Client Project

(Apr 3, 2024 - 8:00am)

(00:00:04 - 00:00:35)

**Moderator #1:** Welcome. It is such I'm going to have a bunch of stuff a participant list on this side that I'm gonna try to get rid of so I can actually see you. Thanks for being here. I'm so excited for today's conversation. This focus group is facilitated by College Pulse. They are a research firm that specializes in understanding the perceptions of college students in the US. And my name is doctor Deb Mashek. I am the oh, I'm getting some feedback. Did anyone else hear that? Is that me? It might have been my mic. I'm gonna try to sit back here a little bit.

(00:00:37 - 00:01:22)

**Moderator #1:** And I'm gonna be facilitating today's discussion, which just means I'll be asking questions, helping move the conversation along, and keeping us on time. The purpose of the conversation today is to learn more about how college students think about the conflict in Israel and Gaza, and it's part of a study being conducted by College Pulse in partnership with researchers who study education. And we're gonna be done by the top of the hour, so we'll keep this to sixty minutes. And I'm going to propose three ground rules for us. And if you feel these are good, just give me a thumbs up at the end here. So the first one is that there are no wrong answers. So to any of these questions, so please share as openly as you can your opinions and your experiences.

(00:01:23 - 00:01:29)

**Moderator #1:** Number two is that what is said here stays here. It's critical that we honor everybody's confidentiality and privacy.

(00:01:31 - 00:01:45)

**Moderator #1:** By obviously listening, but, not not sharing that elsewhere. And then finally, keep in mind that your opinions and perspectives are possibly different from other people's in the room, so I invite us to lean into those differences, that curiosity.

(00:01:46 - 00:01:56)

**Moderator #1:** Be respectful. Speak one at a time. So if that all sounds good, if I can get a thumbs up, fantastic. A double over there. I appreciate it too.

(00:01:58 - 00:02:20)

**Moderator #1:** So before we get started, I just wanna remind you that this conversation is being recorded and will be used for research purposes only. By participating, you're consenting to that that use, and your identity will remain confidential. However, if at any time you wish to no longer participate, you can can leave the room, and that's totally your decision.

(00:02:21 - 00:02:23)

**Moderator #1:** Are there any questions before we get started?

(00:02:25 - 00:02:50)

**Moderator #1:** Okay. K. Good. So it's a okay to interact with each other to keep this as a as a discussion. And if you would like to share something, like, where you go to school, it's totally up to you. I won't ask you for that information. But if you do wanna share anything like that, you're welcome to. So first, just to get us warmed up, the question is, how do you obtain information about Israel and the conflict.

**[Q1] How do you obtain information about Israel and the conflict in Israel and Gaza? To what extent do you actively seek out information vs. passively receive information? Are there particular sources you turn to? What sources do you find most trustworthy? [Mary: Drop prompts into chat]** (00:02:50 - 00:07:02)

**Moderator #1:** In Gaza? So do you actively seek out information or is it more passive? And we're just gonna go around the room, and just quickly share your your thoughts on this. I'm gonna start with and I'm gonna call you panelist one. We've got this is interesting. One, three, five, six, and seven. Just that way, I'm not using your names, but if you want to, you can. And if you're not sure of what your panelist number is, you can just ask me. So panelist one is wearing the black shirt with white stripes.

**Panelist #1:** I?

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Thank.

**Panelist #1:** Okay.

**Moderator #1:** You.

**Panelist #1:** Awesome.

**Panelist #1:** So the question was, how do I obtain information about everything that's going on?

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. And to what extent do you actively seek it out or passively receive it?

**Panelist #1:** I feel like I really don't actively seek it out.

**Panelist #1:** I feel like it's really all around me, and I I guess I do kind of, like, passively receive it from, like, my friends and, like, my family and teachers and stuff like that.

**Moderator #1:** Are there any sources that you particularly turn to or, individuals who refer information to you that you find especially trustworthy.

**Panelist #1:** I guess probably the information from my boyfriend I trust and then probably my parents I would trust most of all.

**Moderator #1:** Great. Thank you. And now we're gonna go to panelist three, wearing the white shirt.

**Panelist #3:** So similar to panelist one, I also kind of receive information passively. I don't really actively seek it out.

