

STEVEN LEONARD JACOBS

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Aaron Aronov Chair of Judaic Studies &
Associate Professor of Religious Studies
Department of Religious Studies
The University of Alabama
212 Manly Hall
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EDUCATION

- 1999** **Doctor of Divinity (*Honoris Causa*) (D.D.)**
Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Los Angeles, CA
- 1990** **Doctor of Hebrew Letters (D.H.L.)**
Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, OH
Dissertation: "The Temple Scroll (11Q Torah) and the Biblical Masorah:
Some Problems and Solutions"
- 1974** **Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters (M.A.H.L.)**
Rabbinical Ordination
Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, OH
Thesis: "The Epic Poems of Chaim Nachman Bialik"
- 1972** **Bachelor of Hebrew Letters (B.H.L.)**
Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati, OH
- 1969** **Bachelor of Arts (With Distinction) (B.A.)**
Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA
Secondary Education, English Teaching Option

TEACHING

- 2001-
Present** **Aaron Aronov Chair of Judaic Studies/Associate Professor
of Religious Studies**
The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
- 1995-** **Zimmerman Judaic Scholar-in-Residence**

- 2000** Martin Methodist College, Pulaski, TN
Adjunct Professor of Religion
 Calhoun Community College, Huntsville, AL
- 1988-1990** **Adjunct Professor of Religious Studies**
 University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL
Visiting Instructor of Jewish Studies
 Samford University, Birmingham, AL
- 1986-1990** **Adjunct Instructor in History**
 University of Alabama in Birmingham, Birmingham, AL
Jewish Chautauqua Society Instructor in Jewish Studies
 Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, AL
- 1978-1984** **Herbert P. Feibelman, Jr. Chautauqua Professor of Jewish Studies**
 Spring Hill College, Mobile, AL

COURSES TAUGHT

- “The Confrontation of Good and Evil: Religion, Philosophy, and the Holocaust”
- “The Holocaust in Historical Perspective”
- “Introduction to Biblical Interpretation:
 - “Introduction to Judaism”
 - “Introduction to Prophetic Literature”
 - “Introduction to Wisdom Literature”
- “Jewish-Christian Relations: Historical Perspectives and Contemporary Concerns”
- “The Literature of the Holocaust”
- “Modern Jewish Thinkers”
- “Philosophies of Judaism”
- “Religion and Genocide”
- “Introduction to Religious Studies”

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS

- 2006** *In Search of Yesterday: The Holocaust and the Quest for Meaning.*
 (Lanham, MD: University Press of America)
- 2005** *Post-Shoah Dialogues: Re-Thinking Our Texts Together – Co-Author*
 (Lanham, MD: University Press of America)

- 2004 *Teaching About the Holocaust: Essays by College and University Teachers* – **Co-Editor**
(Westport, CT: Greenwood Press)
- Post-Shoah Dialogues: Re-Thinking Our Texts Together* – **Co-Author**
(Lanham, MD: University Press of America)
- 2003 *Dismantling the Big Lie: The Protocols of the Elders of Zion* – **Co-Author**
(Jersey City, NJ: Ktav Publishing House)
- 2002 *Pioneers of Genocide Studies: Confronting Mass Death in the Century of Genocide* – **Co-Editor & Contributor**
(New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers)
- 2002 *The Biblical Masorah and the Temple Scroll: An Orthographical Inquiry*
(Lanham, MD: University Press of America)
- 1999 *The Encyclopedia of Genocide (2 Vols.)* – **Associate Editor & Contributor**
(Santa Barbara, CA: ABC-CLIO)
- 1997 *The Holocaust Now: Contemporary Christian and Jewish Thought* – **Editor & Contributor**
(East Rockaway, NY: Cummings & Hathaway)
- 1996 *The Meaning of Persons and Things Jewish: Contemporary Explorations and Interpretations*
(Chapel Hill, NC: Professional Press)
- 1994 *Rethinking Jewish Faith: The Child of a Survivor Responds*
(Albany, NY: State University of New York Press)
A January, 1995, selection of Jewish Book News.
- 1993 *Contemporary Christian Religious Responses to the Shoah & Contemporary Jewish Religious Responses to the Shoah (2 Vols.)* – **Editor & Contributor**
(Lanham, MD: University Press of America)
- 1992 *Raphael Lemkin's Thoughts on Nazi Genocide: Not Guilty? -- Editor*
(Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press)
- 1987 *Shirot Bialik: A New and Annotated Translation of Chaim Nachman Bialik's Epic Poems* -- **Translator & Annotator**

