and what was your sign that you made mine said in honor of my Jewish

38:52

ancestors I stand with Palestine

38:58

[Music]

39:07

Jasmine during these protests I wanted to ask you if you ever felt hostility

39:14

toward you because of your jewishness no nothing that has like ever made me feel

39:21

excluded I'm sure you've seen some of these comparisons of like Nazis and IDE

39:27

yes or people compare Netanyahu to Hitler and once we had a person show up

39:32

to one of our regular protests with an Israeli flag but instead of the Star of

39:38

David it had a swastika on it and that I was immediately uncomfortable with I

39:44

will not stand with a swasa I will not stand next to a swasa I

39:49

will not stand in the same group as a swasa I like adamant refuse I cannot do

39:54

that I will not stand here with any Nazi symbolism like this is going to bring

40:00

more violence and vital aimed in our direction we already get coffee cups Dar at us we already get spit at and yelled

40:06

at and in order to keep the people that we are inviting to these protests safe

40:12

we knew that that was not the time and place for it so there's this chant Ina Revolution

40:20

is the only solution what does that mean to you um

40:25

so intifa has come to represent Uprising but it means literally to shake off and

40:31

it is a word that has been used to label a number of violent uprisings of different Palestinian groups against

40:38

Israeli occupation does that seem like a fair like actual Like official

40:43

definition of it to you yeah I wanted to ask you if you yourself had chanted inat

40:49

revolution in the course of the protests yeah I

40:55

have and what did that feel like um it

41:01

definitely the first time I heard it I was uncomfortable why uh whoa this is a call

41:07

for violence I don't like that but then I thought about the word I

41:13

read multiple definitions I read Jewish takes on the word I read Muslim takes on

41:18

the word I read Miriam Webster um

41:25

and I realized the similarity in that call of there is only one solution in

41:34

the father Revolution I realized the similarity to if we don't get no justice

41:40

they don't get no peace no justice no peace when people are occupied resistance is Justified and yes it it is

41:48

it is still a word that means these like specific actions that were taken against Israel and a lot of them harmed

41:55

civilians and that is sad but it is also a word that inspires people it is also a

42:04

word that makes people feel like they might be capable of

42:09

change and and yeah I will use it

42:17

thoughtfully what do you mean by thoughtfully in like where I time it with other chance oh what do you mean I

42:26

I have like a list and they are all classified by like genre so we have the

42:31

financial ones and we have the the Arabic chance and we have the chance

42:37

talking about people who have died and how we are all interconnected and we have the chance

42:43

about occupation being a crime and I try to put it with the no justice no peace

42:50

ones were there any other times where you felt tested by protesters you felt

42:56

perhaps different from them again because of your

43:03

jewishness no I feel

43:09

like I feel there's people who feel like Zionism is Judaism you know or that to

43:16

be Jewish you must be Zionist but there's nothing that has

43:21

come across to me as anti-semitic if you are able to pause

43:28

um and remember that Israel is not Jewish people and Zionism is not Jewish

43:36

people and what about from Jewish friends do they question what you're

43:42

doing do you ever feel some kind of people looking slightly as scans at you

43:47

yeah I think you know my auntie made a comment once like if you're Jewish right now you have to support Israel and uh I

43:56

have definitely felt nervous about expressing some of my views in front of family my grandfather and I this was a

44:03

couple months ago now we were exchanging like 1500 2,000 word emails asking each

44:09

other questions about our opinions he's a he was a history Professor this is my Jewish grandfather he was raised labor

44:15

Zionist so I was asking about how he was raised and the ideologies that he was raised with

44:21

but he he made a really good point and if

44:27

you have the time I would like to try to find this line that he said and read it to you oh

44:34

please here here it is so he said you have grown up in an era in which the

44:40

deeper Israeli history is not part of your DNA Jews have plenty of place in the world Israel is an increasingly

44:46

apartheid state most importantly the existence of Israel has never really been under threat nor have the most

44:53

fundamental conditions of existence been an issue for Jews those things are not a part of your worldview as they are mine

44:59

in my generation and to a lesser extent your parents I do not imagine you can fathom the importance of Israel in the

45:04

hearts of people of my generation nor should you I would not ask it that would be an unfair burden that said here are

45:11

the things which I believe we might both agree on or at Le very least productively argue

45:21

about what did you think really of that point that your grandfather made like

45:27

how did it strike you did you feel like he was right that you didn't understand why

45:35

Israel would be a safe haven for people of his generation I I think his point is

45:41

that I can theoretically understand but I cannot emotionally I theoretically understand

45:48

why Israel was created why this idea of a Jewish state was considered a good

45:54

idea for the safety of Jewish people right after a genocide but emotionally like he

46:02

said I have been safe I have not been afraid for Jewish

46:08

people's safety the way that I think people in other Generations may have so that comment I do not imagine

46:17

you could fathom the importance of Israel in the hearts of people in my generation nor should you I would not ask it it would be an unfair

46:23

burden really just hit my heart in a nice way in this like his understanding that I

46:30

will have my own perspective and he will have his own that lead us both toward a place of like understanding each other

46:37

better [Music]

47:00

[Music]

47:14

we'll be right

47:23

back here's what else you should know today on Thursday day the Supreme Court

47:28

rejected a challenge to the way that the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is funded a decision that protects the

47:35

agency from conservatives seeking to undermine it in a 7 to2 ruling the

47:42

justice is found that the way that Congress chose to finance the bureau is

47:47

constitutional had the Court ruled otherwise it may have cast doubt on every regulation and action taken by the

47:54

watchog agency since it was created ated 13 years ago under former president

47:59

Barack Obama and during a second day of cross-examination lawyers for Donald

48:06

Trump sought to portray his former fixer Michael Cohen as a serial liar who

48:13

constantly changes his story their goal was to undermine The credibility of Cohen's testimony so far which is

48:20

Central to the prosecution's case in the hush money trial in particular defense

48:26

lawyer seized on Cohen's claim in a different court case that he had lied under oath their suggestion is that

48:34

Cohen might be willing to lie under oath again during this

48:40

[Music] trial also a reminder to catch the interview tomorrow right here where you

48:47

get the daily this week on the show David maresi talks with scientist Ayan

48:53

Elizabeth Johnson about why she thinks we can't give in to climate Doom even if

48:59

we feel it we went from like okay climate change is this really happening

49:05

to like how serious is this to oh God it's so bad let's just give

49:10

up and sort of skipped this middle step of all hands on

49:16

deck today's episode was reported and produced by Lindsay Garrison and Jessica

49:22

Chong with help from Diana win AA chat and Clare tennis sket it was edited by

49:30

Michael benois with help from Ben Calhoun researched by Susan Lee contains

49:37

original music by Chelsea Daniel Dan Powell Marian Lozano Alicia beu Rowan

49:44

Nimo and was engineered by Alysa Moxley our themee music is by Jim brunberg and

49:50

Ben Lans of wonderly special thanks to relle Banja

49:56

and jod canor that's it for the daily I'm

50:02

Sabrina Tavern see you on Monday