

As someone who has consistently been here on the ground, it is abundantly clear to me and my fellow Liberated Zone community members that this policy is specifically targeted at our Pro-Palestine encampment. You need only to read the policy's limitations and bans on holding signs, setting up tents, and camping overnight to know that this is true. It is especially absurd considering Indiana University's history of allowing other encampments, such as those protesting the Vietnam War and South African apartheid.

The truth, plain and simple, is that the IU administration sees Pro-Palestinian protests as a threat to IU—not in a physical sense, but to their pockets. Of course, the Board of Trustees would like you to believe that this IS a physically dangerous protest. They have dressed up this sham of a policy so that their intentions appear to be protecting the safety of the university because that is the ONLY way they can justify their treatment of the encampment. However, the only times that people HAVE been in danger at this encampment have been when Pamela Whitten called in the state police, who then pointed sniper rifles at and brutalized IU students, faculty members, and alumni who were protesting in a way designed to build community—by sharing food and water, providing sunscreen, and welcoming people into the protest like we were all family. But then the police arrested dozens of protestors and injured several. Since then, those arrested were given trespass bans which were eventually withdrawn. Many of the protestors who interrupted the Board of Trustees meeting in June were detained and received conduct violations. IUPD has targeted and even banned Pro-Palestinian demonstrators from campus who follow tour groups to inform prospective students of what IU is really doing with students' tuition money. Because that's what it comes down to. The money.

IU doesn't want you to know how they are supporting the genocide in Gaza through their partnership with Crane, even though it is plain to see and has been well-known and documented

for months. All of the Board of Trustees and IU admin's efforts to try to legislate our movement into obscurity cannot erase their complicity in this genocide. What is more shameful is that they do not even try to change course with this investment and partnership with Crane. They will not even disclose many of their investments, let alone divest from them, because they care more about money than they do about human life. But they cannot wash their hands free of Palestinian blood.

If the Board of Trustees approves this policy, they will say that they took students' voices into account with their survey, but that survey is just an excuse for them to say that they listened, even if disingenuously. IU will continue to try to delegitimize our movement, as we have seen them attempt time and again over the past few months, most recently with the "Investigative ReportIU will attempt to clear this camp just in time for students to come back for school and forget that anything even happened here on this meadow during the summer. Protesting will be forbidden in everything but name, but we will continue in our fight. We have shown just how steadfast we are over the 93 days of our encampment. We will not stop. We will not rest.