

## **Study Program for LGBT Family Advocates**

Tel Aviv – Jerusalem • February 2015

### **Optional Pre-Program Events**

#### **Friday, February 13:**

- 10 am – 1 pm &  
1:30 -3:30 pm: Men Having Babies Conference (Tel Aviv)  
See Conference program in [English](#)  
LGBT Center, Gan Meir
- 6-7:30 pm: Networking reception with MHB participants at hotel
- 8:30 pm: Friday night dinner, location TBD  
Attending: Hertz; Kessler; Schwartz; Singer; Spiegel

#### **Saturday, February 14:**

- 10 am – 1 pm: Men Having Babies Conference: LGBT Center

### **Saturday, February 14, Tel Aviv**

- 6:30 pm: Welcome reception at the Brown Hotel  
Host: Leon Avigad, Brown Hotel

### **Sunday, February 15, Tel Aviv**

- 9 am: Marriage, relationship recognition, contracts, and mediation  
Speakers: Prof. Yuval Merin, College of Management School of Law  
Michal Eden, attorney, private practice  
Assaf Hady Cohen, attorney, HIV discrimination cases
- Noon: *Optional:* Ron Poole, report from MHB conference  
Udi Ledergor, gay fathers group
- Afternoon: *On Your Own:* Neve Tzedek / Jaffa; TA Museum of Art; North Port  
Area; Carmel Market
- 6:30 pm: Group Dinner, Oasis Restaurant, 17 Montefiori
- Evening: Cultural event with Yoav Shamir, <http://www.yoavshamirfilms.com/>

### **Monday, February 16, Tel Aviv**

- 9 am: Family formation, parentage & surrogacy  
Speakers: [Victoria Gelfand](#), attorney  
Dana Magdassi, attorney
- 11:30am: Participant presentation: Martha Ertman
- Afternoon: *On Your Own*: Neve Tzedek- Jaffa - museums  
Optional 1 pm: Food Tour (Inbal Baum) -- meet at  
Jaffa Port, Loveat Cafe  
<http://www.deliciousisrael.com/about/>  
Attending: Aguilar/Bartkus; Bell; Borer; Kessler; Sena;  
Scaparotti/Price; Schwartz; Spiegel(?)
- 5 pm: Meeting with Judge Esther Stein, Family Court, and Judge Dori Spivak  
(gay judge, Labor Court)
- 7 pm: Group Dinner: Yahaloma Restaurant, Levinsky Market  
<http://www.shuktlv.co.il/en/category/yahaloma>

### **Tuesday, February 17, Tel Aviv**

- 9 am: Dissolution, civil & family court jurisdiction  
Speakers: Prof. Blecher-Prigat, Professor of Family Law  
Judith Meisels, attorney, private practice  
Prof. Zvi Triger, Professor, College of Management
- 11:30 am: Participant presentation
- 1 pm: Lunch gathering with representatives of Agudah, Israel's gay rights  
organization (<http://awiderbridge.org/the-agudah/>), hosted by the  
San Francisco Jewish Federation, at the LGBT Center
- Afternoon: *On Your Own*: Neve Tzedek- Jaffa – museums
- 7 pm: Evening reception/discussion on gay refugee issues with [ORAM](#) ED  
Neil Grungras, attorney Yonatan Berman, Daniel Estrin, radio reporter  
("A Jerusalem Love Story"), and Yariv Mozer, filmmaker, "Invisible  
Men" a documentary on gay Palestinians in Tel Aviv  
At Neil's apartment, 21 Sokolov Street, #8, Tel Aviv  
(30 minute walk from Hotel)

### **Wednesday, February 18, Tel Aviv and Jerusalem**

- 9 am: Transgender rights, activism  
Speakers: Dr. Ilana Berger, Director, Israeli Center for Human Sexuality and Gender Identity  
Amit Gefner, transgender activist  
Carmel Pomerantz, legal advisor to Project Gila
- 10:30 am: Legislation/impact litigation  
Speaker: Dan Yakir, Senior attorney, [ACRI](#) (civil rights)
- 11:30 am: Participant presentation: Amira Hasenbush
- 2 pm: *Travel to Jerusalem, Check in at Harmony Hotel*
- 4 pm: *Optional: visit to Old City Jerusalem*
- 7 pm: Group dinner at Satya Restaurant, <http://satya.co.il>

### **Thursday, February 19, Jerusalem**

- 8 am: *Optional:* Breakfast with Noam Herzog, Hebrew University student  
Discussion of LGBT courses and faculty at Hebrew University
- 9:30 am: The Jerusalem communities, LGBT activism, religious issues  
Held at the Jerusalem Open House  
Speakers: Elinor Sidi, ED, Jerusalem Open House  
[Jerusalem Open House](#)  
Eli Kaplan-Widmann (Harvruta, gay Orthodox group)  
Conversation with Laura Kessler re Utah & Mormons
- Noon: Lunch at Tmol Shilshom (bookstore/café) [Tmol Shilshom](#)  
Parenting & surrogacy issues  
Speakers: David Ehrlich, gay dad, bookstore owner  
Eitan Schechtman, surrogacy ethics commentator
- Afternoon  
/Evening: *On Your Own!*
- 6pm: Meeting in the Harmony Hotel Lounge with Yiscah Smith, a transwoman who was formerly an orthodox rabbi and is now an author and activist.  
<http://www.voiceofisrael.com/part-1-gender-journey-old-city-rabbi-female-author/>

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/people/transgender-in-jerusalem-meet-yiscah-smith-the-inspiring-exorthodox-jewish-activist-who-created-a-life-as-a-woman-9990601.html>

9pm: Chava Alberstein, 9 pm, Jerusalem Theater  
Attending: Hertz; Bell; Scaparotti/Price; Schoenberg; Schwartz

### **Friday, February 20, Jerusalem**

9 am: Meeting with Sara Weil, lesbian Orthodox advocate at the Harmony Hotel Lounge  
<http://www.jewlicious.com/2013/08/sarah-weil-jerusalems-resident-lgbt-activist/>

10am–5pm: *On your own!*  
visit to Yad Vashem  
or  
Israel Museum  
or  
Machane Yehuda Market

5 pm Kabbalat Shabbat Dinner with Orthodox LGBT group  
Jerusalem Open House  
Sponsored by Greater Miami Jewish Federation

8 pm Farewell reception at the Harmony Hotel

### **Optional Post Program Events**

#### **Saturday, February 21:**

West Bank Tour  
Attending: Hertz; Scaparotti/Price; Sena; Silber/Peters; Singer

#### **Sunday, February 22**

9am: Jerusalem Old City Tour  
Attending: Hertz ; Spiegel