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April 18, 2010 ~ 4 Iyar 5770

“Faces of Israel” Film Program

By Rabbi Marc Soloway on April 13, 2010 [Add a Comment](#)

with film maker Amy Beth Oppenheimer



As we approach Yom Ha’atzmut (Israel Independence Day), join film maker Amy Beth Oppenheimer at Congregation Bonai Shalom Wednesday night, April 14th at 7:30 pm for a fascinating program exploring the complexities of Israeli society today. We will watch extracts of the movie “*Faces of Israel*” as well as discuss its themes.

What would it be like to live in a country that by definition does not make a distinction between synagogue and state?

Just decades ago, David Ben Gurion publicly declared “the establishment of a Jewish state...to be known as the State of Israel.” But what does it mean to be a Jewish state? Do these two characterizations, ‘democratic state’ and ‘Jewish state’, work well together? What happens when they don’t?

“*Faces of Israel*” explores the delicate balance between state and religion in the Jewish homeland through the context of marriage.

The documentary poses questions, such as:

- How, if at all, should Jewish tradition influence Israeli law?
- Should the Chief Rabbinate represent the views of all denominations of Judaism?
- Should civil unions and same-sex unions be legalized in Israel?

“*Faces of Israel*” introduces the view of Israelis from a variety of backgrounds and beliefs who offer their own answers to these questions.

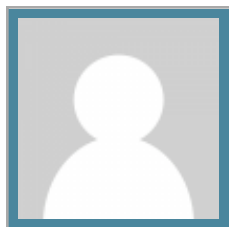
“*Faces of Israel*” has no political agenda. Rather, it serves as an educational tool that will foster

dialogue and conversation about the important questions that face the Jewish people and the State of Israel today.

Powerful... Mature...Sophisticated...Honest” and “A Must See”

“***Faces of Israel***” has been endorsed by a wide spectrum of Jewish leaders including Rabbi Basil Herring (RCA), Rabbi David Ellenson (HUC), Rabbi Gordon Tucker (Conservative movement), Rabbi Erin Hirsh (JRF), Rabbi Avi Weiss (HIR / YCT), Rabbi Judith Hauptman (JTS) and more.

Posted in Film | Tagged Bonai Shalom, boulder, Film, Israel, Jewish, Yom Haatzmaut



Rabbi Marc Soloway

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