As The People of the Book we have always turned to the written word to offer us guidance, advice and perspective on the important issues facing us both as Jews and citizens. This bibliography provides you with a list of the resources in the Temple library covering the following topics. Within each category, the books are arranged in chronological order, with the most recent at the top. The bibliography will be periodically updated.

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I. ETHICS

A. HISTORICAL OVERVIEW OF JEWISH ETHICAL THOUGHT

Unterman shows us persuasively that the ethics of the Jewish Bible represent a significant
moral advance over Ancient Near East cultures. Moreover, he elucidates how the Bible’s unique
conception of ethical monotheism, innovative understanding of covenantal law, and
revolutionary messages from the prophets form the foundation of many Western civilization
ideals. Justice for All connects these timeless biblical texts to the persistent themes of our
times: immigration policy, forgiveness and reconciliation, care for the less privileged, and
attaining hope for the future.

This authoritative biography of Moses Maimonides, one of the most influential minds in all of
human history, illuminates his life as a philosopher, physician, and lawgiver. A biography on a
grand scale, it brilliantly explicates one man’s life against the background of the social, religious,
and political issues of his time. Now, in a dazzling work of
scholarship, Kraemer tells the complete story of
Maimonides’ rich life. Maimonides is at once a portrait of
a great historical figure and an excursion into the
Mediterranean world of the twelfth century. Kraemer
draws on a wealth of original sources to re-create a
remarkable period in history when Jewish, Christian, and
Muslim traditions clashed and mingled in a setting alive
with intense intellectual exchange and religious conflict.

Conscience: The Duty to Obey and the Duty to Disobey. Shulweis, Harold. 2009.This clarion call
to rethink our moral and political behavior examines the idea of conscience and the role
conscience plays in our relationships to government, law, ethics, religion, human nature and
God—and to each other. From Abraham to Abu Ghraib, from the dissenting prophets to Darfur,
the author probes history, the Bible and the works of contemporary thinkers for ideas about
both critical disobedience and uncritical obedience. He illuminates the potential for evil and the
potential for good that rests within us as individuals and as a society.

tradition as it has evolved from biblical times to the present. Provides an overview of the
central beliefs of classical Judaism and the ways in which these frame traditional Jewish
approaches to issues in ethics, both theoretical and practical.

Jewish Wisdom: Ethical, Spiritual, and Historical Essays from the Great Works and Thinkers.
Telushkin, Joseph. 1994. What do the great Jewish writings of the last 3,500 years tell us about
the vital questions concerning our lives? Telushkin has devoted his life to the search for
answers within the teachings of Judaism. In Jewish Wisdom, Telushkin weaves together a

If I am not for me, who is for
me; and if I am only for
myself, what am I. And if not
now, when?

--Hillel
tapestry of stories from the Bible and Talmud, and the insights of Jewish commentators and writers from Maimonides, Rashi, and Hillel to Einstein, Isaac Bashevis Singer, and Elie Wiesel.

The Alef-Bet of Jewish Values: Code Words of Jewish Life. Kipper, Lenore and Howard Bogot. 1985. Creatively presenting Judaism's key concepts, this book features four themes that are the foundation of Jewish life -- Jewish identity, God and prayer, community values, and personal values -- and explores each concept through stories, midrashim, and prayers.

B. TEACHINGS FROM THE TORAH AND THE PROPHETS

Path of the Prophets: The Ethics-Driven Life. Schwartz, Barry l. 2018. Schwartz introduces the prophets with retellings of their decisive experiences, followed by key biblical narratives, context, and analysis. He weighs our heroes’ and heroines’ legacies and considers how their ethical examples guide us on how to integrate biblical-ethical values into our lives.

Ethical Writings of Maimonides. Weiss, Raymond L. and Charles E. Butterworth, eds. 2012. This collection presents a comprehensive and revealing overview of Maimonides' thought regarding the relationship of revelation and reason in the sphere of ethics. Here are his teachings concerning "natural law," secular versus religious authority, the goals of moral conduct, diseases of the soul, the application of logic to ethical matters, and the messianic era. Throughout, the great sage is concerned to reconcile the apparent divergence between biblical teachings and Greek philosophy.

Pirke Avot: Timeless Wisdom for Modern Life. Berkson, William. 2010. In this new edition of the well-known Jewish classic, Berkson helps us see that Pirke Avot (Ethics of the Fathers) is more than just a fundamental religious text; it is also a compelling, contemporary ethical guide. The book's most important and innovative feature is its exploration of the relationship between the beliefs of the ancient Sages and modern psychology, particularly the key to good relationships: ethical conduct. The result is a book that goes far beyond the plain meaning of the sayings to explore their ethical, psychological, and religious significance for us today.

The Genesis of Ethics. Visotzky, Burton. 1997. The Book of Genesis reveals much about human dilemmas and ethical problems that mirror our own lives. By delving into the lives of Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, and Esau and holding up these characters of Scripture to the light of critical inquiry, Visotzky reveals much that is fresh and useful about ethics and morality.

C. LESSONS FROM THE PHILOSOPHERS OF THE MODERN ERA

Responsibility and Judgment. Arendt, Hannah. 2005. Responsibility and Judgment gathers together unpublished writings from the last decade of Arendt’s life, where she addresses fundamental questions and concerns about the nature of evil and the making of moral choices. At the heart of the book Arendt confronts the inadequacy of traditional moral “truths” as standards to judge what we are capable of doing and examines anew our ability to distinguish good from evil and right from wrong. We also see how Arendt comes to understand that there
exists a more pernicious evil, independent of political ideology, whose execution is limitless when the perpetrator feels no remorse.

The Ten Commandments of Character: Essential Advice for Living an Honorable, Ethical, Honest Life. Telushkin, Joseph. 2004. Here is a wealth of astute and warmhearted counsel on many of life’s most difficult ethical dilemmas. Telushkin outlines his ten commandments of character, explaining why each one is so vital, and then addresses perplexing issues that can and often do crop up in our lives relating to family, friends, work, community, medical ethics, and money.

Contemporary Jewish Ethics and Morality: A Reader. Dorff, Elliot and Louis Newman, eds. 1995. The book features work from both traditionalist and liberal contributors. Writers such as Harold Schulweis, Judith Plaskow, David Novak, David Hartman, and Blu Greenberg discuss law and ethics, natural law, humility, justice, sex and the family, euthanasia, and other vital issues relating to modern Judaism. Many of the readings appear here for the first time, making this important text uniquely qualified to reflect the high level and depth of contemporary work in this area of study.


Justice and Judaism: The Work of Social Action. Vorspan, Albert and Eugene J. Lipman. 1956. Vorspan and Lipman strongly believed that working against injustice is a core value of Judaism and that synagogues should be actively engaged in social action through Temple committees. In the book they take on the fundamental argument posed by more conservative Jews that synagogues should not be involved in civil matters that we have to deal with these issues as Americans, but not as Jews. Vorspan and Lipman answer it by discussing the history of Jewish concern for the needy and unfairly treated. They take each issue of major prominence, such as Civil Rights, and explain the tie between it and Judaism. Finally, the book provides a guide for Temple social action committees.

D. ETHICS IN PERSONAL CONDUCT

The Sacred Exchange: Creating a Jewish Money Ethic. Zamore, Mary, L. 2019. The Sacred Exchange creates a rich, multi-faceted conversation about the ethics of money, surveying biblical, Rabbinic, and modern sources. This anthology asks us to think deeply about Judaism’s sacred relationship to personal and communal economic and fiscal issues, thereby prompting us to delve deeper into the everyday expression of our own Jewish identity.

Confronting Scandal: How Jews Can Respond When Jews Do Bad Things. Brown, Erica. 2010. Starting with the Bible in Genesis, through the Prophets, the Talmud, and the classic medieval
ethical literature, Jewish tradition grapples with human weakness and offers many ways to deal with the temptations that confront us. Brown summarizes the traditional Jewish position by stipulating that ethical and moral behavior requires strenuous effort and discipline to oppose our baser instincts. Jewish law provides an intricate system to navigate the complexities of human interaction and we are expected to overcome avarice, jealousy, dishonesty, libido, and enmity. Jewish ritual behavior cannot be divorced from moral and ethical behavior.

*Love Your Neighbor and Yourself: A Jewish Approach to Personal Ethics.* Dorff, Elliot. 2010. The author addresses specific moral issues that affect our personal lives: privacy, particularly at work as it is affected by the Internet and other modern technologies; sex in and outside of marriage; family matters, such as adoption, surrogate motherhood, stepfamilies, divorce, parenting, and family violence; homosexuality; justice, mercy, and forgiveness; and charitable acts and social action

*The Book of Jewish Values.* Telushkin, Joseph. 2000. Telushkin combines the Bible, the Talmud, and the whole spectrum of Judaism’s sacred writings to give us a manual on how to lead a decent, kind, and honest life in a morally complicated world.

*Voices of Wisdom: Jewish Ideals and Ethics for Everyday Living.* Klagsbrun, Francine. 1987. Examines from a Jewish point of view such topics as love, sex, marriage, business ethics, health and medicine, the environment, faith, birth control, civil disobedience, scholarship, and death.

**E. JEWISH ETHICS ON A COMMUNAL SCALE**

*Jewish Choices, Jewish Voices: War and National Security.* Dorff, Elliot, N. and Danya Ruttenberg, eds. 2008. Is it morally acceptable to use surveillance and profiling to protect national security? Should war only be used in self-defense? Is torture in times of war morally acceptable? Contributors include scholar Noam Chomsky, Lt. Col. Seth Milstein, and political philosopher Michael Walzer. These voices from Jewish tradition and today’s Jewish community present us with new questions and perspectives, encouraging us to consider our own moral choices in a new light.

*To Do the Right and the Good: A Jewish Approach to Modern Social Ethics.* Dorff, Eliot. 2002. Dorff focuses on the social aspects of the Jewish tradition, while tackling such timely topics as poverty, war, intrafaith and interfaith relations, and forgiveness. Dorff argues that Jewish sources, when properly placed within the framework of the realities of our own times, can provide important guidance for Jews on how to act in their daily lives.

**F. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES**

guide. Each entry includes bibliographic information, age level recommendations, annotation, relevant value, and subject headings.

**Contemporary Jewish Ethics: A Bibliographical Survey.** Breslauer, S. Daniel. 1985. Representing the broad spectrum of Jewish thought, this bibliography includes articles from journals published by Reform, Orthodox, Conservative, and Reconstructionist Jewish institutions, scholarly articles and books published in the United States and Europe, traditional collections of Hebrew ethical writings, both contemporary and classical, and anthologies. The bibliographical survey is divided into five major sections: general works and anthologies, the history of Jewish ethics, issues in Jewish ethics, themes in Jewish ethics, and Jewish ethics and non-Jewish ethical theories.

II. SOCIAL JUSTICE/ACTION

A. HISTORICAL AND PHILOSOPHICAL GROUNDS FOR SOCIAL ACTION

**Moral Resistance and Spiritual Authority: Our Jewish Obligation to Social Justice.** Limmer, Seth M. and Jonah Dov Pesner, eds. 2019. This foundational book reminds us of our ancient obligation to bring justice to the world. The essays in this collection explore the spiritual underpinnings of our Jewish commitment to justice, using Jewish text and tradition, as well as contemporary sources and models. Among the topics covered are women's health, LGBTQ rights, healthcare, racial justice, speaking truth to power, and community organizing.

**The Way Into Tikkun Olam (Repairing the World).** Dorff, Elliot, N. 2007. For everyone who wants to understand the meaning and significance of *tikkun olam* (repairing the world) in Jewish spiritual life, this book shows the way into an essential aspect of Judaism and allows you to interact directly with the sacred texts of the Jewish tradition. This comprehensive introduction explores the roots of the beliefs and laws that are the basis of the Jewish commitment to improve the world. It looks at the various motivations that the sacred texts provide for caring for others, the ways the Jewish tradition seeks to foster such concerns in our social and family relationships, and the kind of society that Jews should strive to create as partners with God.

