

Reader's Guide: Conservative Judaism

April 2012



From USCJ CEO Rabbi Steven Wernick

This BJPA Reader's Guide is a comprehensive and diverse look at Conservative Judaism in North America. Its wide range of edifying materials will be enormously helpful in understanding the rich and inspiring impact of Conservative Jews, Judaism and kehillot.

Beliefs, Values, & Ideology

[The Perplexities of Conservative Judaism](#)

Wertheimer, Jack. *Commentary Magazine, Commentary, Inc.*. September 2007

[Defining a Conservative Jew](#)

Epstein, Jerome. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media)*.
February 2006

[Visions for a Future](#)

Tucker, Gordon. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media)*.
February 2006

[The Courage to be Conservative](#)

Brusso, Aaron. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media)*.
February 2006

[Soulful Self-Reflection](#)

Brous, Sharon. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media)*.
February 2006

[Who Needs Theology?](#)

Gillman, Neil. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media)*.
December 2005

[Joy and Jeopardy](#)

Brous, Sharon. *Judaism. American Jewish Congress. Fall 2005*

Beliefs, Values, & Ideology

[Secularity Among Conservative Jews](#)

Ritterband, Paul. *Jewish Identity and Religious Commitment: The North American Study of Conservative Synagogues and Their Members, 1995-6*. Jewish Theological Seminary of America (JTS) Press. 1997

[Conservative Judaism's 'Ideology' Problem](#)

Schwarz, Sidney. *American Jewish History*. American Jewish Historical Society. December 1984

[Losing Conservative Judaism](#)

Plotkin, Paul. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*. Eugene Borowitz. 14 October 1983

[Conservatism--the Issue is Not Law](#)

Green, Art. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*. Eugene Borowitz. 31 December 1971

[I Love Conservative Judaism but... \(1\)](#)

Plotkin, Paul. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*. Eugene Borowitz. 29 May 1987

[I Love Conservative Judaism but... \(2\)](#)

Schulweis, Harold M. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*. Eugene Borowitz. 29 May 1987

[I Love Conservative Judaism but... \(3\)](#)

Price, Ronald D. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*. Eugene Borowitz. 29 May 1987

[I Love Conservative Judaism](#)

Nadich, Judah. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*. Eugene Borowitz. 29 May 1987

Halakha & Observance

[Rethinking Music Making: A Teshuvah for the Conservative Movement](#)

Kaplan Spitz, Elie. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Josh Rolnick, The Sh'ma Institute. June 2011

[Work, Workers and the Jewish Owner](#)

Jacobs, Jill. Rabbinical Assembly of America (RA). May 2008

[Walking the Walk](#)

Mintz-Geffen, Rela. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media). February 2006

[Liturgy and Conservative Judaism](#)

Rosenstein, Joseph G.. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media). February 2006

[Reflecting on Conservative Judaism](#)

Yudof, Judy. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media). February 2006: 14-15.

[Ethically Driven Halakhah](#)

Hauptman, Judith.. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media). February 2006

Halakha & Observance

[Conservative Jewry: An Ambivalent Profile - How Behavior Reflects Identity](#)

Goldstein, Sidney. *Proceedings of the Rabbinical Assembly. Rabbinical Assembly of America (RA)*. 1997

[Revalidate Conservative Halacha](#)

Morrison, Howard. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz*. 18 October 1985

[Polarizing Movements-and Our People](#)

Schulweis, Harold M. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz*. 6 September 1985

[An Observant Conservative Layman Speaks](#)

Aronin, Douglas D. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz*. 3 May 1985

[Conservative Halacha Is Dead](#)

Yuter, Alan J. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz*. 3 May 1985

[May Conservative Jews Observe Shabbat?](#)

Fink, Leon B. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz*. 22 March 1985

[Conserving Our Judaism](#)

Allen, Wayne. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz*. 14 October 1983

Organizations & Institutions

[Draft Strategic Plan for the New USCJ](#)

Cohen, Steven M. Ukeles, Jack. *United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism-Hayom Strategic Planning Commission. United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism. 1 February 2011*

