



**Health, Emotional, Financial & Religious Impacts of the Coronavirus Pandemic in the Jewish Community
(May 2020)**

Nishma Research conducted the first broad survey of the Jewish community (Orthodox and Non-Orthodox) around many issues dealing with the coronavirus pandemic. The survey was conducted May 4-19, 2020 and the report is available at the Nishma Research website (<http://nishmaresearch.com>). In addition to the survey statistical data, a number of open-ended questions were posed to respondents. This document contains the verbatim responses.

As an opt-in survey of a new, heretofore unexplored issue in the Jewish community, we recognize the limitations of the quantitative data. We therefore recommend review of these verbatim responses, as they shed additional light on community thoughts and reactions by providing “qualitative research” of sorts.

The verbatim comments in this document are unedited in terms of spelling, grammar, etc. The only editing is done with respect to possibly identifying personal information and such editing is done to preserve anonymity (although few of the responses required such editing).

Question	Pages
Have your experiences since the start of the coronavirus pandemic affected how you feel "Jewishly"?	
– Those who stated: My “Jewish feelings” overall have become strengthened	2-5
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Asked of Haredi: If you had the opportunity to share with your religious leaders (<i>rabbonim, poskim, roshei yeshiva, etc.</i>) ideas or suggestions you gained during this pandemic, what would you tell them?	18-19
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What have you as a parent learned from the experience of your child(ren)’s virtual schooling? Include any feedback you would give to your child(ren)’s school(s)?	27-30
Asked of those who indicated that they are “a community or synagogue rabbi”: What have you in your role as a rabbi learned from your experiences during the coronavirus pandemic? How have things gone for you? Please share any key lessons, observations, etc.	31-32
Do you have any final thoughts you’d like to share on any aspect of the coronavirus, your experiences, what you learned, suggestions to the community or others Anything at all that you want to say on this topic?	33-44

Q. HAVE YOUR EXPERIENCES SINCE THE START OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AFFECTED HOW YOU FEEL "JEWISHLY"? THIS MIGHT INCLUDE SUCH ASPECTS AS YOUR SENSE OF CONNECTION, COMMUNITY, INVOLVEMENT, SPIRITUALITY, ETC.? PLEASE TELL US MORE ABOUT WHY YOU RESPONDED THAT WAY.

VERBATIM COMMENTS BY THOSE WHO HAD RESPONDED: MY "JEWISH FEELINGS" OVERALL HAVE BECOME STRENGTHENED DURING THE PANDEMIC

RESPONSES BY NON-ORTHODOX:

