



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

MS-831: Jack, Joseph and Morton Mandel Foundation Records, 1980–2008.

Series C: Council for Initiatives in Jewish Education (CIJE). 1988–2003.

Subseries 5: Communication, Publications, and Research Papers, 1991–2003.

Box
43

Folder
11

Green, Arthur. Restoring the Aleph: Judaism for the
Contemporary Seeker. Rabbi Questionnaire, 1997.

For more information on this collection, please see the finding aid on the
American Jewish Archives website.

THE MAOT GROUP
3300 N.E. 191st Street, Suite 2018
Aventura, Florida 33180
PHONE: (305) 692-9991 • FAX: (305) 692-8883
EMAIL: 76162.3122@compuserve.com

To: Yitz Greenberg
Karen Barth
Nessa Rapaport
From: Aryeh Rubin
Date: July 17, 1997
Re: Restoring The Aleph

Next Monday:

Karen: We are meeting at 11, but Aryeh and Yitz can call us only at 3 or 4 on Monday July 21. Could you please leave me a message on Friday (x 17) with which time is best for you so I can fix the time?

Hope all went easily.

Nessa

Greetings. We await confirmation from Yitz as to whether 11:00 am on Monday July 21, 1997 is good for him. I have blocked out that time. Yitz's office will place the call. Nessa will be in Karen's office (phone # (212) 532-2360 ext. 14). Among the items to be discussed.

- A. Audience to receive mailing. Orthodox rabbis to remain an issue. Yitz and Art want it sent to the RCA - type. Nessa and myself have doubts, though I am flexible.
- B. CIJE is changing design of study guide. Yitz's introduction will be included. [Yitz, if possible please fax the rough copy of the introduction to Nessa (fax # (212) 532-2646) and myself]
- C. Cover Letter - What should be included?
- D. Credits. CIJE, Jewish Life Network and Targum Shlishi.
- E. Envelopes and mailing. Do we experiment with creative copy; colored envelopes and the like.
- F. Target mailing date.

That's all I can think of. Looking forward to this odyssey.



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To: Yitz Greenberg
 Karen Barth
 Nessa Rapaport

From: Aryeh Rubin

Date: July 17, 1997

Re: Restoring The Aleph

Greetings. We await confirmation from Yitz as to whether 11:00 am on Monday July 21, 1997 is good for him. I have blocked out that time. Yitz's office will place the call. Nessa will be in Karen's office (phone # (212) 532-2360 ext. 14). Among the items to be discussed.

- (CAR, RA, RCA, Reconstruct., Hillel diss., by audience, J professionals fr. federation, philanthropic leadership; fens. hp 2000 phil. in America)
- A. Audience to receive mailing. Orthodox rabbis to remain an issue. Yitz and Art want it sent to the RCA - type. Nessa and myself have doubts, though I am flexible. *test market to 5 rabbis of each stream*
- B. CIJE is changing design of study guide. Yitz's introduction will be included. [Yitz, if possible please fax the rough copy of the introduction to Nessa (fax # (212) 532-2646) and myself] *Intro - Michael; Aryeh*
- C. Cover Letter - What should be included? *JLN When I saw this piece, it wd be great if obb'd disc'd this issue & so we*
- D. Credits. ~~CJE~~, Jewish Life Network and Targum Shlishi. *put tog. a study guide.*
- E. Envelopes and mailing. Do we experiment with creative copy; colored envelopes and the like. *Draft of a letter JLN.*
- F. Target mailing date. *10/1/97*

That's all I can think of. Looking forward to this odyssey.

