Are Jews A Phenomenon

Jewish PhenomenonThe Jews of France TodayJews in a Graeco-Roman WorldThe Social Scientific Study of JewryThe Jews of Contemporary Post-Soviet StatesJews in Muslim Lands, 1750–1830The Radicalization of European Jews in the US MetropolisCultures of the JewsThe Soviet Government and the Jews 1948–1967Jews, Confucians, and ProtestantsJewish SecularityVirtually JewishFraming Jewish CultureVienna and the Jews, 1867–1938Jewish HorizonsWhat We Now Know about Jewish EducationThe Lost World of Russia's JewsPort JewsAuthentically JewishSites of Jewish Memory Steven Silbiger Erik Cohen Martin Goodman Uzi Rebhun Vladimir Ze'ev Khanin Yaron Tsur Frank Jacob David Biale Benjamin Pinkus Lawrence E. Harrison Zachary I. Heller Ruth Ellen Gruber Simon J. Bronner Steven Beller Berl Frymer Roberta Louis Goodman Abraham Rechtman David Cesarani Stuart Z. Charmé Glenda Abramson

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spielberg brin dell seinfeld phenomenally successful and jewish why have jews risen to the top of the business and professional world in numbers staggeringly out of proportion to their percentage of the american population steven silbiger has the answer based on the author s synthesis of wide reading and research the jewish phenomenon sets forth seven principles that form the bedrock of jewish financial success with startling statistics a wealth of anecdotes and the fascinating details behind some of america s biggest business success stories silbiger convincingly shows how these seven keys have helped the jews historically and how they continue to ensure jewish success today more important the author makes clear that these principles are equally at the disposal of jews and non jews alike the amazing success of the jews simply proves that they work the jewish phenomenon pays tribute not merely to the success of a people but to the commonsense wisdom and enduring values that can enrich us all

based on a national empirical survey this book presents a rich portrait of the jews of france today an expanded translation of a french edition the book explores the demographics identity communal participation social issues and values of this community

this book contains studies of the social cultural and religious history of the jews in the graeco roman world some of the sixteen contributors are specialists in jewish history others in classics they tackle from different angles the extent to which jews in this period differed from other peoples in the mediterranean region and how much jewish evidence can be used for the history of the wider classical world the authors make extensive use not only of types of evidence familiar to classicists such as inscriptions and the writing of josephus but also jewish religious literature including rabbinic texts the various studies demonstrate that although jews lived to some extent apart from others and with distinctive customs in many ways this showed the cultural presuppositions and preoccupations of their gentile contemporaries the book aims to encourage wider use of the jewish evidence by classicists and will be important for all students of the classical world

this volume of studies in contemporary jewry directs its searchlight on the social scientific study of jewry its symposium consists of 11 essays that discuss sources approaches and debates in different complementary fields of demography sociology economy and geography taken as a group the essays cover the major areas of jewish life today in israel the united states europe and latin america

since the end of the ussr post soviet jewry has evolved into an ethnically and culturally diverse russian speaking community this process is taking place against the gradual inflation of a collective identity among russian speaking jews that survived the first post soviet decade the infrastructure for this new entity is provided by new local or ethno civic groups of east european ashkenazi jewry with specific communal subcultural and ethno political identities ukrainian moldavian or russian jews e g these communities demonstrate a changing balance of identification between their countries of residence and the transnational russian jewish community and they absorb a significant number of persons of non jewish and ethnically heterogeneous origins as well this book discusses identity community modes migration dynamics socioeconomic status attitudes toward israel social and political environments and other parameters framing these trends using the results of a comprehensive sociological study of the extended jewish population conducted in 2019 2020 by this author in the five former soviet union countries russia ukraine belarus moldova and kazakhstan

raises questions about the nature of diasporas of elites and of jewish responses to modernity

during the late 19th and early 20th centuries many jews from central and eastern europe arrived in new york city where they did not only find a new home but far away from their shtetl origin the new members of the american society also began to politically radicalize there has been a discussion in the literature related to the field where how and why the jewish population radicalized this study analyses two waves of radicalization one related to the american environment that is responsible for the described process at the end of the 19th century one related to the developments in eastern europe during the early decades of the 20th century for both radicalization processes this book compares the reasons elements and aims of those who join radical movements to show that there is a transatlantic perspective that links both processes to each other

