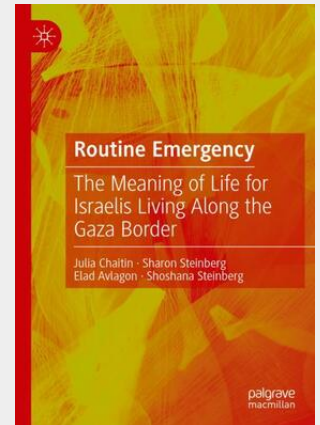


## Routine Emergency

The Meaning of Life for Israelis Living Along the Gaza Border

This book explores the meaning of life for Israelis from communities bordering the Gaza Strip, whose lives are bound to the intractable conflict between Israel and the Hamas regime. Based on a psychosocial qualitative study of narrative interviews, photographs, YouTube videos, and Facebook posts created by residents, the book presents the life stories of ordinary people, their perspectives of patriotism and Zionism, and their perceptions of the Gazan Palestinians. Routine Emergency captures these perspectives through analyses of residents' interviews and photographs, the social media materials and poems fashioned from interviewees' words. The results challenge simplistic notions of what it means to live in this warzone, offering a multi-layered analysis of life in this region, which alternates between being Heaven and Hell. Written in a reader-friendly format, Routine Emergency, offers new theoretical insights into societal beliefs connected to living in an intractable warzone on the personal, family, community and national levels.

"...this book provides a richly textured canvas on the complex negotiations of people caught between security needs and justice values, including their love for and criticism of their country." —Björn Krondorfer, Regents' Professor, Director of the Martin-Springer Institute, Northern Arizona University. "... this work... brings us up close ... to the pain of division, trauma of war, loss of hopes, dreams and aspirations of a future for all our children and grandchildren... hear the human voices, picture the faces and take a step ... deep into their lives, it could just change your life..." —Rev. Dr. Gary Mason, MBE, BA, Dip.Th, D.D. Phd. This book explores the meaning of life for Israelis living near the Gaza Strip, a region bound to the intractable conflict between Israel and the Hamas. Based on a psychosocial study of narrative interviews, photographs, YouTube videos, and Facebook posts created by residents, the book presents and analyzes the voices of ordinary people, and their perspectives of patriotism, Zionism, and the Gazan Palestinians. The results offer multi-layered and diverse analyses of life in this area, which alternates between being Heaven and Hell. Routine Emergency offers theoretical insights into societal beliefs connected to living in a warzone on the personal, family, community and national levels. Julia Chaitin, PhD in social psychology, is an Emerita from the School of Social Work at the Sapir College. She has researched the Holocaust and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict for 30 years, and is a dedicated peace activist. Sharon Steinberg, PhD in Epidemiology, is a Senior Lecturer at the Kaye College of Education. Her work focuses on diverse research methods on the topics of narratives, inclusive classrooms, and poverty-aware education. Elad Avlagon has a BSW from Sapir College. He has worked with old people and people living in poverty and has gained expertise in narrative interviewing and analysis. Shoshana Steinberg, PhD in social psychology, an Emerita from the Kaye College of Education, teaches in the Conflict Management program at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev. She focuses on narratives and conflict and inter-group peacebuilding.



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