



# Will your grandchildren be JEWISH?

American Jews are facing an existential threat

The chances that American Jews will have Jewish grandchildren are becoming increasingly remote -

*Why?*

## Rising intermarriage rates



of non-Orthodox marriages from 2005-2013 were *intermarriages*

In addition, there has been an increase in Jews that do not marry at all or marry but choose not to have children



## American assimilation



of American Jews report that being Jewish is primarily a matter of *ancestry and culture*



of American Jews describe themselves as having *no religion at all*



*Creativity*

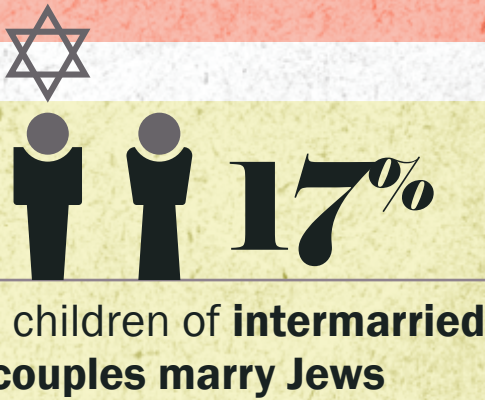
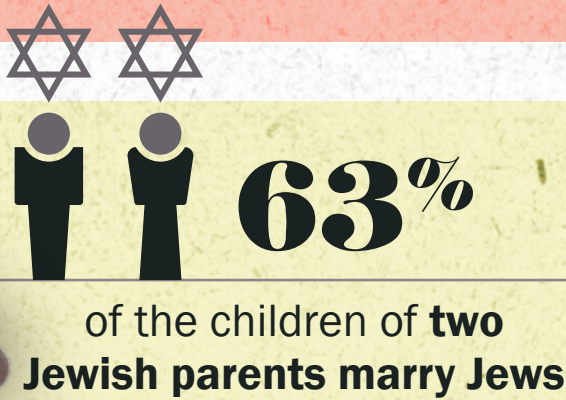
MUST BE USED IN ORDER TO PREVENT THE MAJORITY OF AMERICAN JEWS FROM FALLING OFF A "DEMOGRAPHIC CLIFF"



# If the Jewish population trends continue, the current Non-Orthodox Jewish population in America will rapidly disappear

## INTERMARRIAGE IS THE END OF JUDAISM

for almost all children of intermarried couples



Analysis of the raw data of The Pew Report indicates that **INTERMARRIED FAMILIES ARE LESS LIKELY TO:**

- Provide any formal or informal Jewish education to their children
- Observe Jewish religious practices
- Identify as strongly with Israel
- Join a synagogue
- Contribute to Jewish charities
- Befriend other Jews

## INTERMARRIAGE IS ONLY POSSIBLE

for those who actually get married



FIRST GENERATION










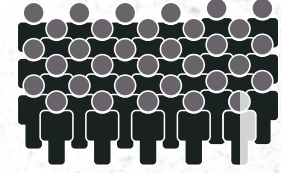



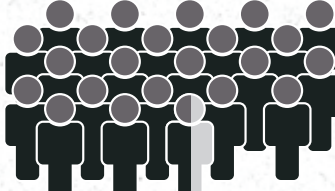
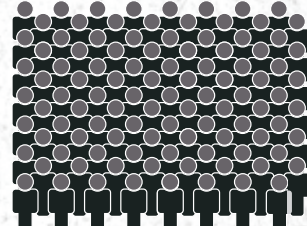



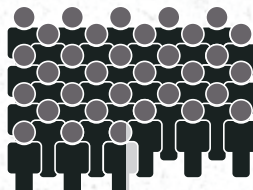
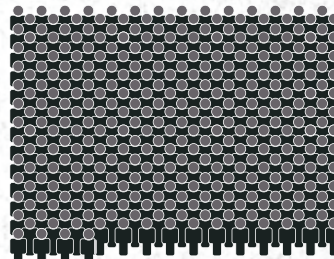
SECOND GENERATION

THIRD GENERATION

FOURTH GENERATION

INTERMARRIAGE RATE  
(PEW RESEARCH REPORT, 2013)

AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN PER WOMAN  
(PEW RESEARCH REPORT, 2013)