(Columbus, OH: Alpha Publishing Company)

IN PREPARATION

- Book** *Dictionary of Genocide*
- Book** *Genocide in the Name of God: Judaism, Christianity, Islam*
- Book** *The Texts of Hate: From the Protocols of the Elders of Zion through Mein Kampf to the Turner Diaries and Beyond*
- Book** *The Meaning of Persons and Things Jewish: Contemporary Explorations and Interpretations – Volume II*

ARTICLES & CHAPTERS

- 2005** **“A German-Jewish Dialogue (with Rolf Goebel),”** in Peter Meister (Ed.), *German Literature Between Faiths: Jews and Christians at Odds and in Harmony* (Oxford: Peter Lang), 155-174.
- “Indicting Henry Kissinger: The Response of Raphael Lemkin,”** in Adam Jones (Ed.), *Genocide, War Crimes and the West: History and Complicity* (London: ZED Books), 214-229.
- “Can There Be Jewish-Christian Dialogue After ‘The Passion’”** in S. Brent Plate (Ed.), *Re-Viewing the Passion: Mel Gibson and His Critics* (New York, NY: Palgrave-Macmillan), 43-54.
- “Jewish-Christian Relations After the Shoah,”** in Donald W. Musser and D. Dixon Sutherland (Eds.), *War or Words? Interreligious Dialogue as an Instrument of Peace* (Cleveland, OH: Pilgrim Press), 58-74.
- “The Last Uncomfortable ‘Religious’ Question: Monotheistic Exclusivism and Textual Superiority in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam as Sources of Hate and Genocide,”** in *Journal of Hate Studies*, 3(1): 133-143.
- “Jewish ‘Officialdom’ and *The Passion of the Christ*: Who Said What and What Did They Say?”** *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies*, 23(3): 114-123.
- 2004** **“Dominus Iesus: Why This? Why Now?,”** *Shofar*, 22(2): 17-17.
- “Judaism, Reform,”** Gabriel Palmer-Fernandez (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of Religion and War* (New York, NY: Routledge), 253-257.

- “Afraid to Call Genocide Genocide: Reflections on Rwanda and Beyond,”** Robert S. Frey (Ed.), *The Genocidal Temptation: Auschwitz, Hiroshima, Rwanda, and Beyond* (Lanham, MD: University Press of America), 67-78.
- “Jewish Scholar vs. Scholar of Judaism: Problems, Pitfalls, and Possibilities – A Response to Martin Jaffee,”** *Bulletin*, The Council of Societies for the Study of Religion, 33(2): 34-37.
- 2003** **“Toward the Construction of a Post-Shoah Interfaith Dialogical Universal Ethic,”** *Zygon*, 38(3): 735-742.
- “Should Art Address Horror: Theological and Other Reflections on Art and the Shoah,”** Colin Tatz, Peter Arnold, Sandra Tatz (Eds.), *Genocidal Perspectives II: Essays on Holocaust and Genocide* (Sydney, Australia: Brandl & Schlesinger), 333-351.
- “Raphael Lemkin and the Armenian Genocide,”** Richard G. Hovannisian (Ed.), *Looking Backward, Moving Forward: Confronting the Armenian Genocide* (New Brunswick, NJ: Transaction Publishers), 125-135.
- 2002** **“Wrestling with God and the Devil,”** *SIDIC* 35(1): 34-37.
- “Genesis of the Concept of Genocide According to Its Author from the Original Sources,”** *Human Rights Review*, 3(2): 98-103.
- “Afraid to Call Genocide Genocide? Reflections on Rwanda and Beyond,”** *Bridges*, 9(3/4): 207-221.
- “Blood on Our Heads: A Jewish Response to Saint Matthew,”** Tod Linafelt (Ed.), *A Shadow of Glory: Reading the New Testament After the Holocaust* (New York, NY: Routledge), 57-67.
- 2000** **“Avraham, Emil, and Andre: Re-Reading Avraham’s Monologue with the Divine in Light of Fackenheim and Neher,”** in Linafelt, Tod (Ed.), *Strange Fire: Biblical Hermeneutics After the Holocaust* (Sheffield, UK: Sheffield Academic Press), 136-145.
- 1999** **“After Psychoanalysis, Now What?”** *CCAR Journal: A Reform Jewish Quarterly*, 73-78.

