

LAURA LIMONIC, EDITOR

SUNY COLLEGE AT OLD WESTBURY

President's Message

Len Saxe



Storms have a way of exposing rocks and widening fissures in our physical and social worlds. The COVID-19 pandemic has been a storm of historic proportions and has placed enormous stress on individuals and the institutions that sustain our health, work, and well-being. To survive, organizations, including ASSJ, need to respond to these challenges and find new ways of carrying out our mission. What follows are a few thoughts about the stressors that are affecting our field and some of the preliminary ideas about actions we are taking.

Aside from the personal toll on all of us, the pandemic has destabilized the fragile funding system for social scientific studies of Jewry. Most devastating has been the impact on those with the least stable positions before the crisis. Educational institutions have frozen (or, as my institution euphemistically calls it, “frosted”) new positions and terminated multiple contracts with non-tenured faculty. Communal organizations that employ social researchers have laid off and/or furloughed staff, and philanthropies have shifted funding priorities to “immediate needs.”

Even for those of us with stable positions and funding, COVID has complicated many aspects of our work. For those of us who teach, remote learning has posed a series of pedagogical challenges. Some of the challenges are technological, but most have to do with how we share knowledge and engage students. We have a parallel set of challenges with our research. Many of us rely on some combination of surveys, interviews, and participant observations. Much of this work has had to be shelved, delayed, or reconceived.

From the perspective of a professional association, perhaps our most important challenge is the impact on vital conversations and opportunities for collaboration. While *Contemporary Jewry* (thank you, Harriet Hartman), our book series (thank you, Charles Kadushin), Newsletter (thank you, Laura Limonic) and our listserv continue apace, we have lost conferences, lectures, and travel opportunities. Opportunities to meet with one another smooth the rough edges of printed or digitized dialogue. Zoom is an inadequate substitute for being with one another in conversation about our work and lives. What ASSJ, a small (actually, tiny) professional organization, can do to help members deal with the consequences of the pandemic is necessarily limited. But here are some of our current efforts:

1. Support for young scholars/non-academics. Even before COVID, it was clear that young scholars, particularly those without academic positions, need help. COVID has made the situation worse. A non-virtuous circle results when young PhDs who do not have support for scholarly work, cannot publish, and become less viable as candidates for regular academic appointments. This year, we found funds to enable support for graduate student and young scholars to travel to AJS. This initiative is the beginning of what I hope will be a small grants program. As part of this effort, we were readying ourselves for a fund-raising campaign to kickstart or help complete small projects. One of the first steps was a new policy regarding the [acceptance of gifts](#) (link). COVID has made the support for the AJS/ASSJ meeting moot this year, but it underscores the need for building a program of small grants.

2. Listserv. As Judit and I have already described in messages posted on the listserv (link), a set of controversies about postings led the Board us to impose some additional guidelines and to begin a process to create a second “discussion” listserv. Our existing listserv will, I hope, become a resource to exchange information. Along with facilitating information about publications, conferences, and the exchange of expertise, the listserv can also serve as a place to post job announcements and research opportunities. ASSJ cannot create new jobs, but we can try to ensure that our members know of job opportunities.

3. Virtual conferences. In the absence of conferences, lectures, and travel opportunities that bring us together, it is even more important that we find ways to build relationships among those of us who study the Jewish community. Just as universities are finding ways to carry out their mission even if in-person classes are impossible, we need to explore holding virtual gatherings. To the end, we are working with AJS to find ways to make the December conference as productive as possible. We have also begun to consider ways to facilitate less formal meetings (a virtual listserv) where members have an opportunity to discuss specific issues.

4. Ethics. Although it may seem odd to include an ethics code as part of ASSJ’s response to COVID, promoting ethical professional behavior is an essential responsibility of the association. In these “stormy” times, how we treat one another, how we talk about our data, and how we operate as professionals, are as important if not more so, than what support we can gain for our research. Our newly approved [ethical code](#) is a major advance for the field (thank you, Jennifer Thompson for leading this effort). The next step is to create a procedure for adjudicating complaints.

5. Public role. Although the Board has yet to discuss the issue, one question is whether ASSJ should be seeking a more public role. For example, is there a way for us to promote the work of our members and, in so doing, advocate for the scientific study of Jewry? Should we decide it is a worthy undertaking and have the resources, how will we make decisions about what is important to share? The questions are complex, but they are important to consider and resolve.

Since its founding 50 years ago, ASSJ has been a small organization of people who knew one another fairly well. We are now larger, more diverse, and spread-out across the world. We need to work harder to facilitate the ties and relationships that can enhance our individual work and that of the association. I hope that some of the measures outlined above will be initial steps in that direction.

Vice-President's Message

Judit Bokser Liwerant



We are living in extraordinary times that cannot be ignored; times that constitute a challenge for humanity, for social and communal life, and the social sciences. We are facing a constellation of overlapping crises in which several dimensions converge, and thus define it as a global and systemic crisis. A pandemic-a public health threat brought about by the new mutation of a menacing virus spreading across national and regional borders; an economic crisis-given the already significant retraction and unemployment and the prognosis of a worldwide recession; a national and international political crisis -as expressed in the redefinition of rules and codes of institutional orders and leaderships, as well as world alignments; a social crisis -having laid bare the inequalities of its perception and consequences and in the challenging of the collective identity that anchors a group's cultural security.

Certainly too, an individual crisis, as the norms of isolation, according to which we seek safety without the Other, shape a new subjectivity. The current configuration draws attention to the disruption of the balance between life and death. Crossing individual and society, the Jewish world faces new implications concerning its frameworks of being and belonging, its associational vocation and channels of cohesion and solidarity and the simultaneity of individualization processes and collective affirmation.

Let me share with you the following lines of reflection.

Governments, in their current capacities and timeframe, had revealed deficient and fragmented structural conditions and uncertain responses to a disaster of which experts and past experiences warned us- a note of caution already sounded when Ulrich Beck in the 1980s conceptualized the World Risk Society.

Social sciences have studied and pondered the accomplishments of globalization processes and their multidimensional character -the growing interconnectedness of countries, economies and societies, the circulation of goods, energy, of data, knowledge and cultures, the potentiality of scientific collaboration, and increased human mobility. Globalization created scenarios of interactions that favor the world Jewish system, defined by its equally multidimensional cross-national borders and links. However, given the differential spaces and times of globalization, the current crisis has increased territorial and sectorial inequalities at the national and world level and has been met with closed and nationalistic responses. The chaotic global response to the coronavirus pandemic has tested the faith of internationalists and globalization researchers- most nations, including the world's most powerful, have turned inward.

