

Dialogue Forum Resources list – Fall 2024

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This list of websites, films, books and podcasts is meant to give Dialogue Forum participants a broader, deeper understanding of the issues that often come up in your dialogues. It is arranged by topics, and begins with broad historic overviews. If you want to suggest other items (English, Hebrew or Arabic) to this list –contact me!

Videos, films, podcasts are underlined . **Books and websites** are *in italics*.

HISTORIC OVERVIEWS

Vox summary of Israel-Palestine conflict (10 minutes)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iRYZjOuUnlU>

Crash course on Conflict in Israel and Palestine (12 mins.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1wo2TLIMhiw>

Wikipedia summary of the conflict. Good summary, with links to other Wikipedia descriptions of key terms (e.g. Oslo Accords, Palestinian Authority, etc.). Arabic and Hebrew readers can check the same terms in the Hebrew and Arabic wikipeidias and compare the differences from the English version.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Israeli%E2%80%93Palestinian_conflict

BBC Maps. Eight maps tracing the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/shared/spl/hi/middle_east/03/v3_israel_palestinians/maps/html/

Zochrot Nakba Map. Shows the 500+ towns and villages destroyed from 1948 to 1967.

Zochrot is an Israeli NGO raising awareness of the Nakba primarily among Israelis and promoting the Palestinian "Right of Return". <http://www.zochrot.org/en/site/nakbaMap>
Website also has Hebrew and Arabic versions.

DOCUMENTARY SERIES

Fifty Years War. PBS (American) documentary, covers the main events from 1948 to 1998 more-or-less neutrally. Part 1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fSAD9pS8NIw>

Part 2: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MtLorIXCcz4>

The Nakba. Al Jazeera series (4 episodes) gives the Arab perspective on Zionism, Palestinian/Arab resistance and events leading to the 1948 Nakba ("catastrophe").

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H7FML0wzJ6A>

The Pillar of Fire. Israeli TV series (1981), presents the mainstream Zionist perspective on Zionism, Arab resistance to it and events leading to the 1948 War of Independence. The English version has 7 episodes: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qjBSmggkxjE>

To choose which episodes to watch: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pillar_of_Fire_\(documentary\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pillar_of_Fire_(documentary))

"Homeland Lesson" (שיעור מולדת). Israeli doco series (2019) in Hebrew only

Chap.1 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qdy0-8UAUkM>

ROOTS OF THE CONFLICT, DUAL NARRATIVES

MartyrMade Podcast: Fear and Loathing in the New Jerusalem (2015).

This is a thought-provoking plunge into the roots of the Arab-Israeli conflict if you can handle Darryl Cooper's accent and overdramatic style. The episodes are long but it's hard to stop listening to this guy who is alternately empathetic to each side. On YouTube, iTunes, Spotify.

Part 1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G8ljzfkklcc> The first 15 minutes describing a pogrom are very gory, but if you get past them this becomes a super interesting exploration of the roots of modern Zionism and its relations with European colonialism and antisemitism. Like any nationalist movement, it's a lot more complex than either side usually admits.

Part 2 - Jews, Arabs & National Identity. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NLYLZUeRaJs> Darryl begins with a great essay into the idea of nationalism, then moves to the roots of Arab, and later Palestinian, nationalism, including their complex relations with the Zionists, with colorful bio's of figures like Emir Faisal and David Ben Gurion (his history is very male-oriented).

Contested Land, Contested Memory: Israel's Jews and Arabs and the Ghosts of

Catastrophe. Jo Roberts (2013). "After a war, the victors write history. How was the story of the exiled Palestinians erased – from textbooks, maps, even the land? How do Jewish and Palestinian Israelis now engage with the histories of the Palestinian Nakba and the Holocaust, and how do these echo through the political and physical landscapes of their country?"

Two Sides of the Coin: Independence and Nakba 1948. (2011; English-Hebrew edition and English-Arabic edition). Eds: Motti Golani and Adel Manna, "One of the most important questions asked in this conflict over narrative is: what happened in 1948? Golani and Manna have treated with delicacy and depth this highly complex and divisive question..."

