JEWISH WOMEN'S STUDIES: SELECTED SOURCES

Included in this bibliography are books, chapters from books and articles which will introduce the reader to a selection of the available literature on Jewish women and Jewish feminism. Only English-language sources have been cited, and the majority of titles focus on the experience of Jewish women in the United States. The bibliography is in eight parts: Background Sources; History; Jewish Religious Life and Tradition; Biography, Autobiography, Diaries, Letters, Oral History; Literature (fiction, poetry and literary criticism); Contemporary Jewish Feminism and Lesbian Feminism (including works on anti-Semitism in the women's movement); Reference Sources; and Periodicals. Readers seeking a more comprehensive guide to this literature should turn to Aviva Cantor's exhaustive bibliography, cited in Reference below.

I gratefully acknowledge the assistance and critical comments of Rose Katz and Evelyn Torton Beck in the compilation of this bibliography.

Background Sources


History


History of Jewish women of European background in the U.S.


Study of ten Greek and Latin inscriptions for evidence of women's role as leaders in a number of synagogues during the Roman and Byzantine periods. Revised doctoral dissertation (Harvard).


Kaplan, Marion A. The Jewish Feminist Movement in Germany: The Campaigns of the Judischer Frauenbund, 1904-1938. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1979. Details the three major campaigns of the JFB: the fight against "white slavery"; the struggle for equality in Jewish communal affairs; and the pursuit of career training.


Volume originally published as a special issue of American Quarterly (v.30, no.5, Winter 1978).


On teaching a non-sexist survey course on American Jewish history.


Jewish Religious Life and Tradition


Discusses marriage, divorce, menstruation, abortion, contraception, rape, and public worship, making some of the central halakhic sources on women accessible to contemporary women.


A new ceremony for midlife Jewish women to parallel the Bat Mitzvah.


An anthology of feminist essays calling for a change in the role of women within orthodox Judaism.

On the status of women in Jewish history, culture, and religion, and contemporary movement toward change.


On integrating Jewish traditions and beliefs into a contemporary Jewish woman's lifestyle. By the editor of *Lilith.*


Biography, Autobiography, Diaries, Letters, Oral History


Autobiography of a young immigrant woman from Russia.


Portrait of a German intellectual (1771-1833), whose salon was a meeting place for notable scholars.


Based on Bloch's journal from the period when her sister was dying of cancer, this work speaks to intimacy between sisters and Jewish lesbian feminism.


Childhood memoir of Bella Chagall (nee Rosenfeld). The first section of this book was previously published as *Burning Lights: A Unique Double Portrait of Russian Jewry* (Schocken Books, 1963). The 1983 edition is a new translation augmented by previously unpublished material and Marc Chagall's illustrations.


In bringing together this collection of original Hasidic tales, Eliach made a particular effort to represent survivor tales of Hasidic women.


Autobiography of a French singer-pianist who as an inmate at Auschwitz was permitted to live because of her work with the women's orchestra. Published in England under the title The Musicians of Auschwitz (M. Joseph, 1977).


Memoirs of a powerful Jewish woman (1646-1724) who bore 13 children and ran her husband's business after his death.


Diaries of a 27-year-old Dutch woman, tracing her personal development and growth in the context of war and annihilation. Hillesum chose to accompany Jews deported to Westerbork in 1942, and worked there until placed on a transport to Auschwitz, where she died in November, 1943.


Ten autobiographical accounts of Jewish women who came to the U.S. early in the 20th century.


From Frontiers' first special issue on women's oral history.


Of the 24 persons interviewed for this project, 11 were women.


Interviews with very old Jews -- many of them women -- in a Jewish Center in Venice, California.


Letters from a Jewish prostitute to an upper-class Boston matron (1910-1922).


Reflections of an assimilated U.S. Jew upon her Jewish roots.


Biography of a Marrano Jewish woman from Portugal.


Tale of how four sisters from a Polish-Jewish family survived the Holocaust, narrated by the oldest sister.


A Hungarian who fought the rise of fascism, during WWII Senesh joined a commando unit which worked to help Jews escape from the occupied territories. She was captured and executed in 1944 after parachuting into Yugoslavia. Includes Senesh's diary, letters and selected poems; two essays by her mother; and two by other contributors. See also Anthony Masters' _The Summer That Bled: A Biography of Hannah Senesh_ (St. Martin's Press, 1972).


Best known for her guidebooks to New York, Mexico and Italy, Simon writes here of her growing-up years as a Polish immigrant newly arrived in the Bronx.


Includes hundreds of color reproductions of Solomon's original gouaches.


Excerpt from Stokes' unpublished autobiography, _I Belong to the Working Class_ (Rose Pastor Stokes Papers, Yale University).

Biography of a Polish-American abolitionist, socialist and feminist (1810-1892).


An eyewitness account of the only all-women's concentration camp in the Third Reich. The author describes how the camp differed from men's camps, and why the women were better able to survive.


Sketches of Amy Levy, Emma Lazarus, Rebecca Gratz, Lillian D. Wald, Henrietta Szold, and Emma Goldman.


Autobiography of a Polish survivor of Auschwitz.