**Panelist #3:** And the way that I typically receive information is more through social media. So through things like Instagram or, like, TikTok, or kind of seeing what my friends will repost and share, and that's kind of how I'm receiving the.

**Moderator #1:** And are there particular, I I won't necessarily say influencers, but are there particular people?

**Panelist #3:** Information.

**Moderator #1:** You don't have to name the names unless they're, you know, famous people that we might know. Whose whose feeds you you follow in for this kind of information.

**Panelist #3:** Honestly, not really. I just think my friends and I tend to have similar opinions. Like, when they tend to repost something, I'm like, okay. Like, they might be right about this.

**Moderator #1:** Got it. That's helpful. Thank you. And panelist number five, so black hoodie.

**Panelist #5:** Me?

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Thank you.

**Panelist #5:** I've done a lot of research, just cause I like to stay educated and know all sides. But I've also been seeing a lot of social media content as well lately.

**Moderator #1:** Are there particular sources that you're drawn to?

**Panelist #5:** A couple news outlets and certain, social media accounts.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Would you mind sharing those? Just so I can.

**Panelist #5:** I.

**Moderator #1:** Get.

**Panelist #5:** Think.

**Moderator #1:** Some.

**Panelist #5:** One is called Al Jazeera, which is, like, a Middle Eastern news outlet, I think.

**Panelist #5:** And then a couple just, like, real news. I think their tagline is real news on Twitter.

**Panelist #5:** They also share a lot of information that's unbiased. So you get the full story there too.

**Moderator #1:** Great. Thank you. And panelist number six.

**Panelist #6:** Yeah. I think, mostly passive through social media for me as well, and I don't really know any specific accounts that I've seen anything.

**Moderator #1:** You you anticipated my follow-up question.

**Panelist #6:** From.

**Moderator #1:** Thank.

**Panelist #6:** I'll.

**Moderator #1:** You.

**Panelist #6:** Catch on right now.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. I know. Yeah. I think there's a pattern here. Okay. Thank you. And how about, seven?

**Panelist #7:** I'd say probably also, like, social media. And then also my parents, they're pretty up to date with news, I'd say.

**Moderator #1:** K. And any particular accounts or outlets for you?

**Panelist #7:** No. Not really.

**Moderator #1:** Okay. Great. So the first, kind of meatier question is how has the conflict in Israel and Gaza affected your experience.

**[Q2] How has the conflict in Israel and Gaza affected your experience on campus, if at all?** (00:07:03 - 00:13:04)

**Moderator #1:** On campus, if at all if at all? What are you noticing?

**Panelist #3:** At least for me personally, like, it hasn't really affected it all that much. But one thing I have been noticing on campus is that since this conflict has been going on, I feel as though maybe almost every week, every, like, two week or every two weeks, there are, like, protests going around campus. And so a lot of students are very vocal about the conflict that's going on and kind of vocal on, I guess, kinda like who they're supporting in the conflict.

**Moderator #1:** And when you encounter are you encountering the protest or kind of hearing about them after the fact or kinda how how proximal are those to your what you're experiencing?

**Panelist #3:** Honestly, it's a little bit of both, because sometimes they happen when I'm on campus, sometimes they happen when I'm off campus, but you can definitely hear them. You can hear how many people, feel very, like, strongly about this, and you can hear that it's a very, like, large group of people, especially because during the protest, they're kinda going around, like, all, like, all of campus. And so, like, wherever you're on campus, like, you will most definitely hear them and, like, what they're chanting and their.

**Moderator #1:** Thank you. What are others noticing?

**Panelist #3:** Support.

**Panelist #5:** We haven't really had protests on my campus, but we've had a couple events where speakers will come and kind of just tell people about what's going on, but nothing too crazy.

**Moderator #1:** Thank you.

**Panelist #7:** At least for me, I go to a pretty small school, and.

**Panelist #7:** I feel like there's not much, like, attention to this matter.

**Panelist #7:** So there's not, like, events or, like, speakers.

**Panelist #7:** Per se. So.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Yeah. That makes sense.

**Panelist #7:** Mhmm.

**Panelist #6:** My school has definitely had, quite a few protests from both sides, since October.

**Panelist #6:** I know that there at the end of fall semester, there was a walkout, scheduled for supporting Palestine, and then quite a large protest, in the center of campus following the walkout.