[Ramah as an Incubator for New Ideas](#)

Rosenkrantz, H. Glenn. *EJewishPhilanthropy. 14 October 2010*

[Torah, Scholarship and the Mission of the Jewish Theological Seminary](#)

Eisen, Arnold. *The Reconstructionist. Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association (RRA). Spring 2007*

[Reinventing the Conservative Movement](#)

Ukeles, Jacob B. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media). February 2006*

[An Agenda for Action](#)

Wertheimer, Jack. *Proceedings of the Rabbinical Assembly. Rabbinical Assembly of America (RA). 1997*

[Late Twentieth Century Conservative Synagogues: An Ethnographic View](#)

Prell, Riv-Ellen. *Jewish Identity and Religious Commitment: The North American Study of Conservative Synagogues and Their Members, 1995-6. Jewish Theological Seminary of America (JTS) Press. 1997*

[Neither Scholars Nor Saints](#)

Neusner, Jacob. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 11 January 1979*

[The Reality Is More Conservative Power](#)

Neusner, Jacob. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 19 November 1971*

Future, Continuity, & Demographics

[Liberal Denominations Face Crisis as Rabbis Rebel, Numbers Shrink](#)

Nathan-Kazis, Josh. Forward. Forward Association, Inc.. 11 February 2011

[The Future of Conservative Jewry: An interview with Arnold M. Eisen](#)

Gerstenfeld, Manfred. Eisen, Arnold M. American Jewry's Comfort Level: Present and Future. American Jewish Committee (AJC), Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs (JCPA). 2010

[Conservative Jewry Misses Boat on Intermarrieds](#)

Golin, Paul. New Jersey Jewish News. Jewish Outreach Institute, New Jersey Jewish News. 13 March 2008

[Change in a Very Conservative Movement](#)

Cohen, Steven M. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media). February 2006

[Conservative Jews](#)

United Jewish Communities. February 2004

[The Conservative Movement: Whither or Wither?](#)

Herring, Hayim. Conservative Judaism. Rabbinical Assembly of America (RA). Spring 2000

[North American Conservative Jewish Teenagers' Attachment to Israel](#)

Kosmin, Barry A. Keysar, Ariela. JPR Report. Institute for Jewish Policy Research (JPR). 1999

Future, Continuity, & Demographics

[Religious Beliefs of Teenagers and Their Parents: God is In, Gender Difference is Out](#)

Kosmin, Barry A. Keysar, Ariela. *Jewish Identity and Religious Commitment: The North American Study of Conservative Synagogues and Their Members, 1995-6*. Jewish Theological Seminary of America (JTS) Press. 1997

[The Geography of Conservative Judaism in the United States](#)

Wertheimer, Jack. Keysar, Ariela.. *Jewish Identity and Religious Commitment: The North American Study of Conservative Synagogues and Their Members, 1995-6*. Jewish Theological Seminary of America (JTS) Press. 1997

[Conservatism: Why Rigidify Descent?](#)

Nadelmann, Ludwig. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*. Eugene Borowitz. 18 April 1986

[After Fifteen Years-My World](#)

Wyschogrod, Michael. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*. Eugene Borowitz. 1 November 1985

[The Demise of Conservative Judaism](#)

Novak, David. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*. Eugene Borowitz. 3 May 1985

[Clarifying the Conservative Position](#)

Shapiro, Alexander M. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility*. Eugene Borowitz. 3 May 1985

[The Future of Conservative Judaism in the United States](#)

Liebman, Charles S. *Jerusalem Letter / Viewpoints*. Jerusalem Center for Public Affairs (JCPA). 31 March 1980

Rabbinate

[JTS Rabbis and Israel, Then and Now: The 2011 Survey of JTS Ordained Rabbis and Current Students](#)

Cohen, Steven M. The Jewish Theological Seminary of America. 2 September 2011

[Saving the First Amendment from Itself: Relief from the Sherman Act Against the Rabbinic Cartels](#)

Richman, Barak D. Working Paper Series. Social Science Research Network. 12 April 2011

[Rabbi Searches Are Tough, but Are They Illegal?](#)

