

To: Letters to the editor

### Israel's right to defend itself

The predictably hysterical baying from the left and sundry apologists who run fast and loose with the truth over the latest outbreak in the Middle East is nothing but a cynical attempt to divert attention from the core issue: the right of a sovereign nation to live in peace. To blame this latest outbreak on the Israelis slights and distorts the truth about Israel's clear rights and the Arab nations' ineptitude to get their own houses in order - let alone address the Palestinian issue with some measure of responsibility.

Lisa Beyer, *TIME* magazine, December 18, 2006 put it so elegantly in reference to the Arab world's conveniently warped take on the Palestinian issue: "It (The Palestinians' misfortune) encourages the Arabs to continue to avoid addressing their colossal societal and political ills by hiding behind their *Great Excuse*: it's all Israel's fault".

So Hamas once again proves destructive to both the Palestinian and the Arab causes. When will they learn?

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