

March 7, 2025
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Dear Mr President:

I am concerned about repression.

Axios has just reported on a State Department plan to use a computer search of social media data to look for staff and students at universities who might have visas and oppose the ongoing genocide in Gaza with an eye to deportation. This performatory viciousness uses the divisions over last year's campus protests against a range of your usual targets: immigrants, intellectuals and protesters. Your related order uses the pretext of stopping anti-semitism but singles out campus visa holders while ignoring your right wing supporters. A 2019 ADL report found every one of the 249 anti-semitic acts of hate reported in 2018 which were attributable to any group were carried out by white supremacists while most of the remaining 1630 were the work of individuals inspired by such rhetoric.

Please assure me that you will fight domestic terror not peaceful protests. ■

My pride in the US derives in part from our safety.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson