DIRECTORY OF
ARAB/JEWISH/PALESTINIAN
DIALOGUE GROUPS

ARAB JEWISH
DIALOGUE SUPPORT NETWORK

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INTRODUCTION

The Israeli and Palestinian narratives are so distinct that the dialogue process is essential if members of each group and their supporters are going to understand and acknowledge the other’s perspectives and reality. There are scores of Arab/Palestinian dialogue groups operating in the U.S., some for as long as 20 years. Hundreds of groups also formed in Israel and the occupied territories after the first Intifada, and then again after the Oslo Peace Accords, in an attempt to engage the public in activities that would foster mutual understanding and co-existence in anticipation of a peace agreement.

After the breakdown of Oslo and the start of the second Intifada, many groups disbanded in Israel/Palestine because of logistical challenges, distrust, and concerns of “collaborating” with the enemy. At the same time, many dialogue groups were initiated in the U.S., motivated by people who wanted to understand the other reality and who, in the words of one dialogue group, “refuse to be enemies.” The same motivations played a role in renewed efforts after the events of 9/11.

The Arab Jewish Dialogue Support Network conducted a survey of 28 dialogue groups and other related organizations in the fall of 2003 to identify the type of work being done, to assess the needs and challenges of these groups, and to initiate a directory of dialogue groups. Thirty-eight people were interviewed, including members of twenty-three dialogue groups in the U.S. and Canada. Several people involved with dialogue work in Israel/Palestine were also interviewed. Representatives of other related organizations engaged in peace and reconciliation but not sustained dialogue were also interviewed. The result is the information provided in this directory.

Most groups have operated in the range of one to five years, with the oldest group operating for 20 years. Group size varies from very small, 5-6 participants, to larger groups of 20-30 people with mailing lists of nearly 100 people. Many groups have regular attendance of 12-15 people. Most groups meet once or twice per month.

Many groups reported having started the dialogue process by sharing personal stories and histories. Some have moved to a discussion of the substantive issues of the conflict, involving the history of the conflict and current issues, including the occupation, the separation wall, the Intifada, and peace proposals. Some groups have spawned action groups that have become involved in political action, while others have remained committed to sustained dialogue. Many groups have public education events such as film festivals, prominent speakers, and presentations in Jewish/Palestinian pairs.

Among the biggest challenges groups have faced include: 1) the tension between dialogue and action; 2) the inadequacy of the dialogue process for many Palestinian members to address the critical issues of the conflict or to lead to political action; 3) the resulting lack of interest in initial or continued attendance among Palestinians; 4) inadequate group leadership, both in providing organizational leadership and facilitation skills; and 5) difficulties in accommodating new members of the group.

Among the greatest needs identified by the groups are: 1) training in facilitation skills to productively discuss the challenging issues of the conflict, including a resource manual on dialogue; 2) a vehicle for creating greater public awareness of the work of the dialogue groups both locally and nationally; 3) access to a directory of groups and more interaction among groups to share information and approaches; 4) development of an approach to engage the larger Jewish community in dialogue; and 5) increased cross-national activities, including
bringing speakers to the U.S. to trigger discussions of the recent peace initiatives and stimulate dialogue on the issues that are most urgent to Palestinians, Israelis and Jews.

This directory is a first attempt at cataloguing the groups throughout the U.S. and internationally. Many groups confirmed the need for a directory to enhance inter-group communication and to create more visibility and awareness of the efforts of many throughout the world that are “refusing to be enemies.”

Readers of this directory are welcome to contact the people listed in each entry for more information about the work of the groups. Readers are also urged to contact the Center for Restorative Justice and Peacemaking at the University of Minnesota if you want know of additional dialogue groups or people that want to be included in the directory. The Center also maintains a database of dialogue participants, so please contact the Center to add names to that list.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS FROM THE ARAB JEWISH DIALOGUE SUPPORT NETWORK

National Survey of Arab-Palestinian-Jewish Dialogue Groups
This report describes the work of nearly 30 organizations involved in dialogue, co-existence or peace work between Arabs, Palestinians, Jews, and others. It summarizes the challenges and needs of groups.

Draft Guide to Arab-Palestinian-Jewish Dialogue
This preliminary guide to Arab/Palestinian-Jewish dialogue provides recommendations for how to structure dialogue on identify and human issues, as well as conducting dialogue on the critical political issues of the conflict. It includes an extensive guide for facilitators and lists materials, web sites and film resources.

Report of Israeli/Palestinian Site Visit
This report describes the efforts of organizations that engage in dialogue, co-existence, and joint peace work in the Israel/Palestine. It is based on interviews with academic and NGO leaders such as Sari Nusseibeh, Saman Khouri, Gershon Baskin, Noah Salameh, Mary Schweitzer, and Menachim Klein. It features descriptions of the programs including Givat Haviva, Israel Palestine Center for Research and Information, Center for Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation, People’s Peace Campaign, Seeds of Peace, Peace Now, and the Parents Circle.

For more information on obtaining copies of these documents, contact the Center for Restorative Justice and Peacemaking at (612) 624-4923 or email: rjp@che.umn.edu.
CALIFORNIA

Alliance for Israeli and Palestinian Reconciliation, San Francisco Bay Area, CA
THIS GROUP IS CURRENTLY INACTIVE, EXCEPT FOR A LIVELY LISTSERV WHERE MEMBERS POST ARTICLES AND INFO ABOUT UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS OF INTEREST AS WELL AS PERIODICALLY ENGAGING IN DISCUSSION
E-mail: alliance@firedoll.org,
Web: http://www.bayareaalliance.net
The Alliance is a network of Palestinians, Arabs, Israelis, Jews and supportive others who are committed to the peaceful resolution of the Israeli/Palestinian conflict based on universal human rights, international law, justice, and equality. Its mission is to promote exchange of information, dialogue and cooperation, and education public opinion regarding the Palestinian/Israeli conflict and its resolution. Originating in the San Francisco Bay Area, the group has statewide affiliates and encourages interested communities and individuals worldwide to connect with the Alliance.