<u>Reconstruct</u>	<u>Reform</u>	<u>Consrv.</u>	<u>Joel Meyer - women</u>
- Cohen (NH.)	Larry Hoffman	Gordon Tucker	
Jay Levitt (WFF)	Lester Branstern	Harold Schulweis	
Nancy Fisher-Komer	Simone Martin (curr. Pres.)	Ruth Holsken	
Avi Winokur (West End Syn)	Nancy Florn	Pres of + RA: Alon Silverstein	
SAJ (Julie Schoenfeld)	Judy Schindler (Westchester)	Jerry Seolnik / Ben Steinik	
Sandy Eisenberg-Sasse	Nancy Zemel	Jackus Hammerman	
+ Bernice	Deborah (Massach.)	David English	
Indinopolis		Melissa Crispy (Town & Village)	

NR to create letter

Aryeh
 Saul Berman
 Marc Angel
 Haskell Lipton
 Simcha Kruss
 Daniel Lander
 Avi Weiss
 JJ Schacter (paint. outreach)
 Int. in. fable off-t-record
 Or the Bible

~~7/21/97~~ ~~W/ Yitz; Aryeh~~

7/21/97

W/ Yitz; Aryeh

Acceptable from Yitz's POV. Didn't owe 2s. Confirmation asks you to grow. Goal is to start a conversation

Yitz: Suggestion: Orthodox citations

- Aryeh R. Kaplan

- Yitzhak Ruxbaum

- Doesn't want to separate into 2 communities.

- Read & wrestle rather than walk away from it.

- Wd rather take criticism from x # of people.

- Erosion our status beyond denom. & controversy.

- Orig comm by ^{CUE} but decision to dumb it made by ULN.

Represents a broad range of viewpoints. Long. that says this...



FAX TRANSMISSION

CJJE

15 E. 26 ST.

NEW YORK, NY 10010-1579

(212) 532-2360, EXT. 17

FAX: (212) 532-2646

To: Seth Brisk **Date:** August 13, 1997
Fax #: 279-1155 **Pages:** 4, including this cover sheet.
From: Nessa Rapoport
Subject: As discussed.

COMMENTS:

Dear Seth:

Thank you for transmitting this material to Rabbi Greenberg. Please give me a call to let me know where we are, so that I can plan with you appropriately. Also, indicate the most efficient way to get him the revised study guide so that he can see it before we do the mailing.

Nessa

If you need to reach me immediately, please call Chava at ext. 11 and ask her to interrupt my meeting. Otherwise, I will be in and out after the meeting concludes at 11:30; leave me a voicemail message with convenient times and I'll get back to you as soon as possible.

FAX TRANSMISSION

CJJE

15 EAST 26TH STREET
NEW YORK, NY 10010
(212) 532-2360
FAX: (212) 532-2646

To: Aryeh Rubin

Date: August 14, 1997

Fax #: (305) 692-8883

Pages: 4, including this cover sheet.

From: Chava Werber

Subject:

COMMENTS:

We have faxed the enclosed draft to Rabbi Greenberg this morning.



July 29, 1997

Rabbi Irving Greenberg
Jewish Life Network

Dear Yitz:

Introduction: Thanks so much for sending it. You're a natural, fluid writer. My initial reaction is that the material needs only some modest line editing. But I also want to think a little longer about the degree of specificity with which you anticipate each segment of the community's reaction to the study guide. I can't yet decide if the strategy offsets doubts--or fuels them by being so articulate!

Format: Aryeh has a publishing idea of how to create a cover letter format for your introduction that could be included in the opening of the guide. He has access to a skilled line-editor, whom he is contacting. I expect he'll be speaking to you in the coming weeks.

Budget: As you requested, I've enclosed a copy of the budget I drew up for Aryeh. This budget covers the cost of a mailing to 4000 rabbis, but not to additional audiences.

Final changes to study guide: We are entering the final editorial changes this week. I will see the revised guide incorporating those changes on August 7 and, if I've approved it, will send a copy to you and to Aryeh after that date. We have also found and included the information on the Kaplan and Buxbaum books.

Logo: The other outstanding design issue, apart from your introduction, is the decision about your/Aryeh's foundation logos on the front cover and/or inside cover. Also, you and Aryeh might want a brief mission sentence or two to accompany them. Please let me know what each of you decides.

Test-marketing: Upon my return to the office after a staff retreat and board meeting next week, I'll begin the test-market campaign in earnest. I'll create a cover letter for your revisions/approval and signature. I'll also organize the support staff to take care of the mailing and follow-up responses.

