

Open Salon – GJFV – Sunday 10th Nov 2013

Simon Klarfeld (SK)

Young Judaea – constant conversation is not easy

We need more who come to the top RH quadrant

We're in the sweet spot!

Hillel – there are those who don't want that relationship – want to explore the universe...

Dyonna Ginsberg (DG)

Always been a righty

Resolution came with time in Israel

I deal with the low res/outside – social justice activists – Israel is not on their radar

I also work with the Closet/alienated hi-res/inside

Sarah Tuttle-Singer (STS)

Sarah was lower-left until shipped over to Israel

Making out with hot Israeli is the answer for Israel education...

American accents in Hebrew do it for Israelis

Aliya is hell...> “petulance/whining”

Moved upper left – high resolution/outside

Zohar Raviv (ZR)

Zohar's life is dull

“Have you ever been to the Kotel for the first time?”

Sometimes a visitor can be your best tour guide

Additional lenses help us see the complexity

What luggage do young people arrive with?

- They are sophisticated and intelligent
- High knowledge but low stamina for deep learning
- High opinion/low Jewish knowledge
- The challenging educational process is humbling rather than gratifying...

Have you ever been with someone stuck in the wrong quadrant?
What is the underlying problem?

Lack of opportunity to speak honestly and engage with Israelis who share a culture/language

Low-res/inside is emotionally comfortable
They do not want to be uncomfortable
Pushing into high resolution is pushing beyond comfort zone
Nuance confuses the warmth of clarity

Mistakes:

- Judaism is a religion only
- Israel is the conflict only

Move from “crisis” to “opportunity”
Move from hardware to software

Share stories from own personal experience – reaches across the quadrants.
Pain, humor...

Rabbi of a successful congregation on East coast
What do they do about their qualms?
“They don’t have any qualms...”

How to avoid a split in the congregation about Israel?
Personally unsure how to navigate between myth and reality

What’s the biggest elephant in the room?

Story by Rabbi Zohar Raviv...
Gotta get the form before the re – before reforming something you need to understand its basic underlying form

Israel education = Jewish education

The Palestinian elephant
Samir in Ramle...

There seems to be a choice: either Israel-engaged Jews, or Tikkun-Olam (fixing the world) Jews... How can they be both???

Israel as asset not inconvenient truth...

All the categories are interdependent. There are Jewish elephants separate from Israel, those about Israel, and elephants in Israel...

Bettering not battering

Connecting struggle with Israel – working with people in Israel working for a better Israel – VIBRANT ROLE-MODELS

Look to alumni working to better the world in Israel

Role models who have embraced the elephant

What should we bet on?

- keep talking human

Zohar has a humble opinion – got to connect to Jewish education

Put meaningful Israel experience on steroids (Birthright took away the 6 week programs for teens)

Jewish summer camps – more medication for magic – utopian experience where being Jewish is pure celebration

Arts and Culture – must go street, youth, pop

Dyonna agrees.

Enable young people to DO together – change-agents and partners in creation

Opportunities for unmediated ongoing encounters – I-thou... partners...

Amen.....