**Righteous Indignation: A Jewish Call for Justice.** Rose, Or N., Jo Ellen Green Kaiser, and Margie Klein, eds. 2007. In this groundbreaking volume, leading rabbis, intellectuals, and activists explore the relationship between Judaism and social justice, drawing on ancient and modern sources of wisdom. The contributors argue that American Jewry must move beyond "mitzvah days" and other occasional service programs, and dedicate itself to systemic change in the United States, Israel, and throughout the world. These provocative essays concentrate on specific justice issues such as eradicating war, global warming, health care, gay rights and domestic violence,

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The first requisite of civilization is that of justice.

---Sigmund Freud

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offering practical ways to transform theory into practice, and ideas into advocacy. Rich and passionate, these expressions will inspire you to consider your obligations as a Jew, as an American, and as a global citizen, while challenging you to take thoughtful and effective action in the world.

*Judaism and Justice: The Jewish Passion to Repair the World.* Schwarz, Sidney. 2006. In this provocative exploration, Schwarz sheds light on the relationship between Judaism, social justice and the Jewish identity of American Jews. He traces how the idea of justice, as developed in the sacred texts of Judaism, conditions Jewish attitudes and behavior. In a fascinating portrayal of some of the major issues facing the Jewish community in the last fifty years, Schwarz explores a community torn between its instincts for self-preservation and its desire to serve as an ethical "light to the nations."

*Justice and Judaism: The Work of Social Action.* Vorspan, Albert and Eugene J. Lipman. 1956. Vorspan and Lipman strongly believed that working against injustice is a core value of Judaism and that synagogues should be actively engaged in social action through Temple committees. In the book they take on the fundamental argument posed by more conservative Jews that synagogues should not be involved in civil matters that we have to deal with these issues as *Americans*, but not as *Jews*. Vorspan and Lipman answer it by discussing the history of Jewish concern for the needy and unfairly treated. They take each issue of major prominence, such as Civil Rights, and explain the tie between it and Judaism. Finally, the book provides a guide for Temple social action committees

**B. JEWISH ACTION TO COMBAT SOCIAL INJUSTICES**

*Rooted Cosmopolitanism: Jews and Human Rights in the Twentieth Century.* Loeffler, James. 2018. The year 2018 marks the seventieth anniversary of two momentous events in twentieth-century history: the birth of the State of Israel and the creation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Both remain tied together in the ongoing debates about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, global anti-Semitism, and American foreign policy. Yet the surprising connections between Zionism and the origins of international human rights are completely unknown today. In this riveting account, Loeffler explores this controversial history through the stories of five remarkable Jewish founders of international human rights, following them from the prewar shtetls of eastern Europe to the postwar United Nations, a journey that includes the Nuremberg and Eichmann trials, the founding of Amnesty International, and the UN resolution of 1975 labeling Zionism as racism. The result is a book that challenges long-held assumptions about the history of human rights and offers a startlingly new perspective on the roots of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

*The Soul of Jewish Social Justice.* Yanklowitz, Shmuly. 2014. *The Soul of Jewish Social Justice* offers a novel intellectual and spiritual approach for how Jewish wisdom must be relevant and transformational in its application to the most pressing moral problems of our time. The book explores how spirituality, ritual, narratives, holidays, and tradition can enhance one’s commitment to creating a more just society. Readers will discover how the Jewish social justice
ethos can help address issues of education reform, ethical consumption, the future of Israel, immigration, prison reform, violence, and business ethics.

**Peace in Our Cities: Rabbis Against Gun Violence.** Creditor, Menachem. 2013. Rabbis, along with faith leaders of every tradition, teach that a broken society is one in which we fail to take care of others. This book asks some very hard questions of America in the midst of a Gun Violence epidemic, and presents a passionate, hopeful, healing response to a moment of national pain and fragility. The rabbis in this collection ask: How many innocent deaths will it take for our elected officials to respond with moral conviction? How long must America wait to acknowledge that we lose American lives to Gun Violence every day, scarring our national life? How many tears must be shed? Learn, connect, and be inspired with the voices of today's rabbincic leaders.

**Where Justice Dwells: A Hands-On Guide to Doing Social Justice in Your Jewish Community.** Jacobs, Jill. 2011. How can Jewish values inform our work to create a just world and help us work together for the good of all communities? Jewish tradition compels us to protect the poorest, weakest and most vulnerable among us. But discerning how to make meaningful and effective change through social justice work — whether in community or on your own — is not always easy. This guide provides ways to envision and act on your own ideals of social justice.

**Jewish Choices, Jewish Voices: Social Justice.** Dorff, Elliot N. and Danya Ruttenberg, eds. 2010. “Studies have shown that young generations of Jews place high value on social change as part of their Jewish identity. They personally participate in social action and want the synagogues or organizations with which they affiliate to place a similar value on social concerns. Consistent with these interests, this book brings together case studies, classical and contemporary source material, and a range of responses to address four areas of interest to social activists: poverty and health care, discrimination, the environment, and criminal justice. The format of the book allows a clear line to be drawn from ancient texts to contemporary responses to issues that confront our society. The authors contributing to this volume represent a cross-section of the Jewish scenes from all movements and across generational lines, so that readers get a sense that the Jewish approaches to social issues transcend any lines that might divide our communities.” Arnold D. Samlan.

**There Shall Be No Needy: Pursuing Social Justice Through Jewish Law and Tradition.** Jacobs, Jill. 2009. Jacobs confronts the most pressing issues of twenty-first-century America in this fascinating book, which brings together classical Jewish sources, contemporary policy debate and real-life stories. A leading young voice in the social justice arena, Jacobs makes a powerful argument for participation in the American public square from a deeply Jewish perspective, while deepening our understanding of the relationship between Judaism and such current social issues as poverty, homelessness, health care, environmental sustainability, workers’ rights, and crime and punishment.

**Jewish Dimensions of Social Justice: Tough Moral Choices of Our Time.** Vorspan, Albert and David Saperstein. 1998. Written by two of the nation's leading Jewish social activists, Jewish
Dimensions of Social Justice brings together Jewish perspective, on and moral analyses of scores of urgent issues. Abortion, capital punishment, Mideast peace, and religious pluralism are just a few of the significant and controversial subjects fearlessly tackled in this landmark book.

The Origins of Totalitarianism. Arendt, Hannah. 1951. The Origins of Totalitarianism begins with the rise of anti-Semitism in central and western Europe in the 1800s and continues with an examination of European colonial imperialism from 1884 to the outbreak of World War I. Arendt explores the institutions and operations of totalitarian movements, focusing on the two genuine forms of totalitarian government in our time—Nazi Germany and Stalinist Russia—which she adroitly recognizes were two sides of the same coin, rather than opposing philosophies of Right and Left. From this vantage point, she discusses the evolution of classes into masses, the role of propaganda in dealing with the non-totalitarian world, the use of terror, and the nature of isolation and loneliness as preconditions for total domination.

III. WOMEN’S RIGHTS/FEMINISM

A. HISTORY OF WOMEN AND JUDAISM

The Sacred Calling: Four Decades of Women in the Rabbinate. Schorr, Rebecca Einstein and Alysa Mendelson Graf, eds. 2016. Women have been rabbis for over forty years. No longer are women rabbis a unique phenomenon; rather, they are part of the fabric of Jewish life. In this anthology, rabbis and scholars from across the Jewish world reflect back on the historic significance of women in the rabbinate and explore issues related to both the professional and personal lives of female rabbis. This collection examines the ways in which the reality of women in the rabbinate has impacted all aspects of Jewish life, including congregational culture, liturgical development, life cycle ritual, the Jewish healing movement, spirituality, theology, and more.

Women in Judaism: New Insights and Scholarship. Greenspahn, Frederick E. 2009. Women and Judaism brings broad new insights scholars have uncovered regarding Jewish women’s domestic, economic, intellectual, spiritual, and creative roles in Jewish life from biblical times to the present. Women and Judaism communicates this research to a wider public of students and educated readers outside of the academy by presenting accessible and engaging chapters written by key senior scholars that introduce the reader to different aspects of women and Judaism. The contributors discuss feminist approaches to Jewish law and Torah study, the spirituality of Eastern European Jewish women, Jewish women in American literature, and many other issues.

A feminist is anyone who recognizes the equality and full humanity of men and women.

--Gloria Steinem
Women Remaking American Judaism. Prell, Riv-Ellen. 2007. The rise of Jewish feminism, a branch of both second-wave feminism and the American counterculture, in the late 1960s had an extraordinary impact on the leadership, practice, and beliefs of American Jews. Women Remaking American Judaism is the first book to fully examine the changes in American Judaism as women fought to practice their religion fully and to ensure that its rituals, texts, and liturgies reflected their lives. In addition to identifying the changes that took place, this volume aims to understand the process of change in ritual, theology, and clergy across the denominations.

Women and American Judaism: Historical Perspectives. Nadel, Pamela Susan and Jonathan D. Sarna, eds. 2001. At the end of the 20th century Jewish women had redefined the ways they lived their Judaism: innovative religious ceremonies welcoming the birth of daughters proliferated, girls came to mark their bat mitzvah, and Jewish women turned out for feminist seders and became rabbis. As the 12 essays in this volume demonstrate, Jewish women from the colonial era to the present have continually reshaped their roles as Jews and as members of their synagogues and communities. Offering nothing less than a gendered overview of three centuries of American Jewish religious life, the authors raise key questions about how women from across the nation conceptualized their ideas of Jewish womanhood even as they transformed their roles at home, in synagogues, as volunteers, and in the public eye.

Passion, Memory, Identity: Twentieth-Century Latin American Jewish Writers. Agosin, Marjorie, ed. 1999. This collection of essays, written by a distinguished group of literary critics, explores the Jewish woman’s experience in Latin America. It came about as an attempt to define the cultural experience of Jewish Latin American women writers, as well as their relationship with their various countries. The role of memory for the writers included in this volume is a central theme. The majority of them are daughters of Sephardic or Ashkenazi immigrants, many of whom fled the Holocaust. They write openly about their identity and their hybrid condition as Jews in predominantly Catholic countries, an issue that has not, until recently, been addressed with candor.

Engendering Judaism: An Inclusive Theology and Ethics. Adler, Rachel. 1998. Adler has written a pioneering work on what it means to "engender" Jewish tradition; that is, how women’s full inclusion can and must transform our understanding and practice of Jewish law, prayer, sexuality, and marriage. Engendering Judaism challenges both mainstream Judaism and feminist dogma, and speaks across the movements as well as to Christian theologians and feminists. It presents a theology and ethics for Judaism that men and women recreate and renew together as equals. Adler assesses the impact of gender and sexuality on Judaism’s classic texts. She brings this assessment to bear on three central areas of Jewish thought and practice; law, liturgy, and the ethics of sexuality and relationship.

Jewish history. Cantor shows how every aspect of Jewish life has been affected by patriarchy and offers a liberating vision of a society transformed by humane feminist values.

**Standing Again at Sinai: Judaism From a Feminist Perspective.** Plaskow, Judith. 1990. A feminist approach to Judaism offers a critique of the religion as a patriarchal tradition and analyzes potential changes in Jewish thought based on feminist definitions and understanding.

**B. JEWISH WOMEN IN THE FIGHT FOR WOMEN’S RIGHTS/CIVIL RIGHTS**

**Jewish Radical Feminism: Voices from the Women’s Liberation Movement.** Antler, Joyce. 2018. Jewish women were undeniably instrumental in shaping the women’s liberation movement of the 1960s, 70s, and 80s. Yet historians and participants themselves have overlooked their contributions as Jews. This has left many vital questions unasked and unanswered. Delving into archival sources and conducting extensive interviews with these fierce pioneers, Antler has at last broken the silence about the confluence of feminism and Jewish identity.

**Ballots, Babies, and Banners of Peace. American Jewish Women’s Activism, 1890-1940.** Klapper, Melissa, R. 2013. Klapper demonstrates that no history of the birth control, suffrage, or peace movements in the United States is complete without analyzing the impact of Jewish women's presence. Voluminous personal papers and institutional records paint a vivid picture of a world in which both middle-class and working-class American Jewish women were consistently and publicly engaged in all the major issues of their day and worked closely with their non-Jewish counterparts on behalf of activist causes. This extraordinarily well-researched volume makes a unique contribution to the study of modern women's history, modern Jewish history, and the history of American social movements.

