American Jews are facing an existential threat. The chances that American Jews will have Jewish grandchildren are becoming increasingly remote -

Why?

Rising intermarriage rates

71% 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

62% of American Jews report that being Jewish is primarily a matter of ancestry and culture.

20% 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.”

Will your grandchildren be JEWISH?
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
- Join a synagogue
- Observe Jewish religious practices
- Contribute to Jewish charities
- Identify as strongly with Israel
- Befriend other Jews

**INTERMARRIAGE IS ONLY POSSIBLE**
for those who actually get married

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### The Future of American Jewry

**WILL YOUR GRANDCHILDREN BE JEWISH?**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>FIRST GENERATION</th>
<th>SECULAR</th>
<th>REFORM</th>
<th>CONSERVATIVE</th>
<th>CENTRIST ORTHODOX*</th>
<th>HASIDIC/YESHIVA ORTHODOX</th>
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<td>337</td>
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**INTERMARRIAGE RATE**
(Pew Research Report, 2013)

- 85%
- 79%
- 24%
- 2%
- 0%

**AVERAGE NUMBER OF CHILDREN PER WOMAN**
(Pew Research Report, 2013)

- 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ages 25-39</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General US public</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthodox Jews</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conservative Jews</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reform Jews</td>
<td>58%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jews of No Religion</td>
<td>68%</td>
<td>68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Average fertility rate for ages 40-59:

- General US public: 2.1
- Orthodox Jews: 4.1
- Conservative Jews: 1.8
- Reform Jews: 1.7
- Jews of No Religion: 1.5

### 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 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 shows that for many participants, Birthright Israel improves Jewish identification and engagement:

- 46% more likely to feel connected to Israel
- 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\(^1\) 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.

FULL REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING WEB SITES:

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

BAS ED ON:


ENDNOTES:

1. The impact of varieties of Jewish Education upon Jewish Identity: An Inter-Generational Perspective.” Brandeis University Press, 2007;