ASSOCIATION FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF JEWRY

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LAURA LIMONIC, EDITOR

SUNY COLLEGE AT OLD WESTBURY

President's Message Judit Bokser Liwerant



Let me start this message by wishing you all a healthy, creative and productive time amidst the difficulties we are through. Indeed, we face a constellation of crises, overlaid and overlapping, that seemingly brings together all the dimensions and levels that can converge in it—a global, systemic crisis. A sanitary crisis—a pandemic brought about by the mutations of the menacing virus spreading across national and regional borders—, an economic crisis—given the already significant displays of contraction and unemployment and the prognosis of ongoing worldwide recession—, a national and international political crisis—as expressed in the redefinition of the playing rules between institutional codes and populist leaderships—, a social crisis—having rendered manifest the inequalities of its reception, impact, and possible consequences—and certainly also an individual crisis, as a direct experience of the isolation norms in which, without the Other, we seek safety... a new subjectivity.

In these challenging times, social sciences are called upon to reinforce their explanatory and comprehensive analytical skills through current and new creative cycles that may offer better explanations and a deeper understanding of the contemporary multifaceted Jewish world. Its unique social and communal configurations, associational and institutional designs and cultural models are shaped and displayed through continuity, variability, and change. It is also an increasingly interconnected world in which complex interrelations and circulation systems have developed on different planes—global, regional, national, and local. Collective life finds constraints imposed on the spatiality of Jewish sociability, and new ways of responding are sought. The individualism-communitarianism dyad draws from political theory, social thought, and public conversation, searching for new cultural and conceptual synthesis horizons. The associational underpinning of gregarious life is a substantive part of it.

Therefore, the need to amass efforts to understand the present and study the possible future scenarios must serve as cornerstone and stimulus to our task. The present complexity and uncertainty of our social structures validate the pertinence of our sciences. We, who research and ponder the Jewish social

world—its material and conceptual diversity through disciplinary convergences and divergences—must now explain, comprehend, interpret, and orient courses of action that vindicate the place of reason and imagination in a world whose unpredictability and contradictions require scientific knowledge. We progressively face the need for explanation and prognosis, though both moments are grounded in different logic and goals.

My conviction is that in our cognitive and existential horizons, the coronavirus's quick spreading and unequal social impact within and between countries and communities, as well as the deaths it entails, have resulted in the need to rethink the human and social capacity to build the common good. Epochal events call for it. It is an assumption that guides our specific specialized themes and research projects.

I am honored to be heading our Association and convinced that this challenging endeavor calls for our joint efforts to continue enriching it as a sphere of encounters that stimulates us to express, interact and collaborate amidst our disciplinary, theoretical, and methodological diversity. If we collectively formulate goals and actively fulfill them, our shared efforts will increase our achievements.

The virtuality of the current reality allows us to intensify and expand the scope of activities. Such opportunities include developing an attractive platform for round tables, conferences, dialogues, and debates; supporting our excellent printed products—*Contemporary Jewry*, headed by Harriet Hartman, or the *Jews in Modern Societies* book series, led by Charles Kadushin—; strengthening our *ASSJ Newsletter*, of which Laura Limonic has been in charge, and expanding our website.

Among the goals Len Saxe and I defined during the last two years, supporting the work of young scholars had a special place. For that purpose, we articulated a Small Grants Program to back research, as announced in our call for candidates. The grants are designed to encourage recent PhD and graduate students to initiate a program of research or complete an existing study. Together with Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz, our new vice-president, and Matt Boxer, our treasurer, the four of us organized and evaluated the submissions. Its result was already shared with you. We look forward to a new call.

We aim to enhance transnational, transdisciplinary and transgenerational dialogues that bring to its full sense the global character of the Jewish world. Collaborating with other associations and academic groups is part of our goals. I would like to invite you to bring our academic units and professional Association to interact with us and, consequently, widen the opportunities to increase our membership and grow stronger. This has been a sustained purpose for us, and I seek to renew our will to achieve it. With AJS, we are already committed to finding the best ways to intensify our work. Our Board members are also devoted to collaborating with this endeavor.

Guaranteeing the conditions that will allow us to advance in these directions demands an effort to expand our resources. This is what is required, and the goal toward which we continue to work.

With a heartfelt call to join efforts and a warm hug, Judit

Vice-President's Message Laurence Kotler Berkowitz



I'd like to begin by saying that I hope everyone is safe, healthy and managing well through these challenging times.

For more than two decades, ASSJ has been my scholarly home, though probably not in the same way as most other members. In October 2000, I started what was supposed to be a two-year research position at United Jewish Communities (now the Jewish Federations of North America). I was fresh off a post-doc in political science at Hebrew University, and my plan was to try to publish a few articles and go on the academic market while I worked. It turned out, though, that I liked working in the Jewish community and I decided to stay, and over the past twenty years, much of my professional life has been located at the intersection of communal organizations, the academy and

independent researchers. It has been a fulfilling place to be: together, communal organizations and researchers in and out of the academy have produced more knowledge about contemporary Jews than they could working alone, and that knowledge has been fruitfully utilized for both scholarly and communal purposes.

To my delight, my work has also given me the opportunity to maintain ties to the scholarly community. In part, that's been through the normal channels of research, conference presentations and publications. But more importantly, my connections to the scholarly community have been sustained through the professional and personal relationships that I've been fortunate to establish with colleagues, many of whom are also ASSJ members. Indeed, ASSJ is the place where I can explore and share my interests in contemporary Jewry with other social scientists and learn from the collective knowledge of association members.