Alliance of Middle East Scientists and Physicians
Contact: Jamil Kanaaneh, kanaaneh@cgl.ucsf.edu;
          Dudy Tzfat, tzfati@cgl.ucsf.edu
          Naftali Kaminski, MD, kamins@itsa.ucsf.edu
Arab/Jewish scientific cooperation and dialogue group based at UC San Francisco.

American Alliance of Arabs and Jews, American Friends of Neve Shalom
Contact: Deanna Ambruster
American Friends of Neve Shalom/Wahat Al-Salam
12925 Riverside Drive, 3rd Floor, Sherman Oaks  CA  91423
Phone: 818-325-8884   Fax: 818-325-8983
E-mail: sccnswas@aol.com
Website: www.oasisofpeace.org
This group founded a six-year old dialogue group that is no longer operating. It has 20-30 participants and engaged in dialogue and public educational activities. The group dissolved because of differences around political action.

Cousins Club of Orange County
Contact: Ruth and Ted Shapin
P.O. Box 5891, Orange, CA 92813
Email: ssattorney@aol.com
Web: www.cousinscluboc.org
This is a dialogue and peace action group. It supports Hope Flowers School and other worthy projects.

East Bay Jewish Palestinian Dialogue, Berkeley, CA
Contact: Fay Straus, faye@merfinllc.com
          Joy Todah Hilden, joy@beduinweaving.com
The East Bay Jewish-Palestinian Dialogue Group represents Americans of Jewish, Israeli, Palestinian and other backgrounds who are committed to a just and peaceful resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. We believe that honest and respectful dialogue and community education about the current situation in Israel/Palestine are important contributions that we can make toward this goal. The group was started in 1988 with a meeting of a number of Jewish and Palestinian-Americans who were interested in dialogue and has expanded to over 50 members. Jewish and Palestinian members speak jointly with community and educational groups about our
work together. Past projects include a benefit concert from Project Open House, a Jewish-Palestinian co-
existence effort in Ramle, Israel."

**Jewish/Palestinian Living Room Dialogue of San Francisco**
Contact: Jacob Mandelsberg
Email: jacobM@sonic.net
The group has been operating for nearly five years and was started by Libby and Len Traubman and Elias Bhutto, who co-founded the Peninsula dialogue group. Over 20 people participate, with about 60% Jewish members and 35% Palestinian. The group engages in public education activities such as panel presentations by pairs of Jews and Palestinians in various venues.

**Jewish Palestinian Living Room Dialogue of Silicon Valley, CA**
Contact: Aktham Jarrar
Email: jarrar@juno.com.
This group started in 2001 and is made up of over 20 people, with over half Jews. It is based on the Peninsula living room dialogue model. The group has participated in a peace camp for Palestinian and Jewish families and the emphasis is on building trust and mutual understanding.

**Jewish/Palestinian Dialogue Groups of San Diego, CA**
Contact: Ed Sweed, esweed@sciti.com
        Doris Bittar, dbittar@ucsd.edu
Early in 2000 one of the first Jewish-Palestinian dialogue groups was created by an interfaith San Diego couple. Other Jewish-Palestinian dialogue groups were also created in San Diego County by various individuals. There are now seven groups functioning with plans to create more. The goal of these dialogue groups is to create dialogue among Palestinian Americans, Israeli Americans, American Jews and other interested groups and individuals, and to create communication and understanding among these groups for the purpose of understanding the Middle East conflict between Israel and Palestine and helping to resolve the conflict. There is a steering committee with representatives from all of the groups that organizes activities. The groups have from 15-25 members. Some groups delve deeply into the history and issues of the conflict and engage in political action activities. They also engage in public education activities.

**Middle East Peace Net**
Contact: Deanne Armbruster, DAred27@aol.com,
        12925 Riverside Drive, 3rd Floor, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423
        Phone: 818-325-8988   Fax: 818-325-8980
Los Angeles USA organization dedicated to promoting Middle East Peace and Dialogue

**Jewish-Palestinian Living Room Dialogue Group**
Contact: Len and Libby Traubman
        1448 Cedarwood Drive, San Mateo CA 94403
        Phone: 650-574-8303   Fax: 650-573-1217
        E-mail: LTraubman@igc.org
        Website: www.igc.org/traubman
This 11-year old Sustained Dialogue on the San Francisco Peninsula, preparing for its 146th meeting, has helped spawn nine other groups in the Bay Area through public education events and dedicated communication. They have played a significant role in networking with groups and individuals in North America and globally through the maintenance an e-mail list, providing Dialogue resource materials, and organizing public activities. They have helped plan local and national workshops and instructional events, including dinners and a family camp. They issue
periodic e-mails with articles and inspiring information about relationship-building successes. Their Dialogue printed materials and 10-minute video are free of charge. Their Web site is rich in guidelines, resource materials, and inspiration.

**FLORIDA**

**University of Florida**
Contact: Salem Aweiss, saweiss@birzeit.edu  
Phone: (352) 292-2422  
Dr. Aweiss, currently a professor at the University of Florida, initiated a dialogue group in Jerusalem while he was professor, and he served as the coordinator from the Palestinian side. The group was a project of the Open University in Tel Aviv, and Jacob Schoenfeld coordinated the Israeli side. Dr. Aweiss produced materials that helped each group become aware of the existence of the other. He also worked with the Israel Palestine Center for Research and Information on their peace education and human rights curriculum. Dr. Aweiss will serve as a resource and speaker for groups.