Vice-President's Message (cont.)

The fact that possible solutions reveal, more than ever, the need for global governance and collaboration has not prevented an international scenario of increased polarization, which poses a threat to the global and transnational relationships among Jewish communities and with Israel. Simultaneously, the current circumstances of crisis management have been fertile grounds for the centralization and concentration of power that led to democratic regression in diverse regions and countries where Jews developed a vibrant social and cultural presence. Populism seems to offer a privileged analytical lens to study the politization of the pandemic. Poverty and increasing regional migration flow, as well as the failure of public policies are concrete and potential sources of marginalization and exclusion in states, societies and community's life. They shape differing mindsets and logics that are expressed in recognition of, or distance and alienation from the collective.

Our research must confront permanence and transformation. The Coronavirus calls into question the relevance of problems and topics that have occupied social sciences and contemporary Jewry; the need and opportunity to open up to new ones demand a paradigm shift. At the core of the current constellation of crises, new agendas emerge: public spheres in societies and communities characterized by complexity and uncertainty; civil society as the field for the construction of solidarity; along with methodologies and spaces, new forms of education modified by innovation and the strengthening of digital environments; the simultaneity of the online and offline worlds - the distance of the latter, in its paradoxical virtual quality; the diversified structures of future communities. It also calls to approach new cultural and religious expressions, and the always intriguing nexus between science and meaning-making processes.

Will the experience of this crisis overshadow or enhance the expressions of xenophobia, racism, and antisemitism that preceded it and have continued to increase? Conspiracy theories, paranoia, and fake news have skyrocketed. Myths about and accusations over the origin of the virus show the modern world abandoning rationality for the medieval world of witchcraft and fear of blood libels and historical denial *tropos*. Perhaps the sustained study of the prevalence of prejudice, hate speech, and the dynamics of discrimination will lead us toward new scenarios that address their increasingly transnational nature, as part of the circulation and transmission of ideological packages. History and previous responses to crises offer referents to be compared; the role myths and conspiracy theories play in offering frameworks for challenging uncertainty and providing control; the risk of extremist secular theodicies.

Vice-President's Message (cont.)

We face fabulous intellectual challenges. The need to mount an effort to understand the present and study the possible scenarios of the future must be a cornerstone and stimulus of our task. Our social sciences must assume that many theoretical categories have lost their old referents, and their explanatory and heuristic value are weakened. The multiple levels on which the current crisis manifests itself not only put the coordinates of social and communal organizations to the test, but also the ability of sciences to overcome the restrictions imposed by the scarcity of resources. ASSJ embraces an epistemic community that, while called upon to address the changing reality, also faces the need to reflect on its dialogical praxis. While the former calls us to explain and, if possible, orient courses of action that vindicate the place of reason, our dialogical praxis demands from us the recognition of our theoretical, methodological, and political pluralism and the need and willingness to review meta-theoretical assumptions, concepts, and categories. This is the *raison d'être* of science.

The current crisis operates as a magnifying force to social actors, and as a magnifying glass to social scientists. It is our commitment to advance new goals in the widening of spaces for a sustained academic exchange, through suggested seminars in which multiple voices may debate, and support young generations in their path, through a modest though required policy of grants. We must refuse to fall prey to defeatism and, above all, to the fear that is overrunning our lives. Our most powerful tool against fear is knowledge: the exercise of understanding what we are living beyond our individual agency. The refusal to stand there -even if we remain within the safety of our own homes- can only be achieved comprehensively, through inquiry not only into the mechanisms of the disease but also of the world in which it takes place. It means achieving knowledge of the world. Therefore, we are looking ahead to new goals that may allow our collective creativity to increase its scope.

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ASSJ Welcomes New Members

Elizabeth Stein, Queen's University (Canada)

Upcoming Conferences

- [Association for the Study of Religion, Economics, and Culture](#), Virtual Conference, November 20, 2020
- [Association for Jewish Studies](#), Virtual Conference, December 14-17, 2020
- [Australian Association for Jewish Studies](#), Sydney Jewish Museum, Sydney, Australia, February 28 – March 1 2021
- [Latin American Jewish Studies Association](#), Curacao, June 29 – July 1, 2021
- [Association for the Sociology of Religion](#), Chicago, IL, August 7-9, 2021
- World Union of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, 2021

News from Members

Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut)

Publications

- Book: Arnold Dashefsky and Karen A. Woodrow-Lafield. 2020. *Americans Abroad*, 2nd Edition with a new Introduction by the authors, including Foreword by Steven J. Gold and Postscripts by David J. Graham and Chaim I. Waxman (originally co-authored by Arnold Dashefsky, Jan DeAmicis, Bernard Lazerwitz (z"l), and Ephraim Tabory). Dordrecht, Netherlands: Springer.
- Book: Arnold Dashefsky and Ira M. Sheskin (eds.). In press. *American Jewish Year Book 2019*. Volume 119. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.
- Article: Ira M. Sheskin and Arnold Dashefsky. In press. "United States Jewish Population, 2019." In *American Jewish Year Book 2019*. Volume 119. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

Conferences and Presentations

- Organizer: Association for Jewish Studies, San Diego, CA. Dec. 2019, "Whither the Jewish Vote?" Organized session on behalf of *American Jewish Year Book* and Berman Jewish DataBank.
- Co-Organizer and Co-President with Chad Alan Goldberg: Forthcoming Aug. 2020, American Sociological Association. "Preconference on Sociology of Antisemitism." Organized session on behalf of *American Jewish Year Book*, ASSJ, and Berman Jewish DataBank.

Keren McGinity (Brandeis University)

Publications

- "How #GamAni Inspired the Jewish Community to Look Inward" in *Comparative Perspectives on #MeToo* (Lexington, KY: University of Kentucky Press, forthcoming 2020)
- "Radical Sociocultural Change: The Unfinished Business of the Sexual Revolution," roundtable response to "Continuity Crisis: The History and Sexual Politics of an American Jewish Communal Project" in *American Jewish History*, vol. 104-nos. 1-2 (forthcoming 2020)

Public Speaking

- "Courageous Conversations: Serving Interfaith Families," plenary session, United Synagogues of Conservative Judaism and Rabbinical Assembly Convention, Boston, MA December 9, 2019.
- "Re-envisioning Jewish Inclusion in 2020 and Beyond: How Interfaith Couples and Families Belong, Hebrew College, Newton, MA March 26, 2020.

