

U.S. JEWS NOW MORE LIKELY TO MARRY GENTILES THAN JEWS, CJF SURVEY FINDS**By Debra Nussbaum Cohen**

NEW YORK, June 9 (JTA) -- The most comprehensive survey of the American Jewish community in two decades reveals that the way American Jews live and the people they live with have changed dramatically in recent years.

One of the most striking findings of the study, whose highlights were released last week by the Council of Jewish Federations, is that American Jews are now more likely to marry non-Jews than Jews.

Over half of Jews married since 1985 are wed to gentiles. And nearly one-third of all married Jews are wed to people who were not born Jewish.

Twenty-eight percent of married Jews are wed to gentiles, and another 4 percent are married to what the survey calls "Jews by choice."

But while the pace of intermarriage has picked up in recent years, conversion to Judaism is still not popular. Only 5 percent of marriages since 1985 involved a gentile who became a Jew by choice.

Moreover, there appears to be growing acceptance, if not approval, of intermarriage among American Jews; 87.5 percent of Jews surveyed said they would accept the marriage of their child to a non-Jew.

Among some of the other more significant findings of the 1990 National Jewish Population Survey are that Jews are, on average, older and more educated than the general population. And while most Jews give to charity, more give to secular causes than to Jewish ones.

The survey was conducted by CJF, the association of some 200 federations throughout the United States and Canada. It took measure of a wide slice of American Jews and Americans who have some Jewish association.

It measured "core" Jews -- those who were born to a Jewish parent or consider themselves Jewish by choice -- as well as those who no longer consider themselves to be Jews and those gentiles who are living in households with at least one core Jew, usually through intermarriage.

End Of Nuclear Jewish Family

The core American Jewish population numbers 5.5 million people. Another 2.7 million Americans have some association with Judaism.

For the purposes of this survey, a born Jew was defined as someone born to a Jewish parent, but not necessarily the mother. Orthodox and Conservative Judaism do not recognize people as Jewish by birth unless the mother was Jewish.

The survey also does not make a religious judgment about the validity of conversions. Some 30 percent of those defined as Jews by choice say they have not undergone formal conversion.

Twenty years ago, there were 5.4 million core Jews in America. Predictions of a rapid decline in the Jewish population have not been borne out.

But intermarriage, divorce and remarriage have spread American Jews into more households than ever before: 3.2 million households in the United States now contain at least one core Jew.

Seventy-two percent of core Jews live in entirely Jewish homes and 26 percent live in mixed households.

But just 17 percent of households with at least one core Jew are the "traditional family" of two Jewish parents and their children.

"The nuclear family we have known is no more, and our services have to be reflective of that," Martin Kraar, CJF executive vice president, commented at a nationwide news conference televised by satellite last week to journalists and federation executives.

The survey found that the core Jewish community is also older than the broader community with some Jewish association, and than Americans in general.

Of the total core Jewish community, 16.5 percent are age 65 and over. When compared to the general U.S. population, the Jewish community has proportionally nearly one-third more elderly.

There are fewer young core Jews: 18.9 percent are under age 15, compared to 21.6 percent of the American population in general.

And of the total 1.9 million children under age 18 in the Jewish population, as measured in this survey, only 62 percent are in the core group.

Population Loss In Next Generation

Just 28 percent of the children of mixed marriages are being raised as Jews. Some 41 percent are being raised in a non-Jewish religion, and 31 percent are being raised with no religion.

"The current pattern means there will probably be net losses to the core Jewish population in the next generation," according to the report.

"We must entice the 31 percent into the Jewish fold and convince the 28 percent to stay there," said Barry Kosmin, CJF research director and director of the Mandell L. Berman Institute-North American Data Bank of the City University of New York Graduate Center.

Kosmin oversaw the population survey with assistance from CJF research consultant Jeffrey Scheckner.

The study also found that the largest number of households, 41.4 percent, identified with the Reform movement of Judaism, while 40.4 percent identified with the Conservative movement, 6.8 percent said they are Orthodox and 1.6 percent Reconstructionist.