**MAINE**

**Seeds of Peace**
Contact: seedspeace@aol.com  
Organization that runs Arab/Jewish summer camps and other projects promoting dialog and peace  
Web: [www.seedsofpeace.org](http://www.seedsofpeace.org)

The Seeds of Peace program was created by American journalist and political advisor John Wallach with commitments from the U.S. and Israeli governments and endorsed by the Palestinian Authority, to provide a people-to-people program for teenagers from Israel and Palestine. Located in a summer camp in Maine, youth are selected by their governments to participate. There are daily structured facilitated sessions that allow for the development of a deeper understanding of and compassion for 'the other.' The sessions are designed to create opportunities for the youngsters to discuss the harder and more contentious issues and to learn the communication skills necessary to do so in a productive and meaningful way. In the process, the teenagers are encouraged to expand their capacity for critical reflection and deepen their understanding of each other and of the conflict. The common language is English, and therefore participants must have a good command of the language in order to participate. The program is able to get participants from the West Bank and Gaza because of government endorsement.

**MARYLAND**

**The Dialogue Project**
Contact: Reena Bernards  
Chevy Chase MD  
Phone: (301) 495-4951  
E-mail: reena@his.com

In 1988 the project was initiated by a group of American Palestinian and Jewish women in order to work together for a joint vision and forge a common political solution. They toured the U.S. in 1993 speaking to Jewish and Arab audiences, and sent a joint delegation to Israel, the West Bank and Gaza. In 2003 the project coordinators worked with Search for Common Ground on a Israeli/Palestinian women's project on non-violence.
MASSACHUSSETTS

Office of Jewish Affairs, University of MA
Contact: Larry Goldbaum
Office of Jewish Affairs University of Massachusetts Amherst
210 Middlesex House, Amherst MA 01003
Phone: 413-545-9642 Email: goldbaum@admin.umass.edu
Website: www.umass.edu/jewish

While this program is not a formal dialogue program, it conducts a series of speakers programs on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict and engages Jewish and Arab students in conversations on the issues raised in the speakers’ series. Both Jewish and non-Jewish community members are engaged in discussions on the conflict.

MICHIGAN

Zeitouna
Contact: Johanna Epstein, Epstein@umich.edu; Laurie White, lonawhite@aol.com; Wadad Abed, wabed@cimdata.com
Ann Arbor MI
Started in 2002 by two women, a Jew and a Palestinian American, this group has limited itself to six Jewish women and six Palestinian women. Zeitouna is the feminine form of “olive tree” and “olive fruit” in Arabic. The group committed to a year of dialogue to explore and identify issues before discussing the political issues of the conflict. Their political dialogue has included discussions about the occupation, the wall, the Nakbah, settlements, two state/one state solutions, and co-existence. The group starts with the assumption that people are decent, but they are motivated by fear. They wrote an article for the Detroit newspaper and conduct demonstration dialogues and other educational presentations in schools, synagogues, and for elected officials.

MINNESOTA

Bridges for Peace, College of St. Scholastica,
Contact: Gary Gordon, ggordon@css.edu
Duluth MN
Phone: (218) 723-6295
This campus-based program takes students on listening tours of Israel/Palestine and has a loose dialogue group, that mixes students with local residents. The group conducts public education activities and conferences. The public events bring two different perspectives to the issues.

NEW JERSEY

Project Understanding of Central New Jersey
Contact: Arnold Gelfman, agelfman@brookdale.cc.nj.us; Saliba Sarsar, sarsar@mondec.monmouth.edu
Phone: (732) 224-2208
This group was formed in 1993 and ceased meeting shortly after 9/11. It as made up of professionals, educators, business people – primarily middle class Arab Americans and Jewish Americans. The goal was to foster mutual understanding and while it addressed the political issues of the conflict, this was not the main focus. The group sponsored public events, including slide shows, and meetings between Arab and Jewish teenagers. The group also wrote editorials to the local paper and met with local officials. Professor Sarsar, one
of the group leaders, was also involved the Peace Research Institute in the Middle East, a project to create a joint Israeli/Palestinian narrative of the history.

**Friends of Open House, Princeton, NJ**  
Contact: Randy Ross, RandyRoss45@aol.com  
Yehezkel Landau, ylandau@hartsem.edu  
139 N. Harrison St., Princeton, NJ 08540

This group supports the Open House Center for Reconciliation, a co-existence program in Israel/Palestine that fosters understanding, friendship and leadership between Israeli and Palestinian youth. In the U.S., there are chapters of Friends of Open House in New Jersey, Massachusetts and Ohio. The Friends develops dialogue and interfaith community approaches in the U.S. They also foster Internet links between youth in the U.S. and those in Israel/Palestine.

**NEW MEXICO**

**Arab-Jewish Peace Alliance of New Mexico**  
Contact: Lori Rudolf, lorir@unm.edu;  
Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb, RebLynn@swcp.com;  
Melinda Smith, smithm@igc.org.  
Phone: (505) 243-4780

This group was initiated in 1998 by Mohassen Shukry, an Arab American, and Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb of Congregation Nahalat Shalom in Albuquerque. The group began as a dialogue group and developed a statement of principles for a just peace in Israel/Palestine. It has been actively engaged in public education events. It sponsored a major conference with the Jewish Federation in Albuquerque entitled "Palestinians and Israelis: Roads to Peace." It sponsors major speaking events 4-5 times a year and has presentations and discussions every other month at the Albuquerque Center for Peace and Justice. It sponsored an Israeli/Palestinian film festival in 2003, followed by a dialogue process for participants. Members who have recently traveled to the Middle East present slide shows and talks at churches, colleges and schools.

**NEW YORK**

**The Dialogue Project**  
Contact: Marcia Kanry  
Brooklyn NY  
Email: mkfemworks@aol.com  
Web: http://thedialogueproject.org

The Project has initiated a number of dialogue groups in the New York area, bringing together Palestinians, Jews, Muslims and Arab-Americans. The project tries to maintain a balance of members and, as a consequence, has a waiting list of Jews who want to join a group. The network of groups is governed by a board of directors, and conducts public education activities. A streaming audio presentation of series of dialogues between a Palestinian and a Jewish member of a group can be heard on the group’s web site. This group has attracted a great deal of attention in the press. It has resources for the public at its web page.