<https://www.amazon.com/Two-Sides-Coin-Independence-English-Hebrew/dp/9089790802>

Side by Side: Parallel Histories of Israel-Palestine. Eds: Sami Adwan, Dan Bar-On and Eyal Naveh (English edition 2012). Written by Israeli and Palestinian teachers. "*Side by Side* comprises the history of two peoples, in separate narratives set literally side-by-side, so that readers can track each against the other, noting both where they differ as well as where they correspond." <http://www.goodreads.com/book/show/11961982-side-by-side>

A History of Palestine: From Ottoman Conquest to the Founding of the State of Israel.

Gudrun Kramer (2011). "...historian Gudrun Krämer examines the meanings ascribed to the land in the Jewish, Christian, and Muslim traditions. Paying special attention to social and economic factors, she examines the gradual transformation of Palestine, following the history of the region through the Egyptian occupation...the Ottoman reform era, and the British Mandate up to the founding of Israel in 1948. Focusing on the interactions of Arabs and Jews, [she] tells how these connections affected the cultural and political evolution of each community..."

Year Zero of the Arab-Israeli Conflict: 1929. Hillel Cohen (2015). Original Hebrew: תרפ"ט. A

readable book by an Israeli historian with surprising views. "In late summer 1929, a countrywide outbreak of Arab-Jewish-British violence transformed the political landscape of Palestine forever. In contrast with those who point to the wars of 1948 and 1967, historian Hillel Cohen marks these bloody events as year zero of the Arab-Israeli conflict that persists today." <https://www.amazon.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict-Schusterman-Israel-Studies/dp/1611688116>

In Hebrew only: ***1956–1948, נכבה והישרדות - סיפורם של הפלסטינים שנותרו בחיפה ובגליל***, עאדל מנאע (2017)

Nakba and Survival 1948-1956– The story of Palestinians who remained in Haifa and the Galilee.

By one of the most prominent Palestinian-Israeli historians, Adel Manaa.

A History of Modern Palestine: One Land, Two Peoples. Ilan Pappé (2003).

Broad social history of Palestinian and Jewish societies from 19th century to the second Intifada, by a revisionist (post-Zionist) Israeli historian.

The Israel Palestine question. Ilan Pappé, ed. (1999). Essays by Palestinian and revisionist Israeli historians. Downloadable copy: <https://b-ok.cc/book/1179350/0cd792>

ACTIVISM, RESISTANCE and DIALOGUE

Five Broken Cameras (2013, Arabic, English subtitles). A personal account of one village's determination to stop the Separation Barrier. The residents of Bil'in, a West Bank village, became famous for their weekly demonstrations against the Barrier, aided by international and Israeli activists. Oscar nominee. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rH_d_L33V2s

Arna's Children. Amazing documentary about the Freedom Theater in Jenin that was led by an Israeli woman totally committed to the Palestinian cause. Filmed by Arna's son, Juliano Mer-Khamis, an activist-film maker who was assassinated by extremists in Jenin in 2011. <http://www.cultureunplugged.com/documentary/watch-online/festival/play/4981/Arna-s-Children>

Budrus (2009, Arabic+Hebrew, Engl.subtitles). Israeli-Palestinian documentary about Ayed Morrar, a Palestinian whose work for Fatah led to five detentions in Israeli jails. He decides to use nonviolent resistance against the Separation Barrier in his village. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VusnAkW_Rb8

The Field (2017, Hebrew+Arabic, English subtitles). Ali Abu Awwad dedicates his family's field between Jerusalem and Hebron as a meeting place for Palestinians and settlers. Despite his years in an Israeli prison and a brother killed by the IDF, he creates "Roots-Juduur" with local Israelis to try to create dialogue with his Jewish neighbors. Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFcXwAh-GIQ>

In the Eye of the Storm (Hebrew, English subtitles, 68 mins). *Bereaved Families Circle* is an organization established by Israelis and Palestinians who lost family members in the Conflict, to promote dialogue. The film follows Bassam Aramin, whose daughter was killed by a soldier, and Rami Elhanan, whose daughter was killed in a suicide bombing.