**Moderator #1:** Have those sorts of events had any impact on you or changed changed to how you're experiencing campus in any way?

**Panelist #6:** I don't think so. I mean, I I think it's good to allow, like, my university is very vocal about allowing student groups to protest and express their opinions and I think it's it's quite important. And it's not really nothing has really negatively affected my experience.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. I'm curious too about, what you're hearing if any or how this topic comes up during class, if at all. Is this the kind of thing that's being raised in your classes?

**Moderator #1:** Seeing lots of kind of head shakes. No. Not really.

**Panelist #3:** At least for me, it's not really being raised on, like, during classes. But, like, if there is a protest going on, like, within the week, like, some professors will be like, oh, yeah. By the way, like, this event will be going on just to let students know. But they kind of don't really share, like, what's going on or, like, what the conflict is about. They leave that more towards the students to research on their own.

**Moderator #1:** And would you say you're hearing that kind of that information sharing for different perspectives. So is it both yeah.

**Panelist #3:** Honestly, no. It's very much on my perspective.

**Moderator #1:** Okay. May I ask which one?

**Panelist #3:** It's mostly in support for Palestine.

**Moderator #1:** Okay.

**Panelist #3:** Yeah.

**Moderator #1:** So here's an interesting question. Data from our research suggests that nearly a third of non Jewish students say they would not want to be friends with someone who supports the existence of Israel as a Jewish state?

**Moderator #1:** Why do you think they might believe this?

**Moderator #1:** And I should say I realize that question is very long, so if you want me to repeat it at any point, feel free to ask.

**Panelist #3:** Can you actually repeat the question? I'm sorry.

**Moderator #1:** Absolutely. Thank you for asking. So data from our research suggests that nearly one third of non Jewish students say they would not wanna be friends with someone who supports the existence of Israel as a Jewish state. Why do you think that might be?

**Panelist #1:** Maybe they wouldn't because, they, like, believe they're, like, more pro Palestine and believe that, people that do support Israel are basically like hurting the Palestinian people in a way by supporting.

**Panelist #1:** Like a different way, if that makes sense.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. So that.

**Moderator #1:** The friendship itself is.

**Panelist #1:** Not so much the friendship.

**Moderator #1:** Support?

**Panelist #1:** Itself but more like maybe it's their kind of personal decision that they wouldn't want to be around somebody that supports what they might consider hate?

**Moderator #1:** Mhmm. Do you think.

**Moderator #1:** That that decision would be relevant to other differences of opinion or or different ways that one sees the world or in particular about this issue?

**Panelist #1:** I feel like politics are starting to really get in the way of friendships a lot. I feel like people take.

**[Q3] Data from our research suggests that nearly one-third of non-Jewish students say they would not want to be friends with someone who supports the existence of Israel as a Jewish state. Why do you think they might believe this? To what extent do you think the opinion is a function of this specific issue vs. a general challenge with being friends with people who see the world differently?** (00:13:04 - 00:19:54)

**Panelist #1:** Politics extremely seriously, especially on college campuses.

**Panelist #1:** I feel like this topic is particularly sensitive right now though, because personally on my campus there are quite a bit of protests, there's a lot of graffiti, particularly towards one side, so I definitely think there's some maybe, like, some tension between the two sides.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Can can you say more about the the graffiti and kinda what side you're you're seeing.

**Moderator #1:** Represented or advocated for there?

**Panelist #1:** It's definitely on my campus very pro Palestine, which is fine, I'm definitely not for the graffiti though, but yeah.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Yeah. Say more about that, not being for the graffiti.

**Panelist #1:** I think peacefully protesting is great. It's a great way to voice your opinion. I definitely don't think that politics should get in the way of friendships or anything, but I just think graffiti is not the best way to do it, especially when it's on public property or.

**Panelist #1:** I definitely see it on public. I actually saw, a tag on a mailbox yesterday for pro Palestine, I just, I don't really like graffiti.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Yeah. Thank you.

**Moderator #1:** How about others? What do you make of that stat, that one third of non Jewish students say they wouldn't wanna be friends with someone who supports Israel as a Jewish state?

