



THE 3CS OF PEOPLEHOOD - 85 MIN



THE 4HQ OF IT...

The Jewish People is at the center of the 4HQ framework. Without a firm grasp of what we mean by People, we will find it hard to explain: Whose security? Whose freedom? Whose land? Yet we often tend to speak at cross purposes when talking about the Jewish People. Do we mean our religion and spirituality? Do we mean our connection to generations of Jewish People wherever they are and whatever they believe? Or are we talking about a shared connection to specific values? This fundamental session about Peoplehood provides the participant with an easily graspable key to understanding the vagaries of the Jewish People and his/her/their attachment to it. [This session was originally built by the team at Makom, around the thinking of Yonatan Ariel]

AIMS

Learners will:

1. Practise talking about Jewish Peoplehood through the three "c's":
 - Covenantal - religion, tradition, inheritance
 - Communitarian - family, tribe, solidarity
 - Cosmopolitan - values, tikkun olam, looking beyond the Jews
2. Explore their own Jewish identity using the three "c's"
3. Discover that Israel was established for the Jewish People, and not specifically for the Jewish religion.

PREPARATION:

- Read through all the materials fully
- Print out all materials, calculating how many you need according to the numbers in your group. (On each “wanted” sheet there are ten values to be “plucked”. If you have more than ten people in the group, you need more than one sheet of each value).
- Cut up the “wanted” values.
- Affix all the “wanted words” to the walls.
- Print out the “Gateways” sheets in color, double-sided, full size – one for each participant.
- Tape a huge triangle to the floor with wide masking tape.
- Print the large “Gateways” titles, and affix them to each corner of the triangle on the floor.



PART 1: ISRAEL AND THE JEWISH PEOPLE - 20 MIN

In pairs, read through the Declaration of the Establishment of the State of Israel , and note down answers to the following three questions:

1. How many times is “Jewish religion” or “Jewish faith” mentioned? Why do you think this is?
2. Compare this to the amount of times you see “Jewish People” mentioned. Why does it appear so often?
3. What might we learn from this about the connection between the Jewish People and the State of Israel?

Alternative approach: Have participants highlight how many times “Jewish religion” or “Jewish faith” are mentioned in one color and highlight in a different color, how many times they see “Jewish People” mentioned to give them a visual to discuss. You could do this as one group or in pairs.

TRANSITION:

- What do you think is the difference between the Jewish religion, or Jewish faith, and the Jewish People?
- How do you understand the term Jewish People, or Jewish Peoplehood?
- To what extent do you see yourself as connected to the Jewish People?



PART 2: THREE GATEWAYS TO JEWISH PEOPLEHOOD -

25 MIN

WHAT CONNECTS ME?

- Point out that there are 36 values posted around the walls, with a few question marks among them.
- Ask participants to ask themselves: "What connects me to the Jewish People?"
- In order to answer this question, they need to "pluck" 7 values from those on the walls.
- If there is a value that connects them to the Jewish People, but doesn't appear on the walls - they are welcome to pluck an empty note from the flyers with a question mark, and write down the value they were thinking of.

Once they have completed this activity, ask a few people to share their experiences. Was it easy to choose? What did they spend longer thinking about?

Present the model of the Three Gateways.

PART 3: PEOPLEHOOD CHEVRUTA - 20 MIN*



- Hand out the large study sheets, and ask people to split into chevruta pairs.
- Ask the pairs to read out the description of each of the three gateways (first side of the sheet), and to **place the values they plucked onto the gateway they think appropriate.**
- If they have time, invite them to fill in the empty hashtags, common perceptions, and poster child. (This is not essential, but a useful exercise to further fix the concepts in their heads)
- Move around the pairings, to check how everyone is getting on. Help them in their classification work.
- While everyone is working on the study sheets in their chevrutot, you can take this opportunity to paste the triangle on the floor with the masking tape. It is worth trying to make it an equilateral triangle as large as the space will allow. Stick each of the three "Peoplehood Gateways" titles on each corner.

PART 4: TAKING A STAND - 15 MIN

- Bring all the pairs together, and ask participants to each “take a stand”. To place themselves inside the triangle, where they think they fit, in the light of their conversations and the values that they chose for themselves.
- Allow time for the first (brave!) volunteers to place themselves.
- Ask everyone to explain why they put themselves in that particular place. (“Why so far from Cosmopolitan?” “Why equidistant from Covenantal and Communitarian” etc)
- Once a participant has placed him/herself, ask them to remain in place as everyone else also takes their stand.
- Once five or six participants have taken their stands, ask the rest of the group to take their places as well.
- Ask everyone to look around: who are they standing close to, and who are they far from? Are their friends closer to them or further away? Are there any recurring motifs – according to gender, politics, etc...?
- Thank everybody and ask them to sit in a circle.

WRAP UP - 5 MIN

Thank everyone for sharing such personal and sensitive information about their Jewish identity. Open up to questions and comments about the model of the 3 c’s. You don’t need to immediately respond to critique of the model (if it arises). Remember this is only one take on a complex subject – it may not fit all!

* If time is of the essence, this section can be side-stepped. Instead of this chevruta section you can explain the three gateways, and jump everyone straight into the placement of the “wanted” notes in pairs.

