Arab Citizens in Israel After October 7 Frameworks for Educators

November 19, 2024

INTER AGENCY TASK FORCE

on Israeli Arab Issues

Set Up A Constructive Conversation

- Acknowledge the emotional stakes- for both learners and speakers
- Encourage learners to listen with curiosity
- Reminder: Listening does not necessarily equal agreeing
- Provide introductory context, freeing the speakers to share personal experiences and their expertise
- State upfront what this program is and what it isn't

Get Real: Focus on Day-to-day Experiences

Arab and Jewish citizens continue to wake up side-by-side each day. Through concrete examples of the messiness and beauty of daily realities in Israel, learners experience what "complexity" tangibly looks and feels like.

This also allows speakers to share their own stories and experiences, which can highlight the stakes, allow for multiple narratives to coexist, and diffuse tension.

Connect with Changemakers

When changemakers share their work, they raise real and painful challenges in practical ways. Yet this also showcases the inspiring and creative work being done to address them, **often by Jews and Arabs together.**

Meetings with changemakers offer learners **a sense of momentum and possibility** while still being authentic and realistic.

Shift LearnersAway fromBlack vs.White

As Israeli citizens with deep ties to the Arab world and Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza, Arab citizens' lives and identies are inherently nuanced. They straddle worlds and are thus uniquely positioned to hold and understand multiple narratives.

This case study can challenge learners to move away from simple binaries, ask questions, and grapple with the shades of grey that are often inherent in conflicts, countries, and communities.