**Panelist #3:** I mean, me personally, I know, like, this is, like, a political view, I guess, but, like, I think politics if politics get in the way of friendships, I think it's important. And the reason why probably one third of people say that they wouldn't wanna be friends with someone who believed, like, Israel is a strict state. It's probably because it doesn't really align, like, with their views or, like, with their beliefs. And I think in instances like that where that like, that matters, I think this conflict isn't the only type of thing where politics should really go into friendships because of certain views you may have, maybe supporting views of kind of, like, hate or, like, negativity. And I understand it's I understand, like, why you wouldn't wanna be friends with somebody with certain beliefs. I don't think it's anything, bad, I guess.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Yeah. What are, for you, some of the the reasons that would feel, like, totally understandable to not wanna be friends with somebody who has a different belief? Like, you mentioned that that feels okay. Can you say more about that?

**Panelist #3:** I guess if that belief is one that kinda, like, fuels hatred or even if that belief is one that kind of, I guess like, I guess, even attacks, like, your own identity or the identity of people who, like, are around you. So just for example, to bring up, like, I guess, another, like, I guess, political conflict that typically happens in this country is, like, black lives matter versus, like, all lives matter or black lives matter versus, like, blue lives matter.

**Panelist #3:** Like, if you're a person of color, you might feel as though if you support, I guess, the other side, so someone who does not support BLM, you might feel as though that that person doesn't support you because that is a part of your identity and who you are.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Yeah. That I I definitely see the line of thinking there. Thank you.

**Moderator #1:** How about for others?

**Panelist #5:** I kind of feel the same as panelist three if we don't really have the same views somewhat, then I don't think the friendship is gonna last just, like, period. If we're very different on, like, political views or, just like this conflict or any other conflicts, then I really don't think that the friendship would last any I I feel like there would be that barrier.

**Panelist #5:** So I totally understand not wanting to be friends with somebody who supports the existence of Israel as a Jewish state because in my head, that's kind of like, well, you should be educated more. And if you still decide to take that stance, then I can't really swallow that.

**Moderator #1:** Right.

**Panelist #6:** I.

**Moderator #1:** Right. Thank you.

**Panelist #6:** Mean, I I think that, differing political views are often indicative of differing, like, personality types and differing overall opinions. And I just I think that often.

**Panelist #6:** You can get along with someone with different political views, but there's some things, that are just too great, and cause too great of a difference in opinion that, the personality types just won't.

**Panelist #6:** Mesh well enough that you could really maintain a friendship with the person. And I think this this conflict is a good example of it's a very polarizing, debate, and I think that the two sides are very different for the most part.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Polarizing seems like a keyword there.

**Moderator #1:** Thank you.

**Moderator #1:** And panelist number seven, any ads here?

**Panelist #7:** I feel like everyone's pretty much touched on.

**Panelist #7:** The topic of,

**Moderator #1:** Okay.

**Panelist #7:** Like, different views and how that affects friendships for sure.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. So this next question goes to that even more directly, which is how do your views about Israel or the conflict in Israel and Gaza compare to those of your friends? So kinda how how closely aligned are you, with your friends on the conflict? And, then I guess the follow-up question is how has the the conflict affected your relationships, if at if at all?

**Panelist #3:** My views personally aligned, like, with my friends, so the conflict really hasn't affected our relationship.

**Panelist #3:** I guess if anything, it.

**[Q4] How do your views about Israel or the conflict in Israel and Gaza compare to those of your friends? How closely aligned are your and your friends' views about Israel or the conflict? How has the conflict affected your relationships with your friends, if at all?**  (00:19:54 - 00:35:49)

**Panelist #3:** Might have also, like, made it stronger in terms of I know there are certain, like, boycotts happening, with certain companies about this conflict. And so if we're out about hanging out, it'll be like, oh, why don't we go here? And it's kind of a reminder, like, oh, no. Like, they support, like, x, y, and z. Like, we have to. Like, let's go try a different, like, alternative. So I think it's kind of made our friendship stronger.

**Moderator #1:** So can you share a little bit more about what that that interaction looks like or how it kind of comes up around.

**Moderator #1:** Boy the boycotting in particular.

**Panelist #3:** Yeah. It'll be something, I mean, my friends and we're all very comfortable with each other. So I guess because we also, like, are in, like, in a smaller space, like, we don't mind kind of being like, oh, like, yeah. We're definitely not going here. They support Israel. They give money to whatever.

