



Boycotting South African Apartheid, *Getty Images*



Boycott of Facebook, *AdAge.com*



Boycott call in response to "taking a knee," *Twitter*

February 18, 2021

From the MN BDS Community

Dear Legislator:

The Minnesota Legislature will soon hear HF1246 and SF1039, to repeal two MN Statutes—3.226 and 16C.053—adopted in 2017 and known as the anti-Boycott laws. We believe you should support the repeal of these laws because:



Safeway refused to hire African Americans, *Washington Area Spark*, 1941



United Farm Workers boycott, 1965-1970, *Fortune.com*



Boycott Nestle products, 1977. *EthicalConsumer.Org*

- Boycott is an American tradition, going back to the Boston Tea Party and continuing into this century, as a non-violent means to protest perceived injustice. Examples of some famous boycotts are shown graphically on this page.
- The Supreme Court has recognized that politically motivated economic boycotts are constitutionally protected free speech. In *NAACP v Claiborne Hardware Company*, a 1982 unanimous Supreme Court ruling, the Court held that states may not prohibit peaceful politically motivated economic boycotts.
- MN Statutes 3.226 and 16C.053 are designed to stifle debate among Minnesotans. When it is more important than ever to speak to one another, these laws muzzle us.
- Similar laws in other states (Kansas, Arizona, Texas and recently Arkansas) have been successfully challenged and found unconstitutional.



For more information, contact [mnforhumanrights@protonmail.com](mailto:mnforhumanrights@protonmail.com)



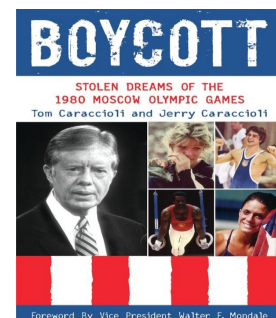
Boycott China, 2020. *South China Morning Post*



Montgomery Bus Boycott, 1955-56. *Getty*



Students protesting for the right to boycott. *ACLU*



1980 Olympic boycott. *Swimming World*