- Started counting the Omer.
- I'm more engaged in my informal queer chevruta learning the alef bet, reading psalms at night, praying at home more frequently etc. I feel more engaged and connected to spirituality and community.
- I feel a stronger urge to light candles, do Havdallah, etc. My job is coming to an end at the end of June and I have struggled to find new employment because so many organizations have frozen their hiring during this time. I am a Jewish professional and am considering looking outside of Jewish spaces for work now, so as to maximize my potential ability to find a new job.
- I really enjoy the online Shabbat services...and I never attend in person. Makes me feel more connected to my synagogue community.
- SVARA's Mishna Collective has created a routine of daily Jewish study with an amazing community of queer Jews. Furthermore, to pass time during the pandemic I've been studying Hebrew which is helping me gain a deeper knowledge of the prayers. Other online workshops, such as those offered through My Jewish Learning, and a new chavruta I met through SVARA mean that I have more Jewish relationships now than ever before.
- I have been more connected with my community and supported and supporting others. My Rabbi has been amazing at helping us all feel less lost during this time and I am so thankful for her guidance. I feel more connected now than before due to being more involved although virtually
- I see that there are more people who might be able to participate at a distance in synagogue functions easily from their homes if they have the need, using virtual meetings.
- Many classes, events and websites have flooded my inbox. Very easy to take advantage of them.
- our rabbi has responded strongly of the message that preservation of life is most important
- I feel the need to participate in community events more, even if they are virtual. I also take advantage of intellectual offerings put forward by different organizations (webinars, etc.) Maybe that's also a function of Passover and the Israeli national holidays all taking place during the health crisis.
- I wasn't sure whether to answer that my "Jewish feelings" have been strengthened or haven't changed. I picked this because while I was already very involved with my local congregation and a further distant minyan, I have taken great advantage of many online offerings (mostly educational) that I had not previously. I've been able to participate more in the distant minyan which I love, but live too far from to be involved week to week, day by day. I feel very proud of the Jewish community as a whole has responded to the pandemic in terms of offerings, words of wisdom and consolation, sharing scientific information, and being very cognisant of the importance of community.
- I have done more Torah study and generally found a lot of meaning in online Jewish opportunities.
- I rarely go to minyan but i feel good after attending even though i just listen. i don't have a siddur at home to follow along.
- Sense of community strengthened.
- I have felt a strong sense of "community"; I felt it before Covid-19, but being able to daven with members of my synagogue has given me an even stronger sense of comfort and connectedness during this time when "connecting" the way I'm used to is not possible. I'm grateful to all those who are making this "new normal" work.
- People are explicitly reaching out which feels good. A little overwhelmed by all the online options, but it's nice to have choices!
- It is even more important to have a community to which I belong and feel connected to.
- Participating in virtual services enables me to continue connections with the people I would see at my synagogue.
- My wife and I have attended more on-line study sessions, as well as tefillot (with the out-of-town minyan where we are members) than in the past
- Having services, classes and programs through my synagogue has helped diminish the isolation
- I have a greater appreciation for the value of the Jewish community, and I miss it!
- While I am highly identified to begin with, it has been energizing to reconnect with old communities i was part of and learn in so many different "places"
- I am turning to Jewish wisdom more and also even though we have always celebrated Shabbat with dinner we are not shomer Shabbat. During this time, I

have come to appreciate the break Shabbat provides us and have made a point to do relaxing and leisurely activities with my family

- Zoom Shabbat dinners might continue after social distancing ends. In person is nice, but with young children and family all over the country, we've never had them so regularly.
- I like services over the internet better than In person
- I feel a stronger connection both to my home community because it such a meaningful novelty to see people online and to see people out walking to get fresh air. I also feel a stronger connection to my former community whose services I sometimes also attend.
- I am impressed by how quickly the congregations I associate with stepped up to the plate to offer services, programs, inspiration to members.
- I am a rabbinical student so there should maybe be a special box for this - since so much of my life revolves around Jewish learning and service.
- Having online offerings & being home has allowed me to participate more fully & more often.
- I was glad to observe the Jewish authorities I turn to being consistent with the medical authorities I turn to re the over-riding importance of life. As I get older (almost 80) I am thinking more and more about mortality. I also appreciate the willingness and ability to utilize modern technology to attempt to "rebuild" Jewish community events -- religious, educational, social.
- Seeing more awareness of the need for Jews to stay together. Seeing greater participation in attending Minyanim via Zoom. Seeing more willingness of members to take active role in committees.
- I have found new places of worship that have deepened my Spirituality.
- Lighting Shabbat Candles more regularly Watching Israeli movies Thinking about funerals, shiva, importance of Passover, etc
- Belonging to the Jewish community, even remotely, makes me feel less isolated than I already feel. Rituals, in my home especially, are comforting And I look forward to the rituals of Shabbat.
- Just realize how important this is
- I felt very "Jewish" and still do. Now, though, I've built up community through online Tot Shabbats that I've organized, as well as porch visits with friends from shul.

RESPONSES BY MODERN ORTHODOX:

- I feel a greater sense of the strength of my Jewish community which quickly responded to the threat of

the Coronavirus. Shuls of all Jewish denominations were closed. On line prayer groups, learning groups, exercise groups and social groups were established free to all. Chesed opportunities are very numerous.

