

August /
September 2025
Price \$5.00

CAPITOL HILL CITIZEN

*“Democracy
dies in
broad daylight”*

One day, everyone will have always been against this

Senators for arming Israel,
but against starvation

By Citizen Staff

On October 25, 2023, after just three weeks of the bombardment of Gaza, the Egypt-born reporter Omar El Akkad put out a tweet:

“One day, when it’s safe, when there’s no personal downside to calling a thing what it is, when it’s too late to hold anyone accountable, everyone will have always been against this.”

The tweet has been viewed more than ten million times.

El Akkad turned his tweet into a best selling book about Israel’s war in Gaza and his breakup with the United States, Canada and the West – *One Day, Everyone Will Have Always Been Against This* (Penguin Random House, 2025).

And lo and behold, now, almost two years later, even the

most ardent supporters of Israel’s genocide in Gaza are starting to acknowledge the reality on the ground. Apparently there is something about pictures of starving kids that can move the political needle in Washington while pictures of slaughtered kids cannot.

Take the case of Senator Cory Booker (D-New Jersey). This corporate liberal slavishly gets his picture taken with the Israeli war criminals whenever they come to Washington and when Booker travels to Tel Aviv – including with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu (twice this year on Capitol Hill) and the former defense minister Yoav Gallant, after Gallant called all Gazans “human animals” and then ordered “a complete siege on the Gaza Strip – there will be no electricity, no food, no fuel, everything is



Yazan Abu Ful, a 2-year-old malnourished child, sits at his home in Shati refugee camp in Gaza City on July 23, 2025 (AP Photo: Jihad Alshrafi)

closed.” (International Criminal Court arrest warrants are out for both Netanyahu and Gallant. They both are charged with war crimes and crimes against humanity.)

Then came the predictable results of Gallant’s stated policy of starving the population – namely starvation – and on July 26 Booker tweeted this:

“Witnessing the catastrophic hunger and suffering of civilians, especially children, women, the sick and elderly, in Gaza has been heartbreaking. The crisis in Gaza must be met with an immediate and drastic surge in life-saving resources, such as desperately needed food, water, and medicine – including ther-

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Congress blind to AI X-risk

Boomers
v. Doomers

By Russell Mokhiber

Over the past year, Congress has held a number of hearings on the risks posed by Artificial Intelligence (AI).

At these hearings and in their public statements, members of Congress addressed a whole number of subsidiary risks of artificial intelligence – risks like fake news, polarization, threats to democracy, deepfake harassment, scams, bias, discrimination, job loss, economic inequality, mental health, addiction and loss of privacy, power accumulation, tyranny, computer viruses and cyber attacks.

What you will rarely hear a member of Congress address is existential risk (X-risk).

This despite the bold faced, staring you in the face reality that AI researchers on average believe there’s a 14 percent chance that once we build a superintelligent AI – an AI vastly more intelligent than humans – it will lead to very bad outcomes – including human extinction.

“Would you choose to be a passenger on a test flight of a new plane when airplane engineers think there’s a 14 percent

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Anybody home? Doctors against Genocide take their case to Capitol Hill

By Linda Pentz Gunter

Every Sunday for the past nine months, Dr. Nidal Jboor, the Palestinian American cofounder of Doctors Against Genocide (DAG), opens the group’s weekly webinar with a monologue about the plight of Palestinians in Gaza. After weeks of repeating the same messages – call a ceasefire, end the occupation, stop arming Israel, stop starving

children, stop the genocide – it has come to sound more like an incantation.

The rage and sorrow are suppressed in the calm monotone of the Michigan physician’s voice, but both are there. After 22 months of live streaming, press conferences, scores of meetings on Capitol Hill and even getting arrested there, while the genocidal Israeli attacks on the population of Gaza grow ever more heinous, desperation sets in.

The fact that there even needs to be a group calling itself Doctors Against Genocide is an indication of the kind of twisted world we have come to inhabit.

“Doctors Against Genocide is the world’s first medical association created to warn, diagnose and prevent genocide,” Jboor opens a recent Sunday afternoon webinar. “But after more than 600 days of live-streamed genocide in Gaza, it is too late to prevent. Now, we issue the only

duty left to us as doctors and as witnesses. This is our final verdict. The United States of America is guilty of genocide. This is not policy, this is command and control. This genocide is not passive. It is not hidden. It is designed, weaponized, resourced and coordinated from Washington, DC.”

Nurses and doctors still poll at or near the top of the list of professions Americans trust

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