

ISRAELI *and* PALESTINIAN VOICES:
A DIALOGUE WITH BOTH SIDES
BY CATHY SULTAN
DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1 Did you feel that the author presented a balanced account of her visit to Israel/Palestine? Use your answer to examine your own preconceived ideas and biases.
- 2 The Israeli government is building a separation wall around Jerusalem. In the long run what effect will this have on Israeli security?
- 3 Why does the author think there is little difference between the Israeli and American publics? What do you think might be possible differences?
- 4 Many Palestinians believe a two-state solution is no longer possible. What is your opinion?
- 5 Was there any information in the “Brief History of the Middle East” which surprised you?
- 6 Which interview did you find the most interesting? What did you learn from it?
- 7 Sam, the businessman from Ramallah, spoke of Arafat and Rabin. Why did he compare the two men? What did he mean when he said, “Being elected is not being a leader. It is simply being a politician?”
- 8 Why do you think the author insisted on carrying the Palestinian textbooks out of Ramallah? Use the information found in the Author’s Note in Huwaida Arraf’s interview to initiate a discussion.
- 9 The three Palestinian teenagers suggest that they and their Israeli counterparts can solve the crisis. Given a chance, are the people more likely than their leaders to solve the major differences?
- 10 According to Maha, America is a plutocracy of powerful people who run both the government and corporate America. What is your opinion?

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