

TOOLS FOR REAL CONVERSATIONS

Best Practices in Conversation

**ASK YOURSELF**

“What is the goal of this conversation?”

KEEP IN MIND

Stay calm, professional, and respectful
Build friendship, not allyship
Be proactive — don't wait for them to start the conversation
Actively listen, not to respond but to understand
Be gracious, be kind, be patient
Know the facts

READING THE ROOM

Do's & Don'ts of Body Language

90%

✓ DO

- Make eye contact
- Shake their hand
- Smile
- Open arm gestures
- Lean forward

✗ DON'T

- Roll your eyes
- Point your finger
- Get in someone's face
- Cross your arms
- Lean back

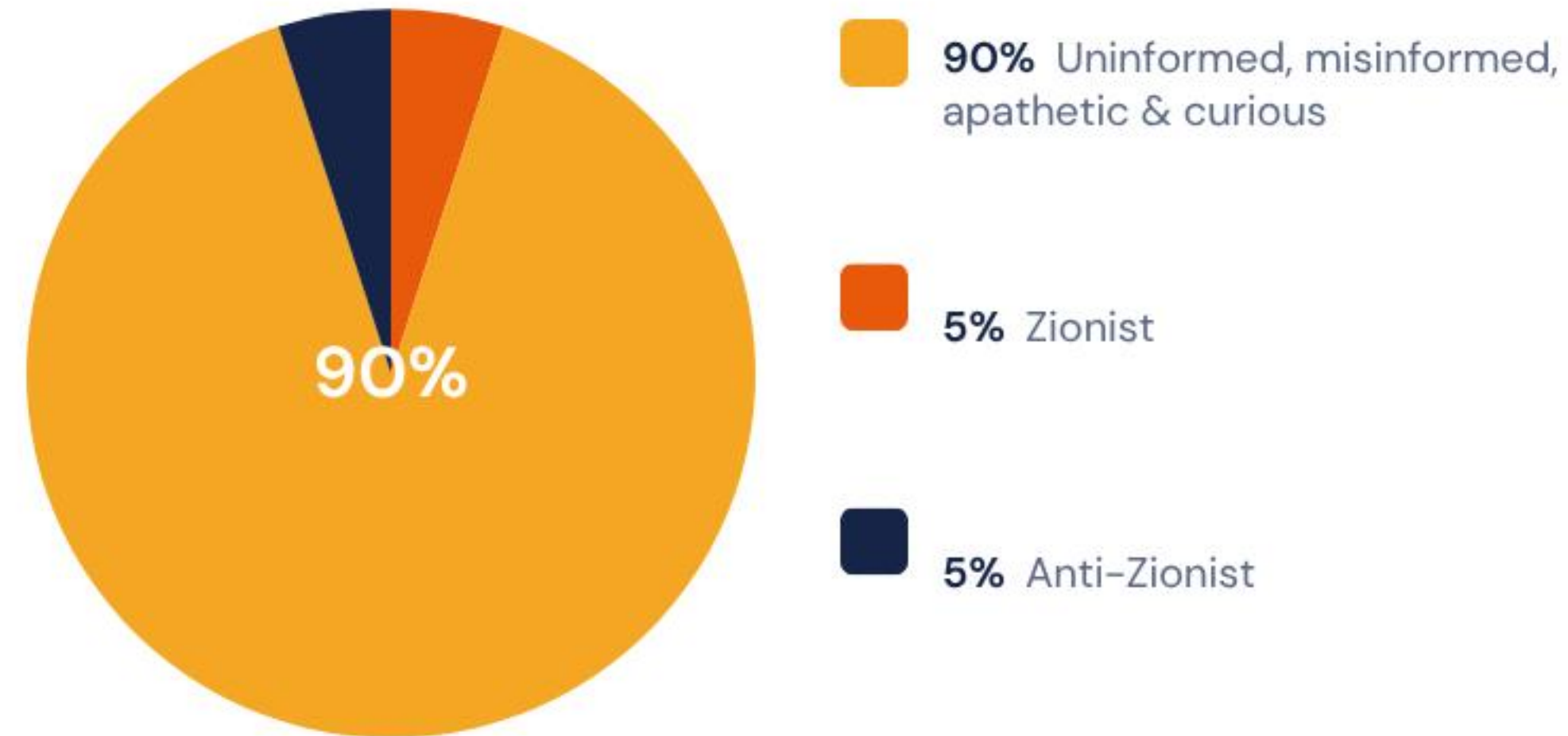
90% of communication is non-verbal

BEFORE YOU SPEAK

Know Your Audience

90%

Most people you'll speak to aren't committed to either side — they're still forming their view.



DEFINITIONS

Zionists Those who believe in a Jewish state in the Land of Israel.

Uninformed, misinformed, apathetic & curious Those who can still be influenced.

Anti-Zionists Closed-minded and set in their thinking that Israel should not exist.

TAILOR THE CONVERSATION

Meet Them Where They Are



ASK YOURSELF

“What is the goal of this conversation?”

ZIONIST

Educate, motivate, inspire, and discuss disagreements or criticism of Israel.

ANTI-ZIONIST

Only engage when trying to understand their arguments.

UNINFORMED

Meet them where they are at and start with fundamentals.

MISINFORMED

Correct the misinformation and provide accurate information and resources.

APATHETIC

Make it personal through stories to try to spark interest.

CURIOUS

Create a safe space where they can ask you questions.

Disagreeing Well



Can disagreement strengthen a friendship? How you close the conversation says a lot.

WAYS TO END THE CONVERSATION

Even in disagreement — can disagreement strengthen a friendship?

“We can agree to disagree, but I'm glad we were able to speak respectfully and understand each other's viewpoints.”

“We don't have to always agree; we need to be able to disagree respectfully.”

“Conversations aren't about agreement; they are about learning from each other to better understand each other and why we think differently.”

HOLDING YOUR
GROUND

Know Your Values



Understanding is the goal — but understanding is not the same as sacrificing who you are.

In conversation, we are not always searching for agreement — but to learn from and understand each other.

“I really appreciate some of the things you brought up, and I will make an effort to learn more about them, and I hope you will too.”

“Keep the lines of communication open so we can continue to let our relationship develop in a positive way. Let's not allow issues we disagree on to get in the way of our friendship.”

KNOW WHERE THE LINE IS

You shouldn't sacrifice or need to hide part of your identity or core values to maintain friendships. It's one thing to have a disagreement; it's another thing to have a disagreement on core values. **No relationship should demand you sacrifice your values and identity.** *Ask yourself if that relationship is worth it.*