- I have done more deep text study, and have increased study in 2 of my three weekly chevrotot. I have also followed tangents down rabbit holes (i.e. Rambam on death/resurrection, adjustments to halacha in pandemic circumstances).
- I think its being around family more.
- It has been hard to keep up the daily routine away from the community, and every day when I daven, learn daf yomi, and count the omer I feel stronger. My family davens together now on a regular basis which is not something we did before.
- Proud of the leadership of my local community in being among the first to shut down.
- I have spent more time engaged in Jewish study and more time in prayer. I have also availed myself of many more online programs.
- Greater appreciation for the spiritual side of things - including prayer and God is in control of things.
- My local community has guaranteed my survival. If I feel the need for human company, i can step outside and meet neighbors all around me on the street. On Shabbat, the neighborhood streets in our Modern Orthodox community are full of people strolling.
- I have been involved in many lectures of interest.
- A sense of Jewish Unity that the we are all in this together.
- I feel as though the Jewish community is making a strong effort to engage, support and protect us
- I think, even though, close friends and neighbors are no longer dropping in or coming for Shabbat, we've developed a stronger bond from the isolation. We simply keep in touch...differently. We'll have coffee outside together...still maintaining the mandated social distancing, call and text each other more often during the day... We've come to appreciate more deeply our friendships...due to the separation. Realized how important we are to each other's lives.
- I just feel awed by the moral leadership from our rabbi in particular, and I just have this powerful sense of pride that we as a community are - by showing such dedication to pikuach nefesh- showing such respect for Halacha and Jewish tradition. I also feel a longing for the Jewish rituals that I can't access due to social distancing.
- Clearer sense of importance of community
- Counting the omer and learning the sefirot has been very meaningful - netzach = endurance for example

this week. Been finding lots of connections to the weekly parsha and COVID, and finding meaning in the rituals that mark time with the kids and the framing of staying at home as pikuach nefesh

- Important to help those less fortunate.
- The outreach done by my synagogue has strengthened my connection with other members and with my faith.
- I believe that Hashem performs miracles and pray he will protect my loved ones and me.
- I am in awe of the Jewish community's response to the needs of all the people with sensitivity and action.
- I found so much support from the Jewish liturgy from prayer to ethics to mishna etc.
- I have reached out more broadly across denominations for learning opportunities (classes, lectures) and have taken advantage of these being given by diverse organizations since everyone being online makes the physical location of the talks irrelevant. There's so much great Jewish content easily accessible, it's made it easier to feel connected to a broader range of the Jewish community. Also, I work in the Jewish community and see how everyone in my field is working together across denominations as one big Jewish community.
- Learning online. Feeling partnership with my past. Having more time to focus on ritual, preparing for Shabbat and holidays
- I have time to lay tefillin in the morning with no commute. And many people are losing loved ones, so I see the need to have a strong, organized community to mourn and remember, even virtually
- I had more time (especially in the beginning), so I was able to take on more practices that I'd wanted to be doing but hadn't had the time for. More frequent prayer, for instance, and more consistent washing and bentching after Shabbat meals. I was also saying a Psalm every day, for a while, which strengthened my overall Jewish feelings.
- My shul (Newton Centre Minyan) is always engaged and offers more cultural and personal opportunities than I have time for, but I now do the daf yomi (with Hadran) more seriously because I have more time.
- I've had much more time to study alone, with friends and to have "deeper" conversations with many friends, Jewish friends, around the world.
- I say special prayers in my daily prayers to rid ourselves from this plague, COVID 19.
- the outpouring of concern, assistance, rabbinical guidance and support has been unlimited. they HAVE

reached to me and the family to help with all our needs. remarkable.