with more than 100 black and white illustrations throughout who are the jews scattered over much of the world throughout most of their three thousand year old history are they one people or many how do they resemble and how do they differ from jews in other places and times what have their relationships been to the cultures of their neighbors to address these and similar questions twenty three of the finest scholars of our day archaeologists cultural historians literary

critics art historians folklorists and historians of relation all affiliated with major academic institutions in the united states israel and france have contributed their insight to cultures of the jews the premise of their endeavor is that although jews have always had their own autonomous traditions jewish identity cannot be considered immutable the fixed product of either ancient ethnic or religious origins rather it has shifted and assumed new forms in response to the cultural environment in which the jews have lived building their essays on specific cultural artifacts a poem a letter a traveler s account a physical object of everyday or ritual use that were made in the period and locale they study the contributors describe the cultural interactions among different jews from rabbis and scholars to non elite groups including women as well as between jews and the surrounding non jewish world part one mediterranean origins describes the concept of the people or nation of israel that emerges in the hebrew bible and the culture of the israelites in relation to that of the canaanite groups it goes on to discuss jewish cultures in the greco roman world palestine during the byzantine period babylonia and arabia during the formative years of islam part two diversities of diaspora illuminates judeo arabic culture in the golden age of islam sephardic culture as it bloomed first if the iberian peninsula and later in amsterdam the jewish christian symbiosis in ashkenazic europe and in the polish lithuanian commonwealth the culture of the italian jews of the renaissance period and the many strands of folklore magic and material culture that run through diaspora jewish history part three modern encounters examines communities ways of life and both high and fold culture in western central and eastern europe the ladino diaspora north africa and the middle east ethiopia zionist palestine and the state of israel and finally the united states cultures of the jews is a landmark representing the fruits of the present generation of scholars in jewish studies and offering a new foundation upon which all future research into jewish history will be based its unprecedented interdisciplinary approach will resonate widely among general readers and the scholarly community both jewish and non jewish and it will change the terms of the never ending debate over what constitutes jewish identity

a comprehensive analysis of soviet policy towards the jews with a section of documents accompanying each chapter discusses the soviet theory of nationality the legal status of soviet jewry the persistence of antisemitism and its exploitation by the regime the internal religious and cultural life of the jews and the restrictions placed on them by the regime and the oriental jewish

communities see in particular ch 3 p 83 146 anti semitism in the soviet union ch 11 p 387 420 jews in soviet literature and ch 12 p 421 438 the holocaust and jewish resistance as reflected in soviet academic literature and the press

multiculturalism the belief that no culture is better or worse than any other it is merely different has come to dominate western intellectual thought and to serve as a guide to domestic and foreign policy and development aid but what if multiculturalism itself is flawed what if some cultures are more prone to progress than others and more successful at creating the cultural capital that encourages democratic governance social justice for all and the elimination of poverty in jews confucians and protestants cultural capital and the end of multiculturalism lawrence e harrison takes the politically incorrect stand that all cultures are not created equal analyzing the performance of 117 countries grouped by predominant religion harrison argues for the superiority of those cultures that emphasize jewish confucian and protestant values a concluding chapter outlines ways in which cultural change may substantially transform societies within a generation

a growing number of jews identify themselves as secular or somewhat secular is this expansive definition of jewishness a new phenomenon what are its roots what are its implications for the jewish community its institutions and its future in reflecting on secular forms of jewishness the contributors to this book explore the sources of jewish secularism and its articulation in jewish thought belief literature and culture included in this book are several personal accounts of jewish journeys as well as analyses of the extent of the division between secular jews and others in the jewish community in sum jewish secularity the search for roots and the challenges of relevant meaning provides an overview of a profound development in the evolving history of jewish life in america

the author explores the phenomenon of the jewish culture in europe in this book she askes in what way do non jews embrace and enact jewish culture and for what reasons

modernity offers people choices about who they want to be and how they want to appear to others the way in which jews choose to frame their identity establishes the dynamic of their social relations with other jews and non jews a dynamic complicated by how non jews position

