

The Case For Israel: Democracy's Outpost

In an exclusive interview, CAMERA gets the scoop from the producers of a new documentary coming soon to theaters near you



Michael Yohay
Producer and Director

Gloria Z. Greenfield
Producer
www.susanwilsonphoto.com

Professor Alan Dershowitz's best-selling book *The Case For Israel* appeared at a particularly key moment – in 2003 – as Israel fought back against an unprecedented war of terror on its civilian population and a daunting tidal wave of media coverage, all too much of which was marred by bias – and worse.

In the academy and in the United Nations too, Israel faced an onslaught of distorted criticism. Although terrorism in Israel has diminished in recent years, the information battle has not.

Now *The Case for Israel* has been turned into an important new documentary film. Producer Gloria Greenfield and Director Michael Yohay here describe their work and goals in creating this cinematic counterpart of Professor Dershowitz's book.

CAMERA: *Gloria, tell us what you hope to accomplish with this project?*

Gloria: The goal of this documentary is to present a vigorous case for Israel – for its basic right to exist, to protect its citizens from terrorism,

and to defend its borders from hostile enemies. We cannot ignore the fact that while Israel repeatedly and tangibly demonstrates its commitment to peace, biased attacks continue in the media, on campuses, in the churches and in the international community. Israel's detractors – some with international prominence – deny the fact that Israel has made painful concessions in working toward a two-state solution, including the 2005 disengagement from Gaza initiated by former Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, and that Israel has expressed readiness to take additional difficult measures. They ignore the rise in Gaza of Hamas, which rejects peaceful coexistence. They turn a blind eye to the grave challenges inherent in the Palestinian Authority's unstable gover-

nance of the West Bank under Mahmoud Abbas. They rarely acknowledge the ongoing terrorist attacks against Israeli children and other civilians, and they equate that terrorism with Israel's attempts to protect its citizens.

Professor Dershowitz has achieved international distinction as one of Israel's most prominent and articulate advocates. His book *The Case for Israel* serves as an essential resource for everyone interested in reaching a fair understanding of the Arab-Israeli conflict. We felt it essential to bring his detailed and penetrating analysis of the issues – along with commentaries of other key political, judicial and academic leaders – to a broader audience. And film is one of the most effective vehicles to do so.

CAMERA: *What is your target audience? Can you reach beyond the "choir" and educate those who believe Israel is, for example, acting illegally in building a barrier to keep suicide bombers out of its cities?*

Gloria: We want to reach fair-