English subtitles: <https://vimeo.com/50420900>, * ask Michael for password

Arabic subtitles: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SchM1Yb4REs&feature=youtu.be>

Disturbing the Peace (2017, Arabic & Hebrew, English subtitles, 110 mins). *Combatants for Peace* is a joint Israeli-Palestinian NGO that began as a dialogue between ex-combatants. The film depicts what motivated these Israelis and Palestinians to take up arms against each other (IDF soldiers, Fatah activists, a suicide bomber) and each one's personal transformation that led him/her to eventually join a non-violent, bi-national peace movement. The film reflects their hesitations, and the resistance they encounter in their homes, as the group developed.

Objector. Israeli film about Atalya, a high school student who refuses to enlist in the IDF for conscientious reasons. <https://objectorfilm.com/> <https://vimeo.com/r/3eXI/SnZKTnRCQ0>

JERUSALEM

To Die in Jerusalem (2007, English, Hebrew, Arabic). "In March 2002, Jerusalem teen Rachel Levy was killed in a suicide bombing carried out by Palestinian teen Ayat al-Akhras. Though their religious backgrounds would suggest that they had little in common, both girls were 17 years old, bore an uncanny physical resemblance to one another, and spent the majority of their woefully brief lives less than four miles apart." [https://www.snagfilms.com/films/title/to die in jerusalem](https://www.snagfilms.com/films/title/to_die_in_jerusalem)

Jerusalem the East Side Story (2008, English, Arabic & Hebrew). Palestinian documentary on Israel's policy in Jerusalem since 1967. Director: Mohamad Alatar.

IDF, SETTLERS, SECOND INTIFADA

Checkpoint **מחסום** (2001, Hebrew & Arabic; English subtitles). Award-winning Israeli film shows the everyday interaction between Israeli soldiers and Palestinians at several checkpoints just before the second Intifada, mostly from the soldiers' perspective.

The Settlers **המתנחלים** (2016, Hebrew with English subtitles). Comprehensive documentary of the settlement enterprise from 1967 until today. Interviews with many settler leaders and with those opposed to them. Shows how a tiny, determined minority of Israelis with a messianic ideology led to the situation today: over half a million Israelis live in the West Bank.

Days of Awe **ימים נוראים** (2019, Hebrew). Drama, based on true story of the 1995 assassination of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. Focusing on the assassin Yigal Amir, it vividly portrays the atmosphere that led a right-wing Jewish Israeli to this extreme act.

Unsettled **מתנחלת** (2018, Hebrew w/English subtitles?). Amazing documentary by a Tel Aviv left-winger who "settles" in a West Bank settlement and interviews its residents.

Jenin Jenin (2002, 54 min). Film documenting the IDF invasion of Jenin refugee camp, from which originated many suicide bombers, in the Second Intifada. Muhammad Bakri, a well-known Israeli-Palestinian actor-director, made the film to show the viewpoint of the Jenin camp residents. He was sued by IDF soldiers who claimed the film was distorted – the case reached Israel's Supreme Court which ruled that indeed some parts were factually false. Bakri claims he just gave the voiceless a voice.

HOW THE OCCUPATION WORKS

The Law in these Parts (2012, Hebrew, English subtitles). Award-winning film offers a critical look at Israel's military justice system in the West Bank and Gaza since 1967. Surprising interviews with top military judges. <https://www.thelawfilm.com/eng/#!/the-film>

The Gatekeepers (2012, Hebrew, Engl. subtitles). Oscar nominee for Best Documentary. Six former heads of Shabak (Israel's internal security service) reveal their surprising views on the occupation of West Bank and Gaza. <http://www.thegatekeepersfilm.com/the-film.html>

The Green Prince. **הנסיך הירוק**. Fascinating Israeli documentary on the son of a Hamas leader who became a Shabak collaborator.