the boundaries around what and who they define as jewish this book uncovers these processes historically as well as in contemporary behavior and finds explanations for the various manifestations in feeling and action of being jewish boundaries and borders raise fundamental questions about the difference between jews and non jews at root the question is how jewish is understood in social situations where people recognize or construct boundaries between their own identity and those of others the question is important because this is by definition the point at which the lines of demarcation between jews and non jews and between different groupings of jews are negotiated collectively the contributors to the book expand our understanding of the social dynamics of framing jewish identity the book opens with an introduction that locates the issues raised by the contributors in terms of the scholarly traditions from which they have evolved part i presents four essays dealing with the construction and maintenance of boundaries two by scholars showing how boundaries come to be etched on an ethnic landscape and two by activists who question and adjust distinctions among neighbors part ii focuses on expressive means of conveying identity and memory while in part iii the discussion turns to museum exhibitions and festive performances as locations for the negotiation of identity in the public sphere a lively discussion forum concludes the book with a consideration of the paradoxes of jewish heritage revival in poland and the perception of that revival by jews and non jews

this book studies the role played by jews in the explosion of cultural innovation in vienna at the turn of the century which had its roots in the years following the ausgleich of 1867 and its demise in the sweeping events of the 1930s the author shows that in terms of personnel jews were predominant throughout most of viennese high culture and so any attempts to dismiss the jewish aspect of the intelligentsia are refuted the book goes on to explain this jewish aspect dismissing any unitary static model and adopting a historical approach that sees the jewishness of viennese modern culture as a result of the specific jewish backgrounds of most of the leading cultural figures and their reactions to being jewish

when what we know about jewish education was first published in 1992 stuart kelman recognized that knowledge and understanding would greatly enhance the ability of professionals and lay leaders to address the many challenges facing jewish education with increased innovation the entry of new funders and the connection between jewish education

and the quality of jewish life research and evaluation have become over the last two decades an integral part of decision making planning programming and funding

in 1913 abraham rechtman journeyed through the russian pale of settlement on a mission to record its jewish folk traditions before they disappeared forever the lost world of russia s jews is the first english translation of his extraordinary experiences originally published in yiddish documenting a culture best known until now through romanticized works like life is with people and fiddler on the roof in the last years of the russian empire abraham rechtman joined s an sky s jewish ethnographic expedition to explore and document daily life in the centuries old jewish communities of the pale of settlement rechtman described the key places where jewish life and death were experienced and connected these sites to local folklore and customary practices among the many unique contributions of his memoir are riveting descriptions of traditional jewish healers and exorcists many of them women and their methods and incantations rather than a nostalgic portrait of an imagined shtetl rechtman succeeded in producing an intimate account of jewish life and death that is highly nuanced and richly detailed the lost world of russia s jews powerfully illuminates traditional jewish life in eastern europe on the eve of its transformation and ultimately destruction

the history of jews in cosmopolitan maritime trading centres is a field of research that is reshaping our understanding of how jews entered the modern world these studies show that the utility of jewish merchants in an era of european expansion was vital to their acculturation and assimilation

this book analyzes the different conceptions of authenticity that are behind conflicts over who and what should be recognized as authentically jewish although the concept of authenticity has been around for several centuries it became a central focus for jews since existentialist jean paul sartre raised the question in the 1940s building on the work of sartre later jewish thinkers philosophers anthropologists and cultural theorists the book offers a model of jewish authenticity that seeks to balance history and tradition creative freedom and innovation and the importance of recognition among different groups within an increasingly multicultural jewish community author stuart z charmé explores how debates over authenticity and struggles for recognition are a key to understanding a wide range of controversies between orthodox and liberal jews zionist

and diaspora jews white jews and jews of color as well as the status of intermarried and messianic jews and the impact of jewish genetics in addition it discusses how and when various cultural practices and traditions such as klezmer music israeli folk dance jewish yoga and meditation and others are recognized as authentically jewish or not

this book brings together a collection of 16 essays first published in the journal of modern jewish studies that explore jewish communities in north africa turkey and iraq the discussions are located primarily in the 20th century but essays also examine the jewish community in 16th century istanbul and in early modern morocco topics include traumatic departures of communities from countries of centuries old jewish residence and relocations pilgrimages to holy sites by mizrahi jews in israel resonances of shabbetai zevi in turkey and morocco otherness and the nature of homeland the sephardi culinary heritage as realised in the cookbooks of claudia roden sites of memory such as kuzguncuk in turkey and a controversial view of the exclusions and erasures that arabized jews have undergone in this unique collection a major but not exclusive theme is that of the instability of memory and the attempt to understand the interactions between memory and history as jews recount their experiences of living in and often leaving their past homelands this book was originally published as a special issue of the journal of modern jewish studies

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