

# THE BASH

## BNEI AKIVA SCHOOLS HEADLINES



### A Tribute to Rabbi Goldberg A YOC Collective

On March 7, students, faculty, and alumni were shocked as we heard the sudden news that our long-time rebbe and mentor Rabbi Moshe Goldberg z"l passed away. Rav Goldberg's passion and dedication towards Torah and mitzvot was contagious and served as a beacon of light to Yeshivat Or Chaim for more than twenty years. The funeral and burial took place in Toronto and Ramat Beit Shemesh respectively and was attended by hundreds. The legacy that he made on our school and our community will live on and his impact will not be forgotten. יהי זכרו ברוך.

#### Yochanan Goldstein:

"I had the opportunity to daven with Rabbi Goldberg during Shacharit since grade 11 and learned with him during Mishmar several times throughout high school. On a more personal note, I had the pleasure of getting to know Rabbi Goldberg on a deeper

level as my Gemara rebbe this year. There was never a time where he didn't have a smile on his face. He always took pleasure in getting to know and learn with his talmidim (his "boys"). On days where we ended early or missed his class due to an assembly or school trip, he insisted that we have "double learning" the next day to make up for the missed opportunity. He truly fulfilled the mitzvah of *lehiyot besimcha tamid* and inspired those around him in ways that words cannot describe. We will truly miss Rabbi Goldberg- his smile, his dedication to learning, and his pure love of Torah u'mitzvot."

#### Mendy Kanofsky:

"Chazal say that when a tzadik moves on from this world and enters the next world, it means that everything that Hashem wanted him to accomplish what has been done. Rav Goldberg's mission of spreading Hashem's warmth at YOC and teaching Am Yisrael Torah has certainly been fulfilled. One of my favourite

memories of Rabbi Goldberg was when I updated him on special occasions about the Chabad Yamim Tovim. When I was in 9th grade I had the great privilege of being his personal Chavrusa for matmidim. This year the Rav would give a beautiful Parsha shiur every Friday. Thanks to the ways of Hashem, I am lucky that I took notes from his shiur and will always have this part of the Rav with me. Although we will miss the Rav's physical presence, we should remember that he's looking over all of us and beseeching Hashem for all the Brachos we need."

#### Mr. Lazar:

"I worked with Rabbi Goldberg since joining the YOC faculty in 2007, but got to know each other much better as my role expanded. We had our favourite topics of discussion, largely related to food. I helped him with Rebbe mishmars and shabbatons, ordering kugel (warm!) and cakes

that said "very good learning."

When I moved to my house, Rabbi Goldberg was thrilled to hear we would be neighbours, only 2 blocks away! On warm days when I walked past his house, he would be sitting and learning on his porch - and he would excitedly greet me. Rabbi Goldberg z"l will be remembered for his warmth, enthusiasm and love of Yiddishkeit. He was a true role model, living a fully ethical life, devoted to Torah, always showing care to his students."

#### Rabbi Sonenberg:

"I had the privilege of working with Rabbi Goldberg for close to 16 years. During this time I was able to experience his love of Torah and passion for teaching. Every conversation with him at breakfast involved words of Torah and concern for his students. He always advocated for greater quality and quantity of shiurim and demonstrated a concern for each and every student who



despite whatever challenges they might seem to present, were all 'good boys'. Rabbi Goldberg was always happy to see people and there was a genuine smile and sparkle in his eyes when he saw you unexpectedly. I remember that when I dropped in to daven at his shul on Shabbat how happy and welcoming he was and how he introduced me respectfully to all the people there as if I was a special guest who came to visit.

Rabbi Goldberg will be missed as a person who lived a life of Torah and was a living example of what it truly means to live a life that is a kiddush Hashem."

## STUDENT LIFE

### Siddur "Sharing" Is Caring

By: Chana Silverman

One of the many wonderful things about Ulpana is our open-mindedness when it comes to property ownership. See an unclaimed snack on the couch? It belongs to the whole grade now. Left a pencil in a classroom? You'll never see it again.

Recently, a new wave of "sharing" has surged in Ulpana - the amazing phenomenon of students using siddurs that aren't theirs during davening times. Now, while some people might be a little bitter about their siddurs being held in another person's hands, I'm here to tell you that this is actually a very big step that Ulpana's student body has collectively taken in the right direction. In fact, here are several reasons why taking other people's siddurs is a great idea:

1. Siddurs are not something that students could have a personal connection with in any way, and it's definitely not important to students to pray using their own personal property.

2. It seems to be very entertaining for students to watch their fellow students walk around the shul with a confused look on their faces as they search for their siddurs on one of the shelves. Jokes on them,

because their siddurs are in our hands already!