The Lab (2013). A Michael-Moore-style documentary about Israel's recent wars and the connection to the arms export industry. Based on interviews with Israeli arms merchants. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iabky5rvsGk&t=837s> USE CHROME or FIREFOX

Advocate (2019) Lea Tsemel defends Palestinians: from feminists to fundamentalists, from nonviolent demonstrators to armed militants. As a Jewish-Israeli lawyer who has represented political prisoners for five decades, Tsemel, in her tireless quest for justice, pushes the praxis of a human rights defender to its limits. As far as most Israelis are concerned, she defends the indefensible. As far as Palestinians are concerned, she's more than an attorney, she's an ally. <https://vimeo.com/391339825>

GAZA

I Shall Not Hate – A Gaza Doctor's journey. Dr. Izzeldin Abuelaish (2011). Extraordinary book by a Harvard-educated Palestinian doctor who was born and raised in a refugee camp in the Gaza Strip and "has devoted his life to medicine and reconciliation between Israelis and Palestinians" (New York Times). Abuelaish lost three of his daughters and his niece when Israeli shells hit his home in Jabalya in the 2009 Gaza War. <https://www.amazon.com/Shall-Not-Hate-Doctors-Journey/dp/0802779492>

Drinking the Sea at Gaza. Amira Hass (2000). Her book "shares Gaza's early euphoria over the peace process and its subsequent despair as hope gives way to unrelenting hardship. She offers a remarkable portrait of a people not brutalized but eloquent, spiritually resilient, bleakly funny, and morally courageous. Full of testimonies and stories, facts and impressions. Beautiful, haunting, and profound, it will stand with the great works of wartime reportage."

להכיר את חמאס (*To Know Hamas* 2012) Shlomi Eldar (Hebrew, translated to English?). Fascinating account of Hamas as a political and military organization, by an Israeli journalist with ties to Hamas leaders and Israeli leaders.

ARABS & JEWS IN ISRAEL

ענ'מי אג'מי (2010, Hebrew, Arabic, with Engl.subtitles?). Powerful fiction drama on relations between Israeli Palestinians and Jews in a "mixed" neighborhood in Jaffa. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=atG9ta5foM4>

לא פה לא שם **בין יבנה** (2017, Arabic, with subtitles. 102 mins). Three young Palestinian-Israeli women sharing an apartment in Tel Aviv, find themselves torn between traditional culture and the modern world.

סופת חול **Sandstorm** (2018, Arabic w/Hebrew&English subtitles). Award-winning drama about a Negev Bedouin woman's struggle against patriarchy.

The Lemon Tree. Sandy Tolan (2016) audio book/MP3CD.

"A true story of a remarkable relationship between two families [...] Bashir sees dispossession and occupation; Dalia, who arrived in 1948 with her family from Bulgaria, sees hope for a people devastated by the Holocaust. As both are swept up in the fates of their people, and Bashir is jailed for his alleged part in a supermarket bombing, the friends do not speak for years. They finally reconcile and convert the house in Ramle into a day-care centre for Arab children of Israel, and a center for dialogue between Arabs and Jews.

Preview: https://books.google.co.il/books/about/The_Lemon_Tree.html?id=tkjl_xljFmEC&printsec=frontcover&source=kp_read_button&redir_esc=y#v=onepage&q&f=false

Sleeping on a Wire – Conversations with Palestinians in Israel. David Grossman (2003). <https://www.amazon.com/Sleeping-Wire-Conversations-Palestinians-Israel/dp/0312420978>

ZIONISM

Portrait of Victory (Hebrew: **תמונת ניצחון**) Israeli fictional film (2021) based on the capture of kibbutz Nitzanim by the Egyptian army in 1948. Aspires to show the battle from both sides.

My Promised Land – The triumph and tragedy of Israel. Ari Shavit (2015). An Israeli journalist surveys Israel from his personal (Zionist-humanist) viewpoint. His account includes Zionism's "heroic" chapters, e.g. establishment of kibbutzim and its dark sides, e.g. the destruction of Palestinian society, racism, etc.

A History of Israel from the Rise of Zionism to Our Time. Howard Sachar (2013). "This is a truly enriching and exhaustive history of a nation that holds claim to one of the most complicated and controversial histories in the world."