**Animating Democracy**  
Contact: Andrea Assaf, aassaf@artsusa.org,  
Barbara Schaeffer Bacon, bsbacon@aol.com;  
Pam Korza, pkorza@aol.com. (212) 475-3787

New York, NY  
Web: www.americansforthearts.org/animatingdemocracy
This is a Ford Foundation funded project of Americans for the Arts, working at the intersection between art and dialogue. One of the projects has a spoken word poet, Palestinian American Suhier Hamad, who does performances and then engages the audience in dialogue.

**Syracuse Area Middle East Dialogue (SAMED)**  
Contact: Ahmad El Hindi; aeh@filtertech.com  
David Schomar, dshomar@aol.com  
Syracuse, NY  
Phone: (843) 272-9600  
This is the oldest dialogue group in the U.S, was established 20 years ago. SAMED means steadfast in Arabic. This group was part of a larger initiative called the American Coalition for Middle East Dialogue (ACMED), which was founded in 1986 as a national network of local dialogue groups. ACMDE sponsored collaborative study tours to the Middle East and published a newsletter. The Syracuse group negotiated common ground principles to resolve the Israeli/Palestinian conflict and engaged in political activities to promote it, including statements to the press and lobbying of elected officials. The group also endorsed the Sari Nusseibeh/Ami Ayalon peace principles.

**NORTH CAROLINA**

**The Intentional Living Center, Chapel Hill, NC**  
Contact: Christian Saahdi, etlzola@cs.com  
Phone: (919) 960-8650  
Web: www.theili.com  
While this is not a dialogue group, Mr. Saahdi does training and interventions in a six-step dialogue and negotiation process based on the work of Gandhi and Martin Luther King. The process has been used with Muslims, Christians, Palestinians and Lebanese. He is willing to serve as a resource to other groups.

**Pennsylvania**

**Arab Jewish Dialogue Group of Harrisburg, PA**  
Contact: Keren Batijou, keren4l@aol.com  
The group started in 2003 and consists of eight Jews and eight Palestinian and Arab members. There is also another group that is action oriented, called the Harrisburg Middle East Group for Justice and Peace, which does education and outreach.

**South Central Pennsylvania Arab Jewish Dialogue Group**  
Contact: Jo Margolis  
E-mail: jomargolis@earthlink.net  
The group is intentionally small, but welcome all Arabs and Jews interested in reconciliation, restorative justice, and peacemaking. The focus is on dialogue and we are planning to conduct public education activities.

**Philadelphia Arab Jewish Dialogue, PA**  
Contact: Ayala Guy, ayalaguy@yahoo.com; Sally Baraka, sallybaraka@hotmail.com  
Phone: (215) 635-7109  
This group has 12 Jews and Arabs, including Palestinians, Egyptians, and Moroccans. Like many groups, they have had challenges involving Palestinians. The group has conducted a series of presentations on the history of Zionism and Arab nationalism and has been able to air misconceptions from each side. They have analyzed the
Geneva Accords and are in the process of expanding the group. They want to move to taking action while maintaining their dialogue. The meetings are always led by a team of one Arab and one Jewish facilitator.

**Jewish Dialogue Group**  
Philadelphia, PA  
E-Mail: info@jewishdialogue.org  
Web: http://www.jewishdialogue.org  
This project takes the Israeli/Palestinian conflict to many venues within the Jewish community, which is deeply divided about the issues. Their goal is to promote dialogue among Jews, rather than inter-group dialogue between Palestinians and Jews. The project conducts both one time and sustained dialogue. They will have a Jewish/Jewish dialogue manual available in the summer of 2004 that will provide tools for leading deliberations as well as dialogue sessions.

**RHODE ISLAND**

**Providence Arab Jewish Dialogue, Providence, RI**  
Contact: Judith Kaye, judthkay@aol.com  
The group was established in 2002 and is comprised of 8 members, including four Jews, two Palestinians, one Syrian, and one African American. They started with an outside facilitator but are now working on their own. The group sponsored a lecture by Rabbis for Human Rights. It would like to have more communication with other groups to learn about projects and activities.

**TENNESSEE**

**Knoxville Palestinian/Jewish Dialogue Group**  
Contact: Adrienne Dessel, LCSW  
Dialogue and Diversity Consulting  
8505 Barbee Lane, Knoxville TN  37923  
Phone: (865) 539-0946  
Email: adriennebd@knology.net  
This group uses creative methods for building relationships between Palestinians and Jews, including working with Palestinian and Jewish children on a peace project, and bringing their parents together for dialogue. The group organized Arab and Jewish storytellers. They reference the peace education materials from the Israel/Palestine Center for Research and Information in their work.

**TEXAS**

**The Austin Dialogue for Peace**  
Contact: Tom Michero, tom@freedompeace.org  
Phone: (512) 479-8585  
Web: http://www.freedompeace.org  
This group brings together Jews, Palestinians, and others who want to bring peace in the Middle East, the world, and the Austin community. Personal dialogue in a supportive environment leads to understanding, education, reconciliation, individual action and cooperation. The group meets twice per month.

**Palestinian Jewish Dialogue of San Antonio, TX**  
Contact: Marianne Kestenbaum, mzk_new@hotmail.com  
Nadir Faris, NFaris1@satx.rr.com
Mohammed Alatar, alatar62@yahoo.com
Phone: (210) 493-9654
The group fosters dialogue and relationship building among Jews, Palestinians and others who wish to work for peace in the Middle East. It was co-founded by Imam Nadir Faris and Rabbi Julie Danon and has been meeting monthly since March of 2002. They group engages in activities such as letters to public officials, editorials, social events designed to foster interaction between communities, and joint speaking at conferences and other events.
They have an email list of 70 people and 20-30 regularly attend monthly meetings. The group has Jews, Palestinians, other Arabs and Muslims, and others. They engage in extensive public education. An active member, Mohammed Alatar, is also a leader in Palestinians for Peace and Democracy, www.PfPD.org.

