

*Philanthropy and Voluntarism Among the Jews*

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Undergraduate guide

108 pages

**Description**

This guide introduces the reader to the religious-cultural and historical origins of modern American Jewish philanthropy and voluntarism, and includes excerpts from traditional religious texts that provide the foundation of the Jewish philanthropic tradition. Finally, it considers the centrality of philanthropy and voluntarism to the history of Jewish institutions and cultural movements in American society.

**Uses**

The volume offers those affiliated with Jewish social and religious organizations with information that may enable them to better understand and build on Jewish traditions at a time in history when Jewish identification is weakening among younger generations. The author suggests that familiarity with the particular local circumstances of community provides opportunities for the development of new outreach organizations. The guide also provides individuals of other faiths with useful information about the wide range of communal and nonprofit agencies that provide social services and other kinds of community support.

**Audience**

It will be of particular use to those seeking to understand Jewish philanthropy and the communal institutions that depend on it. In doing so, the author offers insight into the ties between generosity, theology, and religious structures.