3. It helps further our school's not-so-secret socialist agenda. #MiAnachnu

4. It's not theft, it's sharing - it's time to rebrand.

5. Hey, if it delays davening and wastes time that could be used to eat breakfast, it must be worth it. (And it could even incentivise you to be Chazzanit when you have no other siddur options, so it's a bonus!)

In conclusion, if none of you could tell by my frequent announcements on the Whatsapp chat, I am very happy that the Ulpana student body has decided to adopt the trend of siddur sharing. As I like to say, "*mi Siddur es su Siddur*," so let's keep this movement going and make it an Ulpana tradition (that is, until the admin take it away)!

### Top 10 Worst Ways to Break Out Colour War

By: Leora Kronenberg

Colour war is pretty big deal in Ulpana because no matter who you are; everyone gets to have fun during the 48 hour extravaganza. You spend the next two days of your life high on caffeine and adrenaline, doing a bunch of crazy activities to impress the imposing and all powerful judges so your team WINS because you have to WIN colour war (or else you LOSE to the other team and LOSING IS NOT AN OPTION). And the best part - it happens every year! The catch is, no one knows when. It's up to the student council to come up with a creative and awe-inspiring way to tell us that the event we've all been waiting for has finally arrived. But, while there are ways to do it right, there are definitely ways to do it wrong. For future StudCo's convenience, here are the top ten worst ways to break out colour war.

### 10. Let everyone know it's coming

Or, assume that all students of Ulpana are going to go on every grade's testing calendar and check for the one week period in January-February where there are randomly no tests and no ISPs. Never think that your classmates are unintelligent! We were smart enough to make the number one most discussed topic of the year the donut crisis, in which we argued how we, privileged as we are to go to a Jewish private school, *deserve* a monthly baked treat! How can you have overlooked the obvious genius? Next time, maybe mark some tests in the calendar anyway, to throw everyone off. Also, don't tell the teachers until literally the night before. Usually, a response to a request to reschedule a quiz to a certain day is not a secretive smile, or a mischievous laugh.

### 9. Fake standardized test - and the last question is "who is ready for colour war?"

Tried this at my old school. Did not go down well. People cried because they thought it was real. 2/10, would not recommend.

### 8. Call every single girl to the office because they were "breaking dress code"

No one would suspect it, but feel free to shudder at the thought of our teeny tiny office full of angry teenagers.

### 7. Order Rosh Chodesh donuts in Colour War colours

People are going to rush into the lunchroom like savages, grab their donuts, eat them in 0.05 seconds, and will fail to notice that the decorations actually mean something. This will inevitably lead to a very awkward announcement over the loudspeakers.

### 6. Flashmob

There happens to be a lot of backlash surrounding what should actually be a fun and exciting way to let everyone know colour war is here. The dance itself isn't the hard part, because you could just use your standard Zachreini Nah,

Tudo Bom, or other assorted Simcha dance. No, the worst part of this is when one must actually start the dance, when the music starts playing. Everyone is just going to sit in silence and confusion while Student Council is up there, dancing and clapping, trying to get everyone into it when it is most likely 8:45am at morning announcements and no one really wants to do anything. It's before breakfast, no one has had their coffee yet for goodness sakes. The most likely outcome is a bunch of girls waving coloured flags while the others sit in their seats, falling asleep and half-heartedly cheering while laughing silently at the other girls embarrassment.

### 5. Post it on Google Classroom

SHYNDEE KESTENBAUM has posted on Classroom

"Attention students - it's colour war! Please make your way up to the shuk! Don't be late!"

SHYNDEE KESTENBAUM has posted on Classroom

"\*shul"

### 4. Announce that there will be no student WIFI anymore

Now, if you are an anarchist looking to start a civil war between students and teachers, that's the way to go. Colour war, not so much.

### 3. Make it a Mincha joke

"What do you call an alligator detective? An investi-gator! You know what you should investigate? Colour war! Hahaha, you thought I was going to say Mincha!" ... "But you should investigate Mincha too. Please make your way up to the shul!"

### 2. Say a teacher is leaving

This one, if you choose to use this method, presents two problems. Firstly, if you decide to go along with it, it is so overused. Literally everyone is going to be expecting it. Getting randomly called out of class or a teacher standing up and suddenly announcing she is making Aliyah is an obvious

warning flag, and the entire school will be chanting “1, 2, 3, 4, we want colour war...” the whole time until you finally say the actual news. This directly relates to number ten. If everyone knows, you have already failed. Second, let’s say the announcement is very serious and very real. For example, if a teacher decides she will be leaving the school when the year is out and travel very far away to get an awesome job (and leave the seniors of next year stranded, having no idea what they are going to do for seminary), even if they did send out an email and made sure not weave it into davening the next morning, no one will believe it. All they will get is an overflowing inbox of “this is breakout, right?” and a massive headache.

