

DISCUSSION & REVIEW QUESTIONS:

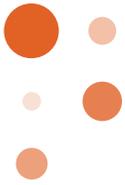
- Towards the beginning of the video, Professor Dershowitz explains that during a long period whereby an Arab country owned and controlled the area in question, “Palestinians committed terror attacks against Israel when there were no settlements and they committed terror attacks against Israel when there were settlements.” Based on this fact alone, how can anyone rationalize and/or argue that Israeli settlements are the barrier to peace? What are the real, legitimate issues that people should be making light of instead?
- In the video, we learn that in a significant gesture towards peace, Israel abandoned every structure in the Gaza Strip in order to appease the Palestinians. However, instead of being thankful or at a minimum respectful, the Gaza Palestinians, “...launched thousands of rockets and numerous other terror attacks against the nation state of the Jewish people.” Why do you think that the Palestinians reacted this way? Was their reaction justified? Why or why not?
- Professor Dershowitz shares with us that a common criticism of Israel is that, “...Israel has no right to be in the West Bank at all.” Why do you think critics make this claim, even though it is clearly and demonstrably not true? Do you think that this criticism is a reasonable justification for the Palestinians to continue to be so violent and petulant towards Israel? Why or why not?
- Considering that, “...no peace treaty has been reached and the terrorism continues with new attacks threatened almost daily, Israel is under no legal obligation to leave. Given the danger that Israel would be putting itself in if it did leave the West Bank – exposing its major cities and international airport to rocket attacks – it would be irresponsible to do so, which is why Israel is still there.” Since the Palestinians claim to want their own space, why do you think that they prevent that from happening by continuing to attack Israel? What do you think would happen if the Palestinians actually stopped their terrorism of Israel and negotiated a legitimate peace deal that they upheld? Wouldn't that make the situation better for both sides?
- Professor Dershowitz explains clearly that, “The reason [for no peace in the region] has always been and remains the unwillingness of Palestinian leaders – and, according to Palestinian polls, much of the Palestinian population – to recognize Israel's right to exist as the nation state of the Jewish people,” and that, “Until and unless the Palestinian leadership and the Palestinian people acknowledge that the State of Israel has the right to be free from military assault, from terrorism from rocket attacks, and from diplomatic warfare, there will be no resolution to the Middle East dispute.” What do you think the Palestinians perceive that they stand to gain from endlessly attacking Israel without any success? Considering that attacking Israel for decades has not gotten the Palestinians any closer to achieving what they claim to want- a Palestinian State, why do you think they continue to ‘bang their heads against the wall’ by continuing to attack Israel, but expecting a different result? Do you think the dispute will ever be resolved? Why or why not?

EXTEND THE LEARNING:

CASE STUDY: Palestinian Violence

INSTRUCTIONS: Read the article “Attacks by Palestinians Kill 3 Israelis and Wound More Than 20,” then answer the questions that follow.

- Why do you think that these Palestinians attacked? What other, non-violent
- courses of action could these Palestinians have taken to get their message
- across or to promote their agenda?
- • This incident marks a significant escalation of violence that has recently erupted
- most notably at the Temple Mount. What do you think is really going on here?
- Do you think that these Palestinians are attacking on their own, or do you think
- that they are being directed to attack? Why do you think that the Palestinians
- are escalating their violent behavior so much? Do you think that this is the
- beginning of a third intifada? Why or why not?
- • How do you think the rest of the world should react to this? Should any other
- nation ‘take sides’ or interfere in any way? What is America’s official position?
- How would you try to resolve the conflict if you were in a position to do so?



QUIZ

ARE ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS THE BARRIER TO PEACE

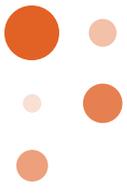
- 1. Is Israel's policy of building civilian communities in the area known as the West Bank the reason there is no permanent peace between Israel and the Palestinians?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

- 2. From 1947 to 1967, a time when Israel did not have a single settlement, there were _____ Palestinian terror attacks.**
 - a. no
 - b. very few
 - c. few
 - d. numerous

- 3. If Israel were to pull out of every single settlement in the West Bank tomorrow, _____.**
 - a. It's unlikely that anything would change.
 - b. There would be peace immediately.
 - c. Palestinian terror attacks would eventually die out.
 - d. None of the above.

- 4. Under international law, military occupations are _____ following an aggressive attack by a neighboring state.**
 - a. clearly permitted
 - b. strictly prohibited
 - c. rarely allowed
 - d. legally unclear

- 5. Why has there been no peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians?**
 - a. Israel continues to attack Palestine with no provocation.
 - b. The Palestinian's repeated attempts to create peace with Israel have been ignored.
 - c. The Palestinian leaders and people do not recognize Israel's right to exist as the nation state of the Jewish people.
 - d. No peace agreement has ever been drafted.