Test-marketing addresses: This is one area where I could use your help. I created the attached list of rabbis, based on our conference call. As you'll see, I'm missing the first name of one Reconstructionist rabbi, which I hope you'll supply. In addition, if you have any of these addresses on your office rolodex, I'd be very grateful if you could short-cut the process by supplying them to me. (Otherwise, it will take time for us to track down the directories of the rabbinic associations.) If your office can fax me whichever of these addresses are easily available (212-532-2646), we could focus on the rest of the tasks at hand.

The remaining decisions are connected to the mass mailing (envelopes, audiences, publicity). I'll save those for another day!

Please get back to me about the above.

Best,

Nessa Rapoport

CC: Aryeh Rubin



August 14, 1997

Rabbi Irving Greenberg
Jewish Life Network

By fax

Dear Yitz:

First of all, please accept my *nechama* on the loss of your father-in-law, whose *shem tov* has a luster for all who knew him.

Enclosed is a copy of the letter and questionnaire I created for the test marketing of the essay and guide. I have tried to reflect your own description of the JLN mission, while being succinct enough to obtain maximum response from very busy people. (In the case of these particular rabbis, who are sophisticated, I deliberately did not include the philosophical substance of your introduction, as I think we will learn the most by not pre-determining their thinking in any way.)

Of course, please amend as you wish. When I receive your corrections or sign-off, I will arrange with Seth for letterhead and mailing labels. Thank you for providing us with the base of the addresses. We have now filled in the others and can therefore take care of the logistics of mailing and monitoring replies. By this afternoon, I will have the study guide redesign, which now includes Aryeh Kaplan's *Jewish Meditation* and Yitzhak Buxbaum's *Jewish Spiritual Practice*. I will send you and Aryeh a copy as quickly as possible.

My goal is to get this mailing out by next week, so that our key informants will receive it for their last week of vacation or in time to read it right after Labor Day. I will be in the office until August 21, and then back on September 2, should you need to reach me.

Best wishes--and talk to you soon.

Nessa

Nessa Rapoport

CC: Aryeh Rubin

FAX TRANSMISSION

CIJE

15 E. 26 St.
NEW YORK, NY 10010-1579
(212) 532-2360, EXT. 408
FAX: (212) 532-2646

To: Yitz Greenberg

Date: August 20, 1997

Fax #:

Pages: , including this cover sheet.

From: Nessa Rapoport

Subject:

COMMENTS:

Thanks for standing by. Please call me to review all salutations that do not correspond to the first name listed here. (For example, you probably don't call Daniel Landes "Daniel.") We can do it by phone right away--212-532-2360, ext. 17--or you can fax it--212-532-2646 by first thing in the morning.

Nessa



[On JLN letterhead]

August 18, 1997

Dear [First name]:

+ personal

I am writing to you for help in setting the course of a new project of the Jewish Life Network (JLN). As you may know, the foundation is a result of a partnership between Michael Steinhardt and myself to create new institutions and initiatives to enrich Jewish life. Its mission is to contribute to our people's vitality by emphasizing high-level learning among all Jews and by forging authentic bonds between Orthodox and non-Orthodox Jews.

In November 1997, we are proposing to distribute copies of Arthur Green's essay, *Transforming the Aleph*, and an accompanying study guide to a wide range of American Jews. Dr. Green's essay raises profound and provocative questions about how our community and theology might respond to the spiritual quest of Jews in these times. The study guide is particularly designed to be used by rabbis and/or interested congregants leading reflective groups for whom these questions are compelling.

The study guide project is undertaken at the initiative and inspiration of Aryeh Rubin, a communal leader who has participated in the work of JLN and who is committed to extending the interpretive tradition by bringing the work of contemporary scholars and thinkers to the North American Jewish community.

The essay, which was published in 1996 by the Council for Initiatives in Jewish Education (CIJE), is distributed by CIJE to educational institutions and to individuals upon their request. In working with Aryeh Rubin to distribute the study guide, JLN would like to bring the essay's ideas to the synagogue community, in the hope that it will inspire a dialogue between rabbis and thoughtful seekers within each movement, as well as with "unaffiliated" Jews.

