

Interfaith Focus Groups/Interest in Interfaith Havurot?

In October I facilitated three focus groups where interfaith topics selected by the participants were discussed. Everyone meaningfully shared their backgrounds and interfaith relationships. Many thanks to those who participated and shared such intimate and personal thoughts and feelings. We had interfaith couples raising their children as Jewish and Jewish couples with children in interfaith relationships. For the latter, the pressing question was how will the grandchildren be raised religiously?

One lively topic was the question of how much exposure should children in an interfaith household get to the religions of both parents, whether or not the parents were actively practicing their religion.

We discussed how the Or Hadash community can continue to build and strengthen its connections with its interfaith members. It was suggested that celebrating all of our diverse backgrounds at Or Hadash was a great idea that would welcome in everyone. This has led to our November 22 Celebration of Our Diversity Shabbat and Potluck Dinner. If you have not yet done it, please RSVP to me at jcohen@srkw-law.com.

Last, but not least, if you have any interest in starting an interfaith havurah with Or Hadash congregants in similar circumstances and life stages, then please contact me or Lori Rubin at program@orhadash.com.

Best,

Jay Cohen, Executive Vice President (and parent of a son in an interfaith relationship)