Another 3.2 percent defined themselves as traditional, 5.2 percent said they are "just Jewish" and 1.4 percent called themselves "miscellaneous Jewish."

However, of those who currently belong to a synagogue or temple, 43 percent belong to Conservative congregations. Thirty-five percent belong to Reform, 16 percent to Orthodox and 2 percent to Reconstructionist.

The findings of the survey are based on 2,441 completed interviews in 49 states -- all except North Dakota, which has too few Jews to survey randomly. They were drawn from an initial sample of 126,000 randomly selected Americans.

The findings will be used by CJF, federations and other Jewish organizations in their policy-planning considerations as American Jewry approaches the next century.

**BRIAN LURIE OFFERED POSITION
AS THE TOP PROFESSIONAL AT UJA**
By Aliza Marcus

NEW YORK, June 9 (JTA) -- Rabbi Brian Lurie, executive director of the Jewish Community Federation in San Francisco, has been offered the position of chief executive officer of the United Jewish Appeal, UJA officials confirmed Friday.

Although exact details of the offer still have to be worked out by UJA's executive committee, Lurie is expected to accept the offer and begin work Sept. 1, said Gerald Nagel, UJA spokesman.

Lurie was in New York last week to meet with UJA officials but could not be reached for comment over the weekend. He would replace Stanley Horowitz, whose resignation becomes effective June 30.

"We are confident that Brian Lurie would be an outstanding chief executive officer and will work well with the lay leadership to help lead the campaign in these times of extraordinary challenge and opportunity," Nagel said.

A member of the search committee, Robert Loup, said the panel had met with a number of candidates from both inside and outside the Jewish organizational structure, and that Lurie's nomination was unanimously supported by the committee members.

"Brian came across as the outstanding candidate for the position," said Loup, a former UJA national chairman and past president of the Allied Jewish Federation of Denver.

The offer ends weeks of searching for a new executive of UJA, the major fund-raising arm of American Jewry. Working in conjunction with the 179 local U.S. federations, UJA raises hundreds of millions of dollars annually for Israel and overseas Jewish needs.

Charting Identity For UJA

As the executive officer of UJA, Lurie, who will turn 49 in August, would have the challenge of charting a path and identity for UJA amid the increasingly crowded world of Jewish philanthropic organizations.

Lurie also would face the daunting task of maneuvering between UJA, which at one time organized most local fund-raising campaigns, and local federations, which now raise most of the money for UJA's national campaigns.

Last year, the annual UJA general campaign raised \$765 million, in addition to over \$420 million in the successful Operation Exodus drive to aid the absorption of Soviet Jewish immigrants in Israel.

But UJA, which has 200 employees and an operating budget of some \$28 million, has come under criticism from some Jewish federation leaders, who say the organization is top-heavy and doing work done by other Jewish agencies.

Over the past few years, local federations have taken on a more important role in the fund-raising process, not only in setting the goals, but in deciding how they will raise the money and what portion will stay in the community for local needs.

"What does UJA have to offer for most federations that they don't have themselves?" one American Jewish fund-raising official asked in March, shortly after Horowitz's resignation was announced.

But Lurie, who gained a reputation as a maverick thinker during his 17-year tenure at the San Francisco federation, is considered by many

Jewish officials to be the one person who can revitalize UJA's image and operations.

As executive director of the San Francisco federation, Lurie has pioneered a program in which the federation donated a portion of its general campaign proceeds directly to Israel, rather than channeling the money through UJA.

Although the amount of money, about \$100,000 annually, was a tiny percentage of the federation's overall campaign, it was initially viewed with suspicion by some Jewish officials.

Once A Critic Of Jewish Agency

Some officials feared direct donations might undermine UJA's position and threaten UJA's ability to raise funds for Israel.

But the program had the opposite effect, supporters say, because by strengthening the ties between a local community and Israel, people were encouraged to give more money.

Since San Francisco initiated the program in the mid-1980s, New York and other federations have embarked on similar undertakings.

Similarly, Lurie was at one time an outspoken critic of the Jewish Agency for Israel. The Jewish Agency, which is the largest beneficiary of funds raised by UJA, had been criticized by Lurie and others for its large bureaucracy.