Enclosed is a copy of the essay and the page proofs of the study guide. We would be very grateful if you would read them and return the brief questionnaire, attached. Your response will allow us to distribute our mailing to those for whom it will have the greatest resonance and meaning.

With best wishes for Elul--and advance thanks for your help.

Rabbi Irving Greenberg
President

QUESTIONNAIRE

Transforming the Aleph: Essay and Study Guide

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes/ No

Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to ^{used for material in group study?} ~~begin their own groups?~~

Yes/ No

Would you recommend the ^{material} ~~essay alone~~ to individual congregants?

Yes/ No

Other comments:

Please fax your return reply by Monday Sept. 8 to ~~(212) 532-2646~~.

~~(If you have probl~~ If you have problems, call Chava)

Thank you for your time.



CIJE Council
for
Initiatives
in
Jewish
Education

15 East 26th Street, New York, NY 10010-1579

monday sept. 8

dear arieh:

here's the exact packet received by each
rabbi. please read letter & intro. that yitz

With Compliments

and i created together.

nessa

Phone 212-532-2360 • Fax 212-532-2646

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



TO: Aryeh Rubin, 76162,3122

Re: Update

Where we are: As of our deadline of Sept. 15, we had received 7 replies of the approximately 30 we mailed. With Yitz's permission, I am having my assistant, Chava, call the remaining 23 and remind them to reply by next Wednesday.

At that point, I'll give whatever I have to Karen, you, Yitz, and Art--and we'll take it from there.

Kol tuv,

Nessa



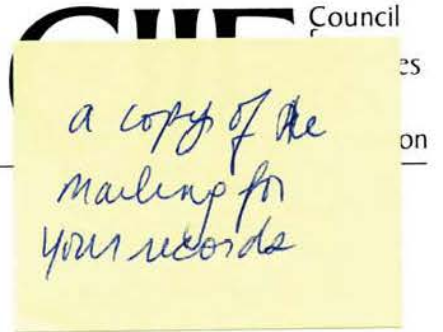
9/29/97

What Art will say to Yitz:

I want y to kn tht is being + one who writes +
cover letter w/me you're taking + risk of being assoc. w/me.

You have enemies. It wd not be hard to find out that
I'm not very observant; shomer shabbos. Show that you're





October 13, 1997

Dear Yitz and Aryeh:

Enclosed are the 12 responses we received to the mailing of 31 questionnaires. I have included the master list of recipients for your information.

Since my assistant called each of those who did not respond, and since the second deadline of September 24 is in the past, I think we can assume that this is the total.

Here are the decisions that now need to be taken:

1. As a result of your reading these questionnaires and your further thinking, to which groups of rabbis do you wish to mail the materials?
2. We now need to go to press to print the study guide; as you know, it is still in proofs. I therefore need a final paragraph about JLN--and logo, should you choose--for the inside cover. I also need to know how Aryeh's foundation will be credited; and the text of the cover letter (which can be adapted from the cover letter to the "test mailing," if you wish). Since the cover letter will go out on JLN letterhead, we will need to orchestrate the reproduction of the text onto thousands of sheets of stationery. (If you decide to make the cover letter a fold-out of the study guide, or any other form besides a conventional letter, we need to decide that now as well.)
3. We will need to ship copies of the original essay; the study guide; and the cover letter to a fulfillment house.
4. We will need to make arrangements for JLN to be able to fulfill additional orders of the essay and guide through the fulfillment house (and to include that offer in the text of the cover letter, with a phone number or fax for orders). We will also want to track orders to see who is using the materials.
5. We need to decide a final drop date for the mailing. We had said "before Channukah," but we don't want to be caught in the Christmas mail (the two holidays coincide this year).

Since there is a lot to accomplish by then, I hope you will get back to me on all that is outstanding no later than Monday October 27. We have a lot to do!

When you have had a chance to discuss these points--and any I may have omitted--please give me a call so that we can move forward.

Meanwhile, *gmar hatimah tovah* and best wishes for a peaceful Jewish year.

