Building Walls: Building Peace?

Walls have often been constructed in order to prevent conflict by keeping people apart. Famously in Berlin, but also in Northern Ireland, as well as along frontiers around the world. But can walls promote peace? We look at one in Israel / Palestine.

Watch

Watch *No Way Through,* a short film that highlights mobility restrictions imposed in the West Bank that are limiting its inhabitants' access to health care:

vimeo.com/6946769

Think

Why would some people think that a wall which separates two sides of a conflict is a good way to build peace?

Why would others think that a wall can never help to build peace?

Reflect

'Everywhere in the land righteousness and justice will be done. Because everyone will do what is right there will be peace and security forever.' (Isaiah 32: 16-17)

Does a wall like the one in the film promote peace in the way Isaiah understands peace?

Act

Some groups on all sides of the conflict work for another sort of peace in Israel/Palestine. Look at some of their work and how you can support them.

B'Tselem: www.btselem.org

The Arab Education Institute: www.aeicenter.org

Shministim: www.shministim.com

The Lajee Center: www.lajee.org

Use the Pax Christi resource *The Wall* to reflect on the effectiveness of the separation wall in building peace.
www.paxchristi.org.uk/thewall.html