- praying more regularly (I haven't missed a day of tefilin - other than Shabbat and Pesah - for 9 weeks; longest streak of my life).
- my congregants are amazing and wonderful
- Greater appreciation for Jewish community life and synagogue services
- availability of online classes and words of encouragement have been a great help
- I have been so impressed by the way my community has stepped up to help those in need and to prevent the further spread of this disease.
- I have been so moved by the outpouring of love and attention and care for those who shouldn't be going out. I am a volunteer grocery shopper for 5 households in my neighborhood where people are over 70. It is very meaningful and my community's rush toward chesed has been very touching.
- I'm a rabbi!
- I've put on t'filin more in the past 6 weeks that I think I had total in the past 10 years (or more)
- I am home, focusing on eating well and spiritual growth. I live in an Orthodox community and not completely observant. This has allowed me to reconnect with the values that I respect. Shabbos is an opportunity and tool for life balance. I have observed Shabbos for the last four weeks and did a seder on my own for the first time. I am not distracted so I am enjoying studying again.
- I rely on the shul's morning tefilla group and the rabbi's d'var Torah to frame my day, provide structure and connection and meaning.
- Feeling greater sense of identification with Jewish community and Jewish history. Greater sense of reliance on God
- My desire for connection to HaShem has increased. I now daven three times a day.
- As someone who is very active in the Jewish community, I have been inspired by the myriad opportunities to socially connect via Zoom and other ways while remaining physically distanced.
- I respond cause that what I believe
- When the social structure and interactions created by our Orthodox Jewish practices and lifestyle are stripped from your daily life, as "they" say - it makes the heart grow fonder. Having events like the Hatzallah-thon and other classes and zoom parties only strengthen my "Jewish" feelings by way of relationships with my fellow community members.

- I feel a stronger sense of obligation to work with my fellow community members to keep each other safe and help those who need it.
- I believe everything is in HaShem's hands
- Positive thinking gratitude and connection to GD is much stronger.
- online classes, shiva calls and prayer services have been very connective, even though zoom is energy draining
- Hashem is in control and He is leading us somewhere, even though it is not clear to us or to me personally right now. I want to grow and do His Will and make the most of my time here and during this pandemic. So many people need our prayers too and the community encompasses all of us.
- I am a practicing orthodox Jew and as such times of communal stress encourage me to focus on Mitzvos, Limud, and Maasim tovim as per the halachic and hashkafic directives of Chazal
- I feel a great sense of community and pride due to the care and concern for life, care and concern for the caregivers. I have a strengthened faith in God.
- More time to focus on prayer, gratefulness to Hashem for what we have
- The connection and concern by our rabbi to institute all programs has been phenomenal. The congregation has been superlative and heartwarming. Always calling and making sure everyone is o.k.

RESPONSES BY HAREDI:

- I have more time to recite prayers since we are home. I feel that prayer really works.
- It has become so much clearer than ever that We have no control over our lives, illness, income etc. We can only rely on Hashem for everything.
- The Jewish community has reached out to help one another in extraordinary ways and in every detail. It is heartwarming to see the love, care, friendship, responsibility, and self-sacrifice that the Jewish people are expressing to fellow Jews and non-Jews alike.
- It's a feeling that this virus didn't just happen ! It was unquestionably a result of something that, as Jews, G-d was unhappy about. In creating this virus, G-d wants us to think about what might have made him 'upset' with us and what we. An so to rectify things once 'normality' returns.
- More connection with Jews around the world impacted by this all.
- I am much more participatory now and you truly feel the bonds

