



# Muslim-Jewish Advisory Council Statement on FBI 2018 Hate Crimes Data



*This Week's Torah Portion: Chayei Sarah*

 *Candle lighting - 4:16 pm*

## In this week's Scroll

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***Hate Crimes are on the rise & Religious Groups Band Together.***

***Simon Says***

***The Book Shelf: The Color of Love***

***Shabbat Services, Kiddush, & CAS News***

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 The Muslim-Jewish Advisory Council (MJAC) is calling on the U.S. Congress to pass the Jabara-Heyer



*White supremacist attitudes never really subsided; but now their beliefs are openly front & center.*

National Opposition to Hate, Assaults, and Threats to Equality (NO HATE) ACT following the release of the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) report on hate crimes. The Hate Crimes Statistics report shows 7,120 hate crime incidents in 2018, down slightly from the 7,175 incidents reported in 2017. Anti-Jewish incidents remain the majority of religious-based hate crimes.

Participation in the FBI's hate crime data collection system is voluntary, making it difficult to get a true number of hate crimes taking place in the country. The great majority, 87 percent, of the law enforcement agencies that sent data to the FBI said no hate crimes were reported in their jurisdictions during 2018. More than 80 cities with a population of 100,000 residents or more reported zero hate crimes or did not submit any data. According to the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics, Americans

experience an average of 250,000 hate crimes each year, but most are not reported to the police. "It is unacceptable that many hate crimes in America are not reported or investigated," said Stanley Bergman, Co-Chair of MJAC. "The need to protect religious and ethnic minorities, as shown by the fatal assault at the Tree of Life synagogue in Pittsburgh last year, should move Congress to pass the NO HATE ACT."

MJAC met with many Senate offices last week to advocate for passage of the bill. The NO HATE ACT incentivizes State and local law enforcement authorities to improve hate crime reporting by applying for grants managed through the Department of Justice. The grants, authorized from existing funds, will provide resources such as law enforcement trainings, the creation of reporting hotlines, increased resources to liaise with affected communities, and public educational forums on hate crimes. The bill also amends the penalties for hate crimes to allow courts to require hate crime offenders to undertake educational classes or community service directly related to the community harmed by offense as a condition of release.

## **Congregation Ahavas Sholom**

**President – Eric Freedman**  
**Rabbi Simon Rosenbach**  
**Cantor – Fred Grabiner**  
**Gabbai - Hooshmand Delshad**  
**Webmaster – Jeff Haveson**  
**Scroll Editor – Bezalel Tim Lee**



“Providing state and local law enforcement authorities the resources they need is essential so they will submit data to the FBI for its annual report,” said Farooq Kathwari, Co-Chair of MJAC. “Without complete data, we are unable to understand how best to address the issue of hate crimes in America.”

MJAC is a civil society coalition co-convened by American Jewish Committee (AJC) and Islamic Society of North America (ISNA). Founded three years ago, MJAC brings together 45 civil society, religious, and

business leaders from across the U.S. to advocate for domestic policy issues of common concern. Ten regional councils in Dallas, Detroit, Houston, Kansas City, Los Angeles, Miami, New Jersey, New York, Philadelphia, and Washington, D.C., represent a network of hundreds of Muslim and Jewish leaders committed to working together for the good of both communities and the country. MJAC stands at the forefront of those confronting hatred against religious minorities and has made stemming the rise in hate crimes a key advocacy issue.

# Say No to Hate



*The Jewish Museum of New Jersey*

# ED BERGER: JAZZ PHOTOGRAPHER

November 3, 2019 to January 12, 2020

Co-sponsored by



Ed Berger was a world-class scholar, researcher, photographer, producer, author, administrator, and tireless jazz detective. But all of this is surpassed by his qualities as a person. *In his work as an author and photographer, he seemed to gravitate toward subjects who were, like him, quiet giants who shared Ed's passion for the music and the life* - David Demsey

**Special Opening for the Newark Arts Festival  
Sunday, October 13th, 1-5 pm**

Jewish Museum of New Jersey, 145 Broadway in Newark  
Free off-site parking / donations welcomed / [jewishmuseumnj.org](http://jewishmuseumnj.org)

# SIMON

# SAYS

## Thought Provoking Insights from Rabbi Simon Rosenbach



*Rabbi Simon Rosenbach*

**I**saac is already a grown man when Abraham sends his servant to Nahor to find a wife for Isaac. Abraham told his servant that he should not procure a wife for Isaac from the Canaanites, but the wife should be

from the land of his birth. (The Torah cheats a little bit: Abraham was born in Ur, but the servant goes to Aram-Naharaim, which the Torah tell us is Haran, the city that Abraham lived for a period on the journey to Canaan. The names are synonymous with Nahor, where the servant actually goes.)

This episode is the second time that Abraham did not trust Isaac. When he led Isaac to slaughter, he refused to disclose the destination and the sacrificial animal until Isaac was actually bound on the altar. Now, Abraham does not trust Isaac to choose a wife himself. Why does Abraham entrust the servant to find a wife for Isaac, rather than trusting Isaac himself?

The Torah depicts Isaac as slow-witted (that's what happens when you marry your half-sister). But the probable reason is the Torah wants to show the Israelite presence in the land.