**The Jewish 1960s: An American Sourcebook.** Staub, Michael E., ed. 2004. *The Jewish 1960s* compiles some of the finest essays, speeches, and journalistic accounts by Jewish commentators, spokespersons, prominent rabbis, civil rights and antiwar activists, radical Zionists, feminists, counter-cultural leaders, and their critics from 1960 to the early 1970s. This volume brings together materials from Jews on the right as well as the left and chronicles, among other things, Jewish religious and ethnic renewal, the Jewish stand on civil rights, Jewish liberalism and the origins of Jewish neo-conservatism, American Jews' commitments to Israel, Jewish contributions to feminism and the gay and lesbian rights movements, and the evolution of Holocaust consciousness.

**Going South: Jewish Women in the Civil Rights Movement.** Shultz, Debra L. 2001. Organized around a rich blend of oral histories, *Going South* follows a group of Jewish women—come of age in the shadow of the Holocaust and deeply committed to social justice—who put their bodies and lives on the line to fight racism. Actively rejecting the post-war idyll of suburban, Jewish, middle-class life, these women were deeply influenced by Jewish notions of morality and social justice. Many thus perceived the call of the movement as positively irresistible. Representing a link between the sensibilities of the early civil rights era and contemporary efforts to move beyond the limits of identity politics, the book provides a resource for all who
are interested in anti-racism, the civil rights movement, social justice, Jewish activism and radical women's traditions.

C. JEWISH WOMEN WHO SHAPED THE AMERICAN 20th CENTURY

*America’s Jewish Women: A History from Colonial Times to Today.* Nadell, Pamela. 2019. What does it mean to be a Jewish woman in America? In a gripping historical narrative, Nadell weaves together the stories of a diverse group of extraordinary people—from the colonial-era matriarch Grace Nathan and her great-granddaughter, poet Emma Lazarus, to labor organizer Bessie Hillman and the great justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, to scores of other activists, workers, wives, and mothers who helped carve out a Jewish American identity. The twin threads binding these women together, she argues, are a strong sense of self and a resolute commitment to making the world a better place. Nadell recounts how Jewish women have been at the forefront of causes for centuries, fighting for suffrage, trade unions, civil rights, and feminism.

*Ruth Bader Ginsburg: A Life.* De Hart, Jane Sherron. 2018. The first full life--private, public, legal, philosophical--of the 107th Supreme Court Justice, one of the most profound and profoundly transformative legal minds of our time; a book fifteen years in work, written with the cooperation of Ruth Bader Ginsburg herself and based on many interviews with the justice, her husband, her children, her friends, and her associates.

*My Own Words.* Ginsburg, Ruth Bader with Mary Hartnett and Wendy W. Williams. 2018. In this collection Justice Ginsburg discusses gender equality, the workings of the Supreme Court, being Jewish, law and lawyers in opera, and the value of looking beyond U.S. shores when interpreting the U.S. Constitution. Throughout her life, Justice Ginsburg has been (and continues to be) a prolific writer and public speaker. This book’s sampling is selected by Ginsburg and her authorized biographers Hartnett and Williams, who introduce each chapter and provide biographical context and quotes gleaned from hundreds of interviews.

*A Jewish Feminine Mystique? Jewish Women in Postwar America.* Diner, Hasia R., Shira M. Kohn, and Rachel Kranson, eds. 2010. In *The Feminine Mystique*, Jewish-raised Betty Friedan struck out against a postwar American culture that pressured women to play the role of subservient housewives. However, Friedan never acknowledged that many American women refused to retreat from public life during these years. Now, *A Jewish Feminine Mystique?* examines how Jewish women sought opportunities and created images that defied the stereotypes and prescriptive ideology of the "feminine mystique." Focusing on ordinary Jewish women as well as prominent figures such as Judy Holliday, Jennie Grossinger, and Herman Wouk's fictional *Marjorie Morningstar*, leading scholars explore the wide canvas upon which American Jewish women made their mark after the Second World War.

*Rosalind Franklin: The Dark Lady of DNA.* Maddox, Brenda. 2002. Maddox's *Rosalind Franklin: The Dark Lady of DNA* is a meticulous study of a brilliant scientist and a chronology of an epochal scientific adventure. In 1951, the race to publish the structure of DNA was heating up with the fanaticism apropos of an athletic contest. That race ended in 1953, when Rosalind
Franklin’s unpublished measurements of the crucial distances in the DNA molecule were provided without her knowledge to James Watson and Francis Crick, enabling them to build a model of DNA. Many scientists think Franklin deserved to share the Nobel Prize awarded to Watson, Crick, and Maurice Wilkins in 1962 for determining the structure of DNA. She had died four years earlier at the age of 37, and the prize is never awarded posthumously.

**A Spiritual Life: A Jewish Feminist Journey.** Feld, Merle. 1999. In her memoir, Feld combines poetry and prose to tell the story of her life from her childhood in an impoverished Brooklyn family to marriage and motherhood, involvement in Israeli-Palestinian peace work, and feminist activism. In her own words she says, "I don't really understand what political activity is about if it's not grounded in some sense of the importance of spirit in people's lives. And I certainly don't understand what spirituality is about that has no connection to or bearing on how we live in the world and what's happening to the people around us."

**The Journey Home: Jewish Women and the American Century.** Antler, Joyce. 1997. In recent decades, prominent American Jewish women like Bella Abzug and Betty Friedan have made headlines and history, challenging the constraints facing women in American public life. Few realize that these women embody a hundred-year legacy of remarkable activism. From suffrage to birth control, from trade unionism to higher education, from civil rights to feminism to every aspect of popular culture, Jewish women have been in the vanguard, leading key social movements and shaping cultural consciousness. Antler profiles these women leaders, interweaving social history with brilliant portraiture.

**Beyond the Flower: The Autobiography of a Feminist Artist.** Chicago, Judy. 1996. Anais Nin heralded the first volume of Chicago's autobiography, *Through the Flower*, as "remarkable" and "invaluable for all women." Now, Chicago takes us *Beyond the Flower*, lifting the veil of her international public persona to reveal her personal struggles as an artist and a woman in late-twentieth-century America. With the same intense intimacy and unabashed probing of issues of gender, power, and history that characterize her monumental works of art and made *Through the Flower* a classic in the literature of women and the arts, she asks hard questions about the role of art in our culture.

**Women of Valor: Stories of Great Jewish Women Who Helped Shape the Twentieth Century.** Segel, Sheila F. 1996. Segel profiles eight, twentieth-century women, exemplifying the best in Jewish leadership. Some are well known; others are less familiar. All of them, however, have made unique and meaningful contributions to Jewish life and inspire with their stories of courage, conviction, and accomplishment. Their lives encompass important highlights of Jewish history, culture, and achievements, including the trade union movement, the birth of Israel, and the Yiddish theater.
IV. GAY RIGHTS/GENDER EQUITY

*Harvey Milk: His Lives and Death.* Faderman, Lillian. 2018. Harvey Milk—eloquent, charismatic, and a smart-aleck—was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977, but he had not even served a full year in office when he was shot by a homophobic fellow supervisor. Milk’s assassination at the age of forty-eight made him the most famous gay man in modern history. He rejected Judaism as a religion, but he was deeply influenced by the cultural values of his Jewish upbringing and his understanding of anti-Semitism and the Holocaust. His early influences and his many personal and professional experiences finally came together when he decided to run for elective office as the forceful champion of gays, racial minorities, women, working people, the disabled, and senior citizens.

*Balancing on the Mechtiza: Transgender in Jewish Community.* Dzmura, Noach. 2014. While the Jewish mainstream still argues about homosexuality, transgender and gender-variant people have emerged as a distinct Jewish population and as a new chorus of voices. Inspired and nurtured by the successes of the feminist and LGBT movements in the Jewish world, Jews who identify with the “T” now sit in the congregation, marry under the *chuppah*, and create Jewish families. *Balancing on the Mechtiza* offers a multifaceted portrait of this increasingly visible community.

*Through the Door of Life: A Jewish Journey Between Genders.* Ladin, Joy. 2012. Professor Jay Ladin made headlines around the world when, after years of teaching literature at Yeshiva University, he returned to the Orthodox Jewish campus as a woman—Joy Ladin. In *Through the Door of Life*, Ladin takes readers inside her transition as she changed genders and, in the process, created a new self. With unsparing honesty and surprising humor, Ladin wrestles with both the practical problems of gender transition and the larger moral, spiritual, and philosophical questions that arise. Ladin’s poignant memoir takes us from the death of living as the man she knew she wasn’t, to the shattering of family and career that accompanied her transition, to the new self, relationships, and love she finds when she opens the door of life.

*God vs. Gay?: The Religious Case For Equality.* Michaelson, Jay. 2011. The myth that the Bible forbids homosexuality—the myth of “God versus Gay”—is behind some of the most divisive and painful conflicts of our day. In this provocative and game-changing book, scholar and activist Michaelson shows that the Bible does not prohibit same-sex intimacy but does quite the opposite. With close readings of the Hebrew Bible and New Testament, the latest data on the science of sexual orientation, and a sympathetic, accessible, and ecumenical approach to religious faith, Michaelson makes the case that sexual diversity is part of the beauty of nature. The recognition of same-sex families will strengthen, not threaten, the values religious people hold dear.

*Rights are won only by those who make their voices heard.*

--Harvey Milk
**Kulanu (all of us): A Program and Resource Guide for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Inclusion, Revised and Expanded.** Address, Richard F., Joel L. Kushner, and Geoffrey Mitelman, eds. 2007. In the years since the original *Kulanu* was published, there has been great progress in the way the Jewish community in general and the synagogue community in particular have welcomed gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender Jews. The revised and expanded edition of *Kulanu* reflects much of the change that has taken place. With over 500 pages of material, it includes personal reflections, insightful essays, blessings and texts, Reform resolutions and responsa, three classroom lessons, an extensive bibliography and glossary, and much more, much like the original *Kulanu*, this edition will help pave the way for LGBT inclusion in our synagogue community for years to come.

**V. ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE**

*We Are the Weather: Saving the Planet Begins at Breakfast.* Foer, Jonathan Safran. 2019. In *We Are the Weather*, Foer explores the issue of climate change in a surprising, deeply personal, and urgent way. The task of saving the planet will involve a great reckoning with ourselves—with our all-too-human reluctance to sacrifice immediate comfort for the sake of the future. We have, he reveals, turned our planet into a farm for growing animal products, and the consequences are catastrophic. Only collective action will save our home and way of life. And it all starts with what we eat—and don’t eat—for breakfast.

*Food Matters: A Guide to Conscious Eating.* Bittman, Mark. 2008. From the award-winning champion of culinary simplicity, *Food Matters* offers a plan for responsible eating that’s as good for the planet as it is for your weight and your health. Bittman offers a no-nonsense rundown on how government policy, big business marketing, and global economics influence what we choose to put on the table each evening. He demystifies buzzwords like "organic," "sustainable," and "local," and offers straightforward, budget-conscious advice that will help you make small changes that will shrink your carbon footprint -- and your waistline.

*The Way Into Judaism and the Environment.* Benstein, Jeremy. 2006. At a time of growing concern about environmental issues, Benstein, founder and associate director of the Heschel Center for Environmental Learning and Leadership, explores the relationship Jews have with the natural world, the ways in which Judaism contributes to contemporary social-environmental issues, the extent to which Judaism is part of the problem and how it can be part of the solution. Drawing from the Bible, rabbinic literature, midrash, the Jewish prayer book, and Jewish theology and philosophy, Benstein examines the dilemma of having dominion over the earth while serving and preserving it; what the Jewish calendar, including Shabbat and holidays, teaches us about our relationship with nature and the environment; and how contemporary environmental challenges present new and mind-opening opportunities for growth in Jewish thought and spiritual life.

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*Look deep into Nature, you will understand everything better.*

--Albert Einstein
Judaism and Environmental Ethics: A Reader. Yaffe, Martin D. 2001. This is a well-conceived exploration of three interrelated questions: Does the Hebrew Bible, or subsequent Jewish tradition, teach environmental responsibility or not? What Jewish teachings, if any, appropriately address today's environmental crisis? Do ecology, Judaism, and philosophy work together, or are they at odds with each other in confronting the current crisis? Yaffe's extensive introduction analyzes and appraises the anthologized essays, each of which serves to deepen and enrich our understanding of current reflection on Judaism and environmental ethics. This ambitious book illustrates—precisely because of its interdisciplinary focus—how longstanding disagreements and controversies may spark further interchange among ecologists, Jews, and philosophers. Both accessible and thoroughly scholarly, this dialogue will benefit anyone interested in ethical and religious considerations of contemporary ecology.