Austin Muslim/Jewish Community Council, Austin, TX
Contact: Chuck Vorspan, cvorspan@austin.rr.com
Phone: (512) 458-4036
The group started after 9/11 as an interfaith group to bring Arabs and Jews together to work jointly on community projects. The group mobilizes 25-50 people to work on projects, such as habitat for humanity projects. It has done public education events, including a symposium on peace in the Middle East.

WASHINGTON

The Compassionate Listening Project
Contact: Leah Green, Director,
P.O. Box. 17 Indianola, WA 98342
Phone: (360) 297-2280
E-mail: leah@compassionatelistening.org.
Web: www.compassionatelistening.org.
This 14-year old U.S. based non-profit leads delegations to Israel and Palestine in support of dialogue and reconciliation, and offers Compassionate Listening trainings and workshops worldwide. Their guidebook, Listening With the Heart" and videos are available from their website.

WASHINGTON D.C.

The Peace Café
Contact: Andy Shallal, Ashallal@cox.net;
Aref Dajani, adajani@census.gov;
Phone: (202) 464-6464
This five-year old group has monthly dialogue meetings at Mimi’s American Bistro. The group engages in dialogue and deliberations on books and articles. It also sponsors guest speakers and public events. It has a database of groups and individuals throughout the country and periodically distributes information to the listserv.

Projects Encounter -- Washington D.C. Chapter
Contact: Ira Weiss
11 Lilly Pont Court, Rockville MD 20852
Phone: (301) 984-9547
E-mail: iraweiss@gwu.edu
Projects Encounter is an international organization that sponsors encounter experiences and human rights workshops between Israeli and Palestinian youth and also between Israeli and Palestinian adult opinion leaders.
The encounters are held annually, usually in Spain. The youth encounters bring young people together for three weeks, and use a European based encounter model. The adult encounters for opinion leaders are peace education workshops that are usually about a weeklong.

The Projects Encounter approach is predicated on the assumption that there are virtually no intersecting points in the Israeli and Palestinian narratives and therefore no way to achieve consensus on the history of the conflict. This model therefore avoids discussions of the conflict, and strives instead to emphasize the common goals of human rights, non-violence and peace, based upon the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The programs teach the participants to apply human rights principles to the current situation.

Projects Encounter also has participated in Washington DC dialogue programs together with the American University, the Institute for Multi-track Diplomacy and the Peace Cafe. Projects Encounter also maintains its own server, on which an international peace discussion forum has been active for over six years.

WISCONSIN

Jewish Muslim Dialogue of Milwaukee, WI
Contact: Gigi Pomerantz, gigipomerantz@yahoo.com
Phone: (414) 351-2141
The group was initiated as an interfaith dialogue and it is make up of Jews and a range of Muslims, including Palestinians, Jordanians, Pakistanis, and others. Many of this group’s members are also members of the group, Peace Action Milwaukee, which has public education events and has brought in high profile Israeli and Palestinian speakers.

VIRGINIA

Charlottesville Jewish-Palestinian Dialogue Group
Contact: Virginia Tahboub, Rmanor6591@aol.com
This is a recently formed group in Charlottesville.

INTERNATIONAL

Council on Jewish Palestine Dialogue, London
Contact: Tony Klug, TonyKlug@compuserve.com
Saida Nusseibeh: saida@globalnet.co.uk
This group fosters dialogue and joint social events.

JADE, Europe
Contact: Tony Klug TonyKlug@compuserve.com
This group, Jewish Arab Dialogue and Education in Europe was founded by pioneer dialog champion Saida Nusseibeh and others. This organization popularizes dialogue and raises money for peace and peace education charities.
Jewish/Palestine Dialogue Group in Switzerland
Contact: Peter Liatowisch isra-pal-peace@access.ch
Web: http://www.access.ch/isra-pal-peace/
The group created a final settlement document for signature and support.

Raja – Tikva, France
Contact: http://raja.tikva.free.fr/
Email raja.tikva@free.fr
The name of this French group, Raja Tikva, means "hope" in Arabic and in Hebrew. They are seeking to establish contact with groups in Israel and Palestine

Toronto Jewish Palestinian Dialogue, Canadian Association of Muslims and Jews, Ontario, Canada
Contact: Barbara Landau, coopsolns@aol.com; Barbara Heller, heartlite@rogers.com
Phone: (416) 391-3110
The group was initiated after the start of the second Intifada and members were able to build trust and ask difficult questions about the conflict. The group has held intercultural events, religious events, and public education activities, such as sponsoring a talk by Jeff Halper of the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions, and Rabbi Michael Lerner. They created a youth initiative of Muslim/Jewish youth to talk about life cycle events and an increasing number of synagogues want to participate. An adult group has also been established. The group has begun to take public actions, such as participating in marches and reading a statement after 9/11 at city hall.

ISRAEL/PALESTINE

Center for Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation
Contact: Noah Salameh, Director
P.O. Box 861, Bethlehem, Palestine
Phone: 972-2-2767745
Fax: 972-2-2745475
Email: ccrr@palnet.com; salameh@hotmail.com
Web: www.ipctnet.org
The Center has a Co-Facilitation Program, which has been conducted with the support and cooperation of PISA University. Two courses of 100 hours each were implemented in joint meetings with 20 peace activists and those who work in the field of conflict resolution from both the Palestinian and the Israeli side. There were two trainers, CCRR director Noah Salameh from the Palestinian side, and Edi Kaufman from The Truman Institute in the Hebrew University from the Israeli side. Participants learned skills of co-facilitation through theoretical and practical techniques to enable them to conduct joint workshops and dialogue sessions between Palestinians and Israelis. This course is the first of its kind in Israel/Palestine. Held in 1999-2000 during a period of relative calm, the meetings alternated between Israel and the Palestinian territories. The course built a network of relationships, leading to cooperation and joint programs.