Literature


Includes work by 12 Jewish women poets: Anonymous (Sephardic Ballad); Rahel Morpurgo; Malka Heifetz Tussman; Kadja Molodowsky; Rachel Korn; Else Lasker-Schuler; Nelly Sachs; Gertrud Kolman; Rahel; Leah Goldberg; Dahlia Ravikovich.


Twenty essays by contemporary scholars: 11 examine women characters in fiction by women; 9 discuss women in fiction by male authors.


First published in 1925. Readers may want to look at Anzia Yezierska by Carol Schoen (Twayne, 1982).


Short stories.

Contemporary Jewish Feminism and Lesbian Feminism

Anti-Semitism in the Women's Movement


Articles and letters in response to *BMR's* special issues on spirituality (v.10, no.3) and religion (v.10, no.4), which omitted material by Jewish feminists.


The authors bring much needed clarity to the contentious issues of racism and anti-Semitism. Pratt writes of her coming to political consciousness in a Southern white Christian context. Smith addresses the complex tensions between black and Jewish women in the women's movement. Bulkin, in the longest piece, tries to break through the webs of anger and bias to come to a realistic depiction of Jewish oppression, Jewish privilege, Jewish survival in the world. In doing this, she discusses the complexity of Jewish lives in the U.S., then goes further to dissect Jewish/Arab relations in the Middle East. The overall message of the volume is that activists of different persuasions must veer away from the politics of accusation, and strive for a politics of coalition.


Several articles on Jewish feminism.


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*Genesis* 2 (April 1984): "Special Focus on Judaism and Feminism."


"Jewish Lesbian Culture and Anti-Semitism in the Lesbian Community: A Presentation by Minneapolis, Minnesota, Jewish Lesbians." Recorded live at A Woman's Coffeehouse, February 27, 1983, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Radical Rose Recordings, 1983. (Intended for women only)


Luger, Deb. "Anti-Semitism Is Alive & Thriving in Denver, Colorado & Throughout the US." *Big Mama Rag* 12, no.2 (February 1984): 10-11, 15, 19.


off our backs 2, no. 6 (February/March 1972): special issue by Jewish women on Jewish women.

off our backs 12, no. 4 (April 1982): special section on Jewish women.

off our backs 12, no. 8 (August/September 1982): "Specials: Jewish Feminist Conference, Nice Jewish Girls."

Plexus 9, no. 7 (September 1982): special feature on Jewish women.


Womanews 2, no. 11 (December 1981): special issue on Jewish women and anti-Semitism.

Women's Studies Quarterly 11, no. 3 (Fall 1983): "Racism and Anti-Semitism in the Women's Movement" (special section).

Addresses from the 1983 National Women's Studies Association convention.
Reference Sources

A comprehensive, 88-page bibliography, covering: Jewish women in history/herstory; Jewish women in religious life and law; Jewish women in the United States and Canada; Jewish women in Israel; Jewish women in other countries; Jewish women in the Holocaust and resistance; Jewish women in poetry; special magazine issues and pamphlets; unpublished papers and recent Jewish women's conferences; studies and surveys; and bibliographies. Revised edition of A Bibliography on the Jewish Woman (1979).

A collection of 15 syllabi and reading lists, from college courses focusing on Jewish women, general courses integrating the study of Jewish women, and adult and continuing education classes.


Periodicals


Addresses

Alyson Publications, P.O. Box 2783, Boston, MA 02208.

Atlantis, Mount Saint Vincent University, 166 Bedford Highway, Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3M 2J6, Canada.

Biblio Press, P.O. Box 22, Fresh Meadows, NY 11365-0022.

Big Mama Rag, 1724 Gaylord St., Denver, CO 80206.

Black Oyster Press, 821 Hampshire St., San Francisco, CA 94110.

Broomstick, 3543 18th St., San Francisco, CA 94110.

Common Lives/Lesbian Lives, P.O. Box 1553, Iowa City, IA 52244.

Conditions, P.O. Box 56A, Van Brunt Station, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

Daughters, Inc. is no longer publishing.
Diaspora Distribution, P.O. Box 19224, Oakland, CA 94619.


Heyeck Press, 25 Patrol Ct., Woodside, CA 94062.

Institute for Research in History, 432 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10016.

Lilith: The Jewish Women's Magazine, 250 West 57th St., New York, NY 10019.

Long Haul Press, Box 592, Van Brunt Station, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

Motheroot Publications, 214 Dewey St., Pittsburgh, PA 15218.

New Glide Publications, c/o Volcano Press, 330 Ellis St., Rm.518, San Francisco, CA 94102.

off our backs, 1841 Columbia Rd., N.W., Rm.212, Washington, D.C. 20009.

Persephone Press is no longer publishing.

Plexus, West Coast Women's Press, 545 Athol Ave., Oakland, CA 94606.

Radical Rose Recordings, P.O. Box 8122, Minneapolis, MN 55408.


Sinister Wisdom, P.O. Box 1023, Rockland, ME 04841.

Sojourner, 143 Albany St., Cambridge, MA 02139.

Womanews, P.O. Box 220, Village Station, New York, NY 10014.

Woman's Institute for Continuing Jewish Education, 4079 54th St., San Diego, CA 92105.

Compiled by Catherine Loeb

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