God promises Abraham the Land of Canaan will be the inheritance for Abraham and his descendants, so somebody needs to stake a claim. Jacob leaves after the threat from Esau, but he needs



to have a home to which he can return. If Isaac had traveled to Haran, and assuming he married Rebekah, he might have stayed in Haran. Jacob would not be filled with longing to go home, and the entire history

of the Jewish people would be different (and shorter, too). By bringing Rebekah to Canaan (she was a substitute for Sarah, as the Parashah says in the end), the Torah ensured a claim in Canaan by the Israelites. ✡



## **Help us Remodel Our Kitchen**

**We need \$ 60,000, to remodel our kitchen properly.**

**April Modlinger, a long time pillar of Ahavas Sholom, got us started with a generous pledge of \$10,000. Others have also pledged;**

**but we need more!**

**With your help the congregation will soon have a kitchen that will serve us all for years to come.**

**Please, Make your  
Pledge Today!**



NJPAC and the *TD James Moody Jazz Festival*, in collaboration with Ahavas Sholom, the Jewish Museum of New Jersey, present a series of free community events.

**Opening Reception with  
Wells Fargo Jazz for Teens**

Sun, Nov 3 @ 1–4PM

Enjoy jazz by NJPAC's *Wells Fargo Jazz for Teens* and acclaimed saxophonist Mark Gross, NJPAC Director of Jazz Instruction.

**Bobby Sanabria Concert**

Sun, Nov 17 @ 2–4PM

Relish in the sounds of eight-time GRAMMY®-nominee, musician, documentary film producer, educator, activist and bandleader.

**The 5th Annual Jazz  
Collage Workshop**

Sun, Dec 8 @ 2–5PM

Create jazz-inspired collages under the instruction of Newark artist Mansa K. Mussa.

**The Ed Berger Photography Collection**

Nov 3–Jan 13

Sundays @ 2–5PM

This exhibit will feature photography inspired by the progression of jazz around the world. Call 973.297.5138 to make an appointment.

**FREE!**

Ahavas Sholom the Jewish Museum of New Jersey • 145 Broadway, Newark, NJ

RSVP today! [njpac.org/JazzAtAhavas](http://njpac.org/JazzAtAhavas)

For more information, contact Najiyyah Bailey  
at [nbailey@njpac.org](mailto:nbailey@njpac.org) or call 973.297.5138

Support provided by





## Marra B. Gad on *The Color of Love*

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

In 1970, three-day-old Marra B. Gad was adopted by a white Jewish family in Chicago. For her parents, it was love at first sight—but they quickly realized the world wasn't ready for a family like theirs.

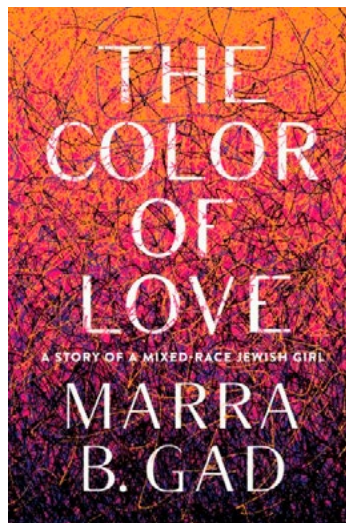
Marra's biological mother was unwed, white, and Jewish, and her biological father was black. While still a child, Marra came to realize that she was "a mixed-race, Jewish unicorn." In black spaces, she was not "black enough" or told that it was OK to be Christian or Muslim, but not Jewish. In Jewish spaces, she was mistaken for the help, asked to leave, or worse. Even in her own extended family, racism bubbled to the surface.

Marra's family cut out those relatives who could not tolerate the color of her skin—including her once beloved, glamorous, worldly Great-Aunt Nette. After they had been estranged for fifteen years, Marra discovers that Nette has Alzheimer's, and that only she is in a position to get Nette back to the only family she has left. Instead of revenge, Marra chooses love, and watches as the disease erases her aunt's racism, making space for a relationship that was never possible before.

*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, Marra B. 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. ✨



*Rachel's debut novel is 'A Bend In The Stars.' It has been named a New York Times Summer Reading Selection and a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers Selection. It is also a Boston Globe Bestseller. Rachel's second novel, The History of Time Travel, is forthcoming from Grand Central (2021) You can find a bend in the Stars and other great Jewish themed books at the Jewish [Book Council](#).*



# Kiddush Sponsorship Shabbat Services

**L**ast week's Kiddush was sponsored by Max Herman in honor of Caterina Baldo. Sponsoring Kiddush is \$150.00, which barely covers the cost of the lunch. Our goal is to have every Kiddush sponsored. To sponsor a Kiddush, email Rabbi Rosenbach or contact Allah Eicheldinger at [alla7815@yahoo.com](mailto:alla7815@yahoo.com). You can also help by shopping; which doesn't cost money, just a little time. We'll give you a list of items, you shop and we'll reimburse you. Whatever you can do will be appreciated, greatly.

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**J**oin us at Ahavas Sholom this Saturday for Shabbat services. Strangers, visitors; friends - old & new - our doors are open to you. Looking for a new home? New members are always welcome at Congregation Ahavas Sholom. Shabbat services start at 9:00am. Our congregation is open and welcoming; feel free to pay us a visit, anytime.

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*Join us at Congregation  
Ahavas Sholom this  
Shabbat and help us  
make minyon*