

THE ENLIGHTENMENT

JEWISH HISTORY MONTH



The State University of New York at Fredonia welcomes Jewish History month, presented by our own chapter of Hillel. Many folks on campus may be unaware of what Hillel is, as well as their mission. This Fredonia chapter is part of an international network of Hillel, aimed at enriching the lives of Jewish students around the world. That being said, Hillel is an inclusive group open to individuals from all walks of life. While the primary focus of Hillel is the preservation of Jewish tradition, and the education of others in the faith, our local

chapter does much more than that. Fredonia's Hillel has been active in environmentalism, social events, and supporting collaborations with other multicultural groups. Our current e-board represents individuals both from the Jewish community, as well as other beliefs. This inclusivity is important to the Hillel on our campus as they promote a message of acceptance, and celebration. The Center for Multicultural Affairs invites all Fredonia students, faculty, and staff to attend this month's events.

"All the world is a very narrow bridge, and the most important thing is not to fear at all." "If you won't be better tomorrow than you were today, then what do you need tomorrow for?" –

Rabbi Nachman of Breslov

Hillel- The Jewish Student
Union Presents
History Month

April 1st- Purhim

7 PM Williams Center G 103 B

April 16th- Relay For Life

4PM- 4AM Dods Hall

April 21st- HoneySuckle Pull

3-6 PM Campus Woodlock

April 22nd- Passover

Sunset, Alumni House

April 29th- Chabbat

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By Nayla K

What is Kosher?

When we think about kosher food most of us misunderstand it with kosher diet. Kosher Diet is a complete different thing than kosher food.

In Hebrew, ‘Kashrus’ means suitable or pure.

The laws of “Kashrus,” are rules and regulations of what is acceptable to eat and what is not.

Kosher Food Restriction

- ⊗ Animals that chew their food and have split hooves are kosher but animals that fulfill one or the other requirement but not both are not kosher.
- ⊗ Dairy product may not include meat products (some cheese are produced with animal fats and that is prohibited).
- ⊗ Eggs from Kosher birds are acceptable as long as they don’t have blood in them.
- ⊗ Fish with fins and scales may be eaten. However shellfish such as Shrimps, crabs, mussels, and lobsters are forbidden.
- ⊗ In the process of fermentation of kosher wine, gelatin, casein, and bull blood are inadmissible. Only the bacteria or kosher enzymes can be used in the fermentation process.
- ⊗ For wine or other beverages if grape is used the grape has to be from a vineyard which was only producing grapes and only had one kind of grapes.
- ⊗ Fruits from trees that were planted less than three years ago cannot be consumed.

Specific Ways of Consuming Kosher Food

- ⊗ Combining meat and milk is prohibited. According to Torah, “you may not cook a young animal in the milk of its mother”. However, it is not the only thing in this prohibition, Meat and milk is not only forbidden to be consumed together but also they cannot be served at the same time. Also, meat and milk cannot be consumed one after or before the other one. Therefore, meat lover pizza or pepperoni pizza is prohibited under the kosher dietary restriction.



Bernie Sanders
By Mccrady Magwood

Bernie Sanders is well known at this point as a Democratic nominee for Presidency in 2016. Not only is he the oldest person to run for President, he is also the first Jewish person to ever run. Here are some of the more unique and standout fast-facts about this potential president!

- 1) Bernie Sanders spoke on the Senate floor for eight hours once in an attempt to reverse the Bush-era tax cuts. This was an act that earned much respect from the American Left Wing, as one would guess. He even wrote a book on this filibuster, and claims to have donated all of the proceeds to charity.
- 2) Bernie Sanders political career began over thirty years ago, when he served as a mayor in Burlington Vermont for eight years. During this time he balanced the city's budget, formed a minor league baseball team, and revitalized both the downtown and waterfront areas. He also spearheaded a successful lawsuit to against a cable provider that reduced costs for Burlington residents.
- 3) Two years later, he served in the U.S. House of representatives. Interestingly enough, he had unsuccessful bids for political offices in 1972, but it took him 9 years to win. He only won by 10 votes as well, so every vote really does count!
- 4) Bernie Sanders recorded a Folk music album, in which he sings protest songs in his Brooklyn-Jewish New York accent. The entire album can be found on YouTube, and is worth checking out.
- 5) Politics run in the Sanders family, as Larry Sanders, Bernie's older brother, ran several elections as representative for the UK's Green Party. Similar core values are shared by both brothers.