Nessa

Nessa Rapoport

cc: Arthur Green
Karen Barth



9/24/17

To: Rabbi Lester Bronstein

QUESTIONNAIRE

Restoring the Aleph by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

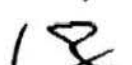
Yes

☒

No

☐

Other comments:

Since Dr. Green has always emphasized the "regimen" or "discipline" of spiritual work as central to his own seeking, I wonder if participants will feel "sunk up on" at the end (see 6 pp8-9) by what seems like a hidden agenda. Better, I think to tell participants in advance that they are going to explore both the ~~known~~ & the ~~key~~ of Jewish spirituality. Otherwise, this is a well conceived & much-needed piece. Yasher Koach. 

Please fax your return reply by Monday September 15 to (212) 532-2646.

(If you have any problems in faxing, or change-of-address information, please call Chava at (212) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

Thank you for your time.

To: Rabbi Yosef Kanefsky

QUESTIONNAIRE

Restoring the Aleph by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes



No



Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study?

Yes



No



Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes



No



Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes



No



Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

Yes



No



Other comments:

I've been thinking a lot, these past months, about the role of Orthodoxy in the contemporary, pluralistic (willy-nilly) Jewish community. I'm growing to think that its sacred role is to perpetuate a model of Jewish commitment that is ~~not~~ ~~a response to the "crisis of meaning"~~ ~~described by Arthur Green,~~ rather ~~is~~ is a conscious** subordination of self to a very

Please fax your return reply by Monday September 15 to (212) 532-2646.

(If you have any problems in faxing, or change-of-address information, please call Chava at (212) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

Thank you for your time.

"Avinu Malkeynu",
and who has
provided us with tools to
live deeply and fully.

8906 W. PICO BOULEVARD, LOS ANGELES, CA 90035

PHONE: (310)276-9269 - FAX (310)276-7891

BnaiDavid@aol.com



B'NAI DAVID-JUDEA CONGREGATION

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Carl Figoten*

David Kahan

George Miller**

Henry Shersow

Sol Siegel**

Daniel Wachner**

Sisterhood Presidium

Renee Friedman

Ruth Wachner

*Past President

**of blessed memory

It is critical that the thinking core of our community understand the approach that many of our fellow Jews take to their Judaism, and what it will take to draw people back to Jewish religious involvement. But I don't see merit in opening this for general discussion within an Orthodox Synagogue.

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



9/24/97

To: Rabbi Sandy Sasso

QUESTIONNAIRE***Restoring the Aleph* by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide**

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Other comments:

*Dennis forwarded recently an joint
Comments.*

Please fax your return reply by Monday September 15 to (212) 532-2646.(If you have any problems in faxing, or change-of-address information,
please call Chava at (212) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

Thank you for your time.

9/22/97

To: Rabbi Dennis Sasso

QUESTIONNAIRE

Restoring the Aleph by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes



No



Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study?

Yes



No



Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes



No



Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes



No



Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

Yes



No



Other comments:

Art Green writes from an east-coast perspective. Most Jews I serve are not attracted to Eastern mysticism or New Age religiosity. Interpersonal concerns and raising a Jewish family, as well as issues of Hebrew & Jewish literature are real concerns. There are ways of finding myself Jewishly

Please fax your return reply by Monday September 15 to (212) 532-2646.

(If you have any problems in faxing, or change-of-address information, please call Chava at (212) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

Thank you for your time.

that do not focus on 'spirituality' as defined in this paper. A parallel statement by, say, Harold Schulweis, would be a powerful complement. I often use Schulweis' book For Those who Can't Believe and Green's Seek my Face, Speak my Name as two modern theological positions for college students & adult ed groups to compare & contrast -

I am disappointed by Green's generic and tired disdain for "the liberal congregation" - whatever that means. Many a liberal congregation provides a vibrant & vital gateway to Jewish living. In contrast, many a "seeker" Harehavah can be exclusivist, elitist & even self-righteous. Many an orthodox / traditional shul can be nihilistic & dogmatic. There are many paths to the One -

I enjoyed the reading!
Dennis Lasso

9/17/17

To: Rabbi Deborah Zecher

QUESTIONNAIRE

Restoring the Aleph by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes ☐No ☐I will probably
quote it in my Rosh Hashanah
sermon

Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study?