- “Can Betrayal Ever Be Legitimate?”** in Cargas, Harry James (Ed.), *Problems Unique to the Holocaust* (Lexington, KY: University of Kentucky Press), 1-6.
- 1996** **“Post-Shoah Jewish Theology: Identifying the Categories”** in Millen, Rochelle (Ed.), *New Perspectives on the Holocaust: A Guide for Teachers And Scholars* (New York: New York University Press), 287-293.
- “Sinai or Cyanide? Late Twentieth Century Reflections on A Post-Shoah Jewish Theology by the Child of A Survivor”** in Locke, Hubert G. and Littell, Marcia Sachs (Eds.), *Holocaust and Church Struggle: Religion, Power and the Politics of Resistance* (Lanham, MD: University Press of America), 267-277.
- “Wrestling with Biblical Texts After the Shoah”** in *Shofar: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Jewish Studies*, 15:1, Fall 1996, 79-90.
- 1994** **“Re-Reading My Father’s Autobiography Upon Returning From Germany and Poland,”** in *Proteus: A Journal of Ideas*, 11:2, Fall 1994, 17-20.
- 1992** **“Letters from Zerbst,”** in Colijn, G. Jan and Marcia Sachs Littell (Eds.), *The Netherlands and Nazi Genocide* (Lewiston, NY: The Edwin Mellen Press), 505-518.
- 1990** **“Rethinking Jewish (and Christian?) Faith in Light of the Holocaust: The Response of the Child of A Survivor,”** in *The New Collegian*, 3:1, 1990, 13-17.
- 1989** **“(If) There Is No ‘Commander’?...There Are No ‘Commandments’!”** in *Judaism: A Quarterly Journal*, 37:3, 147, Summer 1988, 323-327.
- 1984** **“Harry James Cargas: In Appreciation and Response,”** in *Journal of Reform Judaism*, Spring 1985, 33-43.

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- 2005** **The Albert and Norma Cooper Lecture on Modern Jewish Politics: “The Longest Hatred and the Biggest Lie,”** Lipinsky Institute for Judaic Studies, San Diego State University, CA, 4 December
- Cohn-Haddow Institute for Judaic Studies & The Dove Institute:** “The Current State of Jewish-Christian Relations in America,” Wayne State University, Detroit, MI, 11 December

“The Last Uncomfortable ‘Religious’ Question: Monotheism as a Source of Hate and Genocide,” 19th World Congress, International Association of the History of Religions, Tokyo, Japan

“Genocide: Prevention, Intervention, Punishment – An Unholy Trinity?” 35th Annual Scholars Conference on the Holocaust and the Churches, Philadelphia, PA

“Scholars as Prophets and Fortune-Tellers: Failed Academic Visions and ‘The Passion of the Christ,’” Western Jewish Studies Association, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ

“Mel Gibson’s ‘The Passion of the Christ’ One Year Later,” Case-Western Reserve University, Cleveland, OH

2004 **“The Longest Hatred and the Biggest Lie,”** The College of Wooster, OH

“Post-Holocaust Dialogues,” Valparaiso, University, IN

“Being the Child of a [Holocaust] Survivor,” University of North Alabama, Florence, AL

“Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Jews,” University of North Alabama, Florence, AL

“Christians, Jews, and the Bible,” University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL

2003 **“The Holocaust and How It Changed the Relationship Between Christians and Jews,”** University of Alabama at Birmingham, AL

“Jewish-Christian Relations: Bad Past, Better Present, Best Future?” University of Alabama School of Medicine, Tuscaloosa, AL

