

## The Coalition for Justice in Hawaiian Gardens and Jerusalem

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# **NEWS! CCAR resolution protests Moskowitz Foundation behavior**

**April 3, 2000** At its convention last week in Greensboro, N.C., the Central Conference of American Rabbis passed a stinging resolution protesting the Irving I. Moskowitz Foundation's use of "ill-gained profits from gambling" on "anti-peace agitation" in Jerusalem. The Coalition for Justice in Hawaiian Gardens and Jerusalem, a Jewish-Latino-labor organization campaigning to block the licensing of Dr. Moskowitz' poker casino, also in Hawaiian Gardens, and to restore the public funds spent on that project to the people of Hawaiian Gardens, welcomed the rabbis' action. The CCAR, the largest rabbinical organization in the world, passed the resolution by acclamation.

Citing its past resolutions supporting the Middle East peace process and its "commitment to the Zionist Dream in expressing the prophetic vision to forge a just and humane society," the CCAR declared: "We Reform rabbis vigorously protest the Moskowitz Foundation's documented methods of political manipulation and labor exploitation perpetrated against the impoverished community of Hawaiian Gardens, utilizing ill-gained profits from gambling for the apparent purpose of funding anti-peace agitation in the Holy City of Jerusalem during this highly-sensitive period of implementing the Israeli/Palestinian peace process."

The Moskowitz Foundation's Hawaiian Gardens bingo parlor has grossed as much as \$33 million a year on the "volunteer" labor of Latino immigrants, who work for tips in lieu of wages. Foundation President Irving Moskowitz has given most of the bingo profits to right-wing anti-peace groups in Israel and the US.

[Click here](#) to view the CCAR resolution text

(Please note that the resolution erroneously gives a bingo revenue figure of \$58 million; the correct number is \$33 million.)