The Future of American Jewry					1 person icon = 10 PEOPLE
WILL YOUR GRANDCHILDREN BE JEWISH?					
SECULAR	REFORM	CONSERVATIVE	CENTRIST ORTHODOX*	HASIDIC/YESHIVA ORTHODOX	
 100	 100	 100	 100	 100	
 31	 51	 81	 150	 327	
 11	 26	 65	 225	 1039	
 4	 13	 52	 337	 3398	
85%	79%	24%	2%	0%	
1.45	1.73	1.82	2.96*	6.45*	



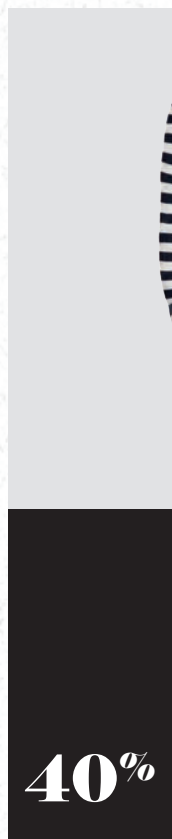
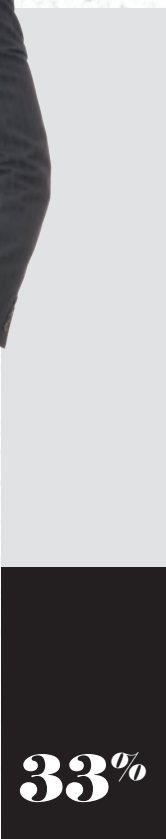
# Demographic trends indicate that significantly less Non-Orthodox Jews are getting married and/or having children

## PERCENTAGE OF NON-ORTHODOX JEWS WHO ARE MARRIED:

### AGES 25-39

Males

Females



### AGES 40-44

Females

Males



## Average fertility rate for ages 40-59:

2.1

General US public

4.1

Orthodox Jews

1.8

Conservative Jews

1.7

Reform Jews

1.5

Jews of No Religion

## Activities that have proven to reduce all aspects of assimilation and increase Jewish continuity

### JEWISH DAY SCHOOLS

The more years of attendance, the greater the success.

All research on Jewish education<sup>1</sup> indicates that a complete K-12 Orthodox Jewish Day School education is the most important factor in reducing assimilation and intermarriage

### CAMPUS OUTREACH PROGRAMS

Create Jewish learning opportunities

including trips to Israel and bring additional resources to combat Anti-Israel and Anti-Semitic speech on campus



### BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL EXPERIENCE

Evidence<sup>2</sup> shows that for many participants, Birthright Israel improves Jewish identification and engagement:

**46%**  
more likely to feel  
connected to Israel

PARTICIPANTS WERE  
**51%**  
more likely than  
non-participants to  
be married to a Jew

**35%**  
more likely to view  
raising their children as  
Jewish as very important





## INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA

The result of accessing websites with traditional Jewish content and engaging in Jewish social media have been shown to be an excellent source of Jewish education as well as serving as a gateway to other relationships that reduce assimilation and intermarriage

## JEWISH SUMMER CAMP

A number of studies<sup>3</sup> conducted over the past several years show clearly that the bonding experience of 'sleep away camp' creates lasting changes related to Jewish behavior and commitment

## SOME OF THE PROMINENT JEWISH WEBSITES:

Aish.com  
Chabad.org  
SimpleToRemember.com  
Shabbat.com  
GatewaysOnline.org  
PartnersInTorah.org

## SOURCES AND ENDNOTES

### Based on:

*"Will Your Grandchildren Be Jewish? - Revisited II"* - an analysis of the raw data of *The Pew Research Report* by Antony Gordon and Richard M. Horowitz

### FULL REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:

[aish.com/jw/s/Will-Your-Grandchildren-Be-Jews.html](http://aish.com/jw/s/Will-Your-Grandchildren-Be-Jews.html)  
[simpletoremember.com/articles/a/WillYourGrandchildrenBeJews](http://simpletoremember.com/articles/a/WillYourGrandchildrenBeJews)  
[issuu.com/orthodoxunion/docs/winter\\_2016-web](http://issuu.com/orthodoxunion/docs/winter_2016-web)

### ENDNOTES:

1. **The impact of varieties of Jewish Education upon Jewish Identity: An Inter-Generational Perspective.** Brandeis University Press, 2007;
2. **"The Impact of Birthright Israel"** 2010 Update, February, 2011, Brandeis University
3. **"Camp Works"** - Foundation for Jewish Camp, 2011; **"The Jewish Learning Presence in JCC Day Camps."** JCC Research Center, March 10, 2011.

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