Teaching

- "Sex, Love, and Marriage in America" (Brandeis, AMST 124b)
- "Faces and Fictions of Inter marriage" (Hebrew College, EDUC 645)
- "Interfaith Families Jewish Engagement Seminar" (Hebrew College, EDUC 643)

News from Members

Kenneth Wald (University of Florida)

Publications

- Diana Forster, Ira M. Sheskin, and **Kenneth D. Wald**. 2020. The Political Consequences of Trauma: Holocaust Exposure and Attachment to Israel among American Jews, *Contemporary Jewry*(in press).

Awards

- 2019 National Book Award in American Jewish Studies for *Foundations of American Jewish Liberalism*

Emma Gonzalez-Lesser (University of Connecticut)

Awards

- Hadassah-Brandeis Research Award 2019-2020
- Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship, University of Connecticut, 2019-2020

Workshops and Presentations

- Formation of New Jewish Communities Graduate Workshop, Brandeis University, 2020
- Invited participant for June 2020 Spertus Institute's Think Tank on Jewish Peoplehood and Collective Identity

Steven J. Gold (Michigan State University)

Book Chapter

- “Liabilities and Benefits Associated with the Involvement of Undocumented Immigrants in Informal Entrepreneurship in the US,” in Ramadani, Veland, Dana, Léo-Paul, Ratten, Vanessa and Bexheti, Abdylmenaf, (eds). *Informal Ethnic Entrepreneurship: Future Research Paradigms for Creating Innovative Business Activity*. Springer ISBN : 978-3-319-99063-7, 2019. [Doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-99064-4_2](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-99064-4_2)

Book Forward

- Forward pp v-vi; Arnold Dashefsky and Karen A. Woodrow-Lafield, *Americans Abroad: A Comparative Study of Emigrants from the United States*. Second Edition, New York, Springer Nature B.V. 2020.

Harriet Hartman (Rowan University)

Publications

- Harriet Hartman and Ira Sheskin. *Gay Jewish Households in the United States*. Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia (2020).
- The 2019 Sklare Address: How Gender and Family Still Matter for Contemporary Jewry, Harriet Hartman *Contemporary Jewry* Springer Online First (2020).

Awards

- 2019 College of Humanities and Social Sciences Senior Faculty Research Excellence Award, Rowan University.

News from Members

Sarah Bunin Benor (Hebrew Union College -Jewish Institute of Religion)

Publications

- [Hebrew Infusion: Language and Community at American Jewish Summer Camps](#), co-authored with Jonathan Krasner and Sharon Avni
- “Hebrew Education in Part-Time Jewish Schools: Rationales, Goals, and Practices,” will be available soon on the CASJE website. (with Netta Avineri and Nicki Greninger)
- Benor, Sarah Bunin. Forthcoming. “Jewish Englishes in the United States and Beyond: An Ethnolinguistic Repertoire Approach.” In *World Englishes*. Theresa Heyd and Britta Schneider, eds. London: Bloomsbury Press.
- Benor, Sarah Bunin, and Netta Avineri. Forthcoming. “Hebrew and Yiddish in Los Angeles.” In *Multilingual La La Land*. Claire Chik and Maria Carreira, eds. New York: Routledge.
- Benor, Sarah Bunin. Forthcoming. Review of *Synoptic Dictionary of the Hebrew Component in Jewish Languages*, 2nd Edition, Aharon Maman, Magnes Press, 2019. *Journal of Jewish Languages* 8.

General-audience projects

- [Passover in Jewish Languages](#), online exhibit
- “[Jewish Languages and Names](#),” series of six webinars. Jewish Language
- “[Endangered Iranian Jewish Language Documentation Project](#)” (in progress)
- Benor, Sarah Bunin. 2020. “[Camp is Not Cancelled; It Has Moved Online Jewish Summer Camps Should Announce Online Programming Now, and Funders Should Help](#).” eJewishPhilanthropy, May 8, 2020.
- Benor, Sarah Bunin. 2020. “[How to Host a Socially Distanced, International Passover Seder](#).” Forward.
- Benor, Sarah Bunin. 2020. “[Passover Around the World: A Haggadah Supplement from the Jewish Language Project](#).” Jewish Language Website.
- Benor, Sarah Bunin. 2020. “[Born Before Suffrage, These Women are Still Waiting to Elect a Female President](#).” I Waited 96 Years.
- Benor, Sarah Bunin. 2020. “[How Many Speakers Are There? Ethnologue Statistics on Jewish Language Vitality](#).” Jewish Language Website.

Dikla Yogev (University of Toronto)

Teaching

- Israel Society (summer 2020)

Presentations

- “Police Legitimation Among the Haredim in Israel”. Schwartz-Reisman Graduate Student Conference in Jewish Studies, University of Toronto (April 2020)

Op-Eds

- Op-ed article: [\(Not so\) Orthodox about Covid-19: A Tale of Missing Haredi Leadership in Israel](#)
- Op-ed article: [Jerusalem Extremists and the double failure of enforcement](#)

News from Members

Ira M. Sheskin (University of Miami)

Publications

- Arnold Dashefsky & Ira Sheskin. (eds.) *American Jewish Year Book, 2019* (Cham, SUI: Springer) (in press).
- Ira Sheskin. When Sociology Meets Geography: Spatial Variations in Jewish Family Types, *Contemporary Jewry* (forthcoming 2020).
- Ira Sheskin & Arnold Dashefsky. 2019. United States Jewish Population, 2018, in Arnold Dashefsky & Ira Sheskin. (eds.) *American Jewish Year Book, 2019*, 119 (Cham, SUI: Springer) (in press).
- Diana Forster, Ira M. Sheskin, and Kenneth D. Wald. 2020. The Political Consequences of Trauma: Holocaust Exposure and Attachment to Israel among American Jews, *Contemporary Jewry* (in press).
- Ira Sheskin & Harriet Hartman. 2019. A Profile of LGBT Jewish Households, *G'vanim: The Journal of the Academy for Jewish Religion* 10: 68-93.
- David Dutwin, Cameron McPhee, Ira Sheskin, Mickey Jackson, Pearl Beck, Mark Schulman. 2019. *Jewish Community Study of New York, Pilot Report*.

