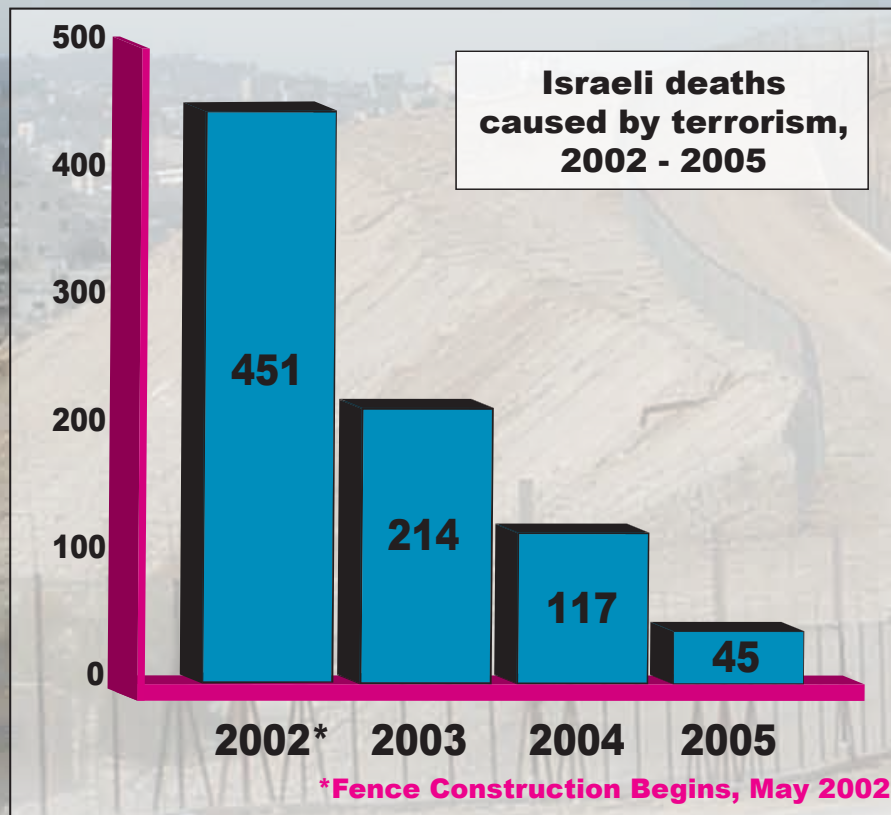


Sometimes, Good Fences Stop Bad Neighbors



At the height of the Palestinian Intifada in 2002, Israel began a military sweep of the Palestinian terrorist infrastructure responsible for the horrifying wave of terrorism and suicide bombings against Israeli civilians. At around the same time, Israel began construction on the security fence in the West Bank to keep future suicide bombers out.

By making terrorist entry into Israel difficult, the fence has played a central role in the decline of terrorism. In 2005, 45 Israelis were killed by Palestinian terrorism, compared to 451 killed in 2002 - a 90% decline. The decline in lethal terrorist attacks against Israelis has also meant fewer Israeli military incursions into Palestinian areas. As a result, Palestinian deaths declined by 75% from 2004 to 2005.

Some opponents of the fence say that the fence won't solve the conflict. It was never meant too. It does what it was built to do: reduce terrorism - a good thing for Israelis and Palestinians.