

Session 8: Building Bridges – The Home Stretch I
5/6/09

1. Review - sessions so far:
 - a. 3/4/09 Session 1: Building Bridges - A Shared Vision
 - b. 3/11/09 Session 2: Building Bridges - Deciding What Bridge to Build
 - c. 3/18/09 Session 3: Building Bridges – Start Building the Bridge
 - d. 3/25/09 Session 4: Building Bridges – Repairing the World
 - e. 4/1/09 Session 5: Building Bridges – Led by Jewish Students
 - f. 4/22/09 Session 6: Building Bridges – Led by Muslim Students
 - g. 4/29/09 Session 7: Building Bridges - Yom Ha'atzma'ut – Video "Unsettled"

2. Discussion – "Unsettled"

From the video's official press release:

"...it is not just an Israeli story – it is a story about trying to find peace by combating extremism at home – perhaps the only strategy that will ever break endless waves of attack and reprisal. Conflicts between a moderate, tolerant majority and a vocal, fundamentalist minority are seen throughout the world – rarely are such conflicts resolved peacefully. Israel is only one of many places where the first battle for peace must be fought at home..."

What thoughts went through your head as you watched the video?

3. Discussion – Deborah Lipstadt, Dosberg Speaker 4/30/09, "The New Anti-Semitism"

<http://www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/focus/antisemitism/voices/transcript/index.php?content=20070315>

"Holocaust denial is a form of antisemitism. It is nothing but antisemitism. Because, if you think about it, the Holocaust has the dubious distinction of being the best-documented genocide in human history. So you have so much evidence from all sides, that you have to then ask, if all this evidence exists, why would these people deny? What is in it for them to deny? The only reason to deny the Holocaust is to inculcate and foster antisemitism."

What can you do about it anti-Semitism, or prejudice in general?

4. Quote: "The only remedies against race and prejudice are enlightenment and education. This is a slow and painstaking process."

What do you think about this statement by Einstein?

5. How should we spend our remaining time together?