Ecology & the Jewish Spirit: Where Nature and the Sacred Meet. Bernstein, Ellen, ed. 2000. Respect for the holiness of Creation, our duty to protect the natural world, reverence for the land, and a focus on nature is part of the fabric of Jewish thought. Here, innovative contributors bring us a richer understanding of the long-neglected themes of nature that are woven through the biblical creation story, ancient texts, traditional law, the holiday cycles, prayer, mitzvot (good deeds) and community. Ecology & the Jewish Spirit explores the wisdom that the Jewish tradition has to offer all of us, to help nature become a sacred, spiritual part of our own lives.

Let the Earth Teach You Torah: A Guide to Teaching Ecological Wisdom. Bernstein, Ellen and Dan Fink. 1992. This book is part of such a tikkun (an act of fixing). It is an attempt to bring a sense of beauty to the study of the natural world and Jewish texts. It is the product of a dream in which science, religion, ethics, politics, and history are bound up into one, just as all the creatures and elements are bound up into one. It is an effort to make a whole of parts that have too long been separated.

VI. ISSUES OF WAR & PEACE

Does Judaism Condone Violence?: Holiness and Ethics in the Jewish Tradition. Mittleman, Alan. 2018. We live in an age beset by religiously inspired violence. Terms such as “holy war” are the stock-in-trade of the evening news. But what is the relationship between holiness and violence? Can acts such as murder ever truly be described as holy? In Does Judaism Condone Violence?, Alan Mittleman offers a searching philosophical investigation of such questions in the Jewish tradition. Jewish texts feature episodes of divinely inspired violence, and the position of the Jews as God’s chosen people has been invoked to justify violent acts today. Are these justifications valid? Or does our understanding of the holy entail an ethic that argues against violence?

From Enemy to Friend: Jewish Wisdom and the Pursuit of Peace. Eilberg, Amy. 2014. The first female Conservative rabbi in the U.S. reflects on ancient Jewish traditions as a guide to reconciliation and peace building in our lives, our communities, and our world.
Jewish Choices, Jewish Voices: War and National Security. Dorff, Eliot N. and Danya Ruttenberg, eds. 2010. Is it morally acceptable to use surveillance and profiling to protect national security? Should war only be used in self-defense? Is torture in times of war morally acceptable? Contributors include scholar Noam Chomsky, Lt. Col. Seth Milstein, and political philosopher Michael Walzer. Hypothetical cases on specific topics are followed by traditional and contemporary sources. Supplementing these are brief essays, written by contributors of various ages, backgrounds, and viewpoints. These voices from Jewish tradition and today’s Jewish community present us with new questions and perspectives, encouraging us to consider our own moral choices in a new light.

Swords and Plowshare: Jewish Views of War and Peace. Goldberg, Edwin C. 2006. This book is a comprehensive account of Jewish texts that deal with the subject of war and peace. Each text is presented in Hebrew and in English, followed by study questions and commentary to help the reader explore the intricacies of the texts. It is hoped that through such guided study, the reader will appreciate the nuances and basic characteristics of the texts as well as their messages concerning war and peace.

Writers on World War II: An Anthology. Richler, Mordecai. 1993. In fiction, poetry, essays, reportage, diaries, and letters, 140 distinguished writers of many nationalities recount the war they witnessed, fought, and sometimes lost their lives in. Contributors include Auden, Doctorow, Orwell, Shaw, Mailer, Sartre, Terkel, Vonnegut, Shirer, Levi, and many others.

The Religion of Ethical Nationhood: Judaism’s Contribution to World Peace. Kaplan, Mordecai Menahem. 1970. Ethical nationhood—that is, the idea that the nation's social, political, economic and military activities should be conducted in the spirit of justice spelled into law—is put forward by Kaplan as the only means of forestalling a worldwide catastrophe. The book therefore is a general historical validation of Judaism's classic role as a light to the nations from which perspective Kaplan discusses such subsidiary matters as the function of Zionism, Jewish education, and rabbinc training. It is not a wholly orthodox book from a theological standpoint; but it offers a historically substantiated interpretation of Judaism's past and future.

VII. RACISM & RACE RELATIONS

A. ALLIANCE AND CONFLICT: RACIAL DIVISION IN THE 60s AND 70s

Black Power, Jewish Politics: Reinventing the Alliance in the 1960s. Dollinger, Marc. 2018. Marc Dollinger charts the transformation of American Jewish political culture from the Cold War liberal consensus of the early postwar years to the rise and influence of Black Power–inspired ethnic nationalism. He shows how, in a period best known for the rise of black anti-Semitism and the breakdown of the black-Jewish alliance, black nationalists enabled Jewish
activists to devise a new Judeo-centered political agenda—including the emancipation of Soviet Jews, the rise of Jewish day schools, the revitalization of worship services with gender-inclusive liturgy, and the birth of a new form of American Zionism. Undermining widely held beliefs about the black-Jewish alliance, Dollinger describes a new political consensus, based on identity politics, that drew blacks and Jews together and altered the course of American liberalism.

**The Price of Whiteness: Jews, Race, and American Identity.** Goldstein, Eric, L. 2008. American Jewish history is often told as a story of quick and successful adaptation, but Goldstein demonstrates how the process of identifying as white Americans was an ambivalent one, filled with hard choices and conflicting emotions for Jewish immigrants and their children. Jews enjoyed a much greater level of social inclusion than African Americans, but their membership in white America was frequently made contingent on their conformity to prevailing racial mores and on the eradication of their perceived racial distinctiveness. Today, despite the great success Jews enjoy in the United States, they still struggle with the constraints of America's black-white dichotomy. *The Price of Whiteness* concludes that while Jews' status as white has opened many doors for them; it has placed limits on their ability to assert themselves as a group apart.

**Jews & Blacks: A Dialogue on Race, Religion, and Culture in America.** Lerner, Michael and Cornel West. 1996. Examining the issues that have united Blacks and Jews in the past and now separate them, Lerner and West, two long-time friends and leading intellectuals try to restore the special relationship between the two groups in a hard-hitting and worthwhile exchange. Both powerful public intellectuals, Lerner and West tackle these demanding problems in a sophisticated, but extremely accessible way. They conclude with a plan for healing the rifts that have developed. But in a deeper sense, it is their dialogue itself that is healing. Lerner and West’s relationship is a model rarely seen in American politics: two powerful men ready to explore differences, not afraid to disagree, and drawn through the course of the dialogue to grow closer and more caring for each other. The dialogue of this book is a model for both the Black and the Jewish communities, and it suggests that healing and transformation are possible, and that hope can triumph over cynicism and despair.

**Blacks and Jews: Alliances and Arguments.** Berman, Paul, ed. 1994. This collection of nineteen essays by some of the foremost thinkers of the time explodes myths and finds moral absolutes, bars souls and distills ideas with logic, passion, and candor. Subjects discussed are the Civil Rights Movement, the rise of Black Power, Third World alliances, Israel and Zionism, affirmative action, neo-conservatism, American slavery, racial segregation, anti-Semitism, the Holocaust—all these topics are woven into a brilliant and eloquent discussion of an issue that is shaping the time. In *Blacks and Jews* we can hear responsible voices, liberal and conservative alike, speaking
from the intellect and from the heart about bigotry and prejudice in America, and about the hope for tolerance and democracy in the American future.

**What Went Wrong: The Creation and the Collapse of the Black-Jewish Alliance.** Friedman, Murray. 1994. What went wrong between blacks and Jews? Historian Murray Friedman, also a long-time civil rights activist, takes this question as the starting point for the first authoritative history of black-Jewish relations in America. Friedman’s book traces this long and complex relationship from colonial times to the present, engaging the revisionists at every point. He argues that the future of this important American partnership lies in the outcome of the struggle currently under way between black radical nationalists and blacks seeking coalition with Jews and other whites. “Memory,” Friedman concludes, “is the only force that can bring about a reconciliation.”

**Bridges and Boundaries: African Americans and American Jews.** Howe, Irving and Marlene Park. 1992. While no single volume can fully explain this issue, *Bridges and Boundaries* provides us with a means to challenge, and perhaps even to verify, our sense of the past--and in so doing to better understand the present. Fifteen critical essays by leading historians, scholars, and political and religious figures of the 20th century provide historical overviews of the relationships between African Americans and American Jews. They also represent the diverse attitudes within the two groups, and reflect the multiple voices that have themselves shaped these attitudes.

**Broken Alliance: Turbulent Times Between Blacks and Jews in America.** Kaufman, Jonathan. 1988. Allies during the Civil Rights movement, common enemies of hate groups like the Ku Klux Klan, charter members of FDR's New Deal coalition, blacks and Jews ended the 1984 campaign divided and hostile. Kaufman's book traces the history of those relations and analyzes the reasons for the rift.

**Black anti-Semitism and Jewish Racism.** Hentoff, Nat, ed. 1970. There are no extant reviews of this book. It is a collection of essays including one by James Baldwin.

**B. JEWS AND THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT**

**To Stand Aside or Stand Alone: Southern Reform Rabbis and the Civil Rights Movement.** Krause, Alan P. 2016. In 1955, a young rabbinical student named P. Allen Krause conducted interviews with twelve Reform rabbis from southern congregations concerning their thoughts, principles, and activities as they related to the civil rights movement. Perhaps because he was a young seminary student or more likely because the interviewees were promised an embargo of twenty-five years before the interviews would be released to the public, the rabbis were extremely candid about their opinions on and their own involvement with what was still an incendiary subjects. Now, in *To Stand Aside or Stand Alone*, their stories help elucidate a pivotal moment in time. Readers learn about the attitudes of the rabbis toward each other, toward their congregants, toward national Jewish organizations, and toward local leaders of black and
white and Protestant and Catholic groups. Theirs are dramatic stories of frustration, cooperation, and conflict.

**Carolina Israelite: How Harry Golden Made Us Care About Jews, the South, and Civil Rights.** Hartnett, Kimberly Marlowe. 2015. This first comprehensive biography of Jewish American writer and humorist Harry Golden (1903-1981)—author of the 1958 national best-seller *Only in America*—illuminates a remarkable life intertwined with the rise of the civil rights movement, Jewish popular culture, and the sometimes precarious position of Jews in the South and across America during the 1950s.

**Shared Dreams: Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Jewish Community.** Schneier, Marc. 1999. *Shared Dreams* brings to life the impressive, surprising, and long-neglected history of Martin Luther King, Jr.’s efforts in support of the Jewish community. This is a story that sheds new light on the commitment and the relationship between the Jewish and African-American communities as they have struggled together to fight for justice and civil rights in our nation, and our lives.

**Heeding the Call: Jewish Voices in America’s Civil Rights Struggle.** Finkelstein, Norman, H. 1997. The book chronicles the multifaceted role of Jewish Americans in the difficult struggle for civil rights. Their story will inspire the next generation of young Jews and African Americans to renew the legacy of cooperation, which once united both groups. The struggle for equal rights in America forged a close connection between African Americans and Jews. But in recent years, that once amicable relationship has become strained. In *Heeding the Call*, young people will discover how much the shared history of both groups unites rather than divides them.

### C. JEWS OF COLOR

**The Color of Love: A Memoir of a Mixed-Race Jewish Girl.** Gad, Marra B. 2019. An unforgettable memoir about a mixed-race Jewish woman who, after fifteen years of estrangement from her racist great-aunt, helps bring her home when Alzheimer’s strikes. *The Color of Love* explores the idea of *yerusha*, which means *inheritance* in Yiddish. At turns heart wrenching and heartwarming, this is a story about what you inherit from your family—identity, disease, melanin, hate, and most powerful of all, love. With honesty, insight, and warmth, Gad has written an inspirational, moving chronicle proving that when all else is stripped away, love is where we return, and love is always our greatest inheritance.