QUIZ - ANSWER KEY

ARE ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS THE BARRIER TO PEACE

1. Is Israel's policy of building civilian communities in the area known as the West Bank the reason there is no permanent peace between Israel and the Palestinians?
 - a. Yes
 - b. No

2. From 1947 to 1967, a time when Israel did not have a single settlement, there were _____ Palestinian terror attacks.
 - a. no
 - b. very few
 - c. few
 - d. numerous

3. If Israel were to pull out of every single settlement in the West Bank tomorrow, _____.
 - a. It's unlikely that anything would change.
 - b. There would be peace immediately.
 - c. Palestinian terror attacks would eventually die out.
 - d. None of the above.

4. Under international law, military occupations are _____ following an aggressive attack by a neighboring state.
 - a. clearly permitted
 - b. strictly prohibited
 - c. rarely allowed
 - d. legally unclear

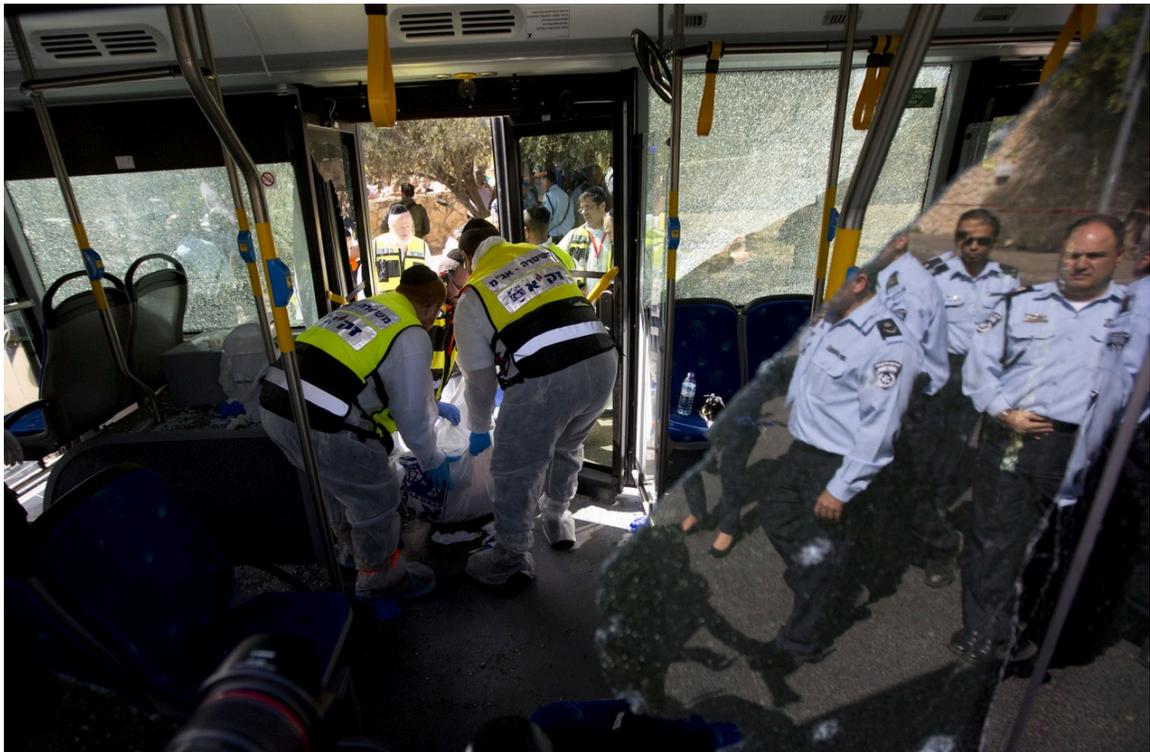
5. Why has there been no peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians?
 - a. Israel continues to attack Palestine with no provocation.
 - b. The Palestinian's repeated attempts to create peace with Israel have been ignored.
 - c. The Palestinian leaders and people do not recognize Israel's right to exist as the nation state of the Jewish people.
 - d. No peace agreement has ever been drafted.

http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/14/world/middleeast/palestinian-attacks-israel-violence.html?_r=0

[Middle East](#)

Attacks by Palestinians Kill 3 Israelis and Wound More Than 20

By ISABEL KERSHNER and [JODI RUDOREN](#) OCT. 13, 2015



[Sebastian Scheiner/Associated Press](#)

JERUSALEM — The bus was just rounding a corner in East Jerusalem when two [Palestinians](#) armed with a gun and a knife tried to commandeer it and shot and stabbed its passengers, witnesses said.

It was one of four attacks Tuesday by [Palestinians](#) in Jerusalem and another city 40 miles away that killed three Israelis and wounded more than 20. The most intense eruption so far in two weeks of escalating violence alarmed an already tense [Israel](#).

Prime Minister [Benjamin Netanyahu](#) held an emergency meeting of his cabinet and early Wednesday, the government said that it had authorized the police “to impose closures on, or to surround, centers of friction in Jerusalem,” meaning some Palestinian neighborhoods of East Jerusalem, and that property of those who committed attacks would be confiscated. It also said that perpetrators from Jerusalem would have their right to live in the city revoked and that army units would help the police in cities and along roads.

“We are in a struggle, a struggle for us all, and we will face it together,” Mr. Netanyahu said in the Knesset, [Israel](#)’s Parliament, during a break in the hourslong emergency meeting.

