



**Amy Neustein, Ph.D.**

Fort Lee, NJ | Dec. 29

I am chagrined to witness this magnitude of corruption in the ultra-Orthodox and Hasidic communities. We are playing with fire. Those who are lining their pockets receive gratification for the moment, but the denigration and moral decrepitude that seeps into the collective psyche (or the "Karma") of the Jewish community will leave a lasting stain or worse. Why is this happening? I am Jewish; I am Orthodox Jewish. I feel deeply betrayed by the venality that unfortunately suffuses the community. I can only begin to imagine the pain of Jewish journalists and Jewish editors that must report stories of grand larceny of this nature. I am tired of hearing the rabbis in the shuls cavalierly dismiss these NYT stories as "hit jobs". I am tired of hearing the Orthodox organizations doing the same. We are better than this. We are the People of the Book. We are the Chosen People. What would Moses or Jeremiah say today? We must stop this immorality lest we become engulfed in a sewer of pollutants. Let's work together to end the corruption. I don't countenance it and I'm not afraid to speak up. I fear God, not man. I respect man but I don't fear man.

Amy Neustein, Ph.D.

Fort Lee, NJ

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4 REPLIES



**beth**

princeton | 10h ago

@Amy Neustein, Ph.D.

As a conservative Jew I agree with everything you say and would like to point out that this garbage serves to make us less safe as it fuels antisemitism.

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D

**Dena**

PA | 8h ago

@Amy Neustein, Ph.D. I think it happens in large part because this community has no respect or concern for "outsiders," including non-Orthodox Jews. Getting what they need for their community is all that matters.

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D

**dodamo**

Brooklyn NY | 7h ago

@Amy Neustein, Ph.D. I call it stealing--maybe their rabbis should teach the 10 commandments. In Boro Park, a neighborhood next to mine in Brooklyn, the police turn over much of the policing to their own private police organization. There have been many cases of child abuse that were swept under the rug with horrible consequences. During the lockdown, when ALL public playgrounds were locked and closed, the Hasidic community cried "anti-Semitism." This fuels actual anti-semitism. Note: I too am Jewish and I am very angry at this, which affects all Jews.

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P

**Paul Frommer**

Los Angeles | 6h ago

@Amy Neustein, Ph.D.

As a secular Jew, may I suggest it's high time for traditional Judaism to discard the outmoded notion that "we are the Chosen People." Proclaiming that God has a "special relationship" with a tiny segment of humanity inevitably leads to arrogance inside the segment and resentment outside it. In terms of ethics and morality, we're no better or worse than other groups.

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