**JewAsian: Race, Religion, and Identity for America’s Newest Jews.** Kim, Helen Kiyong and Samuel Noah Leavitt. 2016. *JewAsian* is a qualitative examination of the intersection of race, religion, and ethnicity in the increasing number of households that are Jewish American and Asian American. Kim and Leavitt’s book explores the larger social dimensions of intermarriages to explain how these particular unions reflect not only the identity of married individuals, but also the communities to which they belong. Using in-depth interviews with couples and the children of Jewish American and Asian American marriages, Kim and Leavitt’s research sheds
much-needed light on the everyday lives of these partnerships and how their children negotiate their own identities in the 21st century.

**The Colors of Jews: Racial Politics and Radical Diasporism.** Kaye/Kantrowitz, Melanie. 2007. Kaye/Kantrowitz exposes and challenges the common assumptions about whom and what Jews are, by presenting in their own voices, Jews of color from the Iberian Peninsula, Asia, Africa, and India. Drawing from her earlier work on Jews and whiteness, Kaye/Kantrowitz delves into the largely uncharted territory of Jews of color and argues that Jews are an increasingly multiracial people—a fact that, if acknowledged and embraced, could foster cross-race solidarity to help combat racism. This engaging and eye-opening book examines the historical and contemporary views on Jews and whiteness as well as the complexities of African/Jewish relations, the racial mix and disparate voices of the Jewish community, contemporary Jewish anti-racist and multicultural models, and the diasporic state of Jewish life in the United States.

**The Color of Water: A Black Man’s Tribute to His White Mother.** McBride, James. 2006. As a boy in Brooklyn's Red Hook projects, James McBride knew his mother was different. But when he asked about it, she'd simply say, “I'm light-skinned.” Later he wondered if he was different too, and asked his mother if he was black or white. “You're a human being,” she snapped. “Educate yourself or you'll be a nobody!” And when James asked what color God was, she said, “God is the color of water.” As an adult, McBride finally persuaded his mother to tell her story—the story of a rabbi's daughter, born in Poland and raised in the South, who fled to Harlem, married a black man, founded a Baptist church, and put twelve children through college.

**In Every Tongue: The Racial & Ethnic Diversity of the Jewish People.** Tobin, Gary A., Scott Rudin, and Dianne Tobin. 2005. Jews have always resembled the peoples among whom they live, whether in Africa, Asia, or Europe. Why should American Jews be an exception? In a land where racial and ethnic boundaries are becoming increasingly blurred, the American Jewish community is also shifting. *In Every Tongue* is both a groundbreaking look at the changing faces of the Jewish people and an examination of the timelessness of those changes. Ranging from distinct communities of African American Jews and adopted children of color in white Jewish families to the growing number of religious seekers of all races who hope to find a home in Judaism, *In Every Tongue* explores the origins, traditions, challenges, and joys of diverse Jews in America. This book exploding the myth of a single authentic Judaism and shines a bright light on the thousands of ethnically and racially diverse Jews in the United States who live full and rich Jewish lives.

**Black, White, and Jewish: Autobiography of a Shifting Self.** Walker, Rebecca Leventhal. 2000. The Civil Rights movement brought author Alice Walker and lawyer Mel Leventhal together, and in 1969 their daughter, Rebecca, was born. Some saw this unusual copper-colored girl as an outrage or an oddity; others viewed her as a symbol of harmony, a triumph of love over hate. But after her parents divorced, leaving her a lonely only child ferrying between two worlds that only seemed to grow further apart, Rebecca was no longer sure what she represented. In this book, Rebecca Leventhal Walker attempts to define herself as a soul instead of a symbol—and
offers a new look at the challenge of personal identity, in a story at once strikingly unique and truly universal.

*Black, Jewish and Interracial: It’s Not the Color of Your Skin, but the Race of Your Kin, and Other Myths of Identity.* Azoulay, Katya Gibel. 1997. How do adult children of interracial parents—where one parent is Jewish and one is Black—think about personal identity? This question is at the heart of Gibel Azoulay’s *Black, Jewish, and Interracial*. Motivated by her own experience as the child of a Jewish mother and Jamaican father, Gibel Azoulay blends historical, theoretical, and personal perspectives to explore the possibilities and meanings that arise when Black and Jewish identities merge. As she asks what it means to be Black, Jewish, and interracial, Gibel Azoulay challenges deeply ingrained assumptions about identity and moves toward a consideration of complementary racial identities.

**VIII. JEWISH IDENTITY**

*The Jewish American Paradox: Embracing Choice in a Changing World.* Mnookin, Robert H. 2018. Jews have achieved unprecedented integration, influence, and esteem in virtually every facet of American life. But this extraordinarily diverse community now also faces four critical and often divisive challenges: rampant intermarriage, weak religious observance, diminished cohesion in the face of waning anti-Semitism, and deeply conflicting views about Israel. Can the American Jewish community collectively sustain and pass on to the next generation a sufficient sense of Jewish identity in light of these challenges? Who should count as Jewish in America? What should be the relationship of American Jews to Israel? This book promotes an inclusive American-Jewish community—one where being Jewish can depend on personal choice and public self-identification, not simply birth or formal religious conversion. Instead of preventing intermarriage or ostracizing those critical of Israel, he envisions a community that embraces diversity and debate, and preserves and strengthens the Jewish identity.

*Politics, Faith, and the Making of American Judaism.* Adams, Peter. 2014. In 1862, in the only instance of a Jewish expulsion in America, General Ulysses S. Grant banished Jewish citizens from the region under his military command. Although President Lincoln quickly revoked the order, it represented growing anti-Semitism in America. Convinced that assimilation was their best defense, Jews sought to Americanize by shedding distinctive dress, occupations, and religious rituals. In *Politics, Faith, and the Making of American Judaism*, Adams recounts the history of the American Jewish Community’s assimilation efforts, organization, and political mobilization in the late 19th century, as political and cultural imperatives crafted a new, American brand of Judaism.

*Who is a Jew? A person whose integrity decays when unmoved by the knowledge of wrong done to other people.*

--Abraham Joshua Heschel.
Jacob’s Legacy: A Genetic View of Jewish History. Goldstein, David B. 2008. Who are the Jews? Where did they come from? What is the connection between an ancient Jewish priest in Jerusalem and today’s Israeli sunbather on the beaches of Tel Aviv? These questions stand at the heart of this engaging book. Goldstein, a geneticist, analyzes modern DNA studies of Jewish populations and examines the intersections of these scientific findings with the history (both biblical and modern) and oral tradition of the Jews. With a special gift for translating complex scientific concepts into language understandable to all, Goldstein delivers an accessible, personal, and fascinating book that tells the history of a group of people through the lens of genetics.

Abraham’s Children: Race, Identity, and the DNA of the “Chosen People”. Entine, Jon. 2007. Entine weaves a fascinating narrative, using breakthroughs in genetic genealogy to reconstruct the Jewish biblical tradition of the chosen people and the hereditary Israelite priestly caste of Cohanim. Synagogues in the mountains of India and China and Catholic churches with a Jewish identity in New Mexico and Colorado provide different patterns of connection within the tangled history of the Jewish diaspora. Legendary accounts of the Hebrew lineage of Ethiopian tribesmen, the building of Africa’s Great Zimbabwe fortress, and even the so-called Lost Tribes are reexamined in light of advanced DNA technology. Entine also reveals the shared ancestry of Israelites and Christians.

An Orphan in Jewish History: One Man’s Triumphant Search for His Jewish Roots. Cowan, Paul. 2002. After growing up as a fully assimilated Jew, Cowan embarked in his mid-thirties upon a journey to discover and appreciate his true identity and heritage. This “orphan in history” relates his search for these roots, detailing the path he took from his Park Avenue home to nineteenth-century Lithuania to a contemporary Israeli kibbutz, leading to remarkable personal discoveries that will move everyone who has yearned to know more about their past.

Jews: The Essence and Character of a People. Hertzberg, Arthur and Aron Hirt-Manheimer. 1999. In this landmark work, Hertzberg, vice president emeritus of the World Jewish Congress, and Hirt-Manheimer, editor of Reform Judaism Magazine, answer the question: What makes a Jew a Jew? These Jewish scholars search for the soul of the Jewish character—from the archetype of Abraham and Sarah to the ambivalence of Kafka, Freud, and Woody Allen. They delve beyond conventional discussions of Jewish identity and explore the very essence of Jewish existence. Highly regarded, Jews explains how and why great Jewish figures throughout history, who have been victimized by anti-Semitism, have succeeded to rise again and endure.

Who is a Jew? Conversations, Not Conclusions. Hyman, Meryl. 1998. Who Is a Jew? provides the full range of perspectives necessary to let us draw our own conclusions. The daughter of a Jewish father and a Christian mother, she set out to find out why so many Jews say she is not a Jew, even though she has practiced Judaism and identified herself as a Jew since birth. She found a people struggling with its history, customs, and laws; a people who fear that their unity may be sacrificed. Featured in Who Is a Jew? are leaders from all parts of the Jewish world, eminent scholars, and others from all spectrums of belief—from Israel, England, and the United
States--who speak out on the subject and delve into such questions as: What are the many-faceted answers to this seemingly simple question? Why are these answers crucial for all Jews? Why does Jewish identity have a bearing on all cultural, religious, and ethnic groups? Why and how does Israel's answer to the question matter to Jews everywhere in the world?

**The Vanishing American Jew: In Search of Jewish Identity for the Next Century.** Dershowitz, Alan, M. 1997. Dershowitz shows why American Jews are in danger of disappearing--and what must be done now to create a renewed sense of Jewish identity for the next century. Jews today are more secure, more accepted, more assimilated, and more successful than ever before. And that, according to Dershowitz, is precisely the problem. More than 50 percent of Jews will marry non-Jews, and their children will most often be raised as non-Jews. Which means, in the view of Dershowitz, that American Jews will vanish as a distinct cultural group sometime in the next century--unless they act now. Dershowitz calls for a new Jewish identity that focuses on the positive--the 3,500-year-old legacy of Jewish culture, values, and traditions. Dershowitz shows how this new Jewish identity can compete in America's open environment of opportunity and choice.

**If I Am Not For Myself: The Liberal Betrayal of the Jews.** Wisse, Ruth. 1992. In *If I Am Not For Myself* Wisse, who describes liberalism's belief in progress, rationality, freedom, cultural pluralism and the rule of law, explores the reasons why liberalism failed to save the Jews of Europe from Nazi German death camps.

Bringing her argument into the post-war period, Wisse argues that anti-Israel Arabs began to persuade Western liberals of the justice in opposing and seeking to destroy the Jewish state when they "exchanged the language of the right for the language of the left, presenting Israel as the bloodthirsty exploiter of impoverished innocent Arab masses.... Since democratic society does not want to perceive itself as heartless or collaborationist, those who court favor with the Arabs have to deny the (Palestinian Arab) war against the Jewish state or else justify their betrayal of the Jews in a language of moral convenience."

**Jewish Identity in the Modern World.** Meyer, Michael A. 1990. Meyer presents a historical survey of three major forces that have created modern Jewish identity: enlightenment, anti-Semitism, and attitude towards Zion, each of which could act either as a strengthening or weakening agent. He argues that anti-Semitism could add to the weakening of Jewish identity caused by enlightenment, or strengthen it by undermining the latter's supposedly rational and universal basis. He discusses Jewish conversion and self-hate and Jewish apologetic responses to anti-Semitism, some of which were divisive, while others caused solidarity. Nazi policy, he points out, forced many Jews to construct a new Jewish identity, though this revival was cut short by the Holocaust. Finally, he argues that the memory of the Holocaust today serves as a basic motive for Jewish identification.
IX. ANTI-SEMITISM

A. THE ROOTS AND HISTORY OF ANTI-SEMITISM

The Jewish People: A Story of Survival. (DVD). Goldberg, Andrew, director. 2009. Spanning millennia, this history of the Jewish people explores how a small group who started as desert nomads overcame countless obstacles to survive to the present day. From slavery to the loss of their homeland; from exile to anti-Semitism; from pogroms to near annihilation in the Holocaust; how did the Jews endure while so many other communities vanished?

