

Sanford R. Silverburg (Catawba College, Salisbury, NC)

reprinted from *AJL*—Association of Jewish Libraries  
(February/March 2015)

Nelson, Cary and Gabriel Noah Brahm (eds.).  
*The Case against Academic Boycotts of Israel*.  
Chicago and New York: MLA Members for Scholar's Rights  
distributed by Wayne State University Press, 2015.  
549 pp. \$33.02. (9780990331605).

Probably the newest form of anti-Semitism, anti-Zionism, and an anti-Israel activist statement is the Boycott, Divestment, and Sanction (BDS) movement. The ideological profile is clearly Left-of-Center and the primary theme, at least expressed, is the perceived oppressed state of Palestinian Arabs in the territories occupied by Israel since the 1967 Arab-Israeli conflict and to a lesser extent discrimination of Israeli Arabs. To counter the charges leveled by the BDS, largely on college and university campuses internationally, is this collection of 25 essays, supplemented by an expanded introduction. The collection is divided into six sections: how does one oppose a boycott; examining the minority within the American Studies Association, the humanities group that engineered BDS; how BDS fits within American culture; Israel as a target; a brief historical treatment of Israel, and a subject expose of BDS.

An online listing of related resources augments the collection of essays. The issues confronted are ethical, historical, and political as they are connected to BDS and provide the substance for anyone in a position to oppose a BDS spokesperson. This is a useful tool for individuals and groups that have Israel's interests in mind and have the opportunity to raise an objection to BDS.