

Barbara Kay: Anti-Semitic ‘blood libels’ get poster treatment at Toronto-area school

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As part of a recent week-long “social justice” program, pro-Palestinian students at Stephen Lewis Secondary School in the Toronto area’s Peel District mounted a banner in a school hallway, reading, “If animal testing is NOT OKAY ... Then why is human testing OKAY?” The banner was also displayed on social media. The cryptic message refers to two widely circulated anti-Semitic myths: that Israel subjects Palestinian prisoners to pharmaceutical experiments as part of their military agenda; and that Israel harvests organs from Palestinian prisoners. These accusations are “blood libels,” which throughout history have led to extreme violence against Jews, and represent anti-Semitism in its most abhorrent verbal form. In medieval times, individual Jews were accused of draining the blood of Christian children to bake into their Passover matzo. The contemporary transfer of evil to a vampiric Jewish state reflects the evolution of anti-Semitism from its religious focus, no longer tolerated in polite society, to a political platform; Israel-bashing is often well tolerated as a conduit for Jew hatred. Israel-bashing is often well tolerated as a conduit for Jew hatred (--image--)

(--image--)

The Centre for Israel and Jewish Affairs (CIJA) immediately contacted the Peel District School Board (PDSB), which said it would “look into it,” but the poster stayed up for the duration of the program. On Twitter,