"At a particular moment in time, he was somewhat outside the establishment," said Loup. "But frankly, a lot of what he has attacked has been franked in the Jewish Agency."

"People might question his choice" in how he phrased his attack, said Loup, "but everyone endorses his feelings."

Under Lurie, UJA would likely be quite a different place than it was during the seven-year tenure of Stanley Horowitz, who was considered a technocrat more at ease cutting costs than in developing warm relationships with people.

Although Horowitz has been praised for cutting UJA's staff by 25 percent and paring down operating costs, some UJA officials were rumored to be unhappy with his dry, bureaucratic style.

Lurie is considered by many to be a charismatic leader with a compelling vision of the need for a strong Diaspora role in aiding Israel and strong background in fund raising.

Belief In Diaspora Responsibility

In a telephone interview a few months ago, Lurie said that while American Jewish fund raising for Israel is a "spectacular achievement," the American Jewish community could still do a lot more for Israel.

"I would like to believe that Jews in the Diaspora are as duty bound as those in Israel, but somehow that hasn't worked," he said.

He called resettlement of Soviet Jews in Israel "the largest single need" facing the Jewish community and said Israel is bearing a "disproportionate share" of the financial responsibility.

Jewish fund-raising leaders said Lurie had been UJA's top candidate for months, but one of the major sticking points was whether he and his family were interested in relocating to New York.

Besides Loup, other members of the search committee included Morton Kornreich, chairman of UJA's board of trustees; Marvin Lender, UJA national chairman; Martin Stein and Alex Grass, both former UJA national chairman; Charles Goodman, president of the Council of Jewish Federations; and Norman Lipoff, chairman of United Israel Appeal.

AS ISRAEL BLAMES ARAB INTRANSIGENCE, IT SETS NEW CONDITION FOR PEACE TALKS

By David Landau

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- Israel, having flatly rejected President's Bush's plea for flexibility on procedural matters holding up a peace conference, has sought to blame Arab intransigence for the impasse while reportedly setting a new condition of its own.

That was the situation when the Cabinet convened for its regular weekly meeting Sunday to discuss the letter Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir sent to Bush last Thursday.

The policy-making Inner Cabinet is set to meet Wednesday for a deeper discussion, by which time the United States may have indicated what its next move will be.

So far, Washington's response has been low-key and without recrimination. "They have some other ideas. We have ideas. We continue to talk," White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said Friday. He refused to divulge the contents of Shamir's letter to Bush.

It is widely known, however, that the prime minister refused Bush's proposals for a limited U.N. presence at a conference in the form of an "observer" or a conference that would reconvene periodically, with Israel's consent, for progress reports.

It is clear that Shamir did not budge from his position that the conference must be nothing more than a ceremonial opening for bilateral talks between Israel and its various Arab adversaries, after which it would dissolve.

According to reports here Sunday, Shamir threw in another condition.

He argued that even so limited a conference should not be convened without prior agreement on who is to represent the Palestinians.

Shamir recalled Israel's position a year ago, when the United States proposed that Israel talk with a Palestinian delegation about elections in the administered territories.

No Pressure From Washington

Egypt offered to host those talks. But Israel refused to allow East Jerusalem Arabs or Palestinians living abroad to participate. It also refused to meet with anyone it considered associated with the Palestine Liberation Organization or a "nationalist" bent on Israel's destruction.

Israel has never specified which Palestinians it would be willing to talk to. Observers believe Shamir raised the issue to head off the embarrassing possibility the U.S. administration would send out invitations to a conference, despite the absence of agreement on its nature or form.

Foreign Minister David Levy, who was reported last week to be urging the government to be more flexible, lined up solidly behind the prime minister Sunday.

He insisted to reporters that Shamir's letter did not "slam the door" on further contacts. He challenged the United States to extract "meaningful flexibility" from the Arab side.

So far there is no sign of pressure in Washington. Asked if Shamir's response was a setback, Fitzwater replied, "No, I wouldn't characterize it that way because, you know, we have a situation where positions change and they're fluid."