Presentations

- Ira M. Sheskin. Florida's Jewish Community Could Make the Difference in the 2020 Election, FSG (2020).
- Harriet Hartman and Ira Sheskin. Gay Jewish Households in the United States. Eastern Sociological Society, Philadelphia (2020).
- Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz and Ira Sheskin. The State of Jewish Communal Cohesion: Examining the Relationship between Social Class and Feeling Part of the Jewish Community, AJS, San Diego (2019).
- Ira M. Sheskin. Adding a Geographic Perspective to the Study of the Jewish Family, AJS, San Diego (2019).
- Ira M. Sheskin. Whither the Jewish Vote: How Geography Makes a Difference, AJS, San Diego (2019).

Randal Schnoor (Koschitzky Centre for Jewish Studies - York University)

Publications

- *Forthcoming, 2021*. "Jewish Education in Canada and the United Kingdom: A Comparative Perspective" in David Koffman's (ed.) *No Better Home? Jews, Canada and the Sense of Belonging* (University of Toronto Press)
- "[Bringing Jews and Muslims Together at York University](#)" Op-Ed in the *Toronto Star*, December 23, 2019.

Presentations and Conferences

- Invited Respondent for session on "Misconstrued Millennials: Empirical Assessments of a Disparaged Generation" Presented at the *Association for Jewish Studies* Conference, San Diego. December 16, 2019.

News from Members

Roberta Rosenthal Kwall (DePaul University College of Law)

Book

- Remix Judaism: Preserving Tradition in a Diverse World (Rowman & Littlefield) was published in February 2020. <https://amzn.to/2kY8gFo>

Op-eds

- [Disruptive Innovation When it Comes to Prayer](#), The Jewish Week, December, 2019
- [Revisiting the Misheberaich and Debbie Friedman's Spiritual Legacy](#), The Jewish Journal, January, 2020
- [The Power of Purim to Bind Families](#), The Jewish Week, March, 2020
- [Celebrating Religion is for All Faiths](#), The Jewish Journal, May, 2020
- [Fostering Meaningful Connection to Jewish Tradition Cannot Be Sidelined](#), eJewish Philanthropy, May, 2020
- [Disagreement Can be the Basis of Jewish Unity Even During a Pandemic](#), JPost, May, 2020
- [Making Traditions Work for You Isn't a Contingency Plan-Its the Authentic Jewish Way](#), JTA, June 2020
- [A Remixed Yahrzeit Two Years in a Row](#), Paper Brigade (Jewish Book Council), July, 2020

Amir Segal

Conferences

- "Employment in the process of migration and absorption of Jewish migrants from United states to Israel" paper presented at the 51st annual Israeli Sociological Association, March 2020, Israel.
- Segal, A.A. "Employment in the process of migration and absorption of Jewish migrants from United states to Israel". Hagira - Israel Journal of Migration (10): 120-140.

Awards

- Recipient of the Rachel Negev Poetry award from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in 2020. (awarded during April 2020 for my poetry book "The End of the Twentieth Century").
- Recipient of the Shaine Center scholarship for Research in the Social for the year 2020.

Op-eds

- "The Jewish-Arab project is larger than just a party" [Sicha M'komit](#) - "the next political project in Israel needs to be a Jewish-Arab party" that serves as a spearhead of a broader Jewish-Arab political movement, designed to create a fundamentally new discourse in Israel. Such a party is needed because Arab representation in Meretz has been important but insufficient, and the same goes for Jewish representation in Hadash, now part of the Joint List.

Members in the News

Keren McGinity (Brandeis University)

- [Jewish Telegraphic Agency](#), April 29, 2020

Randal Schnoor (Koschitzky Centre for Jewish Studies - York University)

- Interviewed and quoted in “Two Universities React as Antisemitism Steps Out of the Shadows” (Sarah Ogince) *Lubavitch International*, Spring 2020.
- **New Books Network** – Podcast where I was interviewed on recent book publication “Jewish Family: Identity and Self-Formation at Home, February 17, 2020. Co-authored with Alex Pomson. <https://newbooksnetwork.com/randal-schnoor-jewish-family-identity-and-self-formation-at-home-indiana-up-2018/>
- Featured Guest on Podcast **from CHAI.FM Radio in Johannesburg, South Africa** (HOD Hour with Stan Klaff) discussing topic of South African Jews in Canada. July 18, 2019.

Roberta Rosenthal Kwall (DePaul University College of Law)

- Roberta Kwall was interviewed by Rabbi Nolan Lebovitz (Adat Shalom, Los Angeles) as a guest on [The Rabbi's Neighborhood](#).

Cohen Center Brandeis University

- Saxe, L. & Krasner Aronson, J. (May 10, 2020) [Understanding the Present to Plan the Jewish Future](#). eJewishPhilanthropy.
- Sales, Amy L. & Samuel, N. (May 3, 2020). [Jewish Retreating in the Age of COVID-19: Paradox or Possibility?](#) eJewishPhilanthropy.
- Saxe, L. (February 2, 2020). [Birthright's Measurable Impact: More American Jews](#). *Times of Israel*.

ASSJ BOOK SERIES

ASSJ Book Series Update

The ASSJ Book Series, [Studies of Jews in Society](#), has moved from the University of Nebraska Press (to [Springer Publications](#)).

Focused on social scientific studies of Jewry, the series takes a broad perspective on “social science”, to include anthropology, communications, demography, economics, education, ethnography, geography, history, politics, population, social psychology, and sociology. Books may rely on quantitative methods, qualitative methods, or both. The series is directed to social scientists and general scholars in Jewish studies as well as those generally interested in religion and ethnicity; academics who teach Jewish studies; undergraduates and graduate students in Jewish studies, sociologists interested in religion and ethnicity; communal professionals and lay leaders who deal with Jewish organizations and individuals. The style, rigorous scientifically, is accessible to a general audience.

A new book, **Jews at Work: Their Economic Progress in the American Labor Market**, by Barry Chiswick is now available and may be ordered from the Springer web site. The book is an edited set of research papers that addresses and documents the high level of achievement of Jews as a whole in the United States labor market particularly over the past 160 years, and provides insights into the reasons for their success. It will do this primarily by analyzing large data sets where Jews living in the US can be identified, sometimes directly and more often using indirect techniques. It documents that Jews, as a group, have achieved a high level of educational attainment, occupational status, and earnings or income in spite of their past immigrant status and in spite of the discrimination they sometimes faced in seeking education and in employment and promotion.

