



17<sup>th</sup> October 2023

To:

Prof. **Martha E. Pollack** – President of Cornell University

**RE: Requesting Cornell's reaction to the outrageous speech of Prof. Russell Rickford**

Dear Prof. Pollack,

We at [BaShaar](https://bashaar.org.il) – Academic Community for Israeli Society\*, have just watched the speech by Prof. Rickford regarding Hamas atrocities against Israel: "...It was exhilarating, It was exhilarating, it was energizing... I was exhilarated".

**We would like to know, what action does Cornell plan to take with regards to one of its leading members who is so thrilled vis-à-vis pure evil in the Nazi and ISIS tradition**, that included butchering entire families, killing and torturing old people, men, women, pregnant women, elderly, children and babies; parents tortured in front of their children, babies and children tortured and their bodies mutilated; shooting, beheading, burning alive, cutting and stubbing fetus out of his 9th month pregnant mother, raping women and murdering them, burning alive families and triumphantly displaying corpses to cheering ecstatic crowds. Further, 200 Israelis were taken hostage, amongst them elderly sick people, men, women, children and babies and Hamas is cynically using them together with Gaza civilians as human shields.

**This is pure evil and one cannot and should not stay within the realm of "politically correctness" vis-a-vis these horrible atrocities and their supporters.**

Supporting Palestinian rights is the absolute opposite of supporting Hamas barbarism and brutality.

Thank you for your attention.  
Looking forward to hearing from you,

Dr. Vered Ariel Nahari  
CEO

copy: Prof. Russell Rickford, Cornell University

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\* Bashaar– Academic Community for Israeli Society is a registered non-profit and non-government organization, established in 1999 by academic leaders. BaShaar lists over 2,000 senior faculty members from all institutions of higher education in Israel, including former presidents and rectors, Nobel Laureates, laureates of the Israel Prize and other prestige awards.