“Jewish-Christian Relations in the Post-Holocaust Era,” Bronstein Clergy Interfaith Institute, Evansville, IN

2002 **“Jewish-Christian Relations After the Holocaust,”** Deland University, Stetson, FL

“Responding to the Litany of Hate: Interfamily vs. Intrafamily (Rhetorical Diatribe: Making Sense of Matthew 23),” 34th Annual Conference, Association for Jewish Studies, Los Angeles, CA

“KLM 84338: The Writings of Orthodox Rabbi and Shoah Survivor Isaac C. Avigdor,” Holocaust Studies Conference, Middle Tennessee State University, Murphreesboro, TN

2001 **“Reading the New Testament Jewishly,”** The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

“Judaism After the Holocaust and in the Twenty-First Century,” Symposium on Post-Auschwitz Theology in the Age of Genocide, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

HONORS AND AWARDS

2006 **Selected Participant, Brandeis University, Waltham, MA, Summer Institute for Israel Studies, June/July**

Selected Faculty Scholar, B’nai B’rith Hillel Foundation Conference, “Inspiring Values/Creating Leaders, The University and the Jewish Community – Summit 2006,” Washington, DC, May

2003 **Selected Participant, Winter Seminar for Professors Teaching Holocaust-Related Courses on “Theology, Ethics, and Religion,”** United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, Washington, DC

RABBINIC EXPERIENCE

2001-Present **Rabbi, Temple Emanu-El, Tuscaloosa, AL**

1990-2000 **Rabbi, Temple B’nai Sholom, Huntsville, AL**

1984-1990 **Rabbi, Temple Emanu-El, Birmingham, AL**

1977-1984 **Rabbi, Spring Hill Avenue Temple/Congregation Sha’ari Shomayim,**
Mobile, AL

1976-1977 **Associate Rabbi & Director of Education, Temple Shalom, Dallas, TX**

1974-1976 **Assistant Rabbi, Temple Emanu-El, Birmingham, AL**

PROFESSIONAL & CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

Alabama Holocaust Commission

American Academy of Religion
Society of Biblical Literature
Association for Jewish Studies
World Association of Jewish Studies
Board of Advisors, The Center for American & Jewish Studies, Baylor University, Waco,
TX

International Editor, The Papers of Raphael Lemkin
International Council of the Institute on the Holocaust and Genocide, Jerusalem, Israel
International Advisory Board of the Centre for Comparative Genocide Studies,
Macquarie University, New South Wales, Australia
International Advisory Board, Australian Institute on the Holocaust and Genocide,
Sydney, Australia
Editorial Board of 'Studies in the *Shoah*', University Press of America, Lanham, MD
Editorial Board of *Bridges: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Theology, Philosophy,
History, and Science*, Monkton, MD
Educational Consultant to the Center on the Holocaust, Genocide and Human Rights,
Philadelphia, PA
Member, Academic Council, The David S. Wyman Institute for Holocaust Studies,
Washington, DC
Board of Directors, Genocide Watch, Washington, DC
Board of Advisors of The International Campaign to End Genocide, Washington, DC
Board of Advisors of The Aegis Trust for the Prevention of Genocide, England
Secretary-Treasurer, The International Association of Genocide Scholars

SERVICE

Department of Religious Studies

Advisor, Minor in Judaic Studies
Aronov Lecture Committee
Aronov Speakers Series Committee
Editor, Aronov Newsletter
Curriculum Review and Revision Committee
Religion & Culture Lecture Series Committee
Silverstein Fellows & Scholarship Committee
Sabbatical Replacement & Recommendation Committee
Technology Committee
Library Committee
African Religions Diaspora Planning Committee
Tenure and Promotion Committee

College of Arts & Sciences Diversity Committee

Diversity Committee

Humanity Center Advisory Board
Faculty Committee for Reallocation

University

Capstone Convocation Committee
Research Advisory Committee
President's Task Force on Multicultural Center
Graduate Faculty Appointment (through 2008)

Faculty Advisor, B'nai B'rith Hillel Foundation

Interim Faculty Advisor, Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity

Rabbi, Temple Emanu-El, Tuscaloosa, AL

REFERENCES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

