

WE'VE ALL MOVED TO THE RIGHT... SO WHAT'S LEFT?

What should Israel do next?

Two years of Palestinian violence and carnage have taken more than just a human toll on Israel. It has driven Israeli public opinion to the hawkish right of the political spectrum.

But if Israelis are shifting to the right politically, you might be surprised what they are thinking about peace-related issues.

"I ran into an old friend of mine from the army," says Gavri Bar-Gil, a brigade commander in the IDF reserves and a former head of Shalom Achshav, Israel's Peace Now movement.

"He has supported the right wing for many years. So he asked me if I was still in the peace camp on the left. I said, 'Betach—Sure I am.' He laughed and said it must be lonely for me with everyone else moving to the right. So I asked him, 'What should we do?'

"'What we should do next is this,' he said, 'Recognize a Palestinian state. End settlement in the West Bank and Gaza. Move back to the 1967 borders. And get it done once and for all.'

"I said, 'Congratulations, you've just joined the peace camp.'"

Everyone knows what the deal will be

The fact is, whether left or right, Israelis are sick of dealing with a Palestinian leadership that helped destroy a peace process that brought hope to both communities. Yet the vast majority of Israelis are reconciled to what an inevitable settlement will entail:

- Two states living side by side
- Security for Israel
- An end to settlement activity

- A compromise on Jerusalem
- A Palestinian right of return *only* to a Palestinian state.

A string of polls has transmitted that message clearly, a message that Shalom Achshav has stated all along.

When will such an agreement be realized? It depends on when the Palestinians reject armed struggle as a strategy and whether Israel is once again willing to engage in serious peace negotiations.

Security and Values

As the U.S. supporter of Shalom Achshav, Americans for Peace Now's mission is to help Israel achieve a comprehensive political settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict consistent with Israel's security needs and its Jewish and democratic values.

Through your support of APN, you can help influence decision-makers and government officials, and mobilize grassroots support for a negotiated settlement. You can help educate an American Jewish community and general public about the strategic and economic benefits of security through peace in the Middle East.

Do we think it can still be done? **Betach!**

LET'S GET IT DONE!



To learn about **Americans for Peace Now** or to make a contribution, visit our website: www.peacenow.org.
202-728-1893 1815 H Street,
#920, Washington, DC 20006