- I'm impressed by the community programs set up to help those in need. Also the constant offers to shop for others or exchange goods that we already have in our homes.
- I have found myself more and more relying on G-d since there is so much out of our human control. I trust that G-d, in his infinite wisdom and kindness has brought this pandemic as part of a Master Plan.
- Since the message Corona delivers is to connect more deeply with Hashem, I have increased the length and kavanah of my davening, learning and overall connection to HKBH.
- all jews helping each other is amazing
- More time available to spiritually connect
- When I see what groups like Hatzalah are doing and how many people reached out to me (by phon) when I was sitting Shiva and how they are more attentive to their neighbors' needs.
- I did recover from coronavirus and am very thankful to God. I thank God every day for saving me. I do believe that God is in control of the world even though I don't understand many things in life that have happened.
- The way the Jewish community has reached out to help others is unbelievable. There is nonstop chessed, ideas how to limit shoppers in supermarkets, etc. and you can see how we react when the going gets tough.
- I've read a lot of spiritually inspiring articles in religious Jewish papers and listened to many classes and speakers at this time.
- It helps many of us to realize the importance of davening together with a minyan and many other community events which are essential and we previously took for granted!

Q. HAVE YOUR EXPERIENCES SINCE THE START OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AFFECTED HOW YOU FEEL "JEWISHLY"? THIS MIGHT INCLUDE SUCH ASPECTS AS YOUR SENSE OF CONNECTION, COMMUNITY, INVOLVEMENT, SPIRITUALITY, ETC.? PLEASE TELL US MORE ABOUT WHY YOU RESPONDED THAT WAY.

VERBATIM COMMENTS BY THOSE WHO HAD RESPONDED: MY "JEWISH FEELINGS" OVERALL HAVE BECOME WEAKENED DURING THE PANDEMIC

RESPONSES BY NON-ORTHODOX:

- I'm a student moving from figuring out my Jewish life away at school, and now back at home. Harder to "do Jewish stuff" at home, especially without in-person communities on Shabbat, etc.

- The Jewish practices I enjoy are linked to community, and Zoom communities don't feel authentically Jewish to me.
- There was no shul going for Passover. There won't be shul going for Shavuot. I doubt there will be shul going for the high holidays. I just feel like we are getting the message that health is more important than religion. It's an interesting feeling.
- I find it hard to daven or pray by myself. Miss the experience of a real community. Miss having Shabbat meals with friends and family.
- I see most of my Jewish neighbors every day going outside without masks, gloves, not social distancing with people not in their families. They either don't care or don't believe there is a pandemic around them. I've been quarantined in my house for almost two months now and only go out once a week for groceries. Because of the Jews in my neighborhood, I feel we will have to be quarantined even longer than necessary. It's not just a Jewish problem, it's also non-Jews. But when I look outside and see people, the non-Jews are wearing masks while the Jews aren't.

RESPONSES BY MODERN ORTHODOX:

- Community is necessary for many parts of davening especially on Shabbos. It isn't the same and it doesn't feel the same as much as we try to make it the same. Spiritual experiences such as being in person and singing together are much reduced at home.
- I no longer go to minyan and I used to go three times a day and stopped keeping Shabbos
- The coronavirus pandemic has greatly impacted my relationship with G-d. I find it difficult under the current circumstances to see that "everything is for the best." I feel disconnected from G-d and sometimes angry and confused as to why he would do this to the world.
- Without regular Shabbat services I feel less grounded in Judaism than before.
- Both parents have primary bank accounts that have a zero balance each pay check. It is not a common social experience in our synagogue. Savings are used for everyday needs and expenses. There is no safety net of in-laws or of savings. Four kids in day school is making our living expenses overwhelmed, as is direct in-home care of a loved one.
- Going to shul to pray had been a central part of my weekly routine for myself and my children. It has been stressful to try to keep Shabbat confined to our homes. Social life has deteriorated- it is not the same to Zoom vs having in-person connections and conversations.
- I don't feel as connected-spiritually. I do not look forward to Shabbat. My husband and I have 1 child- we let her watch YouTube on Shabbat- and we would not be doing that if times were "normal." I don't feel as much of a connection with G-d. It just feels like G-d is not as close or as present as he was in the past- like G-d is hiding in some way right now.
- I don't have the connection to the people. Less inclined to Daven.
- I am disappointed by the initial response of the Orthodox community to the pandemic. Even once it was clear how serious this was, the delay in closing shuls and yeshivot cost countless lives. The belief that the community is separate from the larger secular and non-Jewish world is wrongheaded and dangerous, it has to stop.
- I miss being in shul for Shabbos and talking to friends and praying with others...it's not the same at home and I feel like I am losing my connection
- Hard to feel grateful to Hashem or to think of Hashem as good
- I do not feel that the synagogue is doing much except for making constant appeals for money to assist the others in the area. I don't even know if all of the assistance is going to help other congregants or people in the city. I'm also not certain that the money I send is going to pay for the building fund or not...things are not very transparent.
- People are overreacting to the situation in all directions. Everyone has opinions on what to do, but because we have so little actual information almost no one's opinion is based on actual information but on something they've heard or speculation.
- I don't know how to Zoom, my office computer doesn't have a camera, there's no one to ask for help, and it is stressful to me to try to deal with this new technology I would rather talk one-on-one on the phone with someone
- Hard not to see Jewish mentors in person or attend community events virtually so less connected emotionally
- Living alone and struggling with loneliness
- I feel less inspired while isolated and not able to attend events in person. It's also harder to be committed and consistent with so much else happening at home and no ability to escape to shul to be able to focus.

