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Subject: Israel and America

Posted by [Mark L](#) on Thu, 22 Jan 2009 22:36:19 GMT

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Someone over on another board I post on posted this question

[What I don't get is the instant knee-jerk reaction by America to protect Israeli interests. Why do we "care" so much? It isn't just the number of Jews in the US, because how many of those people have been to Israel, plan to go to Israel or even have immediate family in Israel? And it isn't just that it's the homeland of the Jews, because it's also important in the Muslim and Christian faiths.

Anyone want to enlighten me?

To which I replied this answer

Because there is very strong public support for it. It cuts accross all income political and demographic classes. I read a well researched article about it on the internet a while ago. I probably couldn't find it now

I misunderstood her question. She was asking "why" is there broad public support for Israel. I ended up scatching my head. I don't know. It isn't just that our political leaders are reading the political tea leaves either. There is strong support for Israel in Congress as well. Lots of people call that the Jewish lobby and there is some truth to that. According to the article I read though it is a deep belief for Israel both in the political class and among the great unwashed. I thought it was an interesting question. The only answer I can come up with is that most middle aged americans grew up in sunday school hearing about Israel. The problem with that though is that the younger generation did not grow up in sunday school and there is strong support for Israel there too. Any comments?