This information and more can be found at from:
"20 Fascinating Facts About Bernie Sanders That Most People Do Not Know"
wikipedia.org



Ralph Farrell – ReThink App Article

Advancement in technology has increased the mediums we all use to communicate with others and express our opinions. Yet the speed, or lack thereof, it takes to write a message to someone has its drawbacks. It has become extremely easy to quickly send an angry message to someone, without taking the time to consider the ramifications of such a message. By hiding behind a screen we can tend to desensitize ourselves from the situation, claiming “it was just a joke”. This anonymity becomes worse with apps like Yik-Yak, where communication is still happening in a community setting.

ReThink is a non-intrusive, innovative, patented software product that stops Cyberbullying before the damage is done. When someone tries to post an offensive message on social media, email, post, or text message, ReThink uses context sensitive filtering technology to determine whether or not it’s offensive and gives the user a second chance to reconsider their decision. Research shows that when users are alerted to ReThink their decision, they change their minds **93%** of the time. In this internationally acclaimed study, using ReThink, the overall willingness of the average adolescent to post an offensive message reduced from 71% to 4%.

Current solutions that social media have implemented are ineffective, following a STOP, BLOCK, TELL mechanism. Victims are asked to stop what they are doing, block the cyberbully, and tell someone else about the incident. Unfortunately, this approach doesn’t stop the damage before it’s done, places the burden on the victim to stop the cyberbullying, and research has found that 9 out of 10 victims don’t tell anyone that they are being targeted. They suffer in silence.

ReThink provides an important opportunity to users, helping them become good digital citizens. With ReThink allowing people to pause, review, and reconsider their decisions on electronic outlets, they learn to make better choices on and off of the internet.

If you would like to see more about ReThink, you can visit their website at <http://www.rethinkwords.com/> or watch these videos of the founder talking more in detail about how the app works and why it is so important

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fh9IEgBo3u4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YkzwHuf6C2U>

Check out the app for yourself! If we all take the effort to re-think about the repercussions of the electronic messages we send, we will be taking the first steps towards safer campus environments. Students of various intersectional identities deserve to attend institutions like Fredonia, where students and faculty have been quoted about how great the diversity and inclusivity the campus has. However, if we are not willing to make changes to make comments like the racist comment at the beginning of this article, then we are failing to provide students the safe learning environment they deserve.





Religion and Feminism Mingle to Create JOFA

By: Kayla Newland

Feminism is a belief that spreads far and wide, through various cultures, ethnicities, genders, and even religions. One group, the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance, wants to generate change in regards to gender issues in the Orthodox Jewish community. JOFA's mission is to expand opportunities for women, whether spiritual, ritual, intellectual, or political, while still functioning under halakha, or Jewish law.

Founded in 1997, JOFA grew from a small group of people to now having over 5,500 members. It is a non-profit organization that has received support from prominent leaders in the Jewish and feminist communities. JOFA not only has members across the United States, but also in countries such as Israel, England, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Sweden, Spain, South Africa, and Germany. This organization is making strides to connect the feminist and Jewish worlds in a way that is being well received across the globe. At the turn of the 20th century, Magnus Hirschfeld was one of the earliest prominent advocates for sexual minorities. Born in Germany in 1868, he earned his doctorate in 1892. Hirschfeld then worked as a general practitioner for several years before publishing his first work on homosexuality, *Sappho and Socrates*, in 1896. The following year, Hirschfeld founded the Scientific Humanitarian Committee, which sought to advance the rights of sexual minorities and decriminalize homosexuality in Germany. At the turn of the 20th century, Magnus Hirschfeld was one of the earliest prominent advocates for sexual minorities. Born in Germany in 1868, he earned his doctorate in 1892. Hirschfeld then worked as a general practitioner for several years before publishing his first work on homosexuality, *Sappho and Socrates*, in 1896. The following year, Hirschfeld founded the Scientific Humanitarian Committee, which sought to advance the rights of sexual minorities and decriminalize homosexuality in Germany.

Magnus Hirschfeld

By: Shaun Feerick

At the turn of the 20th century, Magnus Hirschfeld was one of the earliest prominent advocates for sexual minorities. Born in Germany in 1868, he earned his doctorate in 1892. Hirschfeld then worked as a general practitioner for several years before publishing his first work on homosexuality, *Sappho and Socrates*, in 1896. The following year, Hirschfeld founded the Scientific Humanitarian Committee, which sought to advance the rights of sexual minorities and decriminalize homosexuality in Germany.

The Committee's motto, "Justice through science," reflected Hirschfeld's belief that science and reason could be used to fight inequality.