Yes ☐No ☒

Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes ☒No ☐

Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes ☒No ☐

Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

Yes ☒No ☐

Other comments:

Thank you.

Please fax your return reply by Monday September 15 to (212) 532-2646.(If you have any problems in faxing, or change-of-address information,
please call Chava at (212) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

Thank you for your time.

9/10/97

To: Rabbi Joshua Hammerman

QUESTIONNAIRE

Restoring the Aleph by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Other comments:

I HAVE ALWAYS LEANED TOWARD ART GREEN'S THEOLOGICAL
STANCE, SO I AM NOT OBJECTIVE ABOUT THIS, BUT IT IS CLEAR TO ME THAT
THE CONCEPT OF A "VERTICAL" DIVINITY HAS LOST IT'S POWER AMONG MOST AMERICAN
JEWS. JEWISH HISTORY CLEARLY SHOWS A PATTERN OF MYSTICAL REVIVAL AND THE
FLOURISHING OF NEW THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES ABOUT 50 YEARS AFTER A MAJOR
*** TRAGEDY. RABBIS FOR THE MOST PART ARE

Please fax your return reply by Monday September 15 to (212) 532-2646. AGRAD TO

(If you have any problems in faxing, or change-of-address information,
please call Chava at (212) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

Thank you for your time.

STRAY FROM
CONVENTIONAL
METAPHORS. PERHAPS THIS
WILL ENCOURAGE THEM (AND

9/9/97

To: Rabbi David L. Lieber

QUESTIONNAIRE

Restoring the Aleph by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants? *

Yes ☐No ☐

Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study? *

Yes ☐No ☐

Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes ☒No ☐*to a highly select group of well-informed ones.*

Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes ☐No ☐*I don't know.*

Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

Yes ☒No ☐

Other comments:

*The material is insightful, as Art Green's always is, but I would hesitate to use it without accompanying classical Jewish texts*** I have no congregation*

Please fax your return reply by Monday September 15 to (212) 532-2646.

(If you have any problems in faxing, or change-of-address information, please call Chava at (212) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

Thank you for your time.

9/8/17

To: Rabbi Nancy Flam

QUESTIONNAIRE

Restoring the Aleph by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes



No



Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study?

Yes



No



Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes



No



Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes



No



Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

Yes



No



Other comments:

An excellent source; will spark exactly the kind of discourse we ought to be having.

Please fax your return reply by Monday September 15 to (212) 532-2646.

(If you have any problems in faxing, or change-of-address information, please call Chava at (212) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

Thank you for your time.

9/5/97

RABBI HASKEL LOOKSTEIN
117-125 EAST 86TH STREET
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10028

THE STUDY
HANOVER 7-1000

August 27, 1997

Rabbi Irving Greenberg
Jewish Life Network
392 Fifth Avenue - 6th Floor
New York, NY 10018

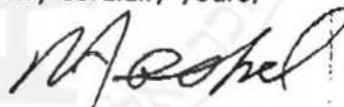
Dear Yitz:

Thank you for sending me Arthur Green's booklet. I have looked through it myself and I am giving it to somebody else in the congregation to read.

At the present time, I don't see it being useful for us at KJ. I think that this letter is a better way to respond than filling out the questionnaire.

Good luck in your work.

Very cordially yours,



Haskel Lookstein

HL:ff

Post-it® Fax Note	7671	Date	9/5/97	# of pages	1
To	Nessa Rapoport	From	Seth Brysk		
Co./Dept.	CISE	Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	279-2288		
Fax #	532-2646	Fax #			

Nessa
Overall he told me
or that he told me
that he wouldn't be offended and
that I shouldn't
send it out to them
especially not
under my name.