And finally...

### 1. Let everyone know that Or Chaim and Ulpana will become one school

Because honestly, who is gullible enough to believe admin will allow that?

### Another Exciting Colour War

By: Noa Muscat

Every year, the students of Ulpanat Orot enjoy an epic, action-packed, chaotic, and amazing two-day colour-war competition. This year, the breakout was a school-wide paint night, disguised as a Rosh Chodesh Adar activity. Many students were pleasantly surprised when the instructor completed the art lesson by painting “COLOUR WAR” on her canvas. What a fun and exciting way to start it off!

The teams were announced; Layla and Yom, very much in line with the trend of selecting two complementary, yet contrasting themes. Along with Mia Rosenblum and Rivka Werner, I had the pleasure of being Captain of Team Layla. Together, we oversaw many arrangements for many activities throughout the course of the competition; activities included, but were not

limited to: relay races, the traditional Giant Jenga, the formidable Apache Race, Minute to Win It, Chidon Panoply, an extreme workout, a hilarious fashion show starring the leadership of Ulpana, and various sports.

It was certainly a hectic couple of days but I am so happy and grateful that I experienced it as captain, which is a unique leadership opportunity that required enthusiasm, energy and drive. I understood that as captain, if I was not into the activities or cheering loudly, then my team would not either. It was definitely a team effort and I know that we won only because of my amazing co-captains, Mia and Rivka. Here’s a shoutout to our lieutenant, Hannah Aaron, and to our mascot, Ahuva Goldfield. As a team, we worked together and persevered!

Here’s to many more exciting colour war journeys ahead for many years to come!

## SPORTS

### Good Knight

By: Salomon Friedlander

There is only really one adjective to properly describe this YOC Knights season: hype. Hype is a very complicated concept to explain. For those of you who have not yet merited to learn the true meaning of the word “hype”, the most similar words to hype are “ruach” or “oomph.” This year’s Knights brought something Or Chaim has been missing for its entire history, and it's not night *seder*. This year, the Knights brought the TDCAA Division A Championship home. Those exciting moments where the whole school was cheering and chanting in support of the team as one unified force were some of the most hype parts of the year. Throughout the season the number of these hype moments only grew, until the hype reached its maximum; the closing moments of



the Knights vs Crawford Finals game. The fans stormed the court in celebration of the Senior Knights first ever Championship; the peak of hype. The team and the devoted fans were elated to finally be Champions for the first time.

Just like at the Senior Knights celebration ceremony at breakfast, where the school and fans took a brief moment to appreciate this past Junior Knights season as well, I too will write briefly of the outstanding Junior Varsity season. This Junior Knights season was one for the books. According to the official Knights instagram page the Knights had the best record in JV history at 10-4. The team was lead by its big three; scoring guard Yoni Wapner, ultra-versatile big man Yoni Herman and its facilitator and leader Tani Cohen. These three delivered punch after punch to opposing teams. When I asked Herman what his personal season highlight was he responded, “Our first game versus Mother Teresa me, Wapner and Tani played in perfect equilibrium. I had 15 and Wapner and Tani had 16 each, and after a tightly contested game we won by three. It was great because we picked each others weaknesses up and played together as one superstar 47 point player.” Herman’s sentiment is really a testament to this Knights team and how it’s chemistry and close bond really brought this team to new heights.

Greatest Knights team of all time? While this is a question being discussed in every YOC carpool, one thing is for certain, the Senior Knights are the most accomplished Knights team ever.

After bringing home their first ever TDCAA Division A title and qualifying for OFSAA, these Knights have put their roster up there with the greatest Knights rosters ever. Coach Ben Halberstadt - in his final year as coach - and his team fought all year long to bring this title home. When wing Yossi Blumenfeld was asked what he thought the most effective play the Knights ran this year was, he said, “Our Havoc Press which caused turnovers in the backcourt and resulted in open layups”. The Havoc Press is the Knights signature full court press where they hound the ball handler starting from the inbound. This type of gritty play resulted in Or Chaim’s first ever banner. After three previous trips to the TDCAA finals since the turn of the century, Or Chaim had previously brought home runner up banners. After the Knight’s finals victory, the feeling of accomplishment was evident throughout the building. That feeling was most present during the final minutes of the finals, resulting in insanely hype moments on the court after the final buzzer. Suddenly the hype reached its height, as the entire school began moshing at center court. There was sparkling grape juice everywhere. And Rabbi Grauer held the gorgeous red

championship banner. When I asked the Knights players about that feeling they all said the same thing. "It's an amazing feeling to be the first to do it, to know that every single day's work paid off, I'll remember this forever." That feeling is hype.