**Panelist #3:** Like, I mean, because exactly because we have the I guess we all share, like, the pro Palestine view. We're very, like, kind of active in trying to support even in, like, the smallest of matters.

**Panelist #3:** And, yeah, I guess that's.

**Moderator #1:** Okay. Thank you.

**Moderator #1:** How about.

**Panelist #3:** Kinda.

**Moderator #1:** Others?

**Panelist #3:** It.

**Moderator #1:** What are you noticing in your friendships?

**Panelist #5:** Also, my friend group is also, they share the same views as me. So nothing has really negatively changed, but it's definitely, I would say, brought us closer since we have room to have that conversation, and kind of just, again, try and inform each other, try and stay, educated, and see how we can help in different ways or share, material on social media to try and get that info out there.

**Panelist #5:** But no negative consequences, I'd say.

**Moderator #1:** Okay. I'm curious. You mentioned everyone, you know, is kind of in the same viewpoint on that.

**Moderator #1:** Is that because so that I can imagine different ways that pops up. One, that you all shared information and and came to the same conclusion, or maybe that the group kinda had the same opinion and that's part of why you became friends. What what do you see as kind of the the reason.

**Panelist #5:** I mean, we.

**Moderator #1:** Behind.

**Panelist #5:** Were all.

**Moderator #1:** The.

**Panelist #5:** Friends.

**Moderator #1:** Shared perspective?

**Panelist #5:** Before that, but, I would say all of my friends, they definitely share the same views, even if some we've talked about Palestine, some we haven't. But I would say everybody is pretty much pro Palestine, at least in my friend circle.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. And then you mentioned that you're sharing information which is I love that image like here, check this out. Check this out. When you're sharing information, does it tend to be in support of the group's views, or do people bring in kinda counter perspectives also?

**Panelist #5:** It's definitely in support.

**Moderator #1:** Okay.

**Moderator #1:** Great. Thank you.

**Panelist #6:** And I think similarly to, the the other two panelists that I spoke, all my friends are pretty much sharing the same, pro Palestinian opinion as me.

**Panelist #6:** And there there's definitely not been any, like, conflict with any of my friends, and different opinions.

**Moderator #1:** K.

**Moderator #1:** I'm curious.

**Panelist #7:** I'd say.

**Moderator #1:** Oh, sorry. Go ahead. Number seven.

**Panelist #7:** I'd say me and my friends are pretty.

**Panelist #7:** Uninformed about, like, like, the specifics of, like, these big events.

**Panelist #7:** But I'd say we all.

**Panelist #7:** Share the same views.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Say more about that.

**Panelist #7:** I guess, like, none of my friends really, like talking about, like, big political events.

**Panelist #7:** And so we just don't really, like, I like debate about, like, certain topics, but I'm pretty sure we all have the same views.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. How would you characterize those views?

**Panelist #7:** Definitely, like, pro Palestine.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. How how tightly would you.

**Moderator #1:** Say you think your friends hold those views even if they're not discussing them?

**Panelist #7:** Probably pretty tidy.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Yeah.

**Moderator #1:** And how, kind of where do you think this? So I'm gonna this I'm gonna ask a little bit of a challenging question, if that's okay, just because I'm trying to figure out how this might work. Where do you think the tightly held views might be coming from.

**Moderator #1:** Given, as you said, the lack of, feeling informed by it? Kinda how does that happen, you think?

**Panelist #7:** I'd say, like, most of my friends, their families are pretty liberal, and so they share, like, the same views as their parents, which is.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah.

**Panelist #7:** Pro Palestine.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. So that family that family piece feels really important too. I'm curious if others.

**Moderator #1:** Actually, before I move on to that, who hasn't had a chance to share.

**Moderator #1:** On.

**Panelist #1:** That's.

**Moderator #1:** This one?

**Panelist #1:** Me,

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Thank.

**Panelist #1:** I.

**Moderator #1:** You.

**Panelist #1:** Think.

**Moderator #1:** I didn't think I'd heard from you, but I wasn't sure, so I didn't wanna put you on the spot.

**Panelist #1:** No, it's fine.

**Panelist #1:** Well, for me and my friends, I have actually only ever had one friend that's shared my views throughout my entire life. Most of my friends have opposing political beliefs from me, and I wouldn't change a thing about them. I love all of them, but I was kind of sad to hear that nobody thinks that there can be like opposing political friendships.

