TODD E. GALLINGER, State Bar No. 238666 1 GILL AND GALLINGER LLP Two Park Plaza, Suite 760 2 Irvine, California 92614 Telephone: (949) 862-0010 APR 2 6 2007 3 Facsimile: (949) 862-6582 4 JOHN P. KILROY 600 Broadway 5 Lorain, Ohio 44052 Telephone: (440) 244-2590 6 Fascimile: (440) 244-0811 7 Attorneys for Plaintiffs, K.I.N.D.E.R, INC.. & DR. LAILA AL-MARAYATI, M.D. 8 9 SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA 10 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CENTRAL DISTRICT 11 BC370155 12 KIDS IN NEED OF DEVELOPMENT, CASE NO.: EDUCATION, AND RELIEF, INC.; 13 LAILA AL-MARAYATI, M.D.; COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES 14 Plaintiffs. 15 VS. 16 YALE UNIVERSITY PRESS; WASHINGTON INSTITUTE FOR 17 NEAR EAST POLICY; MATTHEW LEVITT, 18 19 Defendants. 20 JURY TRIAL REQUESTED 21 22 Now come the Plaintiff, by and through its attorney and for its Complaint states 23 24 following: Dr. Laila Al-Marayati, MD is a resident of Los Angeles County, California 25 1. and is the Chair of the Board of Directors of Kids In Need Of Development, Education, 26 and Relief, Inc. (hereafter, KINDER USA). 27 28 -1-COMPLAINT

- 2. KINDER USA is a not for profit organization incorporated in Texas and recognized for exemption, by the Internal Revenue Service, as a public charity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- 3. KINDER USA was founded in 2002 by a group of physicians and humanitarian relief workers. KINDER USA believes in fostering creative solutions to long-standing problems believing that all children are born with fundamental freedoms and are entitled to the rights of survival, health, and education. KINDER USA puts into action programs to ensure these rights are not forgotten.
- 4. The mission of KINDER USA is to alleviate the suffering of children and their families regardless of ethnicity or religious beliefs by bringing material goods into war zones and areas of disaster, to provide material support to those living in refugee camps, to initiate educational, health, and rehabilitation programs, and to dynamically reverse the psychological damage caused to these innocent beings due to the horrors of conflict.
- 5. Yale University Press is a publisher located in New Haven, CT. Its books are distributed in Los Angeles County, California.
- 6. On or about April 27, 2006, Yale University Press published <u>Hamas</u>, <u>Politics</u>, <u>Charity</u>, and <u>Terrorism in the Service of Jihad</u>, written by Matthew Levitt.
- 7. <u>Hamas, Politics, Charity, and Terrorism in the Service of Jihad, was</u> published in cooperation with the Washington Institute of Near East Policy.
- 8. <u>Hamas, Politics, Charity, and Terrorism in the Service of Jihad,</u> was written by Matthew Levitt. Mathew Levitt is a senior fellow and director of The Washington Institute of Near East Policy's Stein Program on Terrorism, Intelligence, and Policy.
- 9. KINDER-USA is discussed in Chapter 6, Foreign Funding of Hamas on pages 151 and 152 and in the related footnotes numbered 21 and 22. The text states: "Even after the closure of the Holy Land Foundation in 2001, other U.S.-based charities continue to fund Hamas. One organization that has appeared to rise out of the ashes of the HLFRD is KinderUSA."

10. The Defendants further falsely state that "the formation of KinderUSA highlights an increasingly common trend: banned charities continuing to operate by incorporating under new names in response to designation as terrorist entities or in an effort to evade attention. This trend is also seen with groups raising money for al-Qaeda." The footnote to this paragraph mentions two officers of KINDER-USA at the onset and continues with an extensive discussion of al-Qaeda funding networks, without informing the reader that there is no allegation that KinderUSA is tied to al-Qaeda.

- 11. The book written by Defendant Levitt and published by Defendant Yale University Press, particularly Chapter 6, pages 151 152 and the respective footnotes, asserts that KINDER-USA funds Hamas; and that it implies that it is connected to the al-Qaeda funding network, I am advising the Board of Directors to consider bringing a lawsuit against the publisher for defamation.
- 12. Statements that indicate that the Plaintiff is an organization that funds terrorist or illegal organizations are false and damaging, and constitute *libel per se*. Such statements subject the organization to unfair scrutiny or suspicion, damage its ability to raise funds and to recruit and retain volunteers for its charitable mission, and cause irreparable harm to its reputation.
- 13. On or about July27, 2006, KINDER USA, through its attorney, notified the Yale University Press and the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, as the publishers of the inaccuracies and demanded a public retraction from the Defendant Yale University Press and further demanded that distribution of the book be discontinued.
- 14. Defendant Yale University Press declined to retract the statement of otherwise mitigate damages, stating that it contacted Defendant Levitt, who stood by the claims made in his book.
- 15. Defendant Yale University Press did not conduct any fact-checking in regard to the publication of <u>Hamas</u>, <u>Politics</u>, <u>Charity</u>, and <u>Terrorism in the Service of Jihad</u>.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff demands compensatory damages in the amount of \$500,000, punitive damages in an amount to be determined by the Court plus attorneys fees, costs and expenses incurred on account of Defendant's actions, and injuctive relief. GILL AND GALLINGER LLP Dated: April 26, 2007

Food E. Gallinger, Esq. Attorneys for Plaintiffs