Henry Ford and the Jews: The Mass Production of Hatred. Baldwin, Neil. 2002. How and why did this quintessential American folk-hero and pioneering industrialist become one of the most obsessive anti-Semites of our time? Once Henry Ford’s virulent media campaign against the Jews took off during the "anxious decade" following World War I, how did America's splintered Jewish community attempt to cope with the relentless tirade conducted for ninety-one consecutive weeks in the automobile manufacturer’s personal newspaper, The Dearborn Independent? What were the repercussions of Ford's Jew-hatred extending deeply into the 1930s? Drawing upon previously-uncited oral history transcripts, archival correspondence, and family memoirs, Baldwin answers these and other questions, examining the conservative biases of the men at the inner circle of the Ford Motor Company and disentangling painful ideological struggles among an elite Jewish leadership reluctantly pitted against the clout and popularity of "The Flivver King."

The Jewish Enigma: An Enduring People. Englander, David, ed. 1992. The survival of Jewish identity and culture is one of the great enigmas of history. Faced with persecution, dispersal, pogroms and Hitler's Final Solution, the future of the Jewish people has never been secure. The Jewish Enigma seeks to discover what has made survival possible. In seven concise chapters, leading scholars in the field trace the history of the Jewish people from early post-Biblical times and the first Babylonian exile to the current state of Western and American Jewry. They analyze the changing position of Jews throughout the centuries, contrasting the experience of Jews in Islamic lands and those in Christian Europe. Topics covered in individual chapters include the achievement of full rights, which allowed Jews to move into the mainstream of society; the roots and history of anti-Semitism and the effects it had on Jews of different countries; the history of East European Jewry, as well as the troubled history of Zionism and the Palestinians.

History and Hate: The Dimensions of Anti-Semitism. Berger, David. 1986. The persistence of anti-Semitism is a phenomenon that challenges Jewish historians to make ethical judgments a part of historical analysis. This comprehensive collection meets that challenge as its authors provide fresh insight into the complexities of anti-Semitism. The eight essays included in this
volume are by noted scholars, each an expert in a specific historical period—from the ancient world to the twentieth century.

**Anti-Semitism in American History.** Gerber, David, A. 1986. Is anti-Semitism a minor feature in United States history that should be seen in the context of general Jewish acceptance, or has American society been largely indifferent or hostile to Jewish interests? The essays in *Anti-Semitism in American History* offer both negative and positive views of the Jewish experience but, on balance, suggest that anti-Semitism is an important phenomenon that should not be minimized either today or in terms of American history. Fourteen studies analyze different aspects of anti-Semitism over the past 150 years from the time the book was published.

**The Roots of anti-Semitism: In the Age of Renaissance and Reformation.** Oberman, Heiko A. 1984. Oberman demonstrates that although the Humanism and Reformation movements of 16th century Europe preached religious toleration, that toleration was only reserved for Christians. The anti-Semitism of the humanists and the reformers remained as vicious as it had been in the Middle Ages. The Europe of the Renaissance and Reformation was still ruled by Christianity, a religion that believed itself to be the only truth and whose attitude towards Jews was either mass conversion or mass expulsion. Oberman details the various “sins” of the Jews.

**Why the Jews: The Reason for anti-Semitism.** Prager, Dennis and Joseph Telushkin. 1983. The very word *Jew* continues to arouse passions as does no other religious, national, or political name. Why have Jews been the object of the most enduring and universal hatred in history? Why did Hitler consider murdering Jews more important than winning World War II? Why has the United Nations devoted more time to tiny Israel than to any other nation on earth? In this seminal study, Prager and Telushkin attempt to uncover and understand the roots of anti-Semitism—from the ancient world to the Holocaust to the current crisis in the Middle East. *Why the Jews?* offers new insights and unparalleled perspectives on some of the most recent, pressing developments in the contemporary world.

**From Prejudice to Destruction: anti-Semitism, 1700-1933.** Katz, Jacob. 1980. Katz revises the prevalent thesis that medieval and modern animosities against Jews were fundamentally different. He also rejects the scapegoat theory, according to which Jews were merely a lightning rod for underlying economic and social tensions. On the contrary, he argues, there were very real tensions between Jews and non-Jews, because the Jews were a highly visible and cohesive group and so came into conflict with non-Jews in competing for social and economic rewards.

In the late 19th century, Katz argues, hatred of the Jews shifted from their religion to more essential aspects of their character and behavior. The term "anti-Semitism," he explains, which first came into use around 1870, was meant to describe this change. Thus, ironically, just as Jews were being integrated into the political state, skillful propagandists such as Theodore Fritzche and Houston Stewart Chamberlain were extraordinarily successful in spreading notions of Jewish racial inferiority and its threat to the pure Aryan stock. And so when Hitler came on the scene, the seeds of Jewish race hatred were widely sown.
The Roots of anti-Semitism. Abel, Ernest L. 1974. Abel discusses both pre-Christian and early Christian anti-Semitism. He characterizes Greco-Roman anti-Semitism as social, based on criticism of Jewish behavior, including unwillingness to participate in social and political life and, especially, Jewish loyalty to rulers rather than the people. Christian anti-Semitism arose on the basis of religious disagreement. When the Roman Empire adopted Christianity, it embodied Christian hostility to Jews in its legislation, including that aimed at isolating Jews to keep them from "contaminating" the rest of society. Pre-Christian anti-Semitism was sporadic and sometimes related to economic distress, while a more general and permanent anti-Semitism emerged only with Christianity and its scapegoating of Judaism.

The Teaching of Contempt: Christians Roots of anti-Semitism. Isaac, Jules. 1964. According to Isaac, "The thesis of the book is that the contempt in which Jewish people are held by such great numbers of people and the persecutions which they have experienced through nineteen hundred years are to be traced to a Christian source—the charge that the Jewish people are a ‘deicide’ people, that they ‘killed God’." Isaac further said, "we are all familiar with the words of Jesus from the Fourth Gospel, ‘In my Father's house are many mansions’ (John 14:2). I fear that in Satan's house there are even more, if only to accommodate the thousand varieties of anti-Semitism." Isaac believed "the historian has a right and a duty, an absolute duty, to see the Gospel accounts of the Passion as testimony weighed against the Jews."

Anti-Semite and Jew. Sartre, Jean Paul. 1946. Shortly after the Liberation of Paris from German occupation in 1944 Sartre wrote Réflexions sur la question juive, "Reflections on the Jewish Question," an essay about anti-Semitism. The essay deals with anti-Semitism and how Jews react to it. More broadly, the book tries to explain the etiology of hate by analyzing anti-Semitic hate. According to Sartre, anti-Semitism, and hate more broadly, is, among other things, a way by which the middle class lays claim to the nation in which they reside, and an oversimplified conception of the world in which the anti-Semite sees "not a conflict of interests but the damage an evil power causes society."

The Devil and the Jews: The Medieval Conception of the Jews and its Relation to Modern anti-Semitism. Trachtenberg, Joshua. 1943. The persistence of anti-Semitism is a phenomenon that challenges Jewish historians to make ethical judgments a part of historical analysis. This comprehensive collection meets that challenge as its authors provide fresh insight into the complexities of anti-Semitism. The eight essays included in this volume are by noted scholars, each an expert in a specific historical period--from the ancient world to the twentieth century.

B. ANTI-SEMITISM RISING IN THE POST-HOLOCAUST ERA

Anti-Semitism: Here and Now. Lipstadt, Deborah E. 2019. The book is written in the form of a series of letters between a "whip smart" college student, "Abigail," and a well-intentioned, non-Jewish law school professor, "Joe," who are composite characters of people in Lipstadt's academic and social circles. The questions raised in the letters are based on actual questions that she has been asked about anti-Semitism. Lipstadt defines anti-Semitism as “not the hatred
of people who happen to be Jews. It is hatred of them because they are Jews” and stipulates that it arises “independently of any action by Jews.”

**How to Fight anti-Semitism.** Weiss, Bari. 2019. Bari Weiss’ urgent new book may be small in size, but it packs a powerful message: there is an alarming increase in anti-Semitism in the United States, and every single one of us must defend ourselves. In prose that is at once calm and measured, yet strong and rousing, she sounds a clarion call to combat, articulating different types of present-day anti-Semites, and outlining the methods that will be most effective in bringing us out of what she sees as a rising darkness. She tells us to embrace Judaism, renew our values, and respect ourselves.

**Never Again?: The Threat of the New anti-Semitism.** Foxman, Abraham H. 2010. As national director of the Anti-Defamation League, Foxman fights against the menace of intolerance every day. As a result of the disturbing events of the last few years, he is convinced that we currently face as great a threat to the safety and security of the Jewish people as we faced in the 1930s. Anti-Semitism remains a pernicious form of ethnic and religious intolerance, with consequences for all of humankind. Exploring the history of anti-Semitism and providing the first comprehensive examination of the new rampant anti-Jewish sentiment worldwide, *Never Again?* offers a crucial discussion of the steps that must be taken to prevent this century from witnessing a replay of the horrors of the last.

**Anti-Semitism: The Generic Hatred: Essays in Memory of Simon Wiesenthal.** Fineberg, Michael, Shimon Samuels, and Mark Weitzman, eds. 2007. Dedicated to the memory of the 'conscience of the Holocaust', Simon Wiesenthal--to whom it offers a number of personal tributes--this book brings together essays by a wide variety of authors on anti-Semitism and related forms of intolerance, racism, and xenophobia. Starting from the idea that anti-Semitism constitutes a paradigm case of collective and individual hatred, the book examines some of the reasons why it has prospered over the ages and persists in our time, even after well-nigh universal condemnation of the Holocaust. Some authors see it as a virus, always ready to develop and spread wherever Jewish difference is resented. Others emphasize that the anti-Semitic myths are not grounded in reality but depend rather on a fabrication, an imagined being to whom every kind of vice and perversion can be attributed. The contributors to this memorial volume, representing a range of cultural, religious, and disciplinary perspectives, know that so long as the Jewish stereotype is vested with legitimacy, the fight against anti-Semitism can never be won. Nor can it be defeated so long as it is fueled by crisis in the Middle East, which has allowed some people to give expression to their anti-Semitism while denying it, by treating the State of Israel not as a state with its own particular problems and shortcomings, but as a kind of reified Jew. These are some of the issues addressed by the authors and essays presented, along with others, such as anti-Semitism as a determinant of Jewish identity and the possibility of forgiveness for the perpetrators of genocide.

**Those Who Forget the Past: The Question of Anti-Semitism.** Rosenbaum, Ron, ed. 2004. After the horrors of World War II, people everywhere believed that it could never happen again, but
today the evidence is unmistakable that anti-Semitism is dramatically on the rise once more. Rosenbaum brings together a collection of powerful essays about the origin and nature of the new anti-Semitism. Paul Berman, Marie Brenner, David Brooks, Harold Evans, Todd Gitlin, Jeffrey Goldberg, Bernard Lewis, David Mamet, Amos Oz, Cynthia Ozick, Frank Rich, Jonathan Rosen, Edward Said, Judith Shulevitz, Lawrence Summers, Jeffrey Toobin, and Robert Wistrich are among the distinguished writers and intellectuals who grapple with painful questions: Why now? What is—or isn’t—new? Is a second Holocaust possible, this time in the Middle East? How does anti-Semitism differ from anti-Zionism?

**In Search of Anti-Semitism.** Buckley, William F., Jr. 1992. This is not a history of anti-Semitism, nor a survey of it (though the author reveals historical and sociological knowledge of the field), *In Search of Anti-Semitism* is a perceptive study of anti-Semitism as it shows its face in the influential world in which Buckley and his fraternity live: in opinion magazines, in publishing houses, in the op-ed pages, in syndicated columns, in TV talk shows.

**The Socialism of Fools: Anti-Semitism on the Left.** Lerner, Michael. 1992. In this brief manifesto for Jewish progressives, Lerner cogently argues that anti-Semitism on the Left is due to a failure to understand the unique nature of Jewish oppression. Through a broad sketch of Jewish history, he delineates how Jews, feared by ruling powers as challengers to authority, have been allowed to acquire just enough wealth and authority so that others—from Polish peasants to urban African Americans—can deflect their angry discontent onto them. Lerner convincingly applies this analysis to Jews in America and refutes charges from the Left that Jews today are oppressors and not oppressed. He calls on Jewish progressives to examine their internalized anti-Semitism and to learn how to distinguish legitimate criticism of Israel from Israel-bashing.