ASSJ's mission states, in part, that "as an interdisciplinary organization, we bring together social scientists who work in both academic and applied settings [and w]e study Jews from diverse theoretical and methodological perspectives." I would add that we also aim to bring together scholars at different stages of their careers, from graduate students through professors emeriti. In rejoining the Board as the new vice president, I look forward to working with the other Board officers and members to advance ASSJ's full mission for all of its members. To that end, the Board officers have begun to identify a number of initiatives to bring to the full Board for further discussion and priority-setting, which we will do shortly. We also welcome the input of all ASSJ members on any matters of concern, and I invite you to reach me directly at 205LKB@gmail.com.

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ASSJ Welcomes New Members

Becka Alper, Pew Research Center

Alicia Chandler, Multifaith Life

Tyson Herberger, Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences

Richard Heiberger, Temple University

Michal Kravel-Tovi, Tel Aviv University

Marcela Zoufala, Charles University

Upcoming Conferences

- Association for Jewish Studies Chicago, IL, December 19-21, 2021
- <u>Australian Association for Jewish Studies</u>, National Jewish Memorial Centre, National Circuit, Canberra, February 28- March 01, 2021
- <u>Latin American Jewish Studies Association</u>, Virtual conference, June 29 July 1, 2021
- Association for the Sociology of Religion, Chicago, IL, August 7-9, 2021
- World Union of Jewish Studies, Jerusalem, 2021

<u>Sergio DellaPergola (The Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)</u>

Books and monographs

- Jewish Perceptions of Antisemitism in the European Union, 2018: A New Structural Look. Analysis of Current Trends in Antisemitism. Berlin: De Gruyter, and Jerusalem: SICSA, ACTA, 40, 2, 2020, 86 p.
- (L.D. Staetsky and S. DellaPergola) *Jews in Austria: Demographic and Identificational Portrait*. London, Jewish Policy Research Institute JPR, European Jewish Demography Unit, 2020, 61 p.
- (S. DellaPergola and L.D. Staetsky) Jews in Europe at the Turn of the Millennium: Population Trends and
 Estimates. London, Jewish Policy Research Institute JPR, European Jewish Demography Unit, 2020, 87 p.
- Diaspora vs. Homeland: Development, Unemployment and Ethnic Migration to Israel, 1991-2019. Jerusalem, The Hebrew University, The Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, 2020, 124 p. Jewish Population Studies 31.

Volumes edited

• (S. DellaPergola and R. Sharaby, eds.) *Hagira – Israel Journal of Migration*. Emek Hefer, Ruppin Academic Center and the Israel Sociological Society, 10, June 2020, 154+14 p.

Articles

- World Jewish Population 2018. In A. Dashefsky and I. Sheskin (eds.) *American Jewish Year Book*, 118. Cham, Springer, 2019, 361-449.
- (S. DellaPergola, A. Keysar, and S. Levy) Jewish Identification Differentials in Israel and in the United States: Similarity Structure Analysis. *Contemporary Jewry*, 2019, 39, 1, 55-90. doi.org/10.1007/s12397-019-09283-5.
- (A. Keysar, and S. DellaPergola) Demographic and Religious Dimensions of Jewish Identification: Millennials in the U.S. and Israel. *Journal of Religion and Demography*, 2019, 6, 1, 149-188. doi:10.1163/2589742X-00601004
- Latino Jewish Demography: The Real and the Virtual. In A. Gross, A. Moryosef, J. Cohen (eds.) *Iberian New Christians and Their Descendants*. Cambridge, Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2019, 18-34.
- (L.D. Staetsky, and S. DellaPergola) Why European Jewish Demography? A foundation paper. London, Jewish Policy Research Institute JPR, European Jewish Demography Unit, 2019, 29 p.
- Toaff, Elio (Elihú Refaèl). In Dizionario Biografico degli Italiani. Roma, Fondazione Treccani, 2019, 781-786.
- The End of the Dichotomy: Jews/Non-Jews? In M. Bar-Asher, Y. Liebes, M. Assis, Y. Kaplan (eds.) *Meir Benayahu Memorial Volume*. Jerusalem, Carmel, 2019, vol. 1, 727-742 (Hebrew).
- A Minimal Demographic History of Israel. In R.Y Hazan, A. Dowty, M. Hofnung, G. Rahat (eds.) The Oxford Handbook of Israeli Politics and Society. New York, Oxford University Press, 2019. DOI: 10.1093/oxfordhb/9780190675585.013.3
- Jews in Europe, 2019: Demographic Trends, Contexts and Outlooks. In S. Pardo and H. Zahavi (eds.) *Jewish Contribution to European Integration*. New York, Lexington Books, 2019, 15-46.

<u>Sergio DellaPergola (The Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)</u>

Articles (cont.)

- L'antisemitismo: Fenomenologia reale e percezioni nel pubblico ebraico. *Sociologia e ricerca sociale*, 120, 2019, 25-63.
- Go to School, Work, Marry, Have Children, Be Jewish: Jewish Women and Jewish Men in the US and Israel. In S. Seidler-Feller and D.N. Myers (eds.) Swimming Against the Current: Reimagining Jewish Tradition in the TwentyFirst Century: Essays in Honor of Chaim Seidler Feller. Boston, Academic Studies Press, 2020, 222-242.
- Brevi considerazioni sull'emigrazione italiana dall'Italia fascista e dalle leggi razziali. In Patrizia Guarnieri (ed.) L'emigrazione intellettuale dall'Italia fascista: studenti e studiosi ebrei dell'Università di Firenze in fuga all'estero. Firenze, Firenze University Press, 2020, 137-140. Anche in Pagine ebraiche, 7, 2020, 32-33.
- "Séfarade" ou "oriental"? Migration, mutations sociales et processus identitaires. In E. Bruder (ed.) Juifs d'ailleurs. Diasporas oubliées, identités singulières. Paris, Albin Michel, 2020, 387-395.
- Jewish Demography in the European Union Virtuous and Vicious Paths. In H. Fireberg, O. Glöckner, M. Menachem Zoufalá (eds.) Being Jewish in 21st Century Central Europe. Berlin, De Gruyter, 2020, 17-56.
- World Jewish Population 2019. In A. Dashefsky and I. Sheskin (eds.) American Jewish Year Book 2019. Cham, Springer, 2020, 263-356.

