

"MY NAME IS RACHEL CORRIE"
A play by Alan Rickman & Katharine Viner

WHAT RACHEL CORRIE DID NOT KNOW ABOUT THE ISM

1. While the International Solidarity Movement (ISM), a Palestinian-run organization that describes itself as a peaceful humanitarian group, in reality it is sympathetic to terrorist tactics and promulgates a one-sided, anti-Israel view of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. ISM lures well-intentioned, idealistic young adults to the Palestinian Territories to promote this distorted viewpoint. The ISM then knowingly leads its members into war zones to act as human shields and obstruct Israel's counterterrorism operations in the Territories, placing the lives of these young adults at risk. After weeks or months of such experiences, ISM "internationals" are sent home to their native countries to spread the biased views and factual distortions and misinformation they were taught during their stay in the Territories.
2. Though the ISM tries to maintain the veneer of a "peace group," they have a history of actively aiding terrorism and obstructing counter-terrorism efforts.
 - On April 30, 2003, weeks after Rachel Corrie's death, Asif Muhammad Hanif murdered three people and wounded more than 50 in a suicide bombing at a beachfront pub in Tel Aviv. Days earlier, Hanif & his cohort (whose bomb would later fail to detonate) were hosted at ISM headquarters. The two British subjects had entered the Territories illegally, using security-subverting tactics ISM prescribes to its members (ISM members are typically refused entry into Israel or deported when discovered by Israeli security officials). ISM is currently under investigation by UK and Israeli intelligence for its role in this terrorist attack.
 - In two separate incidents in March/April 2002, ISM members broke through military security lines to give support to Yasser Arafat in Ramallah and holed up with Arab terrorists who took over the Church of the Nativity in Bethlehem.
 - ISM activists admit they work with terrorist groups like Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Two ISM founders described suicide bombings as "noble." A wanted Islamic Jihad terrorist was hidden from Israeli soldiers in an ISM office. ISM members have even slept in homes of suicide bombers to protect the structures from demolition.

3. Between 2000 and early 2003, hundreds of Israeli men, women and children had been murdered and thousands were injured in suicide bombings and other attacks by Palestinian terrorist groups. Israel had escalated its military operations against Palestinian terrorist groups and infrastructure in 2002 in an effort to protect Israeli citizens from terrorist violence. These operations continued into 2003, coinciding with Rachel Corrie's 50-day stay in Rafah, Gaza. Less than two weeks before Rachel's death, a suicide bomber blew up a bus in Haifa killing 17, and wounding 53.
4. The bulldozers Rachel and her fellow "internationals" were trying to stop on March 16, 2003 in Rafah, were working to uncover part of the underground tunnel network used to smuggle explosives from Egypt, into Gaza. These tunnels had been built under civilian Arab homes and structures—perhaps against the will of their owners—in order to smuggle weapons and explosives into Israel. What Rachel and many of her "international" companions did not likely consider and were not told by their ISM handlers, was that for every tunnel they succeeded in saving, many more Israelis and Palestinians would suffer due to increased terrorism and Israeli military responses.
5. The ISM intentionally placed Rachel and other "internationals" between 50 ton bulldozers and Rafah homes. If successful, the terrorist weapons tunnels would remain intact; and if an "international" was injured, the ISM would achieve its goal of attaining international exposure and public sympathy for the "Palestinian plight." If you listen to the play, you'll hear that ISM encouraged untrained "internationals" to enter the line of fire by guarding wells at night and carrying stretchers into a war zone.
6. An investigation found Rachel's death to have been a tragic accident. On March 16, 2003, Rachel and other "internationals" spent the morning using their bodies to deter bulldozers from clearing brush and earth around homes in Rafah. According to a witness, hours into their effort, Corrie slipped as she moved in front of the bulldozer, fell in front of the slow moving blade and was crushed by unearthed debris. An investigation which included extensive interrogation of the driver and his commanders, with use of polygraphs and video evidence, revealed that the view of the driver was obstructed both by the debris Rachel stood in front of and by the bulldozer's protective driver cage. An autopsy performed at the Tel Aviv Center of Forensics, confirmed the bulldozer had not touched Rachel.
7. Israel has always sought long-lasting peace with its Arab neighbors. Israel gave up all of Sinai, land three times the size of Israel proper, to have peace with Egypt. Israel and Jordan made peace in 1994. Israel unilaterally left its Lebanese buffer zone in 2000 despite a de facto state of war with Lebanon. In 2005 Israel unilaterally pulled 8,500 settlers out of Gaza. Israel wants a two state solution so that both Israelis and Palestinians can have a better future.