**Semites and Anti-Semites: An Inquiry into Conflict and Prejudice.** Lewis, Bernard. 1986. The Arab-Israeli conflict has unsettled the Middle East for over half a century. This conflict is primarily political, a clash between states and peoples over territory and history. But it is also a conflict that has affected and been affected by prejudice. For a long time this was simply the "normal" prejudice between neighboring people of different religions and ethnic origins. In the present age, however, hostility toward Israel and its people has taken the form of anti-Semitism—a pernicious world view that goes beyond prejudice and ascribes to Jews a quality of cosmic evil. *Semites and anti-Semites* traces the development of anti-Semitism from its beginnings as a poison in the bloodstream of Christianity to its modern entrance into mainstream Islam. Lewis, one of the world's foremost scholars of the Middle East, takes us through the history of the Semitic peoples to the emergence of the Jews and their virulent enemies, and dissects the region's recent tragic developments in a moving new afterword.

**The Left, the Right and the Jews.** Rubinstein, W.D. 1982. This book examines anti-Semitism in the Western world. The author concludes that, fringe neo-Nazi groups notwithstanding, significant anti-Semitism is largely a left-wing rather than a right-wing phenomenon. He finds that Jews have reacted to this change in their situation and in attitudes towards them by making a shift to the right in most Western countries, with the major exception of the United
States. Considering the contribution of Jews to socialist thought from Marx onwards and the equally lengthy history of right-wing anti-Semitism, this shift is one of the most significant in Jewish history. This movement to the right is discussed in separate chapters, as is Soviet anti-Semitism and the status of the State of Israel.Examined in depth are the implications of this shift in attitude for Jewish philosophy and self-identity.

X. MEDICAL ETHICS

Jews and Genes: The Genetic Future in Contemporary Jewish Thought. Dorff, Elliot N. and Laurie Zoloth, eds. 2015. Well aware of Jews having once been the victims of Nazi eugenics policies, many Jews today have an ambivalent attitude toward new genetics and are understandably wary of genetic forms of identity and intervention. At the same time, the Jewish tradition is strongly committed to medical research designed to prevent or cure diseases. Jews and Genes explores this tension against the backdrop of various important developments in genetics and bioethics—new advances in stem cell research; genetic mapping, identity, testing, and intervention; and the role of religion and ethics in shaping public policy. Jews and Genes brings together leaders in their fields, from all walks of Judaism, to explore these most timely and intriguing topics—the intricacies of the genetic code and the wonders of life, along with cutting-edge science and the ethical issues it raises.

Matters of Life and Death: a Jewish Approach to Modern Medical Ethics. Dorff, Elliot N. 1998. Genetic engineering, in-vitro fertilizations, and cloning, among other medical breakthroughs, have transformed long-held beliefs on the nature of both life and death, raising difficult moral and religious questions. In Matters of Life and Death Dorff thoroughly addresses this unavoidable confluence of medical technology and Jewish law and ethics.

Alternatives in Jewish Bioethics. Zohar, Noam J. 1997. This dialogue between the Jewish normative tradition and Western moral philosophy addresses central contemporary issues in medical ethics. Alternatives in Jewish Bioethics consists of a dialogue between contemporary, Western moral philosophy and the Jewish tradition of legal/moral discourse (Halakha). Recognizing that no single tradition has a monopoly on valid moral teachings, it seeks to enrich our ethical perspectives through mutual exchange.

Concretely, the book addresses some of the central contemporary issues in the ethics of medicine. These include assisted suicide and euthanasia, donor insemination and "surrogate" motherhood, the use of human cadavers for learning and research, and allocation of scarce resources at both the individual and social levels.

May I never see in the patient anything but a fellow creature in pain.

--Maimonides
**Jewish Bioethics.** Bleich, David J., Fred Rosner, and Menachem M. Brayer, eds. 1979. How do you define the precise moment of death? Should "pulling the plug" and mercy killings be allowed by law? Is it necessary to control the birth of test-tube babies? Should abortions be legal and freely available? What are the social implications of sex-change operations? Should research on cloning and genetic engineering be allowed and encouraged? Should doctors be permitted to perform medical experiments on human subjects?

**Modern Medicine and Jewish Ethics.** Rosner, Fred. 1972. Advancements in medical science and technology inevitably and rightly engender complex ethical and moral questions that confront the patient, family, and society at large. Rosner, an esteemed academic physician and noted scholar in Jewish medical ethics, presents this compilation of his essays on Jewish teachings and ethical attitudes as they pertain to modern medical issues such as artificial insemination, in-vitro fertilization, genetic engineering, organ transplantation, and extraordinary life support measures. Additional essays elaborate Jewish thought on the age-old bioethical dilemmas of contraception, abortion, euthanasia, and autopsy.

**XI. BIOGRAPHIES**

**A. NOTABLE JEWISH THINKERS IN THE MODERN ERA**

**Martin Buber: A Life of Faith and Dissent.** Mendes-Flohr, Paul. 2019. An authority on the twentieth-century philosopher Martin Buber (1878–1965), Mendes-Flohr offers the first major biography in English in thirty years of this seminal modern Jewish thinker. The book is organized around several key moments, such as his sudden abandonment by his mother when he was a child of three, a foundational trauma that, Mendes-Flohr shows, left an enduring mark on Buber’s inner life, attuning him to the fragility of human relations and the need to nurture them with what he would call a “dialogical attentiveness.” Buber’s philosophical and theological writings, most famously *I and Thou*, made significant contributions to religious and Jewish thought, philosophical anthropology, biblical studies, political theory, and Zionism.

**In This Hour: Heschel’s Writings in Nazi Germany and London Exile.** Heschel, Abraham Joshua; Helen Plotkin, ed. 2019. *In This Hour* offers the first English translations of selected German writings by Heschel from his tumultuous years in Nazi-ruled Germany and months in London exile, before he found refuge in the United States. Several of the works have never been published in any language. Composed during a time of intense crisis for European Jewry, these writings both argue for and exemplify a powerful vision of spiritually rich Jewish learning and its redemptive role in the past and the future of the Jewish people.

> Without memory, there is no culture. Without memory, there would be no civilization, no society, no future.

--Elie Wiesel
notes make the volume accessible to readers of all knowledge levels. As Heschel teaches history, his voice is more than that of a historian: the old becomes new, and the struggles of one era shed light on another. Even as Heschel quotes ancient sources, his words address the issues of his own time and speak urgently to ours.

**Spiritual Radical: Abraham Joshua Heschel in America: 1940-1972.** Kaplan, Edward, K. 2007. This book reacquaints us with the genius, grandeur, and religious fervor that was Abraham Joshua Heschel. Heschel’s development and emergence as an outspoken champion of civil rights, human rights, Soviet Jewry, and a vociferous opponent of the Vietnam War is described. And we see an extraordinary theologian who contributed to all segments of the Jewish and non-Jewish world that grappled with issues of faith, belief, tradition, change, prayer and the meaning of mission, and the responsibility of human beings to each other and to God.

**In Pursuit of Godliness: The Life and Thought of Rabbi Harold M. Schulweis.** Feinstein, Edward. 2020. Harold Schulweis was a dominant figure in the renewal of Jewish life in the post-war generation of American Jewry. Widely regarded as the most successful and influential pulpit rabbi of his generation, he shaped an extraordinary career as pulpit rabbi, theologian, public intellectual, and communal leader. His innovations in synagogue practice reshaped congregations across the continent introducing synagogue-based havurot, “para-rabbinics” and para-professional counseling programs, outreach to alienated Jews and “unchurched” Christians, opening the traditional synagogue to gay and lesbian Jews and their families, and welcoming families of children with special needs. With Leonard Fein, Schulweis founded Mazon, the Jewish communal response to hunger. He launched The Foundation for the Righteous – recognizing Christians who rescued Jews during the Holocaust – an effort chronicled on the CBS news program 60 Minutes. In the closing years of his career, he initiated the Jewish World Watch – a communal response to the incidence of genocide worldwide.

**Makers of Jewish Modernity: Thinkers, Artists, Leaders, and the World They Made.** Picard, James, Jacques M. Revel, Michael P. Steinberg, and Idith Zertal, eds. 2016. *Makers of Jewish Modernity* features entries on political figures such as Walther Rathenau, Rosa Luxemburg, and David Ben-Gurion; philosophers and critics such as Walter Benjamin, Hannah Arendt, Isaiah Berlin, Jacques Derrida, and Judith Butler; and artists such as Mark Rothko. The book provides fresh insights into the lives and careers of novelists like Franz Kafka, Saul Bellow, and Philip Roth; the filmmakers Joel and Ethan Coen; social scientists such as Sigmund Freud; religious leaders and thinkers such as Avraham Kook and Martin Buber; and many others. Written by a diverse group of leading contemporary scholars from around the world, these vibrant and frequently surprising portraits offer a global perspective that highlights the multiplicity of Jewish experience and thought.

**B. TIKKUN OLAM – JEWS WHO SOUGHT TO CHANGE THE WORLD**

**Louis D. Brandeis: A Life.** Urosky, Melvin I. 2009. The First Amendment’s right of free expression, the Fourth Amendment’s right to privacy, and the due process clause’s focus on personal liberty (rather than property) all owe their current vitality to the creative genius of
Justice Brandeis, whose dissenting opinions have become law of the land. Urosky makes the case that this son of Czech-Jewish immigrants, who grew up in Louisville, Kentucky, may qualify as the greatest legal personage in American history.

**The Master of Seventh Avenue: David Dubinsky and the American Labor Movement.** Parmet, Robert D. 2005. *The Master of Seventh Avenue* is the definitive biography of David Dubinsky, one of the most controversial and influential labor leaders in 20th-century America. A character in the truest sense of the word, Parmet reveals that Dubinsky was both revered and reviled, but never dull, conformist, or bound by convention. A Jewish labor radical, Dubinsky became president of the International Ladies’ Garment Workers’ Union (ILGWU) in 1932 and went on to lead it for thirty-four years. Dubinsky famously championed “social unionism,” which offered workers benefits ranging from health care to housing. Dubinsky’s boundless energy was not limited solely to labor, and *The Master of Seventh Avenue* chronicles the activist’s influential role as in local, national, and international politics.

**Einstein: His Space and Time.** Gimbel, Steven. 2015. The commonly held view of Albert Einstein is of an eccentric genius for whom the pursuit of science was everything. But in actuality, the brilliant innovator whose Theory of Relativity forever reshaped our understanding of time was a man of his times, always politically engaged and driven by strong moral principles. An avowed pacifist, Einstein’s mistrust of authority and outspoken social and scientific views earned him death threats from Nazi sympathizers in the years preceding World War II. To him, science provided not only a means for understanding the behavior of the universe, but a foundation for considering the deeper questions of life and a way for the worldwide Jewish community to gain confidence and pride in itself.

**Square One: A Memoir.** Forster, Arnold. 1988. Former general counsel and associate national director of the Anti-Defamation League, Forster focuses his memoir on his lifelong struggle against anti-Semitism before and after World War II. He deals with prewar bigotry and Father Coughlin, the America First movement, the Ku Klux Klan, the activities of the ADL against racism and anti-Semitism, the anti-Jewish element of the anti-communist campaign in the U.S., the Eichmann trial (Forster served as a radio reporter from Jerusalem), the Arab boycott against Israel, anti-Zionism as the "new" anti-Semitism, and U.N. discrimination against Israel.

**Irving Howe: A Life of Passionate Dissent.** Sorin, Gerald. 2003. Sorin brings us close to this man who rose from Jewish immigrant poverty in the 1930s to become one of the most provocative intellectuals of our time. Known most widely for his award-winning book *World of Our Fathers*, a rich portrayal of the East European Jewish experience in New York, Howe also won acclaim for his prodigious output of illuminating essays on American culture and as an indefatigable promoter of democratic socialism as can be seen in the pages of *Dissent*, the journal he edited for nearly forty years. Deeply devoted to the ideal of democratic radicalism and true equality, Howe was constantly engaged in a struggle for decency and basic fairness in the face of social injustice. In the century of Auschwitz, the Gulag, and global inter-ethnic mass murder, it was
difficult to sustain political certainties and take pride in one's humanity. To have lived a life of conviction and engagement in that era was a notable achievement.