Jewish Population and Identity: Challenges and Trends, edited by Sergio DellaPergola and Uzi Rebhun, was published in early 2018 and can be ordered from the Springer Web Site which gives further details about the series. Several exciting new books are in the pipeline including one about intermarriage, one about Jewish identity and another about Jews at Work. They will be announced when they are published and available through the Springer Website, noted above.

The first four titles: Helen Kiyong Kim and Noah Samuel Leavitt, **JewAsian: Race, Religion, and Identity for America's Newest Jews**; Yael Raviv, **Falafel Nation: Cuisine and the Making of National Identity in Israel**; Rebeca Raijman, **South African Jews in Israel: Assimilation in Multigenerational Perspective**; and Fran Markowitz, Stephen Sharot, and Moshe Shokeid (eds.), **Toward an Anthropology of Nation Building and Unbuilding in Israel**, are still available from the University of Nebraska Press web site though the site says “We are no longer accepting submissions for this series.”

Springer offers a 40% discount to registered members of the ASSJ, making the series more competitive in price than most commercial publishers. The coupon code for the latest book is SOJS2018. The members can add the code to the coupon/token field in the shopping cart. The amount will then be reduced by 40%. There are only 150 coupons, corresponding to the approximate number of ASSJ members. Please don't cheat as this will deprive other members of their discounts!

Scholars are urged to contact the series editor, Charles Kadushin (kadushin@brandeis.edu) or any of the board members listed on the Web Site with ideas about book projects.

CONTEMPORARY JEWRY

Contemporary Jewry, the journal of the ASSJ since 1975, serves as the single source for the social scientific consideration of world Jewry, its institutions, trends, character, and concerns. In its pages can be found work by leading scholars and important new researchers from around the world. While much relevant scholarship about Jewry is published in general social science journals, as well as more narrowly focused periodicals, no other single scholarly journal focuses primarily on the social scientific study of Jewry. The distinguished editorial board reflects the multi-disciplinary nature of the journal.

TOC: Contemporary Jewry, Volume 40, Number 1

- Harriet Hartman, Editor's Introduction
- Tribute to Menachem Friedman z'l
- Tributes to William Helmreich z'l

SPECIAL ISSUE: Judaism in Comparative Perspective

Contemporary Jewry 40 (1) is pleased to present a special issue on "Judaism in Comparative Perspective". The issue features reviews and expositions in dialogue with the work of Alon Goshen-Gottstein, in the areas of interfaith academic collaboration and Jewish Theology of Religions.

- [Judaism and Interreligious Co-evolution: A Retrospective Reading](#), Alon Goshen-Gottstein
- [Religious Genius: Appreciating Inspiring Individuals across Traditions](#), Meir Sendor
- [Sharing Wisdom: Benefits and Boundaries of Interreligious Learning](#), Jerome Gellman
- [The Future of Religious Leadership: World Religions in Conversation](#), Hanoch Ben-Pazi
- [Reflections on the Religious Other from Modern Jewish Philosophy](#), Steven Kepnes
- Luther the Anti-Semite: A Contemporary Jewish Perspective, Reuven Kimelman
- The Crisis of the Holy: Challenges and Transformations in World Religions, Shlomo Fischer

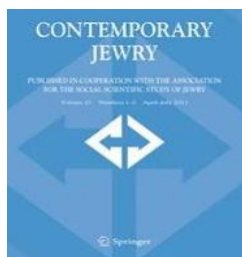
RESEARCH UPDATES

- Research from Academic Institutes, Helen K. Kim,

BOOK REVIEWS

- Wald, Kenneth D.: *The Foundations of American Jewish Liberalism*, Cambridge University Press, 2019, Price: \$29.99, 270 pp Weisberg, Herbert F.: *The Politics of American Jews*, University of Michigan Press, 2019, Price: \$80.00, 296 pp, Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz

CONTEMPORARY JEWRY



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Brandeis University dparmer@brandeis.edu

Research Editor: Helen Kim, Sociology, Whitman College,

kimh2@whitman.edu

Online First Articles (awaiting print publication):

- The 2019 Sklare Address: How Gender and Family Still Matter for Contemporary Jewry, Harriet Hartman
- SBF Response to Harriet Hartman Sklare Award Address, Sylvia Barack Fishman
- Gender, Family and Theory Matter in Contemporary Jewry: Response to Harriet Hartman's Sklare Award Address, Judit Bokser Liwerant
- Jewish Theocracy at the Biblical Barbeque: The Role of Third Temple Activism and Sacrificial Reenactments in Shaping Self and State, Rachel Z. Feldman
- Jews, Jewish Institutions, and the Construction of Identity in Changing American Cities and Urban Neighborhoods, Stuart Schoenfeld
- Israelization and Lived Religion: Conflicting Accounts of Contemporary Judaism, Adam S. Ferziger
- The Political Consequences of Trauma: Holocaust Exposure and Emotional Attachment to Israel Among American Jews, Diana Forster, Ira M. Sheskin, Kenneth D. Wald
- Qualifying the Leading Theory of Diaspora Jewry: An Examination of Jews from the Former Soviet Union in Canada and the United States, Robert Brym, Anna Slavina, Rhonda Lenton

CFP: COVID-19 and Contemporary Jewry

Contemporary Jewry is soliciting manuscripts for a special issue devoted to the COVID-19 experience and contemporary Jewry. Regular length manuscripts (~9,000 words) as well as shorter articles are welcome. Papers should deal with research addressing some aspect of the COVID-19 experience as related to Jews or Judaism. International submissions welcome.

Abstracts of 150-200 are welcome by August 1 or asap; full manuscripts should be submitted by October 1, 2020. Manuscripts should be submitted to the online editorial manager with the designation "S.I.: COVID19".

For details on the submission process, please see

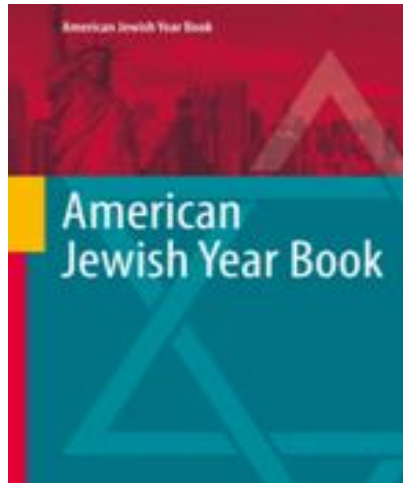
https://www.springer.com/social+sciences/sociology/journal/12397?detailsPage=pltc_1060550

Address all inquiries to: Harriet Hartman, editor-in-chief of *Contemporary Jewry*, hartman@rowan.edu

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American Jewish Year Book

VOLUME 119

Series Editors:

Arnold Dashefsky, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT, USA
Ira M. Sheskin, University of Miami, Coral Gables, FL, USA

Produced under the Academic Auspices of:

The Center for Judaic Studies
and Contemporary Jewish Life
University of Connecticut
and

The Jewish Demography Project
at The Sue and Leonard Miller Center
for Contemporary Judaic Studies, University of Miami

Contents of the 2019 *American Jewish Year Book* (AJYB)

The 2019 *AJYB* features two chapters ● "Jews in the United States and Israel: A Comparative Look upon Israel's 70th Anniversary" (Uzi Rebhun, Nadia Beider, and Chaim I. Waxman) and ● "The Presidential Voting of American Jews" (Herbert F. Weisberg).