**Panelist #1:** Just because that's just how me and my friends are and I think it works out fine. We don't really talk politics that often really, but when we do, we just try to have, like, a really respectful, debate and it's honestly really fun to hear differing perspectives.

**Moderator #1:** Can you use the word sad? Can you go into that a little bit? What feels sad?

**Panelist #1:** It's just kind of sad to hear, that politics might affect friendships.

**Panelist #1:** Just because.

**Panelist #1:** That's how I kind of always felt on campus, like it was always kind of hard to make friends because of how important politics are, but I really love having friends with different perspectives because I just I feel like I learn so much more than if I'm just talking to somebody that believes the same way as me, because I don't know. I don't I definitely don't know everything, not even close, so I love to just.

**Panelist #1:** Hear my, I mean one of my closest friends, he is just opposite of me in every way, but he's just really nice to talk to and he's really open about hearing my perspective and then I hear his perspective and it's just a nice time.

**Moderator #1:** So I'm I'm curious. A couple people in the room have shared, you know, when those when somebody else's perspectives.

**Moderator #1:** Advocate hate, and I'm curious for you if there's if some if there feels like a line of, oh, that would be really hard to be friends with someone who believes a particular thing.

**Panelist #1:** I guess, yeah, there definitely is a line for me. I think if they're, like, actually physically hurting people, if they're, like, going out and, destroying people's property or, like, I don't know, just doing like like really bad stuff, then probably or maybe if they're like really extremist, might be a little difficult, but I feel like my friends, I wouldn't I wouldn't describe them as extremists.

**Moderator #1:** Okay.

**Moderator #1:** Thank you.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. So let's talk a little bit about family perspectives as another another kind of relationship that might have either influence the way you think or feel about the conflict in Israel and Gaza, or it's a relationship that might be impacted.

**Moderator #1:** By by the conflict. I'm curious. Does anything come up for for anyone around family relationships?

**Panelist #5:** I mean, my family hasn't really we don't really talk politics, or just conflicts in general. Even though they do share the same views, we didn't really discuss it beforehand. I kinda just did all my own research and, just gathered information to put my views together. But they do share the same views, but that didn't really influence how I felt about anything.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Makes sense.

**Panelist #3:** My family and I, we, don't really share the same views. But it honestly hasn't really impacted us because I know that my like, their views are based more on, I guess, like, lack of information for one sort, but also, like, strongly in, like, religion.

**Panelist #3:** And so, like, I wouldn't consider myself like a like a super duper religious person, but I know that when certain names like Israel gets popped up, it's immediately like, oh, of course, we support. But it's also like, oh, but you don't really understand what's going on. So I think it's kind of a, like, a stance made, on lack of information, at least for my for my family.

**Moderator #1:** And so there you were saying, like, if Israel pops up, they say the family says, oh, I support. And.

**Panelist #3:** Yep.

**Moderator #1:** What do you see as the relationship between the religious perspective and the lack of information? So you you mentioned both of those variables. I just wanna make sure I understand what's what's there for you.

**Panelist #3:** Yeah. So I guess, like, the religious perspectives of certain religions, like like, Christianity and, like, involves, like, Jesus. And and the Bible does talk a lot about Israel. So I think, my parents love and support for their religion.

**Panelist #3:** Immediately, they're like, okay. Well, something is happening in this, like, holy country, so, like, we have to support them. But they also don't really understand kinda, like, the history that's going on behind that.

**Panelist #3:** And, I guess, information more as, like, why did this conflict lead to, like, where it's at now? So they're immediately making a stance just based solely because of it's in Israel and because, like, the Bible talks a lot about Israel.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah.

**Moderator #1:** Thank you for going into that a bit more. How about for others? What are you noticing with your families?

**Panelist #6:** I haven't spoken to my parents, about the conflict.

**Panelist #6:** I don't know. My dad likes to talk politics, but, honestly, I haven't really been home much since October.

**Panelist #6:** And we definitely don't talk any politics over the phone. So I.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah.

