

The Associated Press is sending a mixed message in “Rockets from Gaza Jolt Tel Aviv area” by running a photo of Palestinians immediately under the headline. Why is that the picture chosen to illustrate a story about Hamas’ escalating attacks into Israel?

The choice of photo casts Israel as the aggressor. In fact, Israel’s targeted strike against Ahmed Jabari was a *response* to a Hamas offensive. Hundreds of Hamas missiles in the last few days have forced more than one million Israelis into bomb shelters. They can’t go to school. They can’t go to work. They remain inside, often in underground shelters, in fear of the next round of Hamas attacks.

After Hamas’ offensive, Israel’s actions were a *response*, a *defensive* action to protect its citizens.

No other country would tolerate the attacks that Israel has.

Israel left Gaza in 2005. So why is Hamas firing rockets into a sovereign nation?

AP can’t try to tell one story with words and a different one with images. The situation is of Hamas’ making. An accurate and complete picture of the circumstances is called for.

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