The volume also contains five standard articles: ● "American Jews and the Domestic Arena" (J. J. Goldberg); ● "American Jews and the International Arena" (Mitchell Bard); ● "United States Jewish Population, 2019" (Ira M. Sheskin and Arnold Dashefsky); ● "Canadian Jewish Population, 2019" (Charles Shahrar); and ● "World Jewish Population, 2019" (Sergio DellaPergola). Also included is the executive summary of the "2018 Survey of Jews in Canada" (Robert Brym, Keith Neuman, and Rhonda Lenton).

In addition, the volume contains current listings of: ● local Jewish Federations, JCCs, Jewish social service agencies, and local Jewish periodicals; ● national Jewish organizations, Jewish overnight camps, Jewish museums, Holocaust museums, Israeli consulates, and national Jewish media; ● Jewish studies, Holocaust and Genocide studies, Israel studies, and Jewish social work programs at institutions of higher learning; and ● books, journals, scholarly articles, websites, and major Judaic and Holocaust libraries for research on North American Jews. Finally, the volume contains a list of major events in North American Jewish communities, a list of persons honored by the Jewish and general communities, and obituaries.

The AJYB Has Significant Impact

According to Springer, for the 2012-2017 volumes, 30,000 chapters were downloaded from the Springer website. In addition, Google reports over 310,000 citations; Google Scholar reports 6,700 citations in the scientific literature; and Wikipedia has 420 citations of the *AJYB*.

History of the AJYB

Since 1899, the AJYB, at various times published by the Jewish Publication Society and the American Jewish Committee, has been "The Annual Record of the North American Jewish Communities." This volume, now published by Springer, has been regarded as a very important and prestigious publication because it has acted as a major resource for academic researchers, practitioners and researchers at Jewish institutions and organizations; the media, both Jewish and general; education leaders and lay persons; and libraries, particularly University and Jewish libraries, for up-to-date information about the North American Jewish communities.

The current volume is generously supported by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life, both at the University of Connecticut, as well as by the College of Arts and Sciences, the Sue and Leonard Miller Center for Contemporary Judaic Studies, and the Fain Family Endowed Chair in Judaic Studies at the University of Miami, along with the Mandell and Madeleine Berman Foundation.

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<http://www.contemporaryjewry.org/index.php/news/ajyb>

All orders must be submitted by our office to Springer Publishers approximately one week after the bulk order deadline date. Distribution by the publisher will be made during fall 2020.

For questions: please contact the Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life at the University of Connecticut: judaicstudies@uconn.edu.

Note: The editors receive no royalties from book sales.



Research team

Dr Jonathan Boyd (Executive Director)
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 Brigitta Horlup (Research Fellow)
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 Professor Sergio DellaPergola (Trustee, Senior Research Adviser and Chairman of the European Jewish Demography Unit)
 Professor Jonathan Haskel CBE (Trustee and Senior Research Adviser)
 Professor Stephen H. Miller OBE (Senior Research Adviser)

Institute reports and papers

- Boyd, J. (2019). *Young Jewish Europeans: perceptions and experiences of antisemitism*. Institute for Jewish Policy Research/European Commission/European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights
- Staetsky, D. and DellaPergola, S. (2019). *Why European Jewish Demography: A foundation paper*. London: Institute for Jewish Policy Research.
- Graham, D. (2020). *The Jews of South Africa in 2019: Identity, community, society, demography*. London and Cape Town: Institute for Jewish Policy Research and Kaplan Centre for Jewish Studies
- Staetsky, D. and DellaPergola, S. (2020). *Jews in Austria: a demographic and social portrait*. London: Institute for Jewish Policy Research.
- Boyd, J., Lessof, C. and Staetsky, D. 'ONS report on COVID-19 mortality rates among religious groups: JPR response.' JPR paper, June 2020.
- Staetsky, D. 'Jews and coronavirus in England and Wales.' JPR paper, July 2020.

Major projects

- **European Jewish Demography Unit:** JPR opened its new European Jewish Demography Unit in January 2019, that is now working to generate up-to-date demographic data about European Jewish populations.
- **UK Jewish Research Panel:** This ground-breaking initiative to establish a working panel of Jews across the UK in order to facilitate regular quantitative attitudinal surveys of the UK Jewish population is now operational. The first study focused on the impact of COVID-19 on British Jews – in terms of their health, finances and jobs, relationships and Jewish lives, and the results will be rolled out in the autumn.
- **European Jewish research Archive:** The archive can be accessed at www.jpr.org.uk/archive
- **European Jewish Research Archive**
Work continues on our publicly available online archive for research publications on contemporary European communities.