He added that Secretary of State James Baker, who spent most of April and May visiting Middle East capitals, believes enough progress has been made to "continue to pursue this matter."

SETTLERS SPIT ON FAISAL HUSSEINI, BACK MAN WHO KILLED ARAB SHEPHERD

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- Palestinian activist Faisal Hussein was spat upon, jostled and cursed by Jewish settlers, who attempted to maul him as he left police headquarters here Sunday.

The failure of the police to intervene drew angry protests from left-wing Knesset members later on. The police claimed the incident was over before they could act.

Hussein, a resident of East Jerusalem, had gone to police headquarters to retrieve personal documents which were confiscated during one of the many times he was questioned there about his nationalist activities.

About 30 militant settlers and members of the anti-Arab, extremist Kach party were congregated outside the nearby Magistrates Court when they spotted Hussein leaving the police center and attacked him.

Hussein was rescued by two bodyguards, who rushed him into a waiting car that was being pounded with fists and rocks. He was seen wiping spittle from his face as the car raced away.

The settlers who attacked Hussein happened to be at the courthouse for the hearing of another Jewish settler, charged with the death of an Arab shepherd over the weekend.

Baruch Yellin, 27, from Sussiya in the Hebron hills, was brought to the court on suspicion of killing 55-year-old Mohammed Nuja.

The shepherd was reportedly grazing his flock on land disputed between Sussiya and its Arab neighbors. Yellin, charging trespass, killed 10 sheep. He claims he was surrounded and menaced by other Arabs and had to fire his gun in self-defense, killing Nuja.

The court nevertheless ordered Yellin retained in custody for another 12 days.

ISRAELI JUDGE RULES FOR EXTRADITION OF COUPLE FACING U.S. MURDER CHARGES

By Gil Sedan

JERUSALEM, June 9 (JTA) -- An Israeli judge has ruled in favor of extraditing a West Bank couple to the United States to face murder charges.

Jerusalem District Court Judge Zvi Cohen ruled Friday that Robert Manning, 39, and his wife, Rochelle, 51, former residents of Los Angeles, should be extradited to face charges in the death of a California secretary, who was killed in 1980 by an explosive device mailed to her firm.

The judge based his ruling on new evidence submitted by U.S. authorities, whose extradition request was filed last year.

The Mannings, who are residents of the settlement of Kiryat Arba and followers of the late Rabbi Meir Kahane, have 30 days to appeal the decision to the High Court of Justice.

Cohen ordered the couple held in custody, pending the outcome.

Rochelle Manning was arrested at Los Angeles International Airport in June 1988, on suspicion of mailing the July 1980 booby-trapped parcel that killed Patricia Wilkerson, a secretary at a California computer company.

According to the charge sheet, both Mannings sent the bomb to Wilkerson's employer, Brenda Krothmel, at the instigation of their friend, William Ross, who had a business dispute with Krothmel.

**BUSH'S EMOTIONAL CALL FOR PRAYER
IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS IS CRITICIZED**

By David Friedman

WASHINGTON, June 9 (JTA) -- President Bush's emotional call last week for a constitutional amendment permitting voluntary prayer in the public schools has been criticized by the American Jewish Congress.

Bush "seems once again to be exploiting religion for short-term political gain, as he did when his administration endorsed school-sponsored graduation prayers or government funding of parochial schools," Henry Siegman, the organization's executive director, said in a statement.

The president called for the amendment in a June 6 address to the annual convention of Southern Baptists in Atlanta after describing how he wept as he prayed before ordering the bombing that began the war against Iraq.

Bush then described his outrage that a fifth-grader in a public school had been prevented from reading her Bible during school recess.

"My friends, the day a child's quiet prayer group during recess becomes an unlawful assembly, something's really gone wrong," Bush said.

He said those who oppose school prayer "forgot that the First Amendment was written to protect people against religious intrusions by the state, not to protect the state from voluntary activities by the people."

The president then added: "In that spirit, once again, I call on the United States Congress to pass a constitutional amendment permitting voluntary prayer back into our nation's schools."