### **Knights of the Volleyball Court** By: Hannah Aaron

Over the past couple of months, the UO Knights volleyball team was hard at work giving it their all in every game they have played this season. This year, the team welcomed their new coach, Taija Thomas, and her 12 years of expertise to help bring them to new heights. Coach Thomas has played professionally all over the world and hopes to help the team bring home a trophy.

The fairly new team, lacking seniors this year, included Hannah Aaron ('20), Sarah Abbou ('20), Elianna Abramovitch ('20), Alyssa Essebag ('20), Yakira Gasner ('20), Hanna-Eden Ibgbi ('20), Yardena Lipson ('20), Ariella Spiro ('20), Aliza Balsam ('21), Nina Samson ('21), Leeba Woodrow ('21), Tiffy Price ('22) and Nava Remer ('22).

This year, the UO Knights volleyball team strived to create a sense of teamwork, setting aside specific practices to work on team building and skills alike.

When asked to reflect on the team and her experience as coach, Coach Thomas expressed, "My experience coaching the girls has been a positive one! The girls are all such hard workers and are determined to get better. Our team is very young as we don't have any seniors but that doesn't stop us. Every game the girls leave their hearts out on the court and I couldn't be more proud of them!"

The Knights worked hard throughout their short 6-game season, and their sweat and tears paid off to earn them a spot in the playoffs. They played their hearts out against the top teams in the league in a one-day tournament and ended their season with their

heads held high. At the end of their regular season, the girls held a small celebration to reflect on their improvements and achievements of the previous months. Coach Taija Thomas awarded each team member with a certificate recognizing their success and effort each player put into the season.

The Knights have a promising future ahead, and we wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors - which will hopefully earn them a new trophy to proudly display in our school. Go Knights!

## **ISRAEL**

### **Israel's Greatest Landscapes** By: Eli Yissar

Israel has been proven, time and time again that it will always endure the worst and flourish to its best. Before Israel was an independent state, it prospered but always to a limit. On May 14th, 1948, when Israel was finally declared an independent state, things changed for the better. Folks often talk about the Jewish people and how they thrived after Israel's declaration but people do not often talk about how the land itself has prospered over the years. It is important to consider Israel's incredible landscapes like Ramon's Crater, the Dead Sea, and Hula Valley.

One of Israel's most unique landscapes is not only refreshing but also holds a world record; the Dead Sea. The Dead Sea is the Earth's lowest point of elevation on land. It is one of the saltiest bodies of water in the world (almost ten times as salty as the ocean), so much so that instead of sinking when you are in the water, you float! Today, we use the Dead Sea for our cosmetics and herbal sachets because of its incredible minerals, but many years ago the Dead Sea was used to supply products for the mummification of Egyptians, potash, and fertilizer.

In the south of Israel, 85 kilometres past Beersheba, on top of Mount Negev is Ramon's Crater - a crater that was formed hundreds of million year ago when the Negev Desert was covered by water. Over the years, the water receded northwards and left the part of the land that is now known as Ramon's Crater. With its formation of a somewhat stretched heart, it is considered the world's largest erosion cirque. The crater's deepest point is called the Saharonim Spring which contains the crater's only source of water that sustains all the living creatures living in the area.

The Hula Valley is an agricultural region in the Northern part of Israel. This valley has plentiful fresh water and is best known for the large number of migrating bird stopovers. This Valley has become one of the world's largest bird watching sites, but it was not always so great. Today, an average of five hundred migrating birds pass the Hula Valley in a year.

On your next trip to Israel, in between taking in the history and the food, try to make it to a couple of these impeccable landscapes. You may just find that you fall into an even deeper love with the country.



## **POLITICS**

### **Venezuela Political Crisis** By: Ely Abitbol

Caracas, Venezuela - With no food, water, medicine, or humanitarian aid, hundreds are dying in the streets daily. Grocery stores and hospitals are neglected by the government and supplies are limited for all.

Venezuela has been ruled by a dictator named Nicolas Maduro for almost 20 years. The situation was never good to begin with, but now things are as terrible as ever. Thousands of citizens are rioting and protesting on the streets because of the terrible political situation and corrupted government.

It has been fairly evident that Venezuela is struggling socially, politically, and economically. Recently, Juan Guaido, the president of the National Assembly of Venezuela swore himself in as the new president of Venezuela and has been recognized by several world powers as the interim president of the nation.

Guaido has been doing everything possible to help the country get out of this crisis and get Maduro and his people out of Venezuela. To do this, he requested international assistance from the United States.

In the meantime, Guaido searched for aid to help Venezuela in their crisis. On February 22, 2019 a concert was held in Cucuta, Colombia to raise money to buy humanitarian supplies and resources to poorly affected areas in Venezuela.

On February 23, Juan Guaido ordered several trucks filled with food and medical aid to Venezuela through the borders of Colombia and Brazil. As the trucks entered Venezuela, the Venezuelan Army chose to burn and destroy the trucks to make a statement.