RESPONSES BY HAREDI:

- Less communal involvement/activity has lessened my "Jewish feelings."

Q. HAVE YOUR EXPERIENCES SINCE THE START OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AFFECTED HOW YOU FEEL "JEWISHLY"? THIS MIGHT INCLUDE SUCH ASPECTS AS YOUR SENSE OF CONNECTION, COMMUNITY, INVOLVEMENT, SPIRITUALITY, ETC.? PLEASE TELL US MORE ABOUT WHY YOU RESPONDED THAT WAY.

VERBATIM COMMENTS BY THOSE WHO HAD RESPONDED: MY "JEWISH FEELINGS" ARE MIXED; IN SOME WAYS STRENGTHENED BUT IN SOME WAYS WEAKENED

RESPONSES BY NON-ORTHODOX:

- I've struggled with my own identity and that plays a massive role in my religious identity
- At the start of the pandemic, I was living in Jerusalem and attending yeshiva full-time. My program ended abruptly in mid-March and I had to return to the US. There are ways in which I'm connecting more to facets of my Jewish identity now-- I'm involved in mutual aid work, and engaging with certain facets of Jewish texts (namely those about disease and healing) differently, but in general my feeling of Jewish connection and community has been really shaken by my abrupt departure from Jerusalem and my community there.
- I have been struggling with daily observance - davening, tefillin, etc, and being away from community members, but I attribute that to anxiety and depression from the current state of things.
- I am a college student. At college, I was shomer Shabbat, I went to services every Friday night, I wore a kippah daily. In general, I was much more observant. Since I've gone home due to COVID-19, those practices have stopped, as those are not the customs my family follows. As such, while my emotions and relationship to Judaism has stayed the same, the manifestation of my practice has changed.
- I am doing more Jewish learning than before--I spend about 3-4 hours a week learning with a hevruta, and 3-4 hours a week in classes from my shul, in addition to more time studying on my own. However, prior to the pandemic, one aspect of my Jewish identity that was important to me was hospitality and meal hosting, and I can no longer do that.
- My shul is in a different city than where I live now, so strengthened because I couldn't participate before and now I can and I didn't find community here. Weakened- wasn't praying a lot before but less inclined to now, Zoom minyan doesn't feel worth it. Being an essential worker has also been alienating in rabbinic school which has had a negative impact.
- I feel more strongly valued as a member of my Jewish community, but have struggled to maintain my level of Jewish observance without face to face interaction
- I often feel that the strict adherence to rules at a time when there is great pressure on individuals in the community would allow more lenient rules to prevail see Talmud Shabbat 45 (Rav's opinion of Rabbi Shimon's position). This includes someone returning home from the hospital on shabbat being restricted in type of soap to use when soap of any kind is hard to come by. And not being able to say kaddish via a zoom minion is cruel. Others in the community have been very supportive so my feelings for the Jewish community is strengthened while my respect for its religious leaders has been subject to question.
- Conservative movement has been Terrible- the RA says we should only follow local authorities even if they say ignore the virus and who cares if people die. My synagogue held an in person bar mitzvah during the pandemic. My local orthodox and reform congregation have been great, but I'm just so disappointed in the conservative movement and my synagogue.
- I feel connected culturally, but less so spiritually and somewhat less so culturally. Most of my help has come from friends, neighbors and internet spiritual courses, programs, etc.
- I have taken several online classes through JT S and [local college] and my family does zoom calls which has helped. But my religious sense has not changed or has weakened
- More because we reach out more (on zoom) to connect Less because we would attend services at least once a month here in FL
- I have come to better understand what I value about in-person community/public prayer. I have come to appreciate Jewishly guided meditation.
- I miss the Jewish events I would attend: shabbat meals with friends/family, mostly, but I don't otherwise feel less Jewish in my connection or spirituality.
- A family member has been diagnosed with a very serious illness at the same time as covid took hold. It has made me question some of my beliefs and practices.
- Not having Pesach with my extended family was a big HIT to my Jewish feelings.
- I miss in-person services deeply, which is not a surprise, but I've been heartened at the degree to which the minyan has been taking care of each other.
- Due to the nature of my work, virtual prayer has allowed me to be a more active participant. I miss the