MartyrMade Podcast: Fear and Loathing in the New Jerusalem (Darryl Cooper, 2015). Part 1 focuses on the reasons why Jews turned to national Zionism in the 19th and 20th centuries. Part 2 focuses on Arab nationalism but also explores different trends in Zionism. **Part 1** <https://podcasts.apple.com/il/podcast/the-martyr-made-podcast/id978322714?i=1000337979011>

Turn left at the end of the world (Hebrew: **סוף העולם שמאלה**). (2004 Hebrew, Engl subtitles). Israeli drama on the struggle of new Jewish immigrants in a small Negev development town in 1968, focusing on the relationship between two girls, one from Morocco, the other from India.

ISRAEL-LEBANON-SYRIA

Waltz with Bashir (2008). The prize-winning animated film on the First Lebanon War, from an Israeli soldier's perspective. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Waltz_with_Bashir

Gmar Gavia (Hebrew, Arabic) with Moshe Ivgy, Mohammad Bakri. Fiction film of an IDF soldier captured by a PLO squad in the First Lebanon War, starring two of Israel's leading actors.

The Syrian Bride Israeli fictional comedy-drama about the Druze in the Golan Heights. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Syrian_Bride

INDIVIDUAL VIEWPOINTS

Letters to My Palestinian Neighbor. Yossi Klein Halevy (2018). For Arabic version: <https://www.letterstomyneighbor.com/arabic-download-page/> American-Israeli journalist "...frames his chapters as a series of letters to an [imagined Palestinian] neighbor that include both concise, balanced histories—of such topics as the history of modern Zionism and the occupation of the West Bank and Gaza—and his own memories of growing up an American Jew afraid that Israel would be destroyed in 1967, moving to Israel, and how his 'romance with the settlement movement ended.'" For Raja Shehadeh's critique of the book: <https://www.nytimes.com/2018/08/24/books/review/letters-to-my-palestinian-neighbor-yossi-klein-halevi.html>

The Lemon Tree (2008). Israeli fiction film about the "efforts of a Palestinian widow to stop the Defense Minister, her next door neighbor, from destroying the lemon trees in her family farm. At the same time, she develops a human bond with the minister's wife." [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lemon_Tree_\(film\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lemon_Tree_(film))

In the Land of Israel ישראל וּשְׂמֵהּ בְּאֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל (1993; Hebrew edition 1983) by Amos Oz. Israel's most famous novelist records his conversations with workers, soldiers, settlers, Orthodox Jews and Palestinians. Still relevant today.

The Yellow Wind הַזֶּמֶן הַצֵּהוּב (2002 edition) by David Grossman. A leading Israeli novelist's observations on the West Bank in early 1987, helps explain much of the violence that broke out two years later in the first Intifada: "the misery of the refugees and their deep-seated hatred of the Israelis, the cost of occupation for both occupier and occupied."

https://www.amazon.com/Yellow-Wind-New-Afterword-author/dp/0312420986/ref=sr_1_9?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1484404273&sr=1-9&keywords=david+grossman

Out of Place – A Memoir (2000) by Edward Said, author of the classic "Orientalism". "Said writes with great passion and wit... Underscoring all is the confusion of identity the young Said experienced as he came to terms with the dissonance of being an American citizen, a Christian and a Palestinian, and, ultimately, an outsider." "Richly detailed, moving, often profound, **Out of Place** depicts a young man's coming of age and the genesis of a great modern thinker." <https://www.amazon.com/Out-Place-Edward-W-Said/dp/0679730672>

The Green Line

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/what-is-the-green-line/>

<https://www.972mag.com/green-line-israel-settlements/>

Mizrahi Jews

<https://www.jstor.org/stable/2676427>

<https://katz.sas.upenn.edu/resources/blog/what-do-you-know-sephardi-vs-mizrahi>

Black Panthers in Israel

<https://www.blackpast.org/global-african-history/israeli-black-panther-party-1971-1977/>

<https://electronicintifada.net/content/when-israels-black-panthers-found-common-cause-palestinians/26821>

Additional Books

Movement and The Ordering of Freedom - Hagar Kotef

The Question of Palestine - Edward Said

The Arab Jews - Yehouda Shenhav

The Invention of the Jewish People - Shlomo Sand

Who Sings the Nation State - Gayatri Spivak and Judith Butler

Zionism in The Age of Dictators - Lenni Brenner

For more documentaries on the Israeli-Arab conflict:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:Documentary_films_about_the_Israeli%E2%80%93Palestinian_conflict

Beyond the obvious resources about Israel/Palestine, many struggles around the world can help us look at the History and at the present of the region from a different point of view.