Committee for Israeli-Palestinian Dialogue
POB 20373
Tel-Aviv 61204
Phone: 972-3-7520121; Fax: 537 4854
This is a Tel-Aviv Israel group that was instrumental in mediating some of the earliest and most important dialogue efforts.

**Cyberpeace**  
Contact: CyberPeace c/o Andrew Friedman  
Phone: 1-310-471-7651; Fax: 1-310-471-8287  
Email: info@cyberpeace.org  
Web: http://www.cyberpeace.org  
Jewish and Arab teens from Israel, Palestine and around the world communicate over the Internet.

**Jerusalem Center for Coexistence**  
Contact: Ned Lazarus, Director,  
P.O. Box 25045,  
Jerusalem 97300  
Phone: 972-2-582-0222  
Email: center@seedsofpeace.org  
The Jerusalem Center for Co-Existence was created in 1999 to provide the follow-up activities for Seeds of Peace camp participants who have been to the Maine program. Workshops, presentations, seminars, sports, music and art activities and festivals are organized at the Center and Seeds of Peace youth are using the Center as a meeting space to maintain their friendships they initiated at camp. Israeli and Palestinian youth meet in bi-weekly coexistence groups from January until May, with each group meeting for three hours per session. They have professionally facilitated coexistence discussions and work on projects that the group designs. The projects are intended to allow the youth the opportunity to publicly express their ideas and hopes for coexistence, while dealing with the reality of the situation in the region. The projects involve a variety of media, including drawing, photography, video and audio recordings. The projects will ultimately be displayed at the Center for Coexistence, while a version of each project will be created for web display.

SeedsNet, a daily listserv reaching all Seeds’ graduates, ensures constant communication and dialogue regardless of borders or the political situation. In addition, Seeds of Peace also maintains the Seeds of Peace Club House, a private website maintained by alumni from all conflict regions as a way for the graduates of our program to post new developments, stories, messages, and participate in interactive chats. The Olive Branch, a magazine, written and produced entirely by the teenagers, provides a forum for our alumni to react to current events, learn more about each nation’s political leadership and maintain open dialogue. The Olive Branch is currently being distributed through the Seeds of Peace network to schools and youth groups, and many alumni have used the magazine as a foundation for class discussion and school presentations.

**Middleway**  
Email: mail@middleway.org  
Web: http://www.middleway.org  
Organizes walks and other dialog activities between Arabs and Jews in Israel

**Neve Shalom/Wahat El Salaam**  
Web: http://nswas.com  
Mixed Arab/Jewish village that hosts dialog groups. Recently graced by a visit from Hilary Clinton. Israelis who live in the Jerusalem corridor area can send their children to school there.

**Open House**  
Contact: Yehezkel and Dalia Landau, ylandau@actcom.co.il  
Phone: 972-2- 642-3952.  
Ramlah, Israel Dialog between Israeli Jews and Arabs
Peace Child Israel
Web: www.mideastweb.org/peacechild pci@netvision.net.il
This project conducts Jewish-Arab dialogue for Israeli youth through drama projects done in schools

Peace Now
Contact: Yariv Oppenheimer, Peace Now Spokesman, variv@peacenow.org.il;
Mary Schweitzer, Senior Activist, mary@peacenow.org.il
P.O. Box 29828  Tel Aviv 61297
Phone: 054-200060 (mobile); Phone: 972-54-638399
Email: info@peacenow.org.il
Web: www.peacenow.org.il
Peace Now is well known for its involvement in developing and continuing dialogue between Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza and Jews living in Israel. From the mid -1980s Peace Now conducted dialogues with the Palestinian leaders in the territories and abroad in order to develop understanding of each side's needs and interests. These led to many joint activities, vigils, marches, and symposia aimed at demonstrating that there was a real partner for negotiations. Following the Oslo Accords, the joint activity shifted to broader grass roots dialogue in the belief that peace could be durable only if the barriers and hostility of decades of bloodshed and war were broken and understanding and cooperation created among the two peoples. With the breakdown of the peace process under the Netanyahu government, the dialogues continued as an important means of keeping channels of communication - and hope - open. The dialogue project today involves hundreds of people, with groups paired between, for example, Ramallah and Jerusalem, Tulkarm and Kfar Saba, Haifa and Nablus, Beersheva and Gaza.

Givat Haviva/Jewish Arab Center for Peace
Contact: Mohammad Darawshe, Director of Public Relations, dovergh@inter.net.it
M.P Menashe 37850, Israel
Phone: 972-04-6309266; Cell: 972-0-64-475437; Fax: 972-04-6309305
Web: www.dialogate.or.il
Givat Haviva is the oldest dialogue organization in Israel, founded in 1949 by Ha’Kibbutz Ha’arzi Federation. It sponsors numerous education and dialog projects and promotes mutual understanding, respect, and cooperation at the grass roots level among Arabs and Jews through dialogue projects, peace studies, education workshops for democracy, and teacher training seminars. Know for its “Children Teaching Children” program. An education, research and documentation center. The mission of Givat Haviva today is to cope with the major issues that are on the agenda of Israeli society, and to foster educational initiatives; research and community work in the fields of peace, democracy, coexistence, tolerance and social solidarity. Its Jewish-Arab Center for Peace, founded in 1963, is committed to changing the existing reality to one based more on justice, pluralism, and democracy in Israel and the region. This is based on the premise of accepting a two-state solution. The programs give a platform for people to meet and discussing issues in a proper framework, with a great deal of unilingual preparation prior to bringing Arabs and Israelis together. On the Palestinian side, they focus on empowerment, identify, and democracy. On the Israeli side, they focus on their identify and issues of pluralism.

