

Jewish-Arab Coexistence in Israel: Barriers and Opportunities

Neve Gordon



What are the formal and informal structural barriers to Jewish-Arab equality in Israel? How do segregation, racism, and biased allocation of state resources affect access to opportunity and advancement for Israel's majority and minority communities? What are the prospects for coexistence within Israel, and what projects currently exist to pave the way for a positive future? As an active partici-

pant in the development of a bilingual Arab-Jewish school in Beersheva, Israel, Neve Gordon's personal experience offers a hopeful, if sobering, view of what lies ahead as Israel—inevitably—grapples with the aspirations of its Palestinian minority for full equality in a democratic society.

Neve Gordon is widely respected for his brilliant and original dissection of the evolving nature of Israel's occupation of the Palestinian population in East Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip. Gordon is the chair of the Department of Politics and Government, Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, and author of *Israel's Occupation* (University of California Press, 2008). He has been a visiting scholar at the University of California, Berkeley; the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; and the Watson Institute at Brown University. During the first intifada, he was the director of Physicians for Human Rights—Israel. Gordon is the co-editor of *Torture: Human Rights, Medical Ethics and the Case of Israel*, the editor of *From the Margins of Globalization: Critical Perspectives on Human Rights*. His writings have appeared in numerous scholarly journals as well as in publications like the *Washington Post*, *LA Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Nation*, the *Chicago Tribune*, the *Boston Globe*, the *Chronicle of Higher Education* and the *National Catholic Reporter*.

**Monday,
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7:00pm

**Oak Park Public
Library**

Veterans Room

834 Lake St.

Oak Park

Neve Gordon's presentation is a joint project of five Chicago-area co-sponsoring organizations: American Friends Service Committee, the Arab-Jewish Partnership for Peace and Justice in the Middle East, the Chicago Faith Coalition on Middle East Policy, the Committee for a Just Peace in Israel and Palestine, and Jewish Voice for Peace-Chicago.

The Committee for a Just Peace in Israel and Palestine community education and dialogue series runs September 2009 through May 2010. Each year, this popular series brings distinguished speakers to Chicago-area audiences, including authors, activists, scholars, and religious and political figures with experiences and perspectives not frequently covered in the mainstream media. This year's series theme is "Creating a Just Peace in the Age of Obama."

For up-to-date information on event times and locations, please call or visit our website. All events are subject to change. Speakers do not necessarily represent the views of CJPIP.



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