Richman, Barack D. Forward. Forward Association, Inc.. 29 September 2010

[In the Driver's Seat: Rabbinic Authority in Post-War America](#)

Weissman-Joselit, Jenna. Jewish Religious Leadership: Image and Reality. Jewish Theological Seminary of America (JTS) Press. 2004

Gender & Orientation

[Sorting Sins: When the Law Stays the Same and Everything Else Changes](#)

Greenberg, Steven. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media)*. September 2008

[Gays, Lesbians, and the Conservative Movement: The JTS Survey of Conservative Clergy, Students, Professionals, and Lay Leader](#)

Cohen, Steven M. January 2007

[Gender Variation in the Careers of Conservative Rabbis: A Survey of Rabbis Ordained since 1985](#)

Cohen, Steven M. Schor, Judith. *Rabbinical Assembly of America (RA)*. July 2004

[Finding a Place and a Voice](#)

Kessler, Susie. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. CLAL: the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership*. 20 March 1998

[What it Means to be a Jewish Woman in the Age of Egalitarianism](#)

Lewittes, Adina. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. CLAL: the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership*. 6 January 1995

[In the Image of God: A Dissent in Favor of the Full Equality of Gay and Lesbian Jews into the Community of Conservative Judaism](#)

Handler, Howard. *Rabbinical Assembly of America (RA)*. 1992

[Under a Tallit a Woman Is Invisible](#)

Forman, Lori. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz*. 31 May 1985

Gender & Orientation

[If There Are Conservative Women Rabbis](#)

Eilberg, Amy. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 14 October 1983

[Facing the Need for Women Rabbis](#)

Neusner, Jacob. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 14 October 1983

[Circumventing the J.T.S. Faculty](#)

Neusner, Jacob. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 18 March 1983

[Male or Female, Are They "Rabbis"?](#)

Bleich, Judith. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 18 March 1983

[Sh'ma February 8, 1980: Women Rabbis \(Complete Issue\)](#)

Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 1980

[Women Rabbis as a Death Sign](#)

Stolper, Pinchas. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 16 March 1979

Denominational Relations

[Moving Beyond the Movement](#)

Boyd-Gelfand, Shoshana. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media)*. February 2006

[Choosing One's Losses](#)

Esses, Dianne. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. CLAL: the National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership*. 10 May 1996

[Reconstructionism and Conservative Judaism](#)

Schwarz, Sidney. *Judaism: A Journal of Jewish Life & Thought. American Jewish Congress*. Winter 1984

[Balancing Conflicting Histories](#)

Reifman, Maurice. Reifman, Toby. *Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz*. 20 January 1984

[Sh'ma October 5, 1984: Conservative-Orthodox Dialogue \(Complete Issue\)](#)

Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 1984

Denominational Relations

[The Varieties of American Orthodoxy](#)

Gordis, Robert. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 14 October 1983

[Dialogue About Halachah Is Limited](#)

Liebman, Charles S. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 16 September 1982

[Living Conservative, Giving Orthodox](#)

Gruen, Ronald. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 2 April 1982

[An Outsider's View of Conservatism](#)

Liebman, Charles S. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 8 February 1980

[Conservatism is Not Reconstructionism](#)

Siegel, Seymour.. Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 30 November 1979

Sh'ma Issues on Conservative Judaism

[Sh'ma February 2006: Conservative Judaism \(Complete Issue\)](#)

Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Jewish Family & Life (JFL Media). February 2006

[Sh'ma May 29, 1987: Conservative Judaism \(Complete Issue\)](#)

Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 1987

[Sh'ma May 3, 1985: Conservative Judaism \(Complete Issue\)](#)

Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 1985

[Sh'ma October 14, 1983: Conservative Judaism \(Complete Issue\)](#)

Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 1983

[Sh'ma December 22, 1978: Conservative Changes \(Complete Issue\)](#)

Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 1978

[Sh'ma November 19, 1971: Conservative Judaism \(Complete Issue\)](#)

Sh'ma: A Journal of Jewish Responsibility. Eugene Borowitz. 19 November 1971

Learn more...

[Conservative Judaism...](#)