People in Venezuela are dying and willing to do anything possible to survive in these terrible conditions. The only hope for Venezuela is that the United States Air Force bombs and destroys Maduro's fleet of planes and weapons so they cannot fight back. The only hope is for Maduro to ultimately surrender so that Juan Guaido can turn the country around.

Without a doubt, it is our responsibility to be aware of this political crisis in South America. Venezuela should not have to suffer alone throughout these terrible chain of events. Despite the cold temperatures, Canadians were out on the streets of Toronto earlier in February to show their support for Venezuela during this crisis. The entire world is supporting and standing strong with Venezuela. Hopefully change is coming soon.



### **The Government that Stopped** By: Benjamin Nemirov

*The Federal Budget: An itemized plan for the annual public expenditures of the United States for each fiscal year. (The Balance)*

As the clock struck 12 on December 22, 2018, the longest United States government shutdown in history began. Lasting 35 days, this perilous period closed nine of 15 federal departments including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), and the departments of State, Housing and Urban Development, Treasury, Agriculture, Commerce, Interior, Justice, and Homeland Security, rendering approximately 800,000 civil servants without pay. The nation's streets and parks filled with litter, airport security became compromised, and citizens were left without food, power and even medication. So how did this happen? Why did it happen? And how can we prevent such a calamity from occurring once more?

To properly understand how this situation came to be, it is imperative to understand the inner

workings of the United States government and how it makes decisions. The U.S. government is comprised of three parts:

Congress, composed of the House of Representatives and the Senate, is charged with creating laws that influence people's daily lives; the president, who as commander and chief, oversees military action and as executive chief, enforces laws, treaties, court rulings and has influence over all nation wide issues and rulings; and the federal courts, who hear cases involving the U.S. globally and the largest scale court cases confined to the U.S. such as bankruptcy.

Each year, these three factions of government are tasked with coming together to create 12 appropriation bills, dictating how the government is to spend their revenue for the upcoming fiscal year. Cumulatively, these bills are referred to as the federal budget. To begin the process, Congress drafts and submits their ideal budget plan to the president by June 30th each year. The president then has until July 15th to review the potential budget and request amendments, based on where he feels funding is more deserved or needed. Congress then reviews the possible changes and votes on whether they are acceptable. A revised bill is then drafted, taking the president's requests into consideration, and is sent back to the president to be signed and put into effect. If, however, the president finds that the updated bill does not take his ideas into consideration, or feels that the overall division of the revenue is inappropriate, he is able to return the budget to Congress repeatedly until he is presented with a version that he agrees with. If all 12 bills are not passed before the start of the fiscal year on October 1st, the government shuts down. This entails the succession of all non-essential government functions, facilities and programs and the furloughing of their workers. However, if Congress feels that they will be unable to pass the budget in time, they are able to pass a continuing resolution, which allows for more

time to negotiate the budget plan and delays a government shutdown.

It is common knowledge that one of President Donald Trump's campaign promises was building a wall on the border of the United States and Mexico. Throughout his term in office he has made progress towards this wall's construction but has been obstructed by a major roadblock: funding. With his initial plan to build a completely concrete wall costing upwards of 25 billion dollars, design changes were made to replace stone slabs with steel slats that would be used to form a 21 foot high fence-like structure. Keeping Trump's ambition in mind, Congress set aside 1.6 billion dollars within a minibus (a small conglomeration of spending bills) to build a portion of the fence in their original 2019 federal budget, hoping this money would act as an incentive for the president to pass the entirety of their federal budget. However, Trump sought greater funding. After turning down the budget, he demanded a minimum of five billion dollars to be budgeted towards his wall, stating that he would be "proud" to shut the government down if Congress did not meet his amount, and that he would veto any budget that did not meet his expectations. With the Democratic members of Congress refusing to give additional funding towards the wall's construction, and the president refusing to sign a budget until they did, after an almost three month delay caused by the passing of multiple continuing resolutions to allow for further negotiations to find a solution to this dilemma, the United States government shut down.

With arguably the world's most influential country shut down for over a month, it is unsurprising that the U.S. suffered major blows, both socially and economically. With many government workers living from paycheck to paycheck, the immediate stoppage of pay left many without the resources to pay for power, food and even

medicine. Additionally, because government workers of certain states are responsible for garbage collection, the streets and national parks across the country began to fill with trash. Furthermore, certain government-employed buildings such as museums and other tourist attractions were shut down, potentially losing millions of dollars in revenue. Because of the shutdown, TSA was understaffed, and consequently allowed a man to carry an unregistered gun onto a plane and into Japan, where only there he was discovered to be in possession of the weapon. On a larger scale, it is estimated the U.S. GDP suffered a 0.1 percent drop. While this may not seem to be a significant dip, according to the Congressional Budget Office the loss translates to more than 11 billion dollars, twice the amount which initiated this situation.

