

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

Anticipated number of participants: 100 participants

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.

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. All of this information is further provided in the informed consent.

[**Note to researchers:** Below is another sample response for a different interview study that used Zoom to conduct interviews. The information below is provided to give ideas of the breadth of types of responses that could go in this section.]

I will maintain the safety of my participants by ensuring that their participation in this study is voluntary, confidential, and that the participants may withdraw from the survey at any time. The Certificate of Informed Consent will be issued at the start of the survey to help provide participants with clear expectations and an understanding of their rights. Given that the nature of some of these questions may be emotionally taxing, I will make sure that my participants are aware they may choose to skip questions or change the topic without penalty. I plan to take measures to maintain the confidentiality of my participants, including using numbers rather than names to label survey responses, interview recordings, and notes. Any identifying information voluntarily provided by participants over the course of my survey or through the interview process will be reasonably adjusted or redacted, with the original information only known by me as the researcher. Contact information provided to arrange interviews will be deleted after the culmination of this project, my senior thesis, is submitted in December 2023. Audio of interviews may only be recorded with participant permission and coded with identifying numbers that correspond with their survey responses (known only to me); video footage will not be recorded in an effort to maintain the confidentiality of participants. I will ensure that my participants understand that they have the right to revoke their consent—in part or in entirety—at any point, and that they are under no obligation to answer anything I ask.

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.

Certificate of Informed Consent

Purpose & Procedures: The purpose of this research is to learn about the transformation of Jewish life at Colgate since the early 20th century. By granting consent to be part of this research, you agree to participate in a formal tape-recorded interview, lasting approximately 45 minutes. I have a list of questions that will serve as a guide for our conversation. These questions will cover topics such as...[include sample topics here; this is especially important if you will be touching on anything socially sensitive in the interview; participants should know that in advance].

Benefits/Risks: There are no direct benefits to you from participation in the study. There are no known risks for participating in this study unless you anticipate feeling discomfort with the interview topics described above.

Confidentiality: All efforts will be made, within the limits of the law, to safeguard the confidentiality of the information you provide. Before the interview begins, we will ask you for a pseudonym (fake name) that you would like us to use when transcribing your verbal responses into written form. If we use your information in a research paper or report, you will only be identified by the pseudonym that you choose prior to the interview. Interviews will be recorded using [fill in what you plan to use here; if recording]. We will protect these recordings by storing them on password-protected computers. We will also delete all recordings once they have been transcribed and pseudonyms have been assigned.

Compensation: There is no compensation for participating in this study.

Your Rights: You understand that every attempt will be made by the investigators to maintain all information collected in this study strictly confidential, except as may be required by court order or by law. In any professional papers or reports of this research, you will not be identified by name. You may choose not to answer any question that you do not want to answer and are free to end the interview at any time without penalty. You will also have the opportunity to confirm (or deny) that we can use your interview in our research again at the end of the interview through signing an audio release form certifying that we can (or can't) use the audio recording of your interview in our research.

Contact Information: If you wish further information regarding this study, or your rights as a research subject, you may contact the principal investigator of this project, XXX, their faculty supervisor, XXX, or the Chair of the IRB committee at Colgate University, IRB_chair@colgate.edu.

By signing below, you are certifying that a) you have read and understand the consent form, 2) that you agree to participate in this research study, and c) that you are 18 years old or older. Upon signing below, you will receive a copy of this consent form.

Participant Name (please print)

Researcher Name (please print)

Participant Signature

Researcher Signature

Date

Date

Audio Release Form

As a part of this study, audio was be taken of you while completing the interview. As a part of our data analysis, the researcher working on the study will listen to these recordings. These recordings will not be shared with anyone outside of the research team and will be kept on a password-protected computer. These recordings will not be used in any other way, other than what is described above. There will be no penalty if you do not wish for audio to be released. If you give permission for the research team to use your data in this way, please check the appropriate box below.

I give permission for audio recording taken of me during this study to be used by **the researchers working on this study.**

I do NOT give permission for audio taken of me during this study to be used and would like it to be deleted at this time.

Participant Name (please print)

Researcher Name (please print)

Participant Signature

Researcher Signature

Date

Date

For Your Records: A copy of this form will be provided to you upon request. *

***Note to researchers:** If this interview is conducted from a distance, such as via Zoom, this should say instead “If you would like a copy of this form, please print it now.” Likewise, the signature lines would be replaced with wording along the lines of “By selecting an option above and then providing electronic agreement below, you are certifying that you have read and completed this form.”