

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS – UNDER THE BOMBS

1. UNDER THE BOMBS was filmed in the immediate aftermath of the war between Lebanon and Israel in the summer of 2006. What effect does the production value, and the fact that the locations were not staged and that the rubble was very real, have on the film's power?
2. With pristine cinematography of a bombed-out region, one could say that UNDER THE BOMBS exhibits a neo-realist style. How is the film a return to an older style of political moviemaking? Does this film show particularly European sensibilities in the way in which it depicts the effects of war?
3. How is UNDER THE BOMBS a conventional road trip movie? Are there other films that it reminds you of in this capacity? What kinds of emotions motivate the characters in these kinds of films? What kinds of obstacles do they encounter? How do the characters and events in UNDER THE BOMBS compare?
4. Is UNDER THE BOMBS a political film? Why or why not?
5. Why do you think the lead female character is wearing a bright blue, attention-grabbing dress? Her brightly colored attire is one of the few bursts of color seen in the entire film – why might the director have made this stylistic choice? Is the dress symbolic of anything larger?
6. This film features no actual dying, yet notions of death and destruction permeate throughout almost every scene, and the film is clearly about a war. What kinds of techniques does the director employ to humanize this usually remote topic?