On Friday January 25, 2019, United States President Donald trump signed a continuing resolution until February 15th to allow for further negotiation, finally ending the 21st U.S. government shutdown. And on February 15th, an omnibus resolution consolidating all the remaining appropriation bills was passed, clearing away any potential for additional shutdowns for the fiscal year. While the longest American government shutdown in history has ended, the social and economic damage it caused has already been done. People were starved and deprived of necessary medication, the country's yearly revenue decreased by more than \$11 billion, and the United States once golden reputation was once again tarnished.

While the government shutdown caused enormous damage, thankfully it ended before the consequences worsened to a critical level. However, with no system having been put into place to prevent disaster recurring only time will tell if the U.S. has learned its lesson of the serious dangers a government shutdown can pose to the country.

## OPINION

### The New Anti Semitism

By: Raphi Singer

A few weeks ago, freshman Democratic Congresswoman Ilhan Omar sparked bipartisan outrage for tweeting that politicians who support Israel have foreign allegiance to a country other than the United States. A follow up tweet, which used an anti semitic trope implying that Jews use money to buy off U.S politicians, had Omar apologize, and then walk back on her apology when a fellow congresswoman called her out. Omar accused said congresswoman of stifling debate. Soon after, politicians on both sides of the political aisle condemned Omar for perpetuating anti semitic stereotypes that have been used against Jews for centuries.

Congresswoman Omar has a history of tweets that denigrate Israel. In 2014 she tweeted that "Israel has hypnotized the world, may Allah wake everyone up from their curse." Only when Omar ran for congress did she eventually apologize for her tweet, but her problem and obsession with Israel goes back to her time in the Minnesota State Legislature. She opposed an anti BDS resolution in the legislature, and continued to protest any pro-Israel resolutions that were brought up.

The fact that Omar was elected to congress from her district should not surprise anyone. Her district encompasses an area in Minneapolis known as "Little

Mogadishu," which is an area with an unfortunate history of anti semitism and anti American sentiment. Further, multiple members from this community have been linked to terror recruitment in the past. One could speculate that this background is where her Anti-Semitic views stem from.

However, a bigger problem with Omar's anti semitic tweets is the fact that many Democratic party members have not condemned her, and they have instead come out in support of her. When asked, House Leader Nancy Pelosi continued to make excuses for Omar's tweet, and even went so far as to say that Omar "did not realize that magnitude of what she was saying." The fact that some members of the Democratic party are having a hard time condemning and dealing with anti semitism should be a wake up call for Jewish people across America, the world, and especially Israel.

Bipartisan support for Israel used to be widespread in American politics, but lately, the trend on the left, at times, has been to demonize and attack Israel whenever the opportunity arises. Many Democratic Congressmen and women have repeatedly criticized Israel, but have maintained that it is not anti semitic to criticize the Jewish state. The problem with this is that the only country to have received the brunt of these type of attacks is Israel, the Jewish state. Countries with human rights abuses that are inconceivable to comprehend in nature have not received any such criticism for their actions.

In late January of this year, Omar went as far as to defend the dictatorship of the Maduro regime in Venezuela, where atrocious human rights violations are committed daily. The Israeli government cannot even be remotely compared to the worst human rights violaters in the world, yet Omar and some in the Democratic party have chosen to focus their attention on the one true democracy in all of the middle east. These attacks are anti semitic in the most vile way, and people like Ilhan Omar have hid behind the guise of criticizing Israel so that she cannot be called out for being an anti semite.

Until Congresswoman Omar resigns or is pushed out from office, and the Democratic party disavows the anti semites in their ranks, the American Jewish community should be sure that the party they end up supporting, is the one that has *all* of their best interests in mind.

### Anti-Vaccers

By: Sarah Birnbaum

The number of cases of diseases such as mumps, measles, and rubella in Canada has risen considerably over the past five years. What is causing this reappearance of diseases that were thought to have been almost completely eradicated? Some speculate that the reason for this unfortunate trend is that travellers can bring home diseases from other countries. Other professionals would contribute that some diseases are becoming more resistant to antibiotics. But perhaps the most significant contributing factor to this is that a growing number of people simply are not being vaccinated and this is a growing concern nationwide.

As of February 2, 2019, there have already been three reported cases of measles. In 2018 there were 29 cases of measles and one case of rubella. In 2017, there were 45 cases of measles. In young children, measles can cause pneumonia, permanent brain

damage, deafness, and even, in rare cases, death. The MMR vaccine, which is given in two dosages between the ages of 12-15 months and 4-6 years is the best way to protect against this disease, as well as mumps and rubella. It is unacceptable for there to be so many reported cases of these diseases, especially since the vaccine is covered by government-funded healthcare, making it accessible for everyone.

