



Experiencing the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

Children, Peace Communication and Socialization

Yael Warshel

Pennsylvania State University

2024 Next Generation Indie Book Award in Current Events Finalist

2024 International Studies Association Book Award Runner-up in International Communication

2023 National Communication Association Top Book of the Year Award in Ethics

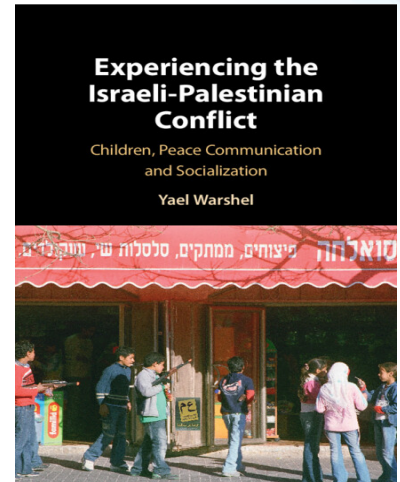
2023 International Communication Association Outstanding Book Award Honorable Mention in Activism, Communication and Social Justice

2022 National Communication Association Sue De Wine Distinguished Scholarly Book Award

2021 Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication pedagogy award in International Communication, in conjunction with a module created by Yael Warshel

Over the last eighty years there has been a global rise in 'peace communication' practice, the use of interpersonal and mass communication interventions to mediate between peoples engaged in political conflict. In this study, Yael Warshel assesses Israeli and Palestinian versions of Sesame Street, which targeted negative inter-group attitudes and stereotypes. Merging communication, peace and conflict studies, social psychology, anthropology, political science, education, Middle Eastern and childhood studies, this book provides a template to think about how audiences receive, interpret, use and are influenced by peace communication. By picking apart the text and subtext of the kind of media these specific audiences of children consume, Warshel examines how they interpret peace communication interventions, are socialized into Palestinians, Jewish Israelis and Arab/Palestinian Israelis, the political opinions they express and the violence they reproduce. She questions whether peace communication practices have any relevant structural impact on their audiences, critiques such interventions and offers recommendations for improving future communication interventions into political conflict worldwide.

Introduction: Peace communication and why study Israeli and Palestinian Sesame Street's media intervention model?; Part I. The Production and Encoding of Israeli and Palestinian Sesame Street: Introduction to Part I: Production and encoding methodologies; 1. The Israeli-Palestinian ethno-political nationalist conflict, the Arab-Israeli multi-state conflict and Israeli and Palestinian Sesame Street's disengagement with these conflicts; 2. The modern world, or interstate, system; 3. The encoding process for seasons one and two of Israeli and Palestinian Sesame Street; Part II. Audience Reception of Israeli and Palestinian Sesame Street: Introduction to Part II: Audience reception methodologies; 4. Decodings by Palestinians-in-the-Making; 5. Decodings by Jewish Israelis-in-the-Making; 6. Decodings by Arab/Palestinian Israelis-in-the-Making; Conclusion to Part II: The utility of the series for all three partners to the conflict?; Part III. Situating the Reception of Israeli and Palestinian Sesame Street in Mundane Intractable Conflict Zone Practices: Introduction to Part III: Context analyses and conflict zones methodologies; 7. Pursuing justice: Palestinian children's schematic interpretations of the Israeli army; 8. Pursuing security: Jewish Israeli children's schematic interpretations of Palestinian day laborers; 9. Pursuing equality: Arab/Palestinian Israeli Children's schematic interpretations of constructs of opposing national and civic identities; Part IV. Conclusions and Recommendations to Improve Peace Communication research, (Evidence-based) Practice, and Conflict Intractability Interpretation: Introduction: The best case; 10. Lessons learned and their application to peace communication research, (evidenced-based) practice, and conflict intractability interpretation; 11. How to improve potential media effects and impacts—recommendations for peace communication practitioners; 12. Follow-up study of tween-age former audience members.



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£29.99	£23.99
\$44.99	\$35.99

'A serious achievement and on its way to becoming one of the most important books in this area, both methodologically and theoretically. Yael Warshel commands the literature pertaining to children and media, conflict, and peace communication; her call for evidence-based practices applied to the recommendations she poses will reset the direction of the field.'

Don Ellis, *University of Hartford*

'This remarkable study poignantly contrasts the high hopes of the Oslo era, the supposed innocence of young children, and the idealized world of *Sesame Street* with the "mundane, everyday violence"—physical and structural-of the Second Intifada, all vividly illustrated in a model of Geertzian "thick description".'

Ned Lazarus, *Israel Studies Review*



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