

BS"D

# CONNECTIONS ISRAEL

Bringing the Jewish People Together

## Sderot - How do you feel about it?

### Goals:

- To educate participants to the harsh realities of life in Sderot.
- To connect participants to the families in Sderot.

### Program Activity:

I) The group leader begins by asking the participants what they know about Sderot. Answers are recorded on the board. Some leading questions might include:

Where is Sderot located? (Southern Israel - inside the Green Line- pre-1967 Israel)

Who lives there? (Israeli's who originally came from Morocco, Ethiopia, Russia and native born Israelis)

What has been going there and for how long? (Rocket attacks for almost 8 years)

How is this city different from any other Israeli or American city? (Bus stops, red warning alerts, empty playgrounds)

**Note:** The answers in parenthesis will become clear in the movie - do not reveal them to the group. It is important for the group leader to have this information to make the points at the end of the program.

II) The group leader shows the students a movie about the city of Sderot and the situation there.

III) Afterwards, participants are asked to use one word to sum up how they feel about what they've just seen. Responses are noted on the board. After the single word response, they are asked to briefly explain what part of the movie brought them to this emotional place.

IV) The group leader now leads a discussion comparing participants' initial understanding of Sderot with the objective reality by returning to the initial questions (see Program Activity #1) and recording the correct answers next to the participants' initial responses. As this proceeds the participants are constantly asked how they feel about the situation. For example:

How does it make you feel knowing that an internationally recognized, legal Israeli city has been under rocket attack for 8 years?

V) Participants are then asked to draw a picture of something in Sderot or a picture that symbolizes the connection between themselves and the people of Sderot. They are told to use their imagination and give their picture a title.

Each participant then explains his picture.

VI) The group leader shows the participants pictures drawn by children and asks which they think were drawn by children in Sderot and which by children who live somewhere else. They are asked to compare and contrast the pictures and give each one a title.

VII) Finally, the group leader asks each participant what they would say to the residents of Sderot if they could send them a message.