physical/social connection. On line classes are far less fulfilling than in person.

- I work in the Jewish community (engaging young adults and others in Jewish ritual) and feel the work we're doing is even more important and valuable, so that strengthens my feelings. But I personally don't feel I have time to engage in anything so that's weakened my feelings.
- I feel closer to my community and further from God
- Am attending virtual services more frequently than synagogue services in normal times. However, no other contact from the synagogue. It is difficult to justify future membership and I may resign.
- My Jewish feelings developed and changed during my life, but always putting Tikkun Olam first. I have been active politically; I taught for [many] years. I still write and keep politically active. My life, itself has altered greatly: I am old ,disabled ... Most of my communicating is now done via computer.) Since the 1970's, the rate of inflation has been outrageous, and only the very wealthy can keep up; the rest of us "get by". (Sometimes I feel the "pandemonic" , like the wall, are just distractions to keep the general population from focusing on what people, government, capitalism have done to the world...
- My sense of being part of my immediate Jewish community has been somewhat weakened since we can't go to the events that usually connect us. Although our synagogue has made an effort to have many online events, it's just not a substitute for the relaxed socializing that happens in person. Prayer over Zoom lacks the same sense of togetherness because we can't hear each other pray simultaneously due to the lag. On the other hand, my connection to Judaism and personal Jewish practices as a whole has strengthened somewhat. At home, we have more time to make challah and light candles for Shabbat. Many Jewish teachings seem more relevant right now, especially since lots of our current practices (physical distancing, wearing cloth masks) are meant to protect other people even more than they're meant to protect us. Caring for both ourselves and others have become of central significance in our lives.
- I miss the Shabbats in person at the shul with people, but under these difficult times I believe it will be awhile before things go back to normal. Especially considering there is no concise Federal policy concerning the Corona/Trump virus and there seems to be no policy for testing or opening up in a strategic way.

