

**Letter to the Editor of the Globe and Mail  
May 26, 2010**

**Re: Group that dare not speak its name to march in Toronto's Pride Parade anyway**

Pride Toronto has done the right thing in banning the slanderous phrase "Israeli Apartheid" from the Gay Pride Parade; the likely loss of funding and an "operational crisis", rather than the promotion of hateful and divisive messaging, was cited as the chief reason for adopting this position. Despite my pleasure at this announcement, I would have been much more impressed had Pride Executive Director Tracey Sandilands and the Pride Board taken a principled stand and clearly stated their opposition to the use of a term which falsely links Israel and Israeli Canadians to the odious apartheid regime of South Africa. I feel saddened that they haven't done so, and wonder why they are afraid to confront a fringe group which is succeeding only in undermining a formerly fabulous and inclusive celebration of gay pride. I sincerely hope she and the Pride Board find the courage to stand up to these bullies, who have already proclaimed their intention to ignore the ban and destroy the future of the Pride parade.