

***Rebecca L. Stein***

## SOUVENIRS OF CONQUEST: ISRAELI OCCUPATIONS AS TOURIST EVENTS

This paper studies the intersections between military occupation and tourism in contemporary Israel. Focusing on two key moments of Israeli military engagement—the 1967 war and subsequent Israeli military occupation and the 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon—the paper considers the ways that mainstream Israeli newspapers represented the conquest and/or incursion to Israeli publics through stories about Israeli tourism, consumption, and pleasure in the occupied territories in question. Drawing on postcolonial scholarship on colonial travel, I argue that these tourism stories can be read as “anticonquest narratives” that obscure the violence of the occupation by recasting it as a leisure opportunity. Both cases have been largely overlooked within the scholarly writing on Israel, and both expand our scholarly accounts of Israeli militarism by considering the quotidian, cultural avenues by which military projects have been enabled and sustained.