Yet, there are a number of Canadians who are refusing to give their children this vaccine as well as other crucial injections. A misunderstanding of what exactly is in these drugs and a misconception that the medicine causes neurological disorders are two of the prominent excuses people give for not getting vaccinated. Vaccines are made of a tiny amount of dead or weakened germs that help the immune system learn how to protect itself against that disease. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has made it clear that these injections are very safe, and that although there may be minor side effects such as a slight fever or swelling at the injection site. The chance of dangerous side effects, however, is extremely unlikely, and the benefits far outweigh the risks involved. Furthermore, The National Academy of Sciences has proven that there is no link between the MMR vaccine, specifically the ingredient thimerosal, and autism, stating that "the evidence favours rejection of a causal relationship between thimerosal-containing vaccines and autism."

Rejecting immunization affects more than just oneself. People who are more vulnerable to contracting illnesses such as infants and the elderly, need herd immunity to reduce the risk of catching potentially deadly diseases. Even a small drop in the number of vaccinated people can make herd immunity less effective. Some parents choose to delay the administering of vaccinations for their children



because of a misguided belief that it is safer to do it when they are older. This is a terrible misjudgement because vaccines are less effective if not given in the recommended age range, and actually increase the risk of febrile (fever) seizures.

It is important to be wary of misinformation about vaccinations. No matter what people say, immunization is integral for protection from dangerous diseases. For the safety of one's own family and the people of Canada as a whole, please make sure to receive all the required vaccinations. For more information, please visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) and [www.canada.ca/en/public-health](http://www.canada.ca/en/public-health).

### To Be Or Not To Be... A Sandwich

By: Benjamin Nemirov

There exists a question. A question that has found itself devoid of an answer for over a century. Each time it is asked it instantly instigates an uproar. Its very mention has severed friendships, ripped apart families and created a divide in countless relationships. While this question might intimidate most philosophers, frighten scholars and scare away intellectuals of all caliber, there exists concrete evidence, and undeniable truth to prove that a hotdog *is* a sandwich!

To begin, the definition of a sandwich must be established to determine whether the "hotdog" fits within its parameters. According to Oxford's dictionary, a sandwich is, "an item of food consisting of two pieces of bread with meat, cheese, or other filling between them, eaten as a light meal." Based on this definition, to be a sandwich, a hotdog must be an item of food, consist of two pieces of bread and contain meat or another filling. As hot dogs clearly have no difficulties fulfilling the first and third requirements, whether they consist of two slices bread is the only question left to be answered.

When looking at a standard bun, it is immediately apparent that it is comprised of two slices of bread, a top half and a bottom half, however they are not always cut to be entirely separate. Following this line a reasoning, a hotdog bun should therefore also be made of two parts. This would then conclude that a hotdog must reside within two slices of bread, however connected, fulfilling this final requirement of a sandwich. Furthermore, even if this reasoning does not satisfy those on the opposing side of the argument, then surely the following line of reasoning will. As most know, there are a variety of sandwiches, including closed as well as open-faced. Even if the argument that the bun is in fact two slices of bread is rejected, based on the Oxford's Dictionary defining an open-faced sandwich as, "a single piece of bread with a savory topping," the truth that a hotdog is an open-faced sandwich should remain obvious.

Furthermore, when asked to answer this timeless question, food connoisseurs Jeff Mauro and Oscar Mayer, along with Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg all agreed that by definition, a hotdog is indeed a sandwich. Additionally, in accordance with the regulations set by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), the hot dog is classified under the category of sandwich as reported by the National Hot Dog and Sausage Council (NHDSC).

However, even if seemingly a hotdog is a sandwich by all standards, some argue that because the public does not culturally recognize it as one, it should be classified as a separate food. To support their stance, they often bring varying versions of a specific parable, "if one invited a group of friends to their house with the promise of supplying sandwiches, but only rewarded them with a plate of hot dogs upon their arrival, their friends would feel cheated and deceived?" While this is a probable situation,

whether people think a hotdog is not a sandwich simply because they do not usually think of it as one, is no different than accepting ignorance as a viable argument. By definition, a hotdog is a sandwich. By acclaimed food experts, it is a sandwich. Even in its creation, it is a sandwich.

During the late 19th century, the German sausage made its way across the sea into America where, after being served inside two slices of bread and sometimes a bun, It started being referred to as a "hotdog". And while there are a number of stories recording the supposed creation of this title, in all accounts, the food is originally referred to as a "meat sandwich."