Book reviews, prefaces, and other briefs

- The 21st Knesset elections: Israel at the crossroads. In G. Dentice, A.M. Bagaini (eds.) Israel's Elections: A Turning Point? Milano, ISPI, 2019. https://www.ispionline.it/it/pubblicazione/orwithout-netanyahu-israel-crossroads-22766
- Netanyahu e i nazionalismi. Intervista a Sergio Della Pergola, a cura di Maria Elisabetta Gandolfi. Il Regno, 2019, 8, 215-216.
- (Book review) Patrizia Guarnieri, *Italian Psychology and Jewish Emigration under Fascism: From Florence to Jerusalem and New York.* Houndmills Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan, 2016 (Italian and American Italian Studies). In *Studies in Contemporary Jewry*, 32, 2019, 263-265.
- (Book review) Mario Toscano (ed.) L'Italia racconta Israele, 1948-2018. Roma, Viella, 2018. In La Rassegna Mensile di Israel, 85, 1, 2019, 173-175.
- La sociedad israelí en la encrucijada. Vanguardia, 75, 2020, Dossier El Nuevo Israel, 14-19.
- The Demographic Realities of Annexation. *Tablet*, July 16, 2020.
- Preface: On mortality data. In L.D. Staetsky and A. Paltiel, COVID-19 mortality and the Jews: a global overview of the first wave of the coronavirus pandemic, March to May 2020. London: Institute for Jewish Policy Research JPR, 2020, 1-5

<u>Sergio DellaPergola (The Avraham Harman Institute of Contemporary Jewry, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem)</u>

Conference and other unpublished papers

- Reflections on Jewish and Israeli migrations: The national and the transnational. International conference
 People on the Move: Migration and Mobility, Tel Aviv, Tel Aviv University, The D. Daniel Abraham Center for
 International and Regional Studies, 2019.
- Elio Toaff: coraggio e dialogo dalle Marche a Roma. Ancona, ISTAO, Villa Favorita, 2019.
- Israël demain : Démographie et identité. Nethanya, Nethanya Academic College, 2019.
- Israel at 70 and World Jewry: One People or Two? Jerusalem, Ministry of Diaspora Affairs, 2019.
- Israel and US Jewry: One identity or two? Ramat Gan, Bar Ilan University, 2019.
- European Jewry: Trends in Jewish Identification and the Struggle with Antisemitism. Antwerp, *Conference of European Rabbis*, 2019.
- Le elezioni alla 21^a Knesset 9 aprile 2019. Milano, ISPI.
- Il futuro delle comunità ebraiche in Europa e Israele. Milano, Teatro Franco Parenti, 2019.
- Demography, society and politics in Israel and Palestine. Pavia, Pavia University, Master in International Cooperation, 2019.
- Ethnoreligious marriage in Israel The 2008 Census. Jerusalem, Central Bureau of Statistics, 2019.
- The Third Robert Wistrich Lecture Response to Judit Bokser Liwerant. Jerusalem, The Hebrew University, SICSA, 2019.
- Jewish Populations, Migrations and Identities in the Americas: the Shared and the Particular. Vancouver, University of British Columbia, Department of Jewish Studies, 2019.
- La diaspora ebraica nel contesto globale Popolazione e identità. Milano, X Dies academicus, Le diaspore del Vicino Oriente, Accademia Ambrosiana, 2019.
- (U.Rebhun, and S. DellaPergola) Internal migration in Israel. Jerusalem, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem, 2019.
- Fuga e salvezza in Canton Ticino 1943-1945. In *Tenero in Contra*. Tenero-Contra, 2019.
- Our Ageing Futures: The Ageing of Society Enabling Successful Ageing for All. Jerusalem, *The Lilian Hochhuser & Victor Hochhauser 13th Anglo-Israel Colloquium*, 2019.
- Was There a Jewish Demography? Concepts and Reality. Jerusalem, The Hebrew University, International Conference The Jerusalem School and the Study of Contemporary Jewry, Marking the 60 Years of the Research Institute of Contemporary Jewry, 2019.
- Jewish Perceptions of Antisemitism in the European Union: The FRA 2018 Study in 12 Countries. Herzliya, Interdisciplinary Center, *Annual conference of the Association for the Study of European Integration*, 2019.
- I giusti tra le nazioni Storie italiane. Jerusalem, Hevrat Yehudé Italia Belsrael, 2020.
- Demography in Israel Present and Future. Nevé Ilan, Yozmat Geneva; Tel Aviv, Escolot, 2020 (Hebrew).
- After the 2019-2020 elections: Israel and the Jewish people: one Jewish identity or two? Jerusalem, The Jewish Agency, 2020 (Hebrew).
- Jews of Color A Memo. Jerusalem, The Hebrew University, 2020.
- Policy persuasions of Orthodox Jewish voters for Trump vs. Biden: A structural assessment. Jerusalem, The Hebrew University, 2020.