**Julius Rosenwald: Repairing the World.** Diner, Hasia R. 2017. Julius Rosenwald (1862–1932) rose from modest means as the son of a peddler to meteoric wealth at the helm of Sears, Roebuck. Yet his most important legacy stands not upon his business acumen but on the pioneering changes he introduced to the practice of philanthropy. This biography explores his attitudes toward his own wealth and his distinct ideas about philanthropy, positing an intimate connection between his Jewish consciousness and his involvement with African Americans. The book shines light on his belief in the importance of giving in the present to make an impact on the future, and on his encouragement of beneficiaries to become partners in community institutions and projects. Rosenwald emerges from the pages as a compassionate man whose generosity and wisdom transformed the practice of philanthropy itself.

**Open Heart.** Wiesel, Elie; Marion Wiesel, translator. 2012. Eighty-two years old, facing emergency heart surgery and his own mortality, Wiesel reflects back on his life. Emotions, images, faces, and questions flash through his mind. His family before and during the unspeakable Event. The gifts of marriage and children and grandchildren that followed. In his writing, in his teaching, in his public life, has he done enough for memory and the survivors? His ongoing questioning of God—where has it led? Is there hope for mankind? The world’s tireless ambassador of tolerance and justice has given us this luminous account of hope and despair, an exploration of the love, regrets, and abiding faith of a remarkable man.

**Pillar of Fire: A Biography of Stephen S. Wise.** Rudin, James Arnold. 2015. No other rabbi before or since Wise has dominated the American and the international scene with such passion and power. Both his admirers and opponents acknowledged him as the premier leader of the American Jewish community and a major political figure. *Pillar of Fire* goes behind the headlines and the once-closed archives of the White House and the State Department to reveal the complex and controversial personal relationship between Wise and President Franklin D. Roosevelt when millions of lives hung in the balance during the Holocaust. It also explores Wise’s remarkable relationships with both President Woodrow Wilson and United States Supreme Court Justice Louis D. Brandeis. Finally, the book describes how Wise’s extraordinary actions in the realm of social justice and human rights permanently influenced every clergyperson, seminary, and house of worship in America.

**A Voice That Spoke for Justice: The Life and Times of Stephen S. Wise** Urofsky, Melvin I. 1981. In the first half of this century, a talented and charismatic leadership restructured the American Jewish community to meet the demands and opportunities of a pluralistic, secular society. The work of this generation of titans still guides the current modes of American Jewish life. The last of these giants was the influential reformer Stephen S. Wise— a progenitor of American Zionism, creator of the American and World Jewish Congresses, and founder of the Jewish Institute of Religion. As rabbi of the Free Synagogue, Wise led the fight for a living Judaism responsive to social problems.

XII. YOUNG READERS

A. PICTURE BOOKS

Drop by Drop: A Story of Rabbi Akiva. Jules, Jacqueline. 2017. Akiva is just a poor shepherd living an ordinary life, until he falls in love with Rachel. Rachel thinks her husband could become a great man of learning—but Akiva can't even read! Is he too old to be a scholar or can he follow the example of the water in the nearby brook? Water is soft, yet drop by drop, it can soften the hardest stone. Grades preK-2.


I Dissent: Ruth Bader Ginsburg Makes Her Mark. Levy, Debbie. 2016. Get to know celebrated Supreme Court justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg—in the first picture book about her life—as she proves that disagreeing does not make you disagreeable! Supreme Court justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg has spent a lifetime disagreeing: disagreeing with inequality, arguing against unfair treatment, and standing up for what’s right for people everywhere. This biographical picture book about the Notorious RBG, tells the justice’s story through the lens of her many famous dissents, or disagreements. Ages 4-8.

As Good as Anybody: Martin Luther Kind, Jr. and Abraham Joshua Heschel’s Amazing March Toward Freedom. Michaelson, Richard. 2013. Martin grew up in a loving family in the American South, at a time when this country was plagued by racial discrimination. He aimed to put a stop to it. He became a minister like his daddy, and he preached and marched for his cause. Abraham grew up in a loving family many years earlier, in a Europe that did not welcome Jews. He found a new home in America, where he became a respected rabbi like his father, carrying a message of peace and acceptance. Here is the story of two icons for social justice, how they formed a remarkable friendship and turned their personal experiences of discrimination into a message of love and equality for all. Ages 6 and up.
**Ruth Bader Ginsburg: The Case of R.B.G. vs. Inequality.** Winter, Jonah. 2017. To become the first female Jewish Supreme Court Justice, the unsinkable Ruth Bader Ginsburg had to overcome countless injustices. Growing up in Brooklyn in the 1930s and 40s, Ginsburg was discouraged from working by her father, who thought a woman’s place was in the home. Regardless, she went to Cornell University, where men outnumbered women four to one. There, she met her husband, Martin Ginsburg, and found her calling as a lawyer. Despite discrimination against Jews, females, and working mothers, Ginsburg went on to become Columbia Law School’s first tenured female professor, a judge for the US Court of Appeals, and finally, a Supreme Court Justice. Ages 6-9.

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**Think before you speak.**

*Read before you think.*

—Fran Lebowitz

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**B. MIDDLE GRADE**

**Benny Goodman & Teddy Wilson: Taking the Stage as the First Black and White Jazz Band in History.** Cline-Ransome, Lesa. 2014. Teddy Wilson and Benny Goodman broke the color barrier in entertainment when they formed the Benny Goodman Trio with Gene Krupa. Here is the story of how two musical prodigies from very different backgrounds grew up, were brought together by the love of music, and helped to create the jazz style known as swing. Ages 8-12.

**Listen to the Trees: Jews and the Earth.** Cone, Molly. 1995. Using Torah texts and traditional Jewish stories as a basis, this book for intermediate grades presents an exploration of ecology and the interconnectedness of all life on earth. Stories, cartoons, and full-color illustrations.

**Portraits of Jewish American Heroes.** Drucker, Malka. 2017. From its beginnings, America, founded on religious freedom, has been a land of opportunity for Jews, socially, economically, and spiritually, writes Drucker in introducing twenty compelling individuals who have enriched our country by their achievements. In areas including science, sports, filmmaking, and civil rights, we meet male and female heroes who set an example, made a positive difference, and took a risk to do it. This beautifully produced volume spans three centuries of history, beginning with Haym Solomon and ending with Daniel Pearl. Each individual's likeness, spirit, and contribution are captured in a distinctive and striking color portrait created with a variety of different media. Ages 9-12.

**Schools of Hope: How Julius Rosenwald Helped Change African American Education.** Finkelstein, Norman H. 2014. In early twentieth-century America, at a time of rampant segregation, one man made it possible for African-American children in the South to receive a quality education. Julius Rosenwald was not only the wealthy president of Sears, Roebuck and Company, but one of America’s greatest philanthropists. Through his friendship with Booker T. Washington, Rosenwald discovered that southern black schools suffered from inadequately trained teachers, dilapidated buildings, and a lack of books and supplies. Adhering to Washington's self-help philosophy, Rosenwald began funding the building of schools throughout the Deep South with one major stipulation—each community had to raise enough funds.
money to match his gift. By 1932, over 5,300 Rosenwald schools served a quarter of all black children in the South. Rosenwald's legacy lives on through Rosenwald school graduates, their children, and grandchildren. Grades 6-8.

**A Horn for Louis.** Kimmel, Eric. 2006. Seven-year-old Louis Armstrong was too poor to buy a real instrument. He didn’t even go to school. To help his mother pay the rent, Louis works for a Jewish family that employs him to help collect junk and befriends him. Every day he rode the junk wagon through the streets of New Orleans, playing a tin horn and collecting stuff people didn’t want. Then one day, the junk wagon passed a pawnshop with a gleaming brass trumpet in the window. With messages about hard work, persistence, hope, tolerance, cooperation, trust, and friendship, *A Horn for Louis* is perfect for aspiring young musicians and nonfiction fans alike. Grades 2-5.

**No Truth Without Ruth: The Life of Ruth Bader Ginsburg.** Krull, Kathleen. 2018. Ruth Bader Ginsburg may be one of the most respected women in the United States, but her recognition is nothing short of hard-won. It was in her fight for equality as a lawyer that she made an imprint on American history, by changing the way the law dealt with women's rights and by showing people that unfairness to women wasn’t just a female problem—that it negatively affected men and children too. Grades 3-5.

**Marven of the Great North Woods.** Lasky, Kathryn. 1997. The true story of 10-year old Maven Lasky sent to the Great North Woods of Minnesota to protect him from the 1918-1919 influenza epidemic. The woods are an alien world to this Jewish city kid – loggers, huge trees, bears and no-kosher food – but with the help of burly Jean Louis, he begins to feel less alone. Grades 3-5.

**Dissenter on the Bench: Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s Life and Work.** Ortiz, Victoria. 2019. Dramatically narrated case histories from Justice Ginsburg's stellar career are interwoven with an account of RBG’s life—childhood, family, beliefs, education, marriage, legal and judicial career, children, and achievements—and her many-faceted personality is captured. The cases described, many involving young people, demonstrate her passionate concern for gender equality, fairness, and our constitutional rights. Grades 7-9.

**In the Promised Land: Lives of Jewish Americans.** Rappaport, Doreen. 2005. Inspired by her own grandparents’ flight from Eastern Europe to America, Doreen Rappaport illuminates how 13 Jewish Americans fought adversity to make important contributions to American society and the world. Defining moments in the lives of 13 prominent Jewish Americans, from the first Jewish immigration in the 1600s to contemporary figures, are included in historical order. Many of the historical figures will be unknown to young readers and can lead them to seek more information. The subjects chosen are balanced between male and female and are diverse in their occupations. Whether they were speaking for women’s rights like Ernestine Rose and Pauline Newman or inventing something like Jacob Davis or Jonas Salk, each person shares the common trait of persistence, often against adversity. Ages 7-10.
**Jackie’s Gift.** Robinson, Sharon. 2010. Young Steve Satlow is thrilled when his hero Jackie Robinson moves onto his block. After the famed second baseman invites Steve to a Dodgers game, the two become friends. So when Jackie hears that the Satlows don’t have a Christmas tree, he decides to give them one, not realizing the Satlows are Jewish. But Jackie’s gift helps these two different families discover how much they have in common. Written by the daughter of baseball legend Jackie Robinson, *Jackie’s Gift* is a holiday tale-based on a true story-about friendship and breaking barriers. Ages 6-10.

**Liberty’s Voice: The Story of Emma Lazarus.** Silverman, Erica. 2011. Emma Lazarus overcame the barriers of her day to become one of the leading poets of the nineteenth century. She used her celebrity to help the poor and impoverished immigrants of Eastern Europe. When the statue Liberty Enlightening the World came to the United States as a gift from France, it was Emma's poem "The New Colossus" that became forever connected with this American icon. Emma's words have served as a rallying call to generations of immigrants. In breathtaking color, veteran artist Stacey Schuett brings life to Silverman’s story of one of the great women of America. Ages 6-9.

**Elie Wiesel: A Voice for Humanity.** Stern, Ellen Norman. 1996. Few Holocaust survivors have gained the recognition and honor as Elie Wiesel has as an author, journalist and lecturer. In this biography, the author chronicles the remarkable life of Wiesel.

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**C. YOUNG ADULT**

**Critical Jewish Issues: A Modern Commentary on Jewish Ethics: A Book for Teenagers.** Isaacs, Ronald H. 1996. There are no extant reviews of this book.

**Women of Valor: Stories of Great Jewish Women Who Helped Shape the Twentieth Century.** Siegel, Sheila F. 1996. Eight twentieth-century women, exemplifying the best in Jewish leadership, are profiled here. Some are well known; others are less familiar. All of them, however, have made unique and meaningful contributions to Jewish life. Students will be inspired by these stories of courage, conviction, and accomplishment. And they will discover important highlights of Jewish history, culture, and achievements, including the trade union movement, the birth of Israel, and the Yiddish theater. Illustrated with over 20 photographs, students will see for themselves that these women of valor are real people who can serve as role models for us all.