To: Rabbi Rolando Matalon

9/3/97

QUESTIONNAIRE

Restoring the Aleph by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

Yes ☒ No ☐

Other comments:

I have already used this booklet in classes as well as recommended it and gave it to individuals - we have distributed about 200 copies - I very much welcome the study guide

Post-it [®] Fax Note	7671	Date	9/3	# of pages	1
To	Rabbi Greenberg	From	R. Matalon		
Co./Dept.		Co.	B'nai B'rith		
Phone #	532-2646	Phone #	787-7600 x 234		
Fax #	212-4155	Fax #			

lay September 15 to (212) 532-2646.

or change-of-address information,
2) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

r your time.

Rolando Matalon
B'nai B'rith
NYC

8/25/17

To: Rabbi Marc Angel

QUESTIONNAIRE

Restoring the Aleph by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes ☐No ☒

Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study?

Yes ☐No ☒

Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes ☐No ☒

Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes ☐No ☒

Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

Yes ☐No ☒

Other comments:

This doesn't restore The Aleph but redefines IT away from Traditional Jewish belief + observance. Why not try producing a pamphlet on seekers who have found their spiritual fulfillment by returning to classic Jewish belief + observance. People should be focused on the possibility of deep spiritual life within a life of Torah + Mitzvot. Not preaching, but spiritually sensitive -

Please fax your return reply by Monday September 15 to (212) 532-2646.

(If you have any problems in faxing, or change-of-address information, please call Chava at (212) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

Thank you for your time.

To: Rabbi Rachel Cowan

QUESTIONNAIRE

Restoring the Aleph by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

Yes

☒

No

☐

Other comments:

I'm really glad you are doing this!

Please fax your return reply by Monday September 15 to (212) 532-2646.

(If you have any problems in faxing, or change-of-address information, please call Chava at (212) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

Thank you for your time.

Received 10/27/97

To: Rabbi Melissa Crespy

QUESTIONNAIRE

***Restoring the Aleph* by Arthur Green: Essay and Study Guide**

Would you use this guide to lead a study group or class with your congregants?

Yes ☐

No

☒ *probably not*

Would you recommend it to individuals in your congregation to use as materials for group study?

Yes ☐

No

☒ *probably not*

Would you recommend these materials to individual congregants?

Yes ☒

No

☐

Do you think that many other rabbis or congregations in your movement would be interested in using these materials?

Yes ☒

No

☐

Do you think these materials are appropriate for distribution to the rabbis in your movement whether or not they will be used for study groups?

Yes ☒

No

☐

Other comments:

*The essay was thought-provoking for me
& very well written.*

Please fax your return reply by Monday September 15 to (212) 532-2646.

(If you have any problems in faxing, or change-of-address information,
please call Chava at (212) 532-2360, ext. 11.)

Thank you for your time.

Restoring the Aleph: Judaism for the Contemporary Seeker, A Study Guide
Mailing List

Name			Salutation	Denomination	Work Phone	Work Fax	Mailing Address		
✓	Rabbi	Marc Angel	Marc	Orthodox	212-873-0300		Congregation Shearith Israel 8 West 70th Street New York NY 10023		
	Rabbi	Saul Berman	Saul	Orthodox	212-880-1462		EDAH, Inc. 99 Park Avenue, Suite 300 New York NY 10016		
✓	Rabbi	Lester Bronstein	Les	Reform	914-683-5069		School of Sacred Music 22 Hazelton Drive White Plains NY 10605		
	Rabbi	Michael Cohen	Michael	Reconstructionist	011-972-2-635-6560		Kibbutz Ketura D.N. Ayalot 88840 ISRAEL		
✓	Rabbi	Rachel Cowan	Rachel	Reform	212-787-7300	212-787-7377	Nathan Cummings Foundation 1926 Broadway, Suite 600 New York NY 10023		
	Rabbi	Melissa F. Crespy	Melissa	Conservative	914-939-1004		Congregation Kneses Tifereth Israel 575 King Street Porchester NY 10573		
✓	Rabbi	Nancy Flam	Nancy	Reform			10 Jewett Street Northampton MA 01060		
	Rabbi	Nancy Fuchs-Kramer	Nancy	Reconstructionist	215-576-0800		RRC 1299 Church Road Wyncote PA 19095		