Arnold Dashefsky (University of Connecticut)

Publications

- Book: Arnold Dashefsky and Ira M. Sheskin (eds.). 2020. *American Jewish Year Book 2019*. Volume 119. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.
- Article: Ira M. Sheskin and Arnold Dashefsky. 2020. "United States Jewish Population, 2019."
 Pp. 135-231 in American Jewish Year Book 2019. Volume 119. Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

Conferences and Presentations

- Paper: "A Half-Century (1970-2020) of the Social Scientific Study of Jewry: Reflections and Projections on Past, Present, and Future." Presented at virtual Annual Meeting of AJS and ASSJ, December 2020.
- Co-Organizer with Len Saxe: Association for Jewish Studies, virtual, December 2020. "Methodological Problems in Conducting Population Studies and Election Results." Organized session on behalf of ASSJ, *American Jewish Year Book*, and Berman Jewish DataBank.
- Co-Organizer and Co-Presider with Chad Alan Goldberg: August 2020 (canceled due to pandemic), American Sociological Association. "Preconference on Sociology of Antisemitism."
 Organized session on behalf of American Jewish Year Book, ASSJ, and Berman Jewish DataBank.

Keren McGinity

(Hadassah-Brandeis Institute, United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism) Webinars

- "#MeToo and the American Jewish Community," Roundtable with Susannah Heschel, Rafael Medoff, and Deborah Dash Moore, Association for Jewish Studies, December 16, 2020
- "December Delights: Celebrating Our Differences to Enrich Our Community," United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism, December 1, 2020.
- "#MeToo and Jewish Continuity," Rukin Rabbinic Fellowship, 18Doors, November 19, 2020.
- "A Jewish Response to #MeToo," Temple Oheb Shalom, South Orange, NJ, 25 October, 2020.
- "#MeToo and American Jewish Life," Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, October 20, 2020.

Publications

- <u>"The Unfinished Business of the Sexual Revolution,"</u> *American Jewish History,* Special Issue on Women & Gender, <u>Volume 104, Numbers 2/3, April/July 2020</u>, pp. 207-213
- "These Days, Serious Jews Marry Who the Fall in Love With," Times of Israel, Aug 18, 2020.
- "#UsToo: How Jewish, Muslim, & Christian Women Woke Our Communities," (book under consideration).

Teaching

• "The American Jewish Woman 1890-Present" (Brandeis AMST 121b, Spring 2021)

Gila Silverman (Case Western Reserve University)

New Position

 Director of Jewish Lifelong Learning, in the Laura and Alvin Siegal Lifelong Learning Program, at Case Western Reserve University

Publications

- Co-edited, with Aurelien Baroiller and Susan Hemer, a special issue of the journal *Death Studies*, focusing on Anthropology and Grief.
- Silverman, G. Saying kaddish: Meaning-making and continuing bonds in American Jewish mourning ritual, a special issue of the journal *Death Studies*, focusing on Anthropology and Grief.
- Silverman, G., Baroiller, A. & Hemer, S. Culture and grief: Ethnographic perspectives on ritual, relationship, and remembering. (Introduction to the Special Issue on Anthropology and Grief.)

Samuel Heilman (Queen's College, CUNY)

• Sam writes: In August I retired from CUNY, after being there since 1973. I am now "Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Sociology." My wife and I also moved in August to Jerusalem, to be closer to our 4 children and 11 grandchildren who all live in Israel. I am still writing and working on 2 books now. I also write occasional columns (see https://momentmag.com/opinion-crossing-the-covid-chasm/ and https://www.haaretz.com/misc/writers/WRITER-1.4969928).

Roberta Rosenthal Kwall (DePaul University College of Law) Opinion and Essays

- "The Bible, Intellectual Property and Authorship Integrity", in *Inscribed: Encounters with the Ten Commandments* (CCAR Press, 2020).
- "A Remixed Yahrzeit Two Years in a Row" Jewish Book Council's PB-Daily
- "Why Yitz Greenberg's Road May Lead to a Stronger Jewish Center" The Jerusalem Report (July 2020).
- "Amy Coney Barrett is Not Alone in her Bias" The Jewish Journal (October, 2020).

Talks and Presentations

- "Between the Lines: Remix Judaism" Jewish Theological Seminary, November, 2020.
- "Integrated Judaism and a Remixed Approach to Tikkun Olam", Limmud, Toronto, November, 2020.

Media and Podcasts

• <u>Unorthodox Podcast</u> (Tablet Magazine) - discussion of Hashanah Rabbah and Shemini Atzeret

Jennifer Thompson (California State University, Northbridge)

- Jennifer writes: In July I was appointed Director of the Jewish Studies Interdisciplinary Program
 at CSUN. We in the program are excited to have the opportunity to hire an assistant or associate
 tenure-track professor this winter. I was on sabbatical during spring 2020, during which my
 focus was on remaining sane while trapped in the house with a preschooler and a middleschooler.
- Recent publications include a paper in CJ, "The Birdcage: Gender Inequity in Academic Jewish Studies," which has already been cited as the basis for new programs from the Association for Jewish Studies to assist underrepresented scholars. Another is my essay "Jewish Ethics and Morality in the Garden" in *Feasting and Fasting: The History and Ethics of Jewish Food* (NYU Press, 2019). I co-authored with Bruce Phillips two reports for the Pat Brown Institute for Public Affairs using data from PBI's 2019 survey of Jewish voters in Los Angeles County. The reports, one on ethnoracial diversity among Jewish Angelenos, and the other on the Jewish Geography of L.A., are forthcoming. These reports are the culmination of several years of work by the survey team, which included Bruce and me as well as other local experts on Los Angeles, L.A. Jewry, and polling methods.
- Several additional works are in progress. During my Spring 2020 sabbatical, I continued work on my ethnographic book on unaffiliated Jews, tentatively titled *Odd Ones Out*. The book explores how Jews who do not affiliate with conventional Jewish institutions such as synagogues nevertheless find ways to affiliate with one another as Jews. I am also working on a journal article on people who call themselves "bad Jews," exploring what this term means to them and what it reveals about scholarly categories of religious and non-religious.
- This year I joined the founding team of Women Also Know Jewish Studies, a website to connect journalists with women scholars in Jewish Studies who have expertise in areas journalists are covering. In December, I was appointed to the editorial board of the academic journal *Contemporary Jewry*. I will complete my service as Secretary of the Association for the Social-Scientific Study of Jewry in December 2020.
- In July 2019, I was interviewed for <u>a story</u> in the Harvard Divinity Bulletin about Jews of no religion. In August, <u>an op-ed</u> I wrote about the need for sexual ethics to be part of Jewish education was published in The Forward. In October, I was invited to write another <u>op-ed</u> for The Forward, this time about the need for Jewish institutions to stop enabling sexual abuse. In June 2020, I was interviewed for an <u>article</u> in Tablet about the ethics of ordering takeout during COVID-19. And today another <u>invited piece</u> was published in the Forward about directions for program development Jewish leaders should consider that are not focused on intermarriage.