Siegman charged that by linking the incident with the fifth-grader to voluntary prayer, Bush confused the concepts dealing with separation of church and state.

"No one knowledgeable about the First Amendment believes that students acting wholly on their own initiative may not pray or read the Bible to themselves," Siegman said. "That is what freedom of religion is about."

But, he added, "prayers composed or organized by school officials, even if attendance and participation is nominally voluntary, involves government in religion in precisely the way" the First Amendment was "intended to prohibit."

This is the third time this year Bush has urged a constitutional amendment allowing voluntary prayer. His persistence on the subject has surprised many observers, who thought he did not share the ideological commitment on this issue expressed by his predecessor, Ronald Reagan.

**POLISH JEWS COMPLAIN TO POPE
ABOUT HIS ABORTION COMPARISON**

NEW YORK, June 9 (JTA) -- When Polish Jewish leaders met in Warsaw on Sunday with Pope John Paul II, they complained about his comparison of abortion to the Holocaust in comments he made last week during an earlier stop on his nine-day tour of Poland.

His comparison prompted an uproar in Jewish communities worldwide.

The delegation of six Polish Jews also urged the pontiff to establish diplomatic relations with Israel, something which the Vatican has refused to do.

The pope told the Jewish leaders the Middle East situation does not yet permit such ties.

"We told him that we considered his remarks putting abortion and the Holocaust on the same

plane were unfortunate," a member of the Jewish delegation, Konstanty Gebert, told reporters in Warsaw. He said that the pope offered no reply.

The Vatican has rejected Jewish criticism of the pope's comments, saying there was nothing wrong with comparing the "killing of the unborn" to the Holocaust, in which the Nazis systematically murdered 6 million European Jews.

But during the meeting, the pope did call the Holocaust "unprecedented in human history," according to Rabbi A. James Rudin, who on Sunday spoke by telephone with Stanislaw Krajewski, a member of the Jewish delegation.

Rudin is national director of interreligious affairs for the American Jewish Committee here.

During their meeting at the Vatican Mission in Warsaw, the Jewish leaders also told the pope that they hope he will work to uproot the residual anti-Semitism in Poland.

The Jewish delegation expressed appreciation of the pastoral letter condemning anti-Semitism that was read in Poland's Roman Catholic churches in January.

Poland's prewar Jewish community of about 3.5 million people was wiped out in the Holocaust. Today, under 10,000 Jews live in the overwhelmingly Catholic country.

**JUDGE RULES VICHY OFFICIAL
CAN BE TRIED FOR WAR CRIMES**
By Michel Di Paz

PARIS, June 9 (JTA) -- A judge appointed by the Paris Court of Appeal has ruled that Rene Bousquet, former head of the Vichy police, will not be put in double jeopardy if he is tried for crimes against humanity for rounding up and ordering the mass deportation of Jews during World War II.

The 81-year-old retired industrialist was formerly charged in Paris.

Judge Jean-Pierre Getti announced Friday that documents unearthed by Nazi-hunter Serge Klarsfeld represent "new elements" that did not appear when Bousquet was tried and convicted of war crimes and collaboration in 1949, for which he drew a suspended sentence.

Getti was named by Judge Albert Moatty, president of the Court of Appeal, to evaluate the evidence. It will be up to Moatty, however, to decide whether to press the charges.

Klarsfeld discovered a copy of an order Bousquet issued to the French police in July 1942 to round up the Jews in Paris and hand them over to the Nazis.

Another document the lawyer found was a copy of Bousquet's authorization to the police to arrest Jewish children in the still unoccupied zone of France, which Vichy governed.

Gendarmes hunted them down and turned them over to the Nazis for deportation to death camps.

When the charges were brought against Bousquet, sources close to President Francois Mitterrand indicated the president thought a trial would be inappropriate because it might "disturb the civil peace."

According to the French media, Mitterrand, a wartime Resistance fighter, and Bousquet are old friends, which Mitterrand has not denied.

If Moatty decides to press charges, the Justice Ministry would have to set a trial date. The media believes that given the attitude of Bousquet's political friends, he could well live out his years before going to court.