Published newspaper articles

- Boyd, J. 'It's not who we are that kills, it's where we live,' *Jewish Chronicle*, May 2020
- Staetsky, D. 'Was Lenin Jewish?' *Times of Israel*, April 2020
- Boyd, J. 'Coronavirus could destroy our community,' *Jewish Chronicle*, April 2020
- Staetsky, D. 'Jews and coronavirus,' *Times of Israel*, March 2020
- Boyd, J. 'Coronavirus: Are Jews dying disproportionately after contracting COVID-19?' *Jewish Chronicle*, March 2020
- Staetsky, D. 'Israel's Jewish population: notes on a scandal,' *Times of Israel*, February 2020
- Boyd, J. 'How many Holocaust survivors remain?' *Jewish Chronicle*, February 2020
- Boyd, J. 'Time to look beyond here,' *Jewish Chronicle*, January 2020
- Staetsky, D. 'Jewishness: written into the body,' *Times of Israel*, September 2019
- Boyd, J. 'Nine places where a Jewish vote could count,' *Jewish Chronicle*, December 2019
- Boyd, J. 'What future for the traumatised Jews of Halle?' *Jewish Chronicle*, November 2019
- Boyd, J. 'Taking back control from God has not worked,' *Jewish Chronicle*, October 2019
- Staetsky, D. 'The numerical adventures of Yom Kippur,' *Times of Israel*, October 2019
- Staetsky, D. 'The triumph and drama of the Israeli right,' *Times of Israel*, September 2019
- Staetsky, D. 'How British Jews vote and why they vote this way,' *Times of Israel*, September 2019
- Boyd, J. 'Huddling together feels safer – but is it wise?' *Jewish Chronicle*, August 2019
- Boyd, J. 'It's getting harder to connect kids to Israel,' *Jewish Chronicle*, July 2019
- Boyd, J. 'Why should we hide the signs of our Jewish identity?' *Jewish Chronicle*, June 2019
- Boyd, J. 'You can help us find out the impact of Covid-19,' *Jewish Chronicle*, July 2020
- Boyd, J. 'Identity politics must not distort real figures,' *Jewish Chronicle*, June 2020

Journal articles

- Staetsky, L. Daniel. 2019. 'Stalling fertility decline of Israeli Muslims and the demographic transition theory.' *Population Studies* 79 (3): 317-333.
- Hargreaves, J. and Staetsky, L.D. 2019. 'Antisemitism and Islamophobia: measuring everyday sensitivity in the UK.' *Ethnic and Racial Studies*, DOI: [10.1080/01419870.2019.1682177](https://doi.org/10.1080/01419870.2019.1682177).
- Staetsky, L. D. 2019. 'Global Levels, Trends, and Correlates of Antisemitic Attitudes Through the Prism of Modernisation Theory: Insights from the Pew Research Center and World Values Surveys.' *Journal of Contemporary Antisemitism* 2 (1).



DataBank staff

Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz, Director

Ron Miller, Senior Academic Consultant

Arnold Dashefsky, Director Emeritus and Senior Academic Consultant

Contact: info@jewishdatabank.org

New holdings at the DataBank

The DataBank has added the following studies to its collection:

U.S. Local Studies:

- [2018-19 Greater Denver Jewish Community Study](#) (Rose Community Foundation, Sturm Family Foundation, and Jay & Rose Phillips Family Foundation of Colorado)
- [2019 Cincinnati Jewish Community Study](#) (Jewish Federation of Cincinnati and Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati)
- [2008 Demographic Snapshot of the Kansas City Jewish Community](#) (Jewish Federation of Greater Kansas City)

U.S. Topical Studies

- [Unlocking the Future of Jewish Engagement](#) (Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, Genesis Philanthropy Group, Jim Joseph Foundation, and Maimonides Fund)
- [Connecting the Dots: American Jews and Civic Engagement](#) (Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation and Lippman Kanfer Foundation for Living Torah)
- [Jewish Grandparents Survey](#) (Jewish Grandparents Network)
- [2020 Political Poll of the American Jewish Orthodox Community](#) (Nishma Research)
- [What Americans Know about the Holocaust](#) (Pew Research Center)

Global Studies

- [2019 Analysis of Anti-Semitism in France](#) (AJC Paris)

American Jewish Year Book

The 2019 edition of the *American Jewish Year Book* [is available now for pre-order](#) and is being offered at special rate (until August 15) to selected professionals and volunteers, including:

Jewish Federation professionals and volunteer leaders

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American Jewish Historical Society (AJHS) members

Berman Jewish Databank (cont.)

Published since 1899, the AJYB serves as the annual review and record of North American Jewish communities and is a significant resource for communal leaders, academics, the media and others. For more information about the AJYB and to order the 2019 edition, please [click here](#).

Marshall Sklare Award

We are excited to share the news that [Arnold Dashefsky](#), the DataBank's Director Emeritus and Senior Academic Consultant, will receive the 2020 Marshall Sklare Award from the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry, along with Chaim Waxman. Given annually to a senior scholar in the field, the Sklare Award recognizes significant scholarly contribution to the social scientific study of Jewry, primarily through the publication of a body of research in books and articles or of published work related to public policy.

Dashefsky was the Director of the North American Jewish Data Bank from 2004-2013 when it was located at the University of Connecticut, and he remains Konover Chair of Judaic Studies and Professor of Sociology Emeritus at UConn. He will jointly share this year's Sklare Award with Chaim Waxman, Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Jewish Studies at Rutgers University and Chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences at Hadassah Academic College in Jerusalem.

Building Resilient Jewish Communities study

The DataBank is pleased to be supporting the [Building Resilient Jewish Communities](#) (BRJC) project at the Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies/Steinhardt Social Research Institute at Brandeis University. The project, which involves surveys in multiple Jewish communities across the United States, is designed to understand the experience of Jewish households during the coronavirus pandemic and to help Jewish organizations meet individual and household needs related to the crisis. More detailed information is available [here](#).

The [Berman Jewish DataBank @ The Jewish Federations of North America](#) is the central online address for quantitative studies of North American Jewry and information about world Jewish populations. We proudly collaborate with the [Berman Jewish Policy Archive @ Stanford](#) and the [Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life at the University of Connecticut](#) in offering open access to more than 400 national, local and topical studies, reports, and resources. The DataBank is funded through a generous endowment from the [Mandell and Madeleine Berman Foundation](#). We extend our gratitude to commissioning organizations, researchers and others whose cooperation in providing materials makes our work possible.

Maurice & Marilyn Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies

Winter/Spring Publications 2020

Maurice and Marilyn Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies and Steinhardt Social Research Institute at Brandeis University

Authors and ASSJ members cited below:

Leonard Saxe, Director CMJS/SSRI, Klutznick Professor of Contemporary Jewish Studies
 Harry Aaronson, Research Specialist
 Matthew Boxer, Assistant Research Professor
 Matthew A. Brookner, Graduate Research Associate
 Eliana Chapman, Research Associate
 Fern Chertok, Research Scientist
 Matthew Feinberg, Senior Research Associate
 Shahar Hecht, Senior Research Associate
 Janet Krasner Aronson, Associate Director CMJS
 Raquel Magidin de Kramer, Associate Research Scientist
 Daniel Mangoubi, Research Specialist
 Rachel Minkin, Former Associate Research Scientist
 Graham Wright, Associate Research Scientist