<u>Judit Bokser Liwerant (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México)</u>

Articles in Scientific Journals and Peer Reviewed Book Chapters

- The Wall as Border; it Fall as a Process. & Thirty Years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, with Federico Saracho, in *RMCPYS*, UNAM, (238), January-Aril 2020: 161-181.
- Historical Challenges: Complex Pasts, Uncertain Presents, RMCPYS, (238) January- April 2020:9-18.
- The Spheres of Social Collective Action: Social Movements, Human Rights and Democracy, *RMCPYS* (239), My-August 2020: 15-25.
- Israel-Diaspora Relations: Continuities and Discontinuities, in *Critical Perspectives on Jewish Identity, Israel-Diaspora Relations and Antisemitism*, R. Kennedy and U. Rebhun (eds.) Jews in Society, Springer (forthcoming).
- Antisemitism and related expressions of prejudice in a global world. A view from Latin America. An End to Antisemitism, Vol 4, Armin Lange, Kerstin Mayerhofer.
 Dina Porat, Lawrence H. Schiffman(eds)De Gruyter (forthcoming).
- Clue of Soft Power for Understanding the Historical Relations between Israel and Latin America, with Yael Siman, Latin American Foreign Affairs, October 2020.
- Gender, Family and Theory Matter in Contemporary Jewry. Response Harriet Hartman Sklare Award Dissertation, in Contemporary Jewry, Springer (40) 191-200, 2020.
- Women and Gender in the 21st Century. Perspectives, Implications and Dilemmas, *RMCPYS* (240), September-December 2020: 9-24.
- Religious Transformations in Latin America, with Shlomo Fischer, Jerusalem, Emergent Communities Project, Jewish People Public Institute.
- Developments in Latin American Jewish Communities, Jerusalem, Emergent Communities Project, Jewish People Public Institute.

Congresses, colloquia

- XLV International Spring Colloquium of International Relations: Global Risks and Unequal Development, UNAM, June 2020. Paper: The international society facing the 2020 crisis.
- Virtual Coversatorium, Pos-Pandemic Horizons. Dialogues from the Social Sciences. Dialogue with Michel Wieviorka, Maison des Sciences, Faculty of Political and Social Sciences. August 5, 2020.
- International E-Conference Migration, Diasporas and Sustainable Development: Perspectives, Policies, Opportunities and Challenges Global Research Forum on Diaspora and Transnationalims; Migrant Forum Asia, 2-5 November 2020.
- Colloquium Live and Be Re-born in Another Land Paper: Being national, being transnational.
 Program of Jewish Culture, Universidad Iberoamericana, October 21, 2020.

<u>Judit Bokser Liwerant (Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México)</u>

- 52 World Congress of Jewish Studies, Virtual, Organizer of the session: Advances in Understanding Antisemitism and Related Prejudices: Disciplinary, Global, Regional, and National Perspectives. Paper: Antisemitism. The avatars of a transnational building of a trope. A view from Latin America, December 2020.
- Co-Chair of the Sklare Award Session.

Conferences

- The Impact of Pandemic on the Jewish Communities of Latin America, Bet El Community, May 17, 2020.
- Conservatorium on Israel-Diaspora Relationships, with Leonardo Senkman, JAMLAT, May 29 Crisis and Opportunities in Times of Pandemic, Latin American Jewish Life. Bnei Brith, June 8, 2020.
- A Constellation of Crises. Implications for the Jewish Communities KerenHayesod, July 7, 2020.
- Múltiple Crises, Conferencia Virtual "Múltiples Crises y sus Repercusiones", Maguen David, 27 de Octubre, 2020
- Lecture on Antisemitism in Latin America, Yad Vshem Institute, Jerusalem, November 3, 2020.

Teaching

Doctoral Seminars

- A political Sociology for the 21 Century: collective identities, transnational flows and the spaces of politics I -II
- Covid 19 as a Constellation of Crises.

PhD Research Advisor

- State Racism and Migration. Violation of Human Rights of Center American Migrants transiting Mexico, PhD Political Science.
- The Experience of Exile and Literary Production. The case of exiles writers in Mexico City, PhD Sociology.
- A Model for the Analysis of Identity Reconfiguration of 1.5 generation of migrants, PhD Sociology.
- Religion and Public Space: Evangelical Churches as Political Actors in Mexico, MA Dissertation, Political Science"

2020 appointments

- Member of the European Union Scientific Commission of Social Sciences
- Member of Academic Commission of the National University Award in Social Sciences
- Elected Member of the Board of the Association of Jewish Studies
- Founding Member of the Association of the Global Studies College- France

Adina Bankier Karp (Monash University)

Conference Presentation

 "Keeping it in the family: Sibling narratives and Jewish connectedness", Association for Jewish Studies, December 2020.

