

Open letter to the Psychoanalysis, Culture and Society (PCS) Editorial Board and to colleagues in other institutions committed to Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS)

We are psychoanalytic practitioners and researchers who stand with Palestine against the apartheid Israeli state and the ongoing genocide, and we are committed to Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) as a necessary response (<https://www.bdsmovement.net/pacbi>). BDS applies to Israeli state institutions, including the universities, which are closely tied to the Israeli state.

Through 2025 we have argued the case for BDS inside the PCS Editorial Board. This process included a vote in which the demand that the journal adhere to BDS gained the most votes in an anonymised poll of Editorial Board members. The Editors of the journal refuse to implement BDS, and have also rejected a proposal, since the internal poll, that a section of the journal be established that is devoted to Palestine and committed to BDS. The response by the PCS Editors to issue a call for papers for a special issue of the journal is not sufficient, and public mention of the genocide has already been censored.

Silence about the genocide is a toxic weapon of war utilised by the Israeli state, and BDS is minimal action that breaks that silence. We must now break that silence, and call on members of the PCS Editorial Board to publicly commit themselves to BDS.

We ask the journal to make clear in its public submission guidelines that authors from Israeli universities append this statement: “The author(s) acknowledge that their university lies within an apartheid settler-colonial state carrying out genocide against Palestine”.

This public statement is designed to make visible one internal struggle among many that has been taking place inside academic and clinical psychoanalytic institutions, and to make clear that we continue to be steadfast in our support for BDS and for the Palestinian people.

Some colleagues from the PCS Editorial Board will devote their editorial energies to other journals.

Signed by 20 members of the PCS Editorial Board as of 27 April 2026

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