

LIVING WITH APPROPRIATION

PREMISE

All around the West Bank, Israel has built and continues to build settlements in Palestinian territory. By building these settlements and connecting them with Israeli controlled roads, Israel is appropriating land away from Palestine and setting the stage to isolate some Palestinians from their families, and even basic necessities for life.

MATERIALS

- Wall Map of your Community/City/State
- Questions for contemplation (Attached)

SET-UP

- Using a marker, circle a few neighborhoods, parks, and open spaces around your community on the map.
- Highlight the roads that connect those neighborhoods to one another.
- Hang the map up on the wall
- Hang up the questions on a poster or printed individually around the map.

FACILITATION

One person should be at this station to explain to participants the premise of the station and that the highlighted areas and roads represent land under the control of a foreign power. Tell each person to find their home on the map and then consider the questions on the wall.

QUESTIONS

- 1) Israeli settlements are often built on open land, but sometimes entire Palestinian villages are torn to the ground and a settlement built in its place. **Would your home still be standing on this map?**
- 2) In order to connect the settlements to the rest of Israel, Israel builds roads which are fiercely guarded. Most Palestinians are not allowed to travel these roads, and are often isolated from their family, jobs, schools, and places of worship. **If your house were not torn down would you be able to get see your family? Could you get to work, church, or even the grocery store?**
- 3) When Palestinian villages are torn down to make way for settlements, it's not just houses that are destroyed. Businesses, schools, and places of worship are also destroyed. **Would the places you go to work, study, or worship still be standing on this map?**
- 4) In the appropriation of land by Israel a number of sites with religious significance to Christians and Muslims have been taken under Zionist control. **What sites of religious, historical, or cultural significance in your community would be under foreign control on this map?**