Matt Boxer (Brandeis University)

- Interviewed and quoted in "Young, Rural, and Jewish" (Mikhal Ben Joseph), August 12, 2020
- Interviewed and quoted in "Are 95% of Jews Really Zionists?" (Caroline Morganti), October 29, 2020
- Interviewed and quoted in "The New American Judaism" (Joel Kotkin and Edward Heyman), February 17, 2021

Laura Limonic (SUNY Old Westbury)

Book chapters

• Limonic, Laura. 2020. "Jewish Identity among Contemporary Jewish Immigrants in the United States" in *Wandering Jew: Global Jewish Migration*, Steven J. Gold and Steven Ross, eds. Indiana: Purdue University Press

Journal Issue Editor

• "What's Jewish about Death?" *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies* (Laura Limonic and Tahneer Oksman, editors), 39(1) (forthcoming).

Invited Talks

- "The Latinx-Jewish Experience in America" October 15, 2020. The 92 Street Y. New York, NY. Virtual.
- Kugel and Frijoles: Latino Jews in the United States" October, 2, 2020. The City Congregation, New York, NY. Virtual.
- "An Evening with Dr. Laura Limonic" September, 24, 2020. <u>Virtual Latinx Lecture and Film Series</u>, Holocaust Museum Houston, Texas. Virtual.

Conferences and Presentations

- "Zoom or Doom? Why Jewish Studies Matters in Cataclysmic Times," discussant. Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 17, 2020. Virtual.
- "Contemporary Jewish Communities within their Host Societies" Association for Jewish Studies Annual Conference, December 14, 2020. Virtual.

Podcast

• Jewish History Matters, Latino Jews and the Diversity of American Jewish Life with Laura Limonic, December 20, 2020.

ASSJ BOOK SERIES

The ASSJ Book Series, Studies of Jews in Society, has moved from the <u>University of Nebraska Press</u> (to <u>Springer Publications</u>. 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 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 (vol. 40, no. 4) (forthcoming March 2021)

- Hartman, Editor's Introduction
- Harriet Hartman, Erratum (correction to Ilan Stavans' v40(3) book review of *Kugel and Frijoles: Latino Jews in the United States* by Laura Limonic)
- Silvina Schammah Gesser and Teresa Pinhero, Guest editors' Introduction to the Special Issue on "Iberian Jews": Jewish (in)Visibility in Contemporary Iberia: A View from the Margins
- Angy Cohen, On Belonging and Other Dreams: The Ambiguous Positions of the Jews in "Spanish Morocco"
- Paulo Mendes Pinto, Recovering the Jewish Identity in Portugal
- Avraham Milgram, Crypto-Jews, Sephardim, Ashkenazim, and Refugees from Nazi Europe in Early Twentieth-Century Portugal: Together and Apart
- Marina Pignatelli, Imagined Portuguese Jews: Cultural (Dis)continuities and the Systematization of Traditions
- Yitzhak Kerem, Portuguese Citizenship for Sephardic Jewry: A Golden Fountainhead
- Helen Kim: Research Update

An editor's note was placed on the review by Ilan Stavans of the book *Kugel and Frijoles: Latino Jews in the United States*, by Laura Limonic.

The Editor-in-Chief is alerting readers that this review fails to meet the Editor-in-Chief's expectations of a professional and balanced book review in an academic journal. In the opinion of the Editor-in-Chief, the review does not engage seriously and respectfully with the book's content. Despite the reviewer's claim that the book does not make any original contribution to the field of Latin American Jewry, readers should note that the book was honored as the 2020 Best Book by the Latin American Jewish Studies Association. The review also contains several factual errors which are corrected via an erratum in v40(4) of the journal.

TOC: Contemporary Jewry (vol. 40, no. 3)

- Harriet Hartman, Editor's Introduction
- Stuart Schoenfeld, Jews, Jewish Institutions, and the Construction of Identity in Changing American Cities and Urban Neighborhoods
- Robert Brym, Anna Slavina, and Rhonda Lenton, Qualifying the Leading Theory of Diaspora Jewry: An Examination of Jews from the Former Soviet Union in Canada and the United States
- Jordan A. Chad and Robert Brym, Jewish Intellectual Exceptionalism? Ethnic Representation at the University of Toronto Medical School
- Adam S. Ferziger, Israelization and Lived Religion: Conflicting Accounts of Contemporary Judaism
- Rachel Z. Feldman, Jewish Theocracy at the Biblical Barbeque: The Role of Third Temple Activism and Sacrificial Reenactments in Shaping Self and State
- Elazar Ben-Lulu, "We are Already Dried Fruits": Women Celebrating a Tu BiSh'vat Seder in an Israeli Reform Congregation
- Shlomo Guzmen-Carmeli, Texts as Places, Texts as Mirrors: Anthropology of Judaisms and Jewish Textuality
- Harriet Hartman, Research Updates
- Ilan Stavans, book review of Kugel and Frijoles: Latino Jews in the United States, by Laura Limonic
- Matthew Boxer, book review of Remix Judaism: Preserving Tradition in a Diverse World, by Roberta Rosenberg Kwall

TOC: Contemporary Jewry (vol. 40, no. 2)

