



# Being Israeli: The Dynamics of Multiple Citizenship (Cambridge Middle East Studies)

*By Gershon Shafir, Yoav Peled*

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## **Being Israeli: The Dynamics of Multiple Citizenship (Cambridge Middle East Studies)** By Gershon Shafir, Yoav Peled

This penetrating and timely study by two well-known scholars offers a theoretically informed account of the political sociology of Israel. The argument is set in its historical context as the authors trace Israel's development from the beginning of Zionist settlement in Palestine in the early 1880s to the Oslo accords in 1993, and finally to the recent Palestinian uprising. Against this background, they speculate on the idea of citizenship and what it means to be the citizen of a fragmented and ideologically divided society.

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"Broad, sweeping, and insightful... the author's analysis...effectively explores the issues underlying many of Israel's social problems. The attempt to construct an alternative model of Israeli society is particularly provocative and worthy of serious evaluation." *Choice*

"While undoubtedly there will be many disagreements about specific suggestions and proposals that Shafir and Peled make in this book, the fact that they introduce new terms by which to rethink Israeli citizenship makes this book an essential reading for those who are concerned with the Israeli-Palestine question as well [as] those who are interested to see how thinking through citizenship may change inflections on seemingly intractable political problems." *Canadian Journal of Sociology Online*

"This book is full of rich information and is well organized by an appropriate conceptual scheme."  
*Perspectives on Politics*

### **About the Author**

Gershon Shafir is Professor of Sociology at the University of California, San Diego. His publications include *Land, Labor, and the Origins of the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, 1882-1914* (1989, 1996) and *Immigrants and Nationalists* (1995). He is the editor of *The Citizenship Debates* (1998). Yoav Peled is lecturer in the Department of Political Science, Tel Aviv University. His book, *Class and Ethnicity in the Pale: The Political Economy of Jewish Workers' Nationalism in Late Imperial Russia*, was published in 1989 and he edited *Ethnic Challenges to the Modern Nation-State* (2000). Both authors have co-edited *The New Israel: Peacemaking and Liberalization* (2000).

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