Following the same reasoning as "if the shoe fits, wear it," a hot dog must be a sandwich; If multiple credible sources all agree that it is; it probably is a sandwich; If its creator made it as a sandwich and only coined the name "hotdog" due to it's catchy nature it is most likely be a sandwich; And if the requirement for a hotdog to be a sandwich is that it is a savoury food either between two slices of bread or atop of a single slice, then a hot dog is absolutely and unequivocally a sandwich.



### ADVICE

#### How To Remove Stains

By: Feiga Werner

Human beings share experiences. We are capable of relating to one another in a very unique way. This is why we are all able to relate to Stanley. Stanley is a regular guy,

with regular passions and hobbies--he enjoys playing guitar, watching movies with friends, and sacrificing snails to Cardea, the goddess of door hinges--but he has a problem. He often stains his clothing. It can happen to him anywhere: at school, at home, at the coven, under your bed, and even in the park. Stanley confessed that he has great shame in this. To help Stanley and the rest of us, our team decided to dedicate this edition's How To article on the removal of stains.

There are many differing opinions as to how to remove stains. Some say the correct approach is to lightly dab ketchup on the stain after crumpling it into a very tight and small space, ideally a mug or empty tissue box. The reasoning behind this technique is that the crumpling will dislodge and weaken the stains 'grip' on the cloth and the ketchup will effectively serve as bleach and detergent. Others claim that the key is covering stains with hands until you are safely home. Once home, take a Sharpie and outline your stain to make it a fun shape. They say that colourful sharpies, particularly neon green, work best, however, that is up to your discretion. Many have been fooled in thinking the shirt of their friend came with an abstract design, only to learn that it is a stain in disguise. Some voice the opinion that using toothpaste to gloss over the stain will provide ideal stain-closure.

I say that is all baloney.

In Mishei, Shlomo says, "חנוך לנער", "על פי דרכו", "Educate the child according to his way." Modern educators have come to the same realization, albeit it took a longer time. Each child has a different learning style, and teachers should do their best to accommodate that. So too, when we deal with stains, we should remember that each stain has its own story. No two stains are perfectly the same. Similarly to how vast the range of learning styles is, comparably are the different types of stains. However, so as not to impose false

hope, we will clarify from the start that there is a particular type of stain that cannot be removed without damaging the cloth: band-aid stains. If you find your band-aid has a stain in it, that means it has fulfilled its G-d given role. We offer our regrets, but the band-aid will not endure this ordeal. We will now focus our attention on the most common and damaging stains: Coffee/tea, avocado, mayonnaise, chocolate, and, of course, crayon.

Removing coffee stains is a *partea!* When dealing with coffee or tea stains, measure out 1/3 of a cup of vinegar. Dilute it with 2/3 cups of water and soak the fabric with this. Gently lay a sliver of avocado onto the cloth. Leave it to dry overnight underneath your bed or in another dark spot. The lack of moisture and sunlight will protect the avocado from browning and the dust bunnies will help the vinegar soak in.

Avocado stain: after placing the avocado sliver on your soiled garment, you will have replaced your old stain with a happier, fresher, and more colourful stain. To remove it, mix the avocado stain with lemon, salt, and pepper. Obtain some taco chips and dunk them in your newly made guacamole.

Mayonnaise: Perhaps the most common stain of all. I believe that it is difficult to avoid a confrontation with mayonnaise. It may come out of nowhere and appear on the kitchen table, on a doorknob, underneath your desk--the possibilities are truly endless. It is a problem that many face and yet are too intimidated to accost the mayonnaise. It is well known that raw potato and mayonnaise do not go well with one another. In the removal of mayonnaise stains, we may use this to our advantage. Dice a potato into thin slices. Let them soak in lemon juice for 1/4 of an hour. Then lay them over the stain. If the potatoes dry while on the cloth, you may pour lemon juice over the potatoes so it will help remove the stain.

Chocolate: This one is the least damaging from the other stains we covered. Scrub out the excess chocolate. Be careful when doing so so that you do not push the chocolate deeper into the fibres of the cloth. Wash the back of the stained area with running cold water. This helps loosen chocolate particles and get them out of the fabric. Rub detergent on the stain and let it soak the cloth. Then, let it soak in water for around 15 minutes and rub the stain every 3-5 minutes. If the stain is tough, you may need to reapply deodorant.

Crayon: Many students have a challenge with this one. Crayon can get stuck on clothing after colouring, exercising, and while doing homework. Take a knife, preferably a cleaver, and scrape away as much crayon as possible. Pour dish soap and liquidized Mike 'n Ikes over the stained part and let it sit or stand for a few minutes. Next, take the article of clothing and rinse it under freezing hot water. After this stage, take eight and one third of an ice cube and put it where the stain used to be.

There you have it! You are now all set to remove any of these tough stains. No longer will Stanley or anyone that relates suffer needlessly.



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