- Harriet Hartman, Editor's Introduction to v40(2)
- Harriet Hartman, The 2019 Sklare Address: How Gender and Family Still Matter for Contemporary Jewry
- Sylvia Barack Fishman, SBF Response to Harriet Hartman Sklare Award Address
- Judit Bokser Liwerant, Gender, Family and Theory Matter in Contemporary Jewry: Response to Harriet Hartman's Sklare Award Address
- Ira M. Sheskin, When Sociology Meets Geography: Spatial Variations in Jewish Family Types
- Diana Forster, Ira M. Sheskin, Kenneth D. Wald, The Political Consequences of Trauma: Holocaust Exposure and Emotional Attachment to Israel Among American Jews
- Rachel Shenhav-Goldberg, Jeffrey S. Kopstein, Antisemitism on a California Campus: Perceptions and Views Among Students
- L. Daniel Staetsky, The Left, the Right, Christians, Muslims and Detractors of Israel: Who is Antisemitic in Great Britain in the Early 21st Century?
- Jehuda Hartman, When Antisemitic Ideas Meet Jewish Laws: The Case of Hungary
- Helen K. Kim, Research Updates
- Stuart Schoenfeld, book review of Yuri Slezkine, The Jewish Century

CONTEMPORARY JEWRY



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The ASSJ congratulates Professor Chaim Waxman 2020 Marshall Sklare Award

SCHOLARLY CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOCIAL SCIENTIFIC STUDY OF JEWRY

Conceptual/Theoretical Contributions:

Professor Cham I. Waxman is one of the founders and long-standing protagonists of the contemporary school of Jewish social scientific studies. For almost 50 years he has been at the forefront of the profession as a researcher, teacher, and policy thinker in the United States and in Israel. His work has combined original social theory with empirical work founded on quantitative methods and qualitative textual materials. His work has covered a wide range of topics such as Jewish immigration, Jewish identification, Jewish organizations, the Jewish family, the mutual relationship between American Jewry and the state of Israel, and the connection between traditional Jewish text and modern sociology.

Waxman's work seeks to understand the impact of the larger society on Jewish culture and the impact of Jewish culture on the social behavior of Jews. His primary interest has been in Jewish identity and identification as they manifest themselves in different times and in different countries with special focus on America and Israel during the past two centuries. He has written extensively on a variety of subjects including Zionism, Jewish Orthodoxy, immigration to Israel, Jewish identity, and American-Israel relations. He has been able to combine an in-depth knowledge of Judaism (with special emphasis on Jewish Orthodoxy, see his most recent book) with full command of a variety of theories and research methods in sociology. He has been attentive to the implications of ongoing trends among Jewish society in America and in Israel, and has been engaged in developing policies aimed at improving the chances of continuity of Jewry – among other places during his years at the JPPI.

Methodological Contributions:

His analyses of American aliya, American and Israeli Orthodoxy, and the sociology of *p'sika* constituted breakthroughs in the wide area of the sociology of Jews. His most recent article: "Family and Identity: Marshall Sklare, the Social Scientific Study of America's Jews and Jewish Communal Policy" issued in 2019 in Vol. 39 of *Contemporary Jewry*, comprises a definitive analysis of the work by Mashall Sklare in the field of sociology of the Jews in relation to the more recent development of Jewish sociology and demography. Waxman masterly reviews the main issues and debates at the intersection of the Jewish family and Jewish identity. He outlines the perspective and influence of Marshall Sklare on the discipline and profession, reviews the different schools of thought that have debated the main issues often from very different perspectives, and expresses his critical views about the more recent developments in the interplay between social scientific analysis and public behavior, values, and policy decisions.

Public Policy Contributions:

Waxman is a former president of the Association for the Sociological Study of Jewry, and a former Senior Fellow at the Jewish People Policy Institute. As such he has been among the pillars of the professional organization which reunites the majority of practitioners in the field. During the years of his tenure at JPPI he significantly contributed to the publication of the yearly report evaluating the state of world Jewry. The policy implications of his work contributed to areas such as ameliorating the hardships of single-parent Jewish families, immigration to Israel (*aliya*), and conversion to Judaism (*giyur*). What has always characterized Waxman's work has been the broad scope of the themes investigated and the care for the public implications of sometimes very complex trends which he himself much contributed to uncover and clarify.

Educational/Pedagogical Contributions:

Since his first university teaching appointment in 1966 through his retirement at Rutgers in 2006, Prof. Waxman has instructed thousands of students on a wide array of general and Jewish social topics. He repeatedly held posts of academic responsibility. After his retirement from Rutgers University with the rank of Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Jewish Studies, and after moving permanently to Jerusalem, Waxman was appointed as Chair of the Behavior Sciences Department of Hadassah Academic College in Jerusalem, where he currently serves.

The ASSJ congratulates Professor Arnie Dashefsky 2020 Marshall Sklare Award

Arnie Dashefsky—An Appreciation

It is an honor for me to laud my friend, colleague, and fellow Sklare Awardee. Arnie provided visual evidence to his being present for the birth of ASSJ, but in his typically modest way, understated the degree to which he kept ASSJ viable as the editor of the journal when there was only enough material and funding to produce it as annual. Arnie kept *Contemporary Jewry* alive and nourished it so that it would truly flourish under subsequent editors. Arnie (along with Ira Sheskin) has done the same for the *American Jewish Year Book*. An important chronicle of contemporary Jewish life or over a century, it was unceremoniously dumped by the American Jewish Committee. Arnie and Ira stepped in to keep that publication alive, and brimming with cutting-edge research. Arnie is currently my co-author of a book on interfaith marriage to be published by Springer as part of the ASSJ series, and what a pleasure that is. In addition to being an eloquent writer and insightful organizer of our material, Arnie keeps our focus on what this research means for the Jewish community. Like Marshall Sklare himself, Arnie combines exemplary scholarship with strong Jewish commitment. And he if were so inclined, Arnie could write our book in Yiddish.