Books:

James Baldwin

James Baldwin's *The Fire Next Time* (1963) comprises two autobiographical essays in which the author confronts the racial issues and tensions that he believes corrupt and deform American life and the American dream. Baldwin's essays exemplify and precursor many of the elements and arguments central to the Civil Rights movement

bell hooks

Feminism is for Everybody

Beginning with a broad survey of feminism's most important themes and concerns, bell hooks demystifies contentious concepts and turns apparent ideology into common sense. hooks encourages us to demand alternatives to patriarchal, racist and homophobic culture and thereby to seek out a different future.

Nick Estes

Our History Is the Future

Standing Rock Versus the Dakota Access Pipeline, and the Long Tradition of Indigenous Resistance - In *Our History Is the Future*, Nick Estes traces traditions of Indigenous resistance that led to the #NoDAPL movement.

Jasbir Puar

The Right to Maim: Debility, Capacity, Disability

In *The Right to Maim* Jasbir K. Puar brings her pathbreaking work on the liberal state, sexuality, and biopolitics to bear on our understanding of disability. Drawing on a stunning array of theoretical and methodological frameworks, Puar uses the concept of "debility"—bodily injury and social exclusion brought on by economic and political factors—to disrupt the category of disability.

Laila Abu-Lughod

Do Muslim Women Need Saving?

Do Muslim Women Need Saving? is an indictment of a mindset that has justified all manner of foreign interference, including military invasion, in the name of rescuing women from Islam—as well as a moving portrait of women's actual experiences, and of the contingencies with which they live.

Frantz Fanon

The Wretched of the Earth

First published in 1961, Frantz Fanon's *The Wretched of the Earth* is a masterful and timeless interrogation of race, colonialism, psychological trauma, and revolutionary struggle. In 2020, it found a new readership in the wake of the Black Lives Matter protests and the centering of narratives interrogating race by Black writers. Bearing singular insight into the rage and frustration of colonized peoples, and the role of violence in spurring

historical change, the book incisively attacks the twin perils of post-independence colonial politics: the disenfranchisement of the masses by the elites on the one hand, and intertribal and interfaith animosities on the other.

Aimé Césaire

Discourse on Colonialism

Aimé Césaire eloquently describes the brutal impact of capitalism and colonialism on both the colonizer and colonized, exposing the contradictions and hypocrisy implicit in western notions of progress and civilization upon encountering the savage, uncultured, or primitive. Here, Césaire reaffirms African values, identity, and culture, and their relevance, reminding us that the relationship between consciousness and reality are extremely complex.

Ghassan Kanafani

Men in the Sun

This collection of important stories by novelist, journalist, teacher, and Palestinian activist Ghassan Kanafani includes the stunning novella Men in the Sun (1962), the basis of the film The Deceived. In the unsparing clarity of his writing, Kanafani offers the reader a gritty look at the agonized world of Palestine and the adjoining Middle East.

Short videos (social media):

About intersectionality

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JRci2V8PxW4&ab_channel=KateAndersen

About Complexity and Compassion

https://www.instagram.com/reel/CIHFI4WgYBv/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

About Allyship

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MoHrlonr8wc&ab_channel=TEDxTalks
https://www.instagram.com/p/B7tfS5xBtSz/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link

About race, colonialism and liberation

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FZMrti8QcPA>

About race, revolution and freedom

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2BIZy0HScM>

Do Arab men hate women? Gender relations in the Arab world

[Do Arab men hate women? | Head to Head - YouTube](#)