


cate a “sophisticated and articulated love” of Israel. As Gribetz knows, this is a sophisticated idea! The pedagogy of critique is so rich and demanding that we often find ourselves focusing too little on how “love” might fit into this approach. Just as we do not halt the wedding even though we haven’t eliminated world poverty, so while marking Israel’s faults and

shortcomings we still must find ways to celebrate that we are no longer stateless. We need to find answers to Yom Ha’atzmaut, for example: How might we celebrate Israel while still holding on to a nuanced, high-resolution perspective of statehood? Where can we find room for celebration without “leaving our brains at the door”? 

## Discussion Guide

*Bringing together myriad voices and experiences provides Sh'ma readers with an opportunity in a few very full pages to explore a topic of Jewish interest from a variety of perspectives. To facilitate a fuller discussion of these ideas, we offer the following questions:*

1. How is your identity as an American Jew tied to the State of Israel?
2. Can a reimagining of the teaching of Israel recreate a new Zionism for the 21st century?
3. Why have many millions of dollars been spent to send young Jews to Israel? Does a trip to Israel definitively instill something in a young Jew's soul?

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