**Panelist #6:** I don't I don't really know what opinions my parents have on this issue.

**Moderator #1:** Thank you.

**Panelist #7:** I'd say me and my parents also share similar views.

**Panelist #7:** Yeah. They've come to me with, like, news articles about, like, like, what's happening.

**Panelist #7:** Over there. And they're mostly, like, Palestinian, news articles. So.

**Moderator #1:** Okay. Thank you.

**Moderator #1:** Any other thoughts on the family piece?

**Panelist #1:** For me, it's like, as I said earlier, my family and I definitely share the same beliefs.

**Moderator #1:** So you share beliefs with your family, but feel like you don't share beliefs with your friend group.

**Panelist #1:** Yeah.

**Moderator #1:** Okay.

**Panelist #1:** Yes. For sure.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah.

**Moderator #1:** I'm curious, and I don't know where you all go to school, so, again, don't feel like you have to say it. But what do you know about the experiences of the Jewish students on your campus around this issue? What's it been like for them?

**Panelist #3:** I honestly know nothing.

**Moderator #1:** Totally fair.

**Panelist #3:** Yeah. I know nothing.

**Moderator #1:** Do you know any Jewish students on your campus?

**Moderator #1:** Okay.

**Moderator #1:** Can I just see a raise of hands if, if you know any Jewish students on your campus?

**Moderator #1:** Okay.

**Moderator #1:** Panelist one would you mind if to whatever extent you can share what do you know about their experience?

**Panelist #1:** Well, so for me, my boyfriend is actually Jewish, so his experience, from what I've heard him talk about, I don't think that he's ever gotten any like hate or anything for it. I mean, I don't think he really goes looking for politics either. He just kind of goes to class and it's just kind of around him like it's around me. It's hard to speak for how he feels deep down since I'm not Jewish myself though, so it's really hard to say.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Yeah. I I'm curious if you're comfortable sharing how in your relationship.

**Moderator #1:** The this topic.

**Moderator #1:** Presents or is present or what it's what it's been like for you?

**Panelist #1:** Well, I'm not sure how much exactly I want to say but it's definitely it's always been a little bit difficult between us because.

**Panelist #1:** We definitely aren't exactly on the same page when it comes to politics. I would say we're we're pretty opposing, but I don't think that.

**Panelist #1:** I mean we do talk politics a lot actually, but we always try to have like a very open respectful discussion about it, so I don't know, I would say maybe a little bit of tension when it comes to political things, but not, like, anything devastating.

**Moderator #1:** K. Thank you for for sharing a little bit and and also for honoring your own boundaries there. I appreciate it. Okay, guys. So best case scenario, curious to hear your thoughts on how should the conflict in Israel and Gaza be resolved? What do you see.

**[Q5] Best case scenario, how should the conflict in Israel and Gaza be resolved?**  (00:35:49 - 00:44:25)

**Moderator #1:** As the desirable resolution?

**Panelist #1:** Well for I think that's a very difficult question for sure. If I were to be really unrealistic and idealistic, I would hope that everybody ends up happy, everyone ends up just like it just magically gets resolved with no conflict and just if if in a very idealistic, unrealistic world.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. So what would that everyone looks happy? What what could you imagine that if you can wave your magic wand and say,

**Panelist #1:** Oh.

**Moderator #1:** Let's.

**Panelist #1:** My.

**Moderator #1:** Do.

**Panelist #1:** Gosh.

**Moderator #1:** It like this, what would you do?

**Panelist #1:** That is an incredibly difficult question.

**Panelist #1:** I don't really know, I guess.

**Panelist #1:** I guess I can't really answer that. I just.

**Panelist #1:** Would just hope everyone's happy and.

**Panelist #1:** However that works out. I don't know.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah.

**Moderator #1:** It's definitely complex. Thank you.

**Moderator #1:** Where do others' minds go?

**Panelist #5:** I would say, ideally, leave the land.

**Panelist #5:** That'll probably not happen. So to coexist,

**Moderator #1:** Can you say who who to leave the land?

**Panelist #5:** I would definitely say the people of Israel to leave the land, given they're illegal settlers and the whole thing about DNA tests being banned there, etcetera, etcetera.

**Panelist #5:** I believe the land rightfully belongs to the Palestinians who have been there for thousands and thousands of years. Ideally, though, since that'll be very difficult to achieve, just because of world politics and leaders and everybody involved, coexist in a state that is.

