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Statement on Academic Freedom in the Face of Global and National Crises

The American Sociological Association (ASA) expresses deep concern and dismay regarding the loss of civilian lives in the context of continued violence in Gaza and Israel as well as other contexts of conflict and suffering unfolding across the globe. We join sociologists across the world in calling for conditions that will support lasting peace.

Many scholars have faced doxing, harassment, censorship, and threats to their physical, emotional, and economic safety by virtue of expressing their scholarly positions on this and other global and national crises. The ASA condemns, in the strongest possible terms, these encroachments on academic freedom. Academic freedom and corresponding unfettered inquiry are absolutely essential to the pursuit of knowledge and a functioning democratic system. Sociologists must be free to share their scholarly views on any and all topics without fearing political reprisals. We stand in support of all sociologists in their efforts to express their scholarly perspectives without retribution.