

DIVA

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LUCY SPRAGGAN

"My X Factor success hasn't changed me at all"

BRAND ISRAEL – BEHIND THE MARKETING CAMPAIGN

IN HER NEW CHRONICLE OF POLITICAL AWAKENING AND QUEER SOLIDARITY, JEWISH LESBIAN ACTIVIST AND NOVELIST SARAH SCHULMAN VIVIDLY DESCRIBES HER DAWNING CONSCIOUSNESS OF THE PALESTINIAN LIBERATION STRUGGLE, AND MAKES A COMPASSIONATE CALL TO ARMS INTERVIEW JANE CZYZSELSKA

"Pinkwashing" is the phrase coined by those who are pro-Palestinian to describe the strategy of supporting LGBT rights while denying rights to others – in this case Palestinians. How does "pinkwashing" play out in the US?

The more I work in this arena, the more aware I become of the involvement of the Israeli government in the US LGBT community. There are Israeli government operatives, people like Scott Piro, Jayson Littman and others who work for the Foreign Ministry, whose job it is to work our community along pinkwashing lines. They plant stories in newspapers, co-opt our events (like the "Equality Forum" in Philadelphia that had the straight Israeli ambassador as their keynote speaker) and flood websites with propaganda. A recent special issue of

-- Sarah Schulman discussing the role of "Israeli government operatives" in the LGBT community