

## **Campfire Discussion Questions**

Campfire can be viewed as a film which is critical of the settlement movement, yet director Joseph Cedar says: "I thus find it difficult to assume responsibility for all of the criticism in the movie; I think that some of the criticism is to be located in the one who watches the movie, not the one who created it."

In interpreting the characters in the film what opinions can be drawn about the settlers?

Campfire has been described as a political drama and alternately as a family drama. While both themes exist in the film which did you feel weighed most heavily in the development of the story?

Throughout the film Rachel struggles to balance her own personal values needs and wants with those of her family as they well as those of her society. Ultimately she discovers that this is not possible. Discuss instances when the personal ideals are in direct conflict with those of the community.

What do you think of Rachel's efforts to be accepted by the settlement group?

The Gerlick family, made up of three women, working to be accepted into an exclusive community ultimately becomes a story about gender politics as well as settlement politics. Discuss the women's efforts to be accepted by men affect Rachel, Tami and Esti, individually and as a family.

Discuss reactions to the 'campfire scene' in which Tami is abused. How does the way that it is depicted influence the following developments in the film.

Each of the main characters: Rachel, Tami, Esti and Yossi have very different personalities. Discuss how the director integrates these personalities throughout the movie to express the themes of his film and the soul of the Gerlick family.

Why is Yossi the right companion for Rachel?

Discuss the ending of the film. How did you feel about the way that the issues were resolved?