Bogrim: Solving the Conflict

Goal: Gauge where bogrimers are in terms of knowledge of the issues in Israel as well as investment in Israel. Try to unearth and share opinions about Israel.

Location: BAG (?)

Materials: 71 note cards, a bunch of pens

Description: We will do a thermometer activity as well as a fish bowl. First, a counselor will explain to the edah that they will be reading statements for people to agree or disagree with. One side of the room is agree, one side of the room is disagree and the middle is neutral. They can place themselves anywhere on the spectrum of how they feel about the statement. The counselor should explain that this is a silent activity that requires no talking or commentary. They should also remind campers that their answers can and may conflict and that is okay. They should also explain that everyone should answer based on how they feel and not on how their friends are answering the question. After the statements are read, the counselor should thank everyone for participating and ask them to sit down. Then the counselor will read the three groups for fish bowl discussions. A fish bowl is when a smaller group sits in a circle in the middle of a circle of a larger group. The group in the middle (4-5 campers) will be discussing statements given and the outside group is meant to listen to the discussion. The middle group should be switched out for every new statement. At the beginning of the fish bowl before discussions begin, we will hand out note cards and pens for campers to write down statements, thoughts, or questions they have about Israel. Then the counselor will decide if it is better to use those statements or the agree/disagree statements for the fish bowl to discuss. At the end of the peulat, remember to thank the campers for their honesty and for participating.

Statements:

* Israel is a significant part of and plays an important role in my life.
* Israel cannot be a democratic AND a Jewish state. (?)
* Israel is valued in my family.
* Zionism is not a part of Judaism.
* America should support Israel.
* When my peers are discussing Israel, I feel obligated to voice my opinion.
* Israel is not essential to the future of the Jewish people.
* Living in Israel for a significant period of time is important to me.
* Seminar is not important to my camp career.
* An essential piece of my Jewish identity is Israel.