



ZIONESS
THE WAR IN ISRAEL,
THE IMPACTS IN AMERICA:
A PARLOR MEETING TOOLKIT



Welcome!

What's going on in Israel? In Gaza? With antisemitism worldwide? We believe that intentional, interactive, in-person community gatherings are a powerful tool for greater understanding — and invite you to host one of your own with a Zioness team member (or friend of the organization) bringing meaningful stories, expertise, and facilitation to the group (either physically or virtually, pending location). Gather friends, neighbors, colleagues, and peers together for an evening of listening, learning and asking questions about the history of the region, Israeli-Palestinian geopolitics and relations, involvement and role of the US, and ramifications of current events for those on the ground, the region, Jews, and global societies, including in politics, on campuses, across mainstream and social media, and right here at home.

Please reach out if we can be of assistance during the planning process.



**We want to help
 you create the most
 impactful event**

Reach out to us at:
about@zioness.org
 to talk to us about your
 plans and let us know
 how we can help!





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As you plan your parlor meeting, take some time to think through:

- A theme for your event, if applicable
- Your guest list (family, friends, colleagues, and others in your extended network). It's best to keep this information in an organized spreadsheet to track RSVPs, follow-up outreach, and contact information
- The date, time, and location for your event (somewhere with enough space for all your guests, assuming about 60% of those you invite will attend)
- A co-host, if needed!
- The format and content of your invitations (see the template below), to be sent several weeks ahead of your event if possible
- Any food and drinks you will be serving, and/or what you'll ask guests to bring if you choose a potluck approach. Keep dietary restrictions in mind to make sure you have plenty of options for everyone.
- Don't forget plates, napkins, glasses, and utensils
- Any logistical needs you might need, including microphones, projectors and screens, etc. The event program, so attendees know what to expect and when

Don't forget to:

- Connect with Zioness for informational materials, or potential speakers to attend your event if possible
- Follow up via phone or text to remind your guests about the event as it nears
- Send thank you cards after your event, and share your attendance numbers and guests' contact information with Zioness so we can thank them as well



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Invitation Template

Check out the template below for text you can use to create your invitations. Feel free to copy and paste the text below, with your details included. The more personalized you can make your invitations, the more compelling they'll be to your guests!

Dear **[guest name]**,

During these challenging times, so many of us are asking, what's going on in Israel? In Gaza? With antisemitism worldwide? How do these dynamics impact my local community? On behalf of **[host name and/or community group]**, you are invited to join us for a parlor meeting to learn more about one of our favorite organizations — Zioness Movement. We hope you'll join us on **[date]** at **[time]** to learn about the history of the region, Israeli-Palestinian geopolitics and relations, involvement and role of the US, and ramifications of current events.

We'll hear from **[names and titles of any speakers]**, connect with members of our local community, and learn more about Zioness programming, mission, the work they're doing nationwide to reclaim and normalize Zionism in progressive spaces, and how all of us can be a part of driving change alongside them.

The event address, directions, and parking details will be provided upon RSVP.

Please RSVP to **[name]** at **[contact information]** by **[deadline]**, and let us know of any dietary restrictions you have. We ask that each attendee bring **[side dish, dessert, etc.]**.

We would be thrilled to see you there!

Sincerely,
[host name/community group]

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