(Bruce A. Phillips, Professor of Sociology & Jewish Communal Service, Hebrew Union College)

A Half-Century (1970-2020) of the Social Scientific Study of Jewry: Reflections and Projections on Past, Present, and Future¹

(Summary of Remarks Delivered on Receipt of the Marshall Sklare Award)

Arnold Dashefsky, University of Connecticut

Following a tribute to my professors at Gratz College and Temple University in Philadelphia, at Hebrew University and Hayim Greenberg College in Jerusalem, and at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, as well as to my colleagues and co-authors, I made five substantive points:

- 1. **An assessment of the past vs. the present of the social scientific study of Jewry** was offered, for which I noted that the way to understand the social and religious adjustments of American Jews is to examine their economic and political adjustments first. A table was presented that provided the four adjustments for seven phases of the American Jewish experience, from its origins in 1654 to the present in 2020, with a focus on the last two phrases (1967-1991 and 1991-2020).
- 2. The changes across a 50-year time span of ASSJ as a professional organization were charted and revealed that between 1970 and 2020, the organization had more than tripled in size, become much more gender-balanced, and had initiated a journal (*Contemporary Jewry*), which published dozens of articles in the latest three-year cycle. In addition, the field benefited from a growth in national probability surveys of American Jews from one to seven and from just 38 local Jewish community studies to 268.
- 3. Grounds for optimism vs. pessimism in viewing the future of American Jewry were examined:
 - Antisemitism is increasing, but Jews are the most warmly regarded US religious group
 - b. Interfaith marriage continues, but a majority of children are receiving a Jewish upbringing.
 - c. The religious "nones" are growing, but the great majority of them feel proud to be Jewish.
 - d. Geographic mobility and residential dispersion continue, but new means of internet connections are growing.
- 4. Recommendations for the future of the social scientific study of US Jewry were offered:
 - a. Build empirical research on a theoretical foundation.
 - b. Emphasize *multivariate analysis* in quantitative analysis.
 - c. Parallel quantitative with qualitative research to provide a *mixed-methods approach*.
 - d. Expand comparative research across different communities and countries.
 - e. Precede empirical research with sociohistorical analysis.
 - f. Sharpen *policy recommendations* by bringing preliminary observations to stakeholders for comment.
- 5. **Recommendations for the future of ASSJ** were also provided:
 - a. Networking with other professional associations, and
 - Increasing membership of graduate students and junior faculty.

Finally, I ended with a personal tribute to my family and finished with a quote from the Talmud: תלמידי חכמים מרבים שלום בעולם, "Scholars increase peace in the world," concluding with this praise: "To scholars and to peace!"

¹ The complete text will be published in a forthcoming issue of *Contemporary Jewry*.





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New holdings at the DataBank

The DataBank has added the following studies to its collection:

Annual population articles:

- 2019 United States Jewish Population (Ira Sheskin and Arnold Dashefsky)
- 2019 Canadian Jewish Population (Charles Shahar)
- 2019 World Jewish Population (Sergio DellaPergola)

Originally published in the *American Jewish Year Book* (AJYB), the articles are posted at the DataBank with the permission of Springer, the publisher of the AJYB.

U.S. National Studies:

- 2020 Survey of American Jewish Opinion (American Jewish Committee)
- 2020 Surveys on the State of Antisemitism in America (American Jewish Committee)

U.S Local Studies:

- 2019 Baltimore Jewish Community Study (The Associated: Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore)
- 2019 Jewish Population Study of Greater Philadelphia (Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia)
- 2019 Jewish Community Study of Sarasota-Manatee (Jewish Federation of Sarasota-Manatee, Community Foundation of Sarasota County)
- 2018 Greater Palm Beaches Jewish Community Study (Jewish Federation of Palm Beach County)
- 2018 South Palm Beach County (FL) Jewish Community Study (Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach County)

Berman Jewish Databank (cont.)

U.S. Topical Studies

- 2020 Post-election Survey of U.S. Orthodox Jews (Nishma Research)
- 2020 Coronavirus Survey of American Jews (Nishma Research)

Canada

Updated data file for the 2018 Survey of Jews in Canada

Resources

• 2020 More Than Numbers: A Guide Toward Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Demographic Data Collection (Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation)

Building Resilient Jewish Communities study

The DataBank is pleased to have supported the <u>Building Resilient Jewish Communities</u> (BRJC) project at the Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies/Steinhardt Social Research Institute at Brandeis University.

Marshall Sklare Award

Congratulations to Arnold Dashefsky and Chaim Waxman on receiving this year's Marshall Sklare Award from the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry. Dashefsky is the Director Emeritus and Senior Academic Consultant. He 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. Waxman is Professor Emeritus of Sociology and Jewish Studies at Rutgers University and Chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences at Hadassah Academic College in Jerusalem.

The <u>Berman Jewish DataBank</u> @ The <u>Jewish Federations of North America</u> is the central online address for quantitative studies of North American Jewry and information about world Jewish populations. We proudly collaborate with the <u>Berman Jewish Policy Archive</u> @ <u>Stanford</u> and the <u>Center for Judaic Studies and Contemporary Jewish Life at the University of Connecticut</u> 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 <u>Mandell and Madeleine Berman Foundation</u>. 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

Summer-Fall Publications 2020 Maurice and Marilyn Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies and Steinhardt Social Research Institute at Brandeis University

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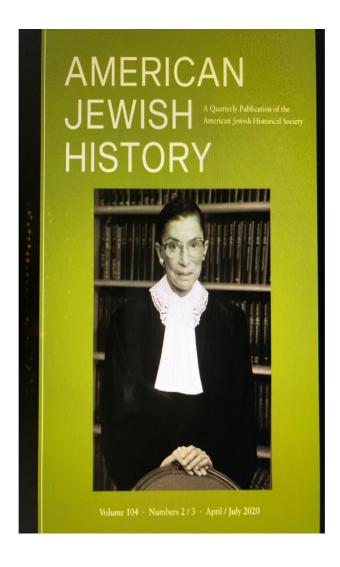
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Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry

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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