

## **Zionism:45-50 minutes-Indoor**

Ice breaker - human rock, paper, scissors.

I will start by asking a question about what the teens think Zionism is and what it means to be a Zionist.

I will spread little notes around the room of different definitions of Zionism. Everyone will then walk around the room and choose a note that they agree with. (these notes are at the end of this document).

We will then watch a short [video](#) explaining Zionism and its history. The video is meant to invoke feelings of Jewish belonging and Identity.

- Question:

How would you explain Zionism to somebody who had never heard of it before?

After that, we will have a debate. The teens will debate if each individual is Zionist or not.

The individual stories are as follows.

1. An Israeli man who worked in a high-tech Israeli company in Israel, that moved to America to keep working for the company from there and has no plans to return to Israel.

2. A non-Jewish millionaire that has never visited Israel that donates thousands of dollars each year to Israel and the IDF.

3. An Israeli counselor in a youth movement that volunteers much of his time to his community but does not want to join the IDF because of his conscience.

4. Every person who consider themselves Zionist, should learn Hebrew.

5. There is no such thing as a Jew that is not Zionist. \ all Jews must be Zionists.

These topics will be debated until we conclude that there is no one definition for Zionism and that each person can identify himself as a Zionist.

Conclusion: we will discuss any questions that the teens may have, and read the real definition of Zionism.

**Zionism is a nationalist movement that espouses the establishment of, and support for a homeland for the Jewish people centered in the area roughly corresponding to the Land of Israel.**

- Do you think Jews today (those living in Israel and those outside of it) take the existence of Israel for granted? If so, why do you think this is and what do you think can be done to reignite feelings and actions of Zionism today?

## **Notes:**

### **Zionism is...**

- To donate money to the IDF**
- To move to Israel**
- To eat falafel**
- To join the IDF**
- To go to Jewish school**
- To learn Hebrew**
- To marry a jew**
- To celebrate Shabbat**
- To visit Israel**
- To eat challah on Shabbat**
- To play with a dreidel**
- To listen to Israeli music**
- To watch wonder woman**
- To make Hummus**
- To visit Holocaust concentration camps**
- To keep kosher**
- To go to Synagogue**
- To debate on behalf of Israel**
- To believe that Israel is the forever homeland of the Jews**
- To learn about judaism**
- To fight antisemitism**
- To preach peace**
- To wear a Magen David**
- To wear a kippah**
- To go on a gap year in Israel**
- To go on Birthright**
- To put a note in the Kotel**
- To pray every day**
- To cheer on Israelis at the Olympics/Eurovision**
- To sing Ha'Tikva every morning when they wake up**
- To wear only blue and white**
- To wear a shirt that says "I love the IDF"**

**To raise kids in Israel**  
**To visit the Holocaust museum**  
**To study the history of Israel**  
**To study the history of the Jews**  
**To eat bamba**  
**To be a proud Jew**  
**To go to a Jewish youth movement**  
**To celebrate a Bar/Bat Mitzvah**  
**To go to a Jewish summer camp**

Supplies: Computer with projector and the notes for what zionism means.