Children Teaching Children is an educational program for teachers and students in junior high schools to improve the relationship between Jewish and Palestinian-Arab citizens of Israel. Since its inception, the program has received support from Israel’s Ministry of Education. The program’s goals are based on the recognition of three key principles: 1) The profound influence of the Jewish-Palestinian conflict on the lives of all Israel’s citizens; 2) Citizenship as a partnership among equals; and 3) Dialogue is the preferred way to
promote change. The program models partnership, through its 50% Arab and 50% Jewish participation. The program involves 10 field coordinators, including 2 directors; 100 teachers, 1,700 students in 42 classes.

**Interfaith Encounter Association**
Contact: Yehuda Stolov,
17 Hameshoreret Rachel, Jerusalem 96348,
P.O Box 3814, Jerusalem 91037
Phone: 02-6510520; Fax: 02-6510557
Email: msvuda@phys.huji.ac.il
Web: www.interfaith-encounter.org
The Interfaith Encounter Association is dedicated to promoting peace in the Middle East through interfaith dialogue and cross-cultural study. It believes that, rather than being a cause of the problem, religion can and should be a source of the solution for conflicts that exist in the region and beyond. It organizes dialog encounters between Christians, Jews and Muslims in Israel. The email list can be joined by contacting iea-announcements-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
or get reports by contacting iea-reports-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

**Israel Palestine Center for Research and Information**
Contact: Gershon Baskin, Co-director, gershon@ipcri.org;
Zakaria al Qad, Co-director, law@ipcri.org
P.O. Box 9321, Jerusalem 91092
Phone: 972-2-676-9460  Fax: 972-2-676-8022
Web: www.ipcri.org
IPCRI, founded in Jerusalem in 1988, is the only joint Israeli-Palestinian public policy think-tank in the world. IPCRI has three major program areas: 1) Peace education, 2) Political initiatives, and 3) Environment and water. In all of its programs, IPCRI engages Israelis and Palestinians in joint work and dialogue. The Encounter Program brings Israeli and Palestinian students together outside the region to focus on narratives of both sides and work on accepting the diversity and legitimacy of the narratives. Students are usually taken to Turkey for one week for the program. IPCRI has published an evaluation of its people-to-people programs, “YES PM, Years of Experience in Strategies for Peace Making, Looking at Palestinian People-to-People Activities 1993-2002.”

**Jewish Palestinian Encounter**
Contact: http://www.salam-shalom.net
Dialog Forum page: http://www.salam-shalom.net/salam-shalom/salamforum1.html
Activities e-group Website http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Encounter-EMEM/
This is an on line discussion board for Arabs and Jews. This group has a separate e-mail group, Encounter-EMEM, for messages about international Israel-Palestine peace activities.

**Middle East Abrahamic Forum**
Contact: Dr. Mohamed Mosaad, mohamedmosaad@hotmail.com
Interfaith dialog web site. "A smile is a small curve which straightens out many problems."

**Parents’ Circle**
Contact: Yitzhak Frankenthal
Address: 1 Hayasmin St., Ramat Efal 52960 Israel
Phone: 972-3-5355089, Fax: 972-3-6358367
Email: parents@theparentscircle.com
The Parents Circle represents a group of bereaved parents who have lost loved ones as a result of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. The Families Forum is a facilitating arm of Parents Circle. With over 200 bereaved Israeli families and more than 190 bereaved Palestinian families who have lost a family member of the first degree because of the Israeli-Arab conflict. Hello Peace! The purpose of the Hello, Peace! project is to get large numbers of Israelis and Palestinians talking about peace again to shift the dominant media story to "Israelis and Palestinians are talking about peace again" thus, to rebuild pressure on both governments to move toward dialogue and away from violence.

The project is based on an automated telephone system that lets any Israeli or Palestinian simply pick up their phone at no charge and talk with someone on "the other side" about peace. When a person calls *6364, they identify themselves as Israeli or Palestinian, perhaps the age of the person they wish to talk to, and whether they want to talk now or later. A computer automatically connects them to someone on "the other side" who fits the profile and has expressed a willingness to talk. Since the program began in early October 2002, over 48,000 calls have been placed through this system. This is an extraordinary level of response - and hard evidence that many Israelis and Palestinians in fact DO want to talk with each other about peace.

**Peace**
Mail Mid-East Arab/Jewish Dialog and Peace action group (Israel/Jordan).
Web: www.ariga.com/peacewatch/story1.htm
Subscribe to Newsletter
Ami Isseroff & Ameen Hannoun
POB 2493 Rehovot 76100 Israel
Email: www.mideasteb.org/contactus.html
Website: www.ariga.com/dialog  www.ariga.com/peacewatch
PEACE is the group that spawned MidEastWeb

**People’s Peace Campaign**
Contact: Saman Khoury, Director, samankhoury@hotmail.com
New Imperial Hotel Jaffa Gate Jerusalem.
Phone: 972(0) 2-6281574.
Email: yes@peoples-peace-campaign.org
Web: www.peoples-peace-campaign.org
The PPC has a Youth Project, including educational activities and the Israeli/Palestinian Youth Dialogue Project for children and teenagers from Jerusalem. The project brings together Palestinian youth from East Jerusalem, the Old City and from areas near the Qalandia checkpoint with Israeli youth from West Jerusalem. PPC is working with a volunteer from Peace Now in coordinating this program. Two groups of children 9-11 years old and one group of teens 17-18 years old are meeting and engaging in regular activities on a weekly basis. Coordinated by Aws Hijazi from the PPC, the project is assisted Peace Now volunteers who have helped secure the participation of Israeli youth. The youth program has also brought the parents of the youth together to increase contact between Israelis and Palestinians. The program has no set curriculum but they have speakers, activities using art and photography as media for addressing issues and emotions around the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, field trips and other activities. The teen group identifies a Palestinian and Israeli leader for each meeting who facilitate the discussion.

**The Peres Center for Peace**
Web:www.peres-center.org/
The Center initiates joint projects with regional and international partners to build an infrastructure for peace by advancing social-economic cooperation and people-to-people relations. Offers information on projects and activities, a newsletter, reports and multimedia. Includes a collection of links for related sites.
Re’ut Sadaka
Web: http://www.israelpages.co.il/reut
This group conducts dialogue and joint activities for Jewish and Palestinian Youth.

