

FORM 3 (Rules 6 and 17)

Clergy Discipline Measure 2003

Statement in support of a Complaint, or in support of an Answer to a Complaint

<i>Box for use only</i>	<i>Statement submitted by:</i>
<i>by the Registrar of</i>	<i>Name of maker of statement:</i>
<i>Tribunals</i>	<i>Date of statement:</i>

In the matter of the complaint

*Enter the name of the complainant.
Enter the name of the member of the clergy about whom a complaint is made.*

made by The Board of Deputies of British Jews
Against Dr Stephen Sizer

My full name is: Scott A. Elias

***Telephone & e-mail details are optional, but it could be helpful to the registrar and bishop to have them.*

**Delete as appropriate. If you tick the box you must give reasons – your contact details would then be disclosed only if the registrar so directed.*

I request that my contact details should not be disclosed to the *respondent/*complainant for the following reasons:

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The matters in this statement to which I refer are all within my own knowledge, except where I indicate otherwise. If anything is not within my own knowledge then I set out the source of any matters of information and belief:

You must explain in your statement how you know about each of the matters you describe, unless you know about them because you have personally seen or observed them.

I am a former Professor of Geography at Royal Holloway, University of London, and member of Christ Church, Virginia Water since 2000. During the last decade I have been both a member of the PCC and PCC secretary at Christ Church. I have come to know the Reverend Dr Stephen Sizer quite well during my time there. I am writing to you to express my support for Stephen, in the face of attacks on his character by Pro-Israel groups. Their accusation that Stephen is anti-Semitic is both spurious and unfounded.

Stephen has worked tirelessly to bring peace and reconciliation between Jews and Palestinians in Israel and Palestine. He believes that the way forward is for Israel to dismantle the walls they have erected to separate themselves from the Palestinians, and for them to give back property they have taken from the Palestinians in recent decades. There are a great many Jews, both in Israel and elsewhere, who believe the same way, and espouse the same cause as Stephen Sizer, yet no one labels them as anti-Semitic.

Over the past twelve years I have held a great many conversations with Stephen concerning the situation in Israel/Palestine. Not once have I heard him voice any anti-Semitic opinions. In fact, quite the opposite is true. He has a real heart for the Jews. He just happens to believe that the only way the Jews can achieve a lasting peace with their neighbours is to dismantle the partitioning of the country, and to give the Palestinians a homeland they can truly call their own. He seeks peace and justice for all peoples of the Holy Land. Could there be a more Christian attitude to take?

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(Continue on a separate sheet or sheets if necessary. State here how many additional sheets you are attaching: Please number all such additional sheets)

I believe the facts in my statement to be true. I am aware that the contents of this statement may be made public

You must sign and date this statement.

Signed:



Dated: 23 November 2018