Despite marginalization, both for being Jewish and for being gay, Hirschfeld put himself in the public eye in order to advocate for his cause. Hirschfeld, for example, became a prominent figure in the Harden-Eulenberg affair, where General Kuno von Moltke was accused of having a relationship with Prince Philip von Eulenberg. Hirschfeld's testimony, where he maintained that being gay was natural and merited no punishment, made him a target of homophobic and antisemitic attacks.

In 1919, Hirschfeld opened the Institut für Sexualwissenschaft (Institute for Sexual Research) to the public. The Institute housed an extensive archive of research and literature, and provided education about sexuality, medical consultations, and even housing.

Much of the Institute and its archives were destroyed in 1933 by the Nazis. Hirschfeld was on a speaking tour abroad at the time. He never returned to Germany. However, Hirschfeld continued his research, writing, and advocacy until his death in 1935.



Destiny Martinez - Internet in Perspective

Let's face it. We are in an age where technology and information are at in the palm of our hands and in the touch of a fingertip. But what does all of these new technologies base their ideas off of? The internet. All of our social media is connected with the internet. That is where everything lies and where everything began. But Have you ever wondered, how big is it? How many websites are actually out there? When trying to measure the size of the internet things can get a bit complicated. Livescience.com has it measured in different ways. Examples are if you were to print the web on paper it would take 2% of the amazon rainforest to make that much paper. Another example is 305.5 billion sheets of paper, that about six and a half pages for each website. Now that is just a paper measurement what about other ones? A study in 2011 calculated the digital storage of the internet. Put into Cd-ROMs the storage would be about 238,900 miles long. The internet holds much more than we can imagine. For more perspective on this, visit the hyper link below.

<http://www.livescience.com/54094-how-big-is-the-internet.html>

Darlene Cruz - Latin American Perspectives

My name is Darlene Cruz, I am a Junior here at Fredonia and am a dual major in International Studies and Political Science. Last month I had the amazing opportunity and privilege to attend and present my research at a national conference, The Middle Atlantic Council for Latin American Studies, in Philadelphia at Temple University. Bellow you can read a short abstract on what my research entailed.

Seres, Espíritus, y Misterios: The Secret Religion of the Dominican Republic and Racial Identity

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According to multiple sources, the predominating religion of the Dominican Republic is European-centric Catholicism, many censuses claim that about 90 percent of the population identify themselves as Catholic. While this is by no means inaccurate, it glosses over an essential part of Dominican culture, the reality that a

enormous section of the 90 percent are not singularly followers of European Catholicism, but a of a religion that encompasses a mixture of of European Catholicism, West African traditions and the influences left by the native indigenous, Taino, people. This combining and blending of religions began during the era of Colonialism and slave trade in the New World.

This mixture is usually referred by scholars as Folk Catholicism, which again ignores and devalues the importance and pillaring influences of the other cultures to this religion. All of this raises a dilemma; when such important factors, such as the prominent aspects of a society, are ignored, by not only by the researchers and scholars, but also by the practitioners and followers, this enables for the influences of these cultures to be forgotten, ignored, and/or erased. This intricate religion of the Dominican Republic is a large part of the Dominican culture and personal identity, involved in many rites of passage for Dominican people, such as life, marriage, and death (Duany, 90.4). According to the Journal of American Folklore, even the practitioners unwillingness to call themselves anything other than Catholic, exemplifies a pro- European purism and a mainly Anti-African, mindset of a large portion of the Dominican people, whether conscious or not, and of their unwillingness to acknowledge their African Identity, while demonstrating a discontent with being anything other than European.

In my research I would like to discuss in depth the different aspects of the religion of the Dominican Republic, its origin and effect on everyday society, and correlating this mysterious religion with the racial/cultural identity of the Dominican people.

Citations__

Cristina Sánchez-Carretero. 2005. "Santos Y Misterios as Channels of Communication in the Diaspora: Afro-dominican Religious Practices Abroad". *The Journal of American*



General Body Meetings

Hillel - biweekly Wednesdays 8pm Williams Center S204

Latinos Unidos - Mondays at 7pm 204D in the Williams Center

Native American Student Union - Thursdays at 8 in William Center G103A

Pride Alliance - Tuesday at 9pm in Williams Center S204ABC

Women's Student Union - Wednesday's at 9 in Williams Center S204ABC

Other Upcoming Events

CMA BBQ

May 1st 1-5pm, Check the Campus Grounds for activities!!

Food will be served on the Williams Center Patio

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