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Name			Salutation	Denomination	Work Phone	Work Fax	Mailing Address
✓	Rabbi	Joshua Hammerman	Josh	Conservative	203-322-6901		Temple Beth El 350 Roxbury Road Stamford CT 06902
	Rabbi	Lawrence Hoffman	Larry	Reform	212-674-5300		HUC-JIR 1 West 4th Street New York NY 10003
✓	Rabbi	Yosef Kanefsky	Yosef	Orthodox	310-276-9269		Congregation B'nai David Judea 8906 West Pekoe Blvd. Los Angeles CA 90035
	Rabbi	Simcha Kraus	Simcha	Orthodox	718-969-2990		Young Israel of Hillcrest 169-07 Jewel Avenue Hillcrest NY 11365
	Rabbi	Joy Levitt	Joy	Reconstructionist	516-627-6274		RSNS 1001 Plandome Road Plandome NY 11030
	Rabbi	Richard Levy	Dick	Reform	310-208-6639		Los Angeles Hillel Council 900 Hilgard Avenue Los Angeles CA 90024
✓	Rabbi	David L. Lieber	David	Conservative	310-476-9777	310-471-1278	University of Judaism 15600 Mulholland Drive Los Angeles CA 90077
	Rabbi	David Lincoln	David	Conservative	212-369-2600	212-360-0100	Park Avenue Synagogue 50 East 87th Street New York NY 10128

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Name			Salutation	Denomination	Work Phone	Work Fax	Mailing Address
✓	Rabbi	Haskell Lookstein	Haskell	Orthodox	212-427-1000		Congregation Kehillath Jeshurun 125 East 85th Street New York NY 10128
	Rabbi	Simeon J. Maslin	Shim	Reform	215-887-8700		Congregation Kneseth Israel 8339 Old York Road Elkins Park PA 19027
✓	Rabbi	Rolando Matalon	Roly	Conservative	212-787-7600	212-496-7600	B'nai Jeshurun 100A West 89th Street New York NY 10024
✓	Rabbi	Dennis Sasso	Dennis	Reconstructionist	317-253-3441	317-259-6849	Congregation Beth-El Zedeck 600 West 70th Street Indianapolis IN 46260
✓	Rabbi	Sandy Sasso	Sandy	Reconstructionist	317-253-3441	317-259-6849	Congregation Beth-El Zedeck 600 West 70th Street Indianapolis IN 46260
	Rabbi	J.J. Schacter	J.J.	Orthodox	212-724-2700		The Jewish Center 131 West 86 Street New York NY 10024
	Rabbi	Judy Schindler	Judy	Reform	914-723-7727		Westchester Reform Temple 255 Mamaroneck Road Scarsdale NY 10583
	Rabbi	Julie Schonfeld		Reconstructionist	212-724-2721		Society for the Advancement of Judaism 15 West 86 Street New York NY 10024

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Name			Salutation	Denomination	Work Phone	Work Fax	Mailing Address
Rabbi	Harold M.	Schulweis	Harold	Conservative	818-501-4674	818-995-0526	Valley Beth Shalom 15739 Ventura Blvd. Encino CA 91436
Rabbi	Alan	Silverstein	Alan	Conservative	201-226-3600	201-226-7480	Congregation Agudath Israel 20 Academy Road Caldwell NJ 07006
Rabbi	Gerald	Skolnik	Gerry	Conservative	718-263-7000	718-520-4369	Forest Hills Jewish Center 106-06 Queens Blvd. Forest Hills NY 11375
Rabbi	Gordon	Tucker	Gordon	Conservative	914-948-2800	914-948-4755	Temple Israel Center 280 Old Mamaroneck Road White Plains NY 10605
Rabbi	Avi	Weiss	Avi	Orthodox	718-796-4730		Hebrew Institute of Riverdale 3700 Henry Hudson Parkway Bronx NY 10463
Rabbi	Avi	Winokur	Avi	Reconstructionist	212-579-0777	212-579-2669	West End Synagogue 190 Amsterdam Avenue New York NY 10023
✓ Rabbi	Deborah	Zecher	Deborah	Reform	413-442-0048		Chevra of Southern Berkshires 73 Brookside Pittsfield MA 01201-8429