

J-3.-v-917

American Jewish Women's History

A Reader

EDITED BY

Pamela S. Nadell



New York University Press

NEW YORK AND LONDON

Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>ix</i>
Introduction <i>Pamela S. Nadell</i>	I
PART I: Sense of Place	9
1 Portraits of a Community: The Image and Experience of Early American Jews <i>Ellen Smith</i>	13
2 The Lessons of the Hebrew Sunday School <i>Dianne Ashton</i>	26
3 A Great Awakening: The Transformation That Shaped Twentieth-Century American Judaism <i>Jonathan D. Sarna</i>	43
4 Gone to Another Meeting: The National Council of Jewish Women, 1893-1993 <i>Faith Rogow</i>	64
PART II: Worlds of Difference	75
5 Borrowers or Lenders Be: Jewish Immigrant Women's Credit Networks <i>Shelby Tenenbaum</i>	79
6 "We Dug More Rocks": Women and Work <i>Linda Mack Schloff</i>	91
7 Organizing the Unorganizable: Three Jewish Women and Their Union <i>Alice Kessler-Harris</i>	100
8 Immigrant Women and Consumer Protest: The New York City Kosher Meat Boycott of 1902 <i>Paula E. Hyman</i>	116

9	Zion in Our Hearts: Henrietta Szold and the American Jewish Women's Movement <i>Joyce Antler</i>	129
PART III: A Wider World		151
10	The Jewish Priestess and Ritual: The Sacred Life of American Orthodox Women <i>Jenna Weissman Joselit</i>	153
11	The Women Who Would Be Rabbis <i>Pamela S. Nadell</i>	175
12	Budgets, Boycotts, and Babies: Jewish Women in the Great Depression <i>Beth S. Wenger</i>	185
13	Angels "Rewolt!": Jewish Women in Modern Dance in the 1930s <i>Julia L. Foulkes</i>	201
PART IV: Fierce Attachments		219
14	The "Me" of Me: Voices of Jewish Girls in Adolescent Diaries of the 1920s and 1950s <i>Joan Jacobs Brumberg</i>	223
15	Rage and Representation: Jewish Gender Stereotypes in American Culture <i>Riv-Ellen Prell</i>	238
16	"From the Recipe File of Luba Cohen": A Study of Southern Jewish Foodways and Cultural Identity <i>Marcie Cohen Ferris</i>	256
17	Going South: Jewish Women in the Civil Rights Movement <i>Debra L. Schultz</i>	281
18	Jewish Feminism Faces the American Women's Movement: Convergence and Divergence <i>Paula E. Hyman</i>	297
	<i>Contributors</i>	313
	<i>Permissions</i>	316
	<i>Index</i>	319

Acknowledgments

One of the great pleasures of finishing a book is recognizing those who assisted the author. In this case, my deep gratitude goes to those who graciously consented to have their work appear here: Dianne Ashton, Faith Rogow, Linda Mack Schloff, Alice Kessler-Harris, Paula E. Hyman, Joyce Antler, Jenna Weissman Joselit, Julia Foulkes, Joan Jacobs Brumberg, Riv-Ellen Prell, Marcie Cohen Ferris, and Debra L. Schultz. Ellen Smith and Jonathan D. Sarna trusted me to abridge their longer works for this reader. Shelly Tenenbaum and Beth S. Wenger contributed new articles based on their important books.

Many others responded to my queries as I read through the burgeoning literature in American Jewish women's history. I thank Maria Baader, Judith Baskin, Michael Brown, Rela Geffen, Karla Goldman, Deborah Grand Golomb, Mark Greenberg, Jeffrey Gurock, Melissa Klapper, Mary McCune, Marc Lee Raphael, Jane Rothstein, Rona Sheramy, William Toll, Phyllis Holman Weisbard, and Cornelia Wilhelm.

Those working in American Jewish history have long relied upon a group of dedicated archivists and librarians for guidance. It is my pleasure to recognize yet again Peggy Pearlstein, of the Library of Congress; Kevin Proffitt, of the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives; Lyn Slome, of the American Jewish Historical Society; and Susan Woodland, of the Hadassah Archives, for their help in locating images for this cover.

Jennifer Hammer, an editor at New York University Press, conceived of this project and invited me to pursue it. I thank her for sending me on this journey and for her patience and keen editorial eye. Both have improved this reader.

For two decades, American University, and especially its Jewish Studies Program and Department of History, has remained my academic home. My colleagues Allan Lichtman and Valerie French, who in recent years have chaired the Department of History, and Kay Mussell, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, have encouraged my scholarship.

To save the most important and the best for last, I thank my family. Now that they are fourteen and nine, my children, Yoni and Orly, no longer tread on the papers spread out on the floor of my study. As I cheer their passion for sports, they cheer mine for history. As he has done for more than a quarter of a century, my husband, Edward Farber, makes possible all that I achieve with humor, grace, and a great love.