“We are focused on our mission to fight the murderers and inciters and I am confident that the actions we take will lead to the other side’s recognition that terrorism does not pay,” he added.

Minutes after the bus attack, in what may have been a coordinated assault, a Palestinian worker for the Israeli telephone company [rammed his company vehicle into pedestrians at a bus stop](#) in an ultra-Orthodox neighborhood of West Jerusalem, then got out and hacked them with a meat cleaver. Police officers killed one of the bus attackers and wounded the other, while a security guard fatally shot the phone company worker.

One of the two Israelis killed on the bus was identified as Haviv Haim, 78. The Israeli killed by the phone company worker was identified as Rabbi Yeshayahu Krishevski, 60.

Palestinians also carried out two stabbings in Ra’anana, a normally tranquil, suburban city of 80,000 northeast of Tel Aviv that is home to many American immigrant families. The perpetrators in both attacks were captured, the police said.

The State Department condemned Tuesday’s attacks “in the strongest terms” and called on both the Israeli and Palestinian sides to take steps to restore calm and prevent actions that could escalate tensions.

The outbreak of violence on Tuesday came after four stabbing attacks on Monday in Jerusalem, including one in which [a 13-year-old Israeli Jew riding his bicycle was critically wounded](#) by two Palestinian cousins, 13 and 15. The younger assailant was hit by a car and severely hurt as he tried to flee, the police said, while the older one was fatally shot by officers, prompting outrage.

Nabil Abu Rudeineh, spokesman for President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority, called the killing of the 15-year-old a “heinous crime” and compared it to an episode widely seen as having helped incite the second Palestinian intifada, or uprising, in 2000.

“If the Israeli government continues with this escalation of this dangerous method of executions, the region will be in a position that cannot be controlled, and everyone will pay a heavy price,” Mr. Rudeineh said in a statement.

Riyad Mansour, the Palestinian ambassador to the United Nations, sent the Security Council an urgent letter on Monday night listing numerous cases in which Israeli forces fatally shot attackers, as well as people protesting against Israel’s occupation in the West Bank and rushing toward the fence that separates Israel from the Gaza Strip.

In the Knesset, Mr. Netanyahu called on Mr. Abbas to “stop lying, stop inciting.”

He disputed the widespread Palestinian allegations that Israelis have killed suspected assailants in cold blood, and he described the actions of the Israeli security forces and citizens as “legitimate self-defense.”

“An Arab boy critically wounds a Jewish boy, and after the security forces stop him so that he cannot continue with his stabbing spree, he is turned into a martyr who was supposedly executed, having done no wrong,” Mr. Netanyahu said.

There have been more than 20 attacks, mostly stabbings, already this month, killing a total of seven Israeli Jews. At least 11 of those suspected of being assailants have been shot dead by Israeli security forces or, in one case, a victim who pulled out a pistol. Most of the attacks have been in Jerusalem.

Adding to the unfolding sense of chaos, the police reported on Tuesday that a Jewish resident of Kiryat Ata in northern Israel stabbed another Jew, apparently mistaking him for an Arab, in what was suspected to be a botched revenge attack. Protests continued in the West Bank on Tuesday, and along the border fence separating the Gaza Strip from Israel.

A Palestinian man was fatally shot during clashes with Israeli forces near the wall separating the West Bank city of Bethlehem from Jerusalem. Wafa, the official Palestinian news agency, identified the man as Moataz Zawahra, in his late 20s. Medical officials said a bullet had pierced his lung.

In a speech at Harvard, Secretary of State John Kerry said he would soon travel to the Middle East in the hope of easing tensions.

In Jerusalem, the morning began with scenes reminiscent of the second Palestinian intifada, which waned in 2005 — sirens screaming by; a bus with shattered windows.

Golan Cohen Gabai drove past and saw the commotion on the No. 78 bus between mostly Jewish Armon Hanatziv and predominantly Palestinian Jebel Mukaber, areas of East Jerusalem.

“I saw one of the terrorists in the driver’s seat, trying to hijack the bus, so I blocked it with my car,” Mr. Cohen Gabai recounted on Israeli television. One of the assailants came at him, he said, describing how he sped off as the police arrived.

“It started with knives, then cars and now guns,” said Aliza Ben Zichri, 59, a local resident who rushed to the scene after hearing gunfire. “Why not put them under curfew?” she asked, referring to the city’s 300,000 Palestinian residents. “I should be able to walk freely.”

Ahmed Rajabi, 30, a resident of Jebel Mukaber who works at a nearby carwash, said, “We’ve always lived together. I don’t know how such a thing happened. We don’t agree with all this.”

Correction: October 13, 2015

Because of an editing error, an earlier version of this article misidentified the location of the ultra-Orthodox neighborhood where a Palestinian phone company worker rammed his car into pedestrians, then got out and attacked them, killing one man. It is in West Jerusalem, not East Jerusalem.

Correction: October 18, 2015

Because of an editing error, an earlier version of this article misstated, at one point, the location of the attack on the No. 78 bus. As the article noted correctly elsewhere, the attack occurred in Jerusalem, not Ra’anana.

Irit Pazner Garshowitz contributed reporting.