Institute Reports

- Boxer, M., Brookner, M.A., Chapman, E., Aaronson, H., Mangoubi, D., Krasner Aronson, J., & Saxe, L. (May 2020). *2020 Baltimore Jewish Community Study*. Waltham, MA: Steinhardt Social Research Institute, Brandeis University.
- Boxer, M., Brookner, M.A., Chapman, E., Aaronson, H., Mangoubi, D., Feinberg, M., Krasner Aronson, J., & Saxe, L. (March 2020). *2019 Howard County Jewish Community Study*. Waltham, MA: Steinhardt Social Research Institute, Brandeis University.
- Chertok, F., Brookner, M.A., & Minkin, R. (November 2019). *Points of Entry: Interfaith Families in Pittsburgh*. Waltham, MA: Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies, Brandeis University.
- Chertok, F., Minkin, R., & Brookner, M.A. (March 2020). *All in Her Day's Work: Women from Atlanta's Jewish Households in the Workplace*. Waltham, MA: Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies, Brandeis University.
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- Minkin, R. & Chertok, F. (March 2020). *The Summer Institute for Israel Studies: 2019 Annual Survey*. Waltham, MA: Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies, Brandeis University.
- Sales, A.L. & Samuel, N. (January 2020). *Advancing Jewish Retreating*. Waltham, MA: Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies, Brandeis University.
- Samuel, N. & Chapman, E. (March 2020). *Early Career, Enduring Impact: Jewish Campus Service Corps Alumni Career Development*. Waltham, MA: Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies, Brandeis University.

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To register for this event please follow this link:

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Registration for this event is required.

Zoom information will be sent out to all registrants on
Thursday, May 21.

Co-sponsored by the Baruch College's Wasserman Jewish Studies Center, the Graduate
Center's Center for Jewish Studies, and Queens College Center for Jewish Studies.



AAJS 2021 Conference Call for Papers

Jews As Active Citizens – Past and Present

National Jewish Memorial Centre,
National Circuit, Canberra, ACT

Sunday 28 February and Monday 1 March 2021

Convenors: **Professor Kim Rubenstein, University of Canberra and Sarah Charak,
University of Sydney**

The 2021 national meeting of the Australian Association of Jewish Studies will be held (subject to the way conference meetings may change over the next year!) in Australia's national capital – a central meeting place of democratic participation. Drawing inspiration from its setting, this conference seeks to interrogate the notion of “active citizenship” as it relates to Jews and Jewish community. How have Jews participated in, and even constructed, political and communal life, across history and across disparate societies and cultures? To what extent is/was Jewish identity relevant to these political contributions? Are Jews socialised or empowered to be “active citizens” today? Where does active citizenship occur – is it publicly performed in synagogues or parliaments, or are activities in the private sphere also fundamental to the growth and sustainability of society and citizens? And how do categories of race, class and gender affect the answers to these questions?

Beyond these questions of *substantive* citizenship, the conference also draws on scholarship which has examined the mutability of Jewishness as it relates to *formal* citizenship status: the complications of Jewish membership status and belonging across times and cultures; the extension of formal citizenship to (sections of) European and Western Jewry only in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries; the representation of Jews as the “other” against which modern European citizenship was constructed; and recent debates around the ambiguous place of Jews in the white/non-white binary and racial politics of white settler colonial nations.

We invite proposals for papers relating to current research in this broad area, including:

- Politics and community in the Bible;
- Debates around political participation in Talmudic and Halakhic literature, including the concept of *dina d'malchuta dina*, following the law of the land;
- Legal scholarship on active citizenship today;
- Biographical studies of Jewish “active citizens”;
- Global or national perspectives on the formal status of Jews as citizens, non-citizens, or a transitional category in the diaspora;
- Communal boundary drawing and changing notions of membership within Jewish communities;
- Gender and political participation;
- Antisemitism, anti-Zionism and Jewish identity;
- Citizenship and nationality in modern Israel
- Papers on other Judaic topics will be considered, but preference will be given to those bearing directly on the conference theme.

The deadline for proposals is June 30, 2020. Submissions should include an abstract of no more than 250 words, and a short biographical note, no longer than 50 words. Postgraduate students are encouraged to apply. Presenters are also invited to submit written articles for consideration for publication in the Australian Journal for Jewish Studies. Presenters at the conference must be current AAJS members for 2019 (membership can be paid as part of the conference registration fee). For queries, and to submit proposals please contact: Professor Kim Rubenstein at Kim.Rubenstein@canberra.edu.au with the subject line:

2021 AAJS Submission

Fellowship Opportunity

Jews and the Law

Year 1: Rethinking Premodern Jewish Legal Cultures

2021–2022 Fellowship Theme

Application Deadline: October 12, 2020

[The Herbert D. Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies at the University of Pennsylvania](#) is pleased to open a call for applications for the first of two successive fellowship years devoted to Jews and the law.

Jews have been closely associated with law since antiquity, developing a rich and complex legal tradition and participating variously in the legal cultures of the societies in which they have lived. Several leading universities are now home to centers for Jewish law, ancient to contemporary in focus, and the topic is drawing scholarly interest from well beyond the field of legal studies, including research in history, literature, philosophy, political theory, and gender studies, among others. The Katz Center is pleased to contribute to this growing and expansive topic over the course of two consecutive fellowship years devoted to exploring the connections between Jewish studies and legal thought, culture, and practice. During the first year of this cycle, the 2021–22 academic year, the Center seeks to support scholars working on law as a dynamic feature of Jewish culture in *premodern* contexts, spanning from antiquity to the eighteenth century.

The Katz Center invites applications that propose the study or framing of Jewish law or legal thinking within relevant historical contexts; that explore the relationship between law and other aspects of society or culture; that attend to questions of form, genre, and rhetoric; that investigate the institutions, practices, and actors that enact law; or that address related topics such as governance and/or crime. The vision for the year is of a fellowship community that advances an interdisciplinary and multi-dimensional approach to law and that bridges between Jewish law and other legal cultures.

Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry

The Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry is a cross-disciplinary organization whose research concerns the Jewish people throughout the world. The ASSJ encourages and facilitates contact among researchers, supports the dissemination of research, and assists in the cultivation of younger scholars. The organization's journal, *Contemporary Jewry*, is issued three times per year. All social science disciplines are represented, including anthropology, demography, economics, geography, history, Jewish education, political science, social psychology, social work, and sociology. Our members are primarily academics, but also policy analysts, communal professionals and activists, and are engaged in a wide range of scholarly activity, applied research, and the links between them. (www.assj.org)

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