

**COLGATE UNIVERSITY**  
13 Oak Drive  
Hamilton, NY 13346-1385

**Institutional Review Board Proposal Cover Sheet**

Title of Project: The Evolution of Jewish Identity on Colgate's Campus

Anticipated number of participants: females: 50 males: 50

Approximate ages: 18-22

Submission date: xx/xx/xxx

Anticipated start date: xx/xx/xxxx

**Expedited Review:** for research that does **not** manipulate participants' behavior, use deception, threaten privacy, or cause stress to participants (e.g. observational studies, studies of archival data, some questionnaire and interview studies). Review takes approximately 5 days.

**Full Review:** for all research that is not eligible for expedited review. Reviews occur once each semester.

Investigator(s): Investigator Name Here \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Faculty Supervisor: Supervisor Name Here (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information for Principal Investigator:

Name: Investigator Name Here \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (xxx) xxx-xxxx \_\_\_\_\_

Email: Investigator @colgate.edu \_\_\_\_\_

*I have read and agree to uphold the ethical principles and guidelines for the protection of human research participants as they are described in the Belmont Report issued by the Federal Office of Health, Education & Welfare. This proposal and the attached materials meet the guidelines described by the APA Code of Ethics.*

A copy of the Belmont Report is available at <http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/belmont.htm>

IRB #:	_____
Reviewer:	_____
Decision:	_____
Date:	____/____/____
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## **PURPOSE OF INVESTIGATION & PROCEDURES:**

The purpose of this sociological study is to gain a better understanding of what it means to be a member of a religious minority on Colgate University's campus. I hope to shed light on the evolution of Jewish identity on Colgate's campus by performing a thorough archival review of University documents, such as yearbooks, newspapers, and private letters; conducting interviews (interview questions attached) with both past and present Colgate faculty and students who have personal experience regarding what it means to be a Jew on this campus; and reviewing University statistics regarding hard numbers and percentages in regards to how many Jews have been on this campus since they first began to be admitted. As no background research on this topic exists, I plan to use general literature and studies on the ethnoreligious identity shared by many Jews such as Karen Brodtkin's How Jews Became White Folks.

## **ANTICIPATED RISK AND POTENTIAL BENEFITS:**

There are no potential benefits for the participants. As some of my research will be conducted by means of document review, there are no risks for that aspect of my study. By interviewing students and faculty members, however, there are minor social and psychological risks for my participants. Because I am researching a minority group, the members of this group might feel singled out when I ask to interview them, regardless of the fact that I myself am a member of the Jewish community.

Because they will be describing their experience as a Jew on this campus, there is a possibility that they may recall upsetting incidents, perhaps a time at which they were discriminated against because of their position as a member of a minority group. I am, however, going to make it clear that they do not have to answer any questions that make them feel uncomfortable and that they can stop the interview at any time. In addition, participants will receive a statement of informed consent so that they are made aware of these potential risks before beginning their participation in the interview.

## **STEPS TAKEN TO PROTECT PARTICIPANTS:**

So as to minimize the risk of harmful effects, I plan to first and foremost fully disclose the purpose of my study to my participants. With full disclosure, my participants will understand why I am asking for certain information and will see that none of my interview questions are for naught, even if they do ask for a participant to recall an emotionally taxing experience. Secondly, I plan to refer my participants to the University's Psychological and Counseling center. This way, should any of my participants feel as though they need to talk to a professional about any issues that surfaced during their interview, they will know where to seek this help. I will make it very clear that should they want to withdraw from the study by stopping the interview at any time they will be able to do so.

In terms of confidentiality, I will assign pseudonyms to my participants as well as avoid including any identifying information in my account of the interview. By doing so, no participants will feel hindered in any way to disclose any information to me. I will also conduct interviews in a private space to maintain confidentiality of information shared by respondents. After my interviews, I will immediately transcribe and then delete the recording from the audio recording device so as to assure that no one besides me can hear the interview and specifically identify the voice.

## **MANNER OF OBTAINING PARTICIPANTS:**

I plan to interview several current students, several past students, several current faculty members, and several past faculty members. I already have several interviews lined up with current two current faculty members, two alumni, one religious official on campus, and one current student. I collected names and contact information of past student and faculty members from current faculty members who worked with them at some point in their career. One of the former students I am

interviewing graduates in the 70s and is my friend's father, and the other former and current students I am interviewing are all people I have met through my involvement in the Colgate Jewish Union. They all have held or currently hold leadership positions in the Jewish community at Colgate.

I will have participants complete a full disclosure consent form before beginning their interview. I will not be using a debriefing statement because I do not have any reason to withhold any information from my participants. Participants will not be compensated, as I will not be taking up a great deal of their time and I am expectant that many of my subjects will be happy if not excited to speak to me about their personal experiences as a Jewish student.

**PROCEDURE FOR MAKING RESULTS AVAILABLE:**

I plan for my study to be complete in December of 2009. At this time, my study will be made accessible to the Colgate community first by being placed in the Sociology and Anthropology department's student resource center, and then hopefully by being presented to the Colgate Community at a Colgate Jewish Union event as I have already discussed with the University's Rabbi. A copy of my study will also be placed in the Saperstein Jewish Center so as to be accessible to any members or visitors at the Center.

**Certificate of Informed Consent**  
**Interview Study: Evolution of Jewish Life at Colgate**

**Purpose & Procedures:** The purpose of this research is to learn about the transformation of Jewish life at Colgate since the early 20<sup>th</sup>

Survey Questions (excluded from the example)