Silent No Longer (One Voice)
Web: www.silentnolonger.org
This in a Jewish-Palestinian initiative for a public peace process. This organization has a proclamation to provide a mandate for the public peace process.

Windows
Contact: Ruti Atzmon, winpeace@netvision.net.il
Web: http://www.win-peace.org/
This is a dialogue center in Jaffa, Israel that is active in organizing help for Palestinians and publishes Hebrew/Arabic youth magazines written by youth.

YAKAR
Contact: Benjamin Pogrund, pogrund@actcom.co.il
Web: http://www.yakar.org
This group, based in Jerusalem, is devoted to dialogue both within Jewish society and between Arabs and Jews.

RESOURCES

ORGANIZATIONS

Arabic Media Internet Network (AMIN), http://amin.org/eng/index.html

The Center for Deliberative Democracy, Web: www.cdd.stanford.edu

The Compassionate Listening Project,
P.O. Box 17, Indianola, WA 98342
(360) 297-2280.
FAX (360) 297-6563.
Email: office@compassionatelistening.org.
Web: www.compassionatelistening.org

Jewish Palestinian Living Room Dialogue Group,
1448 Cedarwood Drive
San Mateo, CA 94403.
(650) 574-8303.
Email: Ltraubman@igc.org.
Web: www.traubman.igc.org

Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions  
P.O. Box 2030  
7 Ben Yehuda St  
Jerusalem, Israel 91020  
Email: info@icahd.org  Web: www.icahd.org

Mid East Web, Email mew@mideastweb.org. Web: www.mideastweb.org

National Association for Community Mediation  
527 New Hampshire NW, Suite 400,  
Washington, D.C. 20005.  
(202) 667-9513.  
Email: nafc@nafc.org

National Coalition for Dialogue and Deliberation,  
P.O. Box 402, Brattleboro,  
VT 05302 USA. 802-254-7341. Web: www.thataway.org  
National Issues Forum, Web: www.nifi.org

Public Conversations Project,  
46 Kondazian Street, Watertown, MA 02472.  
Email: info@publicconversations.org. Web: www.publicconversations.org

Public Dialogue Consortium,  
807 Wharfside Road,  
San Mateo, CA 94404  
(650) 574-7343.  
Email: Kimberly Pearce, kim@publicdialogue.org

Study Circles Resource Center,  
P.O. Box 203,  
Pomfret, CT 06258  
(860) 928-2616.  
Email: scrc@neca.com

Givat Haviva/Jewish Arab Center for Peace,  
M.P Menashe 37850,  
Israel.  972-04-6309266.  
Cell: 972-0-64-475437.  
Fax: 972-04-6309305.  
Email: dovergh@inter.net.it  
Web: www.dialogate.or.il

Israel Palestine Center for Research and Information,  
P.O. Box 9321, Jerusalem 91092  
Phone: 972-2-676-9460.  
Fax: 972-2-676-8022.  
Email: gershon@ipcri.org; law@ipcri.org  
Web: www.ipcri.org
Center for Conflict Resolution and Reconciliation,
P.O. Box 861, Bethlehem, Palestine
Phone: 972-2-2767745.
Fax: 972-2-2745475.
Email: ccrr@palnet.com; salameh@hotmail.com.
Web: www.ipctnet.org

People’s Peace Campaign
New Imperial Hotel, Jaffa Gate, Jerusalem.
972 (0) 2-6281574. Email: yes@peoples-pace-campaign.org;
samankhoury@hotmail.com. Web: www.peoples-peace-campaign.org

Seeds of Peace, Jerusalem Center for Coexistence
P.O. Box 25045, Jerusalem 97300
972-2-582-0222. Email: center@seedsofpeace.org. Web: www.seedsofpeace.org

Parents Circle
1 Hayasmin St.
Ramat Efal 52960
Israel.
972-3-5355089. Fax: 972-3-6358367

PUBLICATIONS

There are legions of books and articles on the conflict. Below is a sampling from prominent authors from different perspectives. There are also several books on peace building. For reviews or readers’ reactions, check the web or Amazon.com reviews.

Abu-Nimer, Mohammed, Dialogue, Conflict Resolution and Change, Arab-Jewish Encounters in Israel, State University of New York Press, Albany, 1999


Benvenisti, Meron, Sacred Landscape: The Buried History of the Holy Land, University of California Press, 2000

Black, Eric, Parallel Realities, A Jewish/Arab History of Israel/Palestine, Paradigm Press, Minneapolis, 1992

Bregman, Ahron and Jihan El-Tahri, Israel and the Arabs, An Eyewitness account of War and Peace in the Middle East, NYC, TV Books, 1998


Flapan, Simcha, *The Birth of Israel: Myths and Realities*, Pantheon, 1987


FILMS

There are a number of films that can serve as triggers for dialogue and deeper discussion about the issues. Most films promote a particular perspective, so part of the exercise is analyzing the messages that the film is conveying. Below are some recommendations.


Children of Abraham, Mid-East Citizen Diplomacy, (360) 297-2280, www.mideastdiplomacy.org


Frontline: Battle for the Holy Land, PBS

Frontline: Shattered Dreams, PBS


If You Make It Possible, Lynn Feinerman, www.arabfilm.com. Arab Film Distribution 10035 35th Ave NE Seattle, WA 98125 (206) 322-0882

Jerusalem: An Occupation Set in Stone?, Marty Rosenbluth, 1995, Arab Film Distribution

500 Dunam on the Moon, Rachael Leah Jones, Arab Film Distribution

Oasis of Peace, Jocelyn Ajami, www.arabfilm.com Arab Film Distribution 10035 35th Ave NE Seattle, WA 98125 (206) 322-0882


Promises, Justin Shapiro, B.Z. Goldberg, www.promisesproject.org

Relentless, www.honestreporting.com