

DEMOGRAPHIC DISPOSSESSION

Israel has always considered Palestinians a “demographic threat”. Fear over how many Palestinians live in historic Palestine compared to Jewish Israelis is a basic product of political Zionism’s goal of maintaining a Jewish state. Throughout its history, Israel has created a raft of policies and practices to reduce the number of Palestinians across historic Palestine. Some examples include:



Banning Palestinians from returning to their homeland, while granting Jewish people from around the world Israeli citizenship



Revoking the residency status of Palestinians in Jerusalem so they can no longer live there



Preventing Palestinians (who are not Israeli citizens) who marry citizens of Israel from becoming Israeli citizens, while most non-Palestinian spouses of Israeli citizens are able to do so



Increasing illegal Israeli settlements in the West Bank in order to seize more Palestinian land



Making Gaza unliveable through its 17 year siege



Calls from politicians and businesses to create Israeli settlements in Gaza following Israel’s genocidal assault on the territory

Settler colonialism targets Indigenous people for ethnic cleansing and other forms of colonial violence because they are in the way. The aim is to control as much land and resources as possible for the benefit of settlers. Israel’s ongoing efforts to drive Palestinians out of their homeland springs from its aim to secure the maximum amount of land with the minimum number of Palestinians.