**Panelist #5:** Peaceful, noninvasive, and just set clear boundaries of what land is this and what land is that.

**Moderator #1:** Thank you.

**Panelist #3:** I agree with the panelist five. I think an an ideal, like, made up that we could all kinda get what we wanted. I think that would probably be the best, most, like, realistic solution to all of this.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Do you have any sense of what what that could look like? Like, what the texture of that arrangement could look like?

**Panelist #3:** Honestly, if we're thinking about kinda, like, splitting the land, like, maybe having, like, a certain boundary where it's like, hey. This is yours. This is theirs. We're not allowed to cross into each other like that. I guess it kinda, like, take over one another's land.

**Panelist #3:** But I feel like that just sounds like even, like, more division on top of everything. So not really, like, the best solution, but, like, a solution, I guess.

**Moderator #1:** And I appreciate that that insight too of, like, wait. There there's a a division piece there too.

**Moderator #1:** Panelist six and seven, what are your thoughts on this one?

**Panelist #6:** I mean, I also agree with panelist five. I think that, the truly ideal situation will never happen.

**Panelist #6:** With political climates and, like they said, world leaders, and everyone has their own interests in mind.

**Moderator #1:** Can.

**Panelist #6:** But,

**Moderator #1:** You say what for you is the the truly ideal solution?

**Panelist #6:** Yeah, I mean, like panelist five said, returning the land to the Palestinian people and having, the Israeli people, leave, but, obviously, that's an impossible situation.

**Panelist #6:** Yes. I don't I don't really know.

**Panelist #6:** The it feels like realistic best case is to just.

**Panelist #6:** Somehow reach a resolution.

**Panelist #6:** And somehow come to a peaceful conclusion, but it it just doesn't it doesn't feel like we're heading in that direction.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Do you have any intuitions on what that somehow because I hear what you're saying. Like, somehow get to this resolution, but kinda what that process might look like.

**Panelist #6:** I don't I don't know. It's just, like, it's so.

**Panelist #6:** Such an impossible situation at this point that, like, I don't know, the government of Israel is supported by so many countries.

**Panelist #6:** Throughout the world and.

**Panelist #6:** Not looking like they're willing to back down in any way.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. Yeah. So that complexity theme again.

**Panelist #6:** Yeah.

**Moderator #1:** Thank you. And how about panelist seven?

**Panelist #7:** Yeah. I feel like there's no, like, easy way to resolve this dispute.

**Panelist #7:** And, ultimately, probably.

**Panelist #7:** Because Israel is backed by so many other, big countries, including the US, probably things will not end out the way we all will hope.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah. What would you hope?

**Panelist #7:** Like everyone else has said, probably for Palestine to, like, for the land to be re returned to Palestinians.

**Moderator #1:** Yeah.

**Moderator #1:** If we were to wave a magic wand again, I realize this is a wishful thinking question because a number of you had the.

**Moderator #1:** Kind of an ideal situation, Israelis would leave the land. Where would you suggest, Like, where's again, wave the wand. Where would they go?

**Panelist #7:** I honestly have no clue. So.

**Moderator #1:** Totally fair. Yeah.

**Panelist #7:** Yeah.

**Moderator #1:** Any other ideas?

**Moderator #1:** K. Cool. So.

**Moderator #1:** Those are all of my questions. But now I wanna give you all a chance to either ask me questions or you can ask questions of one another, if somebody said something that you'd like to kinda hear more about that. So we'll we'll take just a a minute or two here.

**Moderator #1:** Anything coming up for anyone?

**Moderator #1:** Okay, Totally fair. So thank you so much for sharing your perspectives, and I guarantee that the insights you shared, the the way you shared will absolutely inform our understanding of how college students are experiencing and thinking about this topic that, as you said, is a challenging, and difficult one. In the next twenty four hours, you're gonna receive an email from College Pulse. And in that email, it'll tell you how to access your incentive.

**Moderator #1:** You're gonna receive there are a couple quick follow-up questions that if you could share your your thoughts on them, that would be amazing, as well as contact information. So if today's conversation kicked up any thoughts or, feelings that you would like to to talk with somebody about, that contact information will be there. And other than that, thank you. Thank you. Thank you for your participation, and you are free to exit at this point or stick around if you wanna ask me anything.

**Moderator #1:** Nice to meet you all. I really appreciate it. Thank you.

**Panelist #1:** Thank you so much.

**Panelist #5:** Thank you.