RESPONSES BY MODERN ORTHODOX:

- I am less inclined to see chassidim/chareidim as being within my Jewish dalet amot as I was before this.
- I feel a lot of strength and pride when I see the positive way the global Jewish community is reacting (Israel at the forefront) 2- I feel weakened when I see people scream 'religious' while acting in ways that are counter to my religious ideals (ie saving a life is above all else, or accusing escalations in deaths in religious Jews as anti-Semitic induced neglect , not taking accountability to for causing the high rates of infection in those areas) 3- feel weakened when I wonder why Gd is causing elderly people to spend the last years of their lives in isolation or people to sit shiva alone 4- I am temporarily in America after having made aliyah and saddened by that but I find great comfort and strength in the fact that I have access to all of the online classes and concerts and ceremonies that otherwise may have not been in live streaming format (Yom Hazikaron for example)
- Missing chavrusos and minyanim weakens the sense of community and involvement, but strengthens the sense of personal responsibility for observance
- I'm more focused on sharing Jewish knowledge and values with my kids since they're not getting them elsewhere (they are preschool age) and I'm searching for more Jewish online learning opportunities than I did before, but I also haven't really missed shul/communal Jewish life. This period has made me take ownership of my Jewish life in a different way than before coronavirus, with less pressure from external forces (family, community).
- Watching and listening to various groups and Rabbi's being and saying things that conflict with my understanding of Judaism. I can't tolerate it.
- I haven't davened each day
- The reaction of my fellow Jews has both horrified me and delighted me
- Shabbat is hard without going to shul. I don't feel like Davening on my own sometimes.
- Feeling disconnected due to lack of being with my fellow congregants, but stronger spiritually due to struggle and emunah opportunities.
- Being shomer shabbat has been hard with social distancing. Technology can't necessarily replicate an in person social experience or communal davening.
- I am grateful for my community and my community's efforts to provide virtual activities and concrete support. I am upset that I do not know when or if it will be safe for me to go back to shul (once it reopens) because of my chronic health problems. So while I appreciate the current virtual community, I'm

wondering what will happen when everyone else goes back to meeting in person. Also struggling with long Shabbats living alone.

- Miss the social connectedness of Shabbat and holidays.
- I feel disconnected from certain elements of Jewish practice (communal meals, minyanim, socialization)
- I began to do some more things in my own, like learning NACH Yomi, but I was minimally involved in a Jewish community before, mostly through my work in an Orthodox school. Now that I'm not working, I have no connection to a broader community anymore
- I have gone to more classes, something I rarely did, including online learning with Hadar in NY & the Orthodox shul in [local community]. Weakened because I always daven with a minyan on Sh & Tuesday mornings and find that lacking. Not the same davening by myself most of the time. I miss that aspect. Definitely see less people from my minyan also - some I miss seeing for sure; others, well, I can't say I miss everybody in the minyan. It is definitely harder to keep up with friends though.
- I feel more connection in that I am doing Jewish things and observing halakha completely by myself, without anyone to see me or check up on me. My dedication makes me feel more Jewish. I feel less connection in that, as a convert who was exploring Jewish practice for a long time before seeking a community, I am now again doing Jewish things by myself, reminding me of my pre-Jewish days. I feel disconnected from the community and therefore from what legitimizes my Jewishness.
- Emunah and bitachon destroyed
- Currently a Nurse in Manhattan (non covid designated unit) but many positive patients
- It has been difficult maintaining the connections we have through our shul without going there weekly for shabbat and other activities.
- I find myself longing for the meaningful in person gatherings, especially those surrounding shabbat and prayer. However, my own practice hasn't adapted to creating more meaningful prayer or shabbat experiences.
- People are trying very hard to help each other, offer classes and support, etc. On the other hand distance from seeing almost everyone has made me less connected. I am involved in daf yomi, podcasts coming from Israel help strengthen connection, but every meal is alone, every prayer is alone, and so forth.
- At times I feel distant from my Jewish practice and further from where I would like to be as a result of

the virus. However, I feel that this has brought me closer to aspects of Judaism that I otherwise would not have if not for the virus, so it's been some positive and some negative.

- I feel like some places are doing an excellent job--JCC of Manhattan, OU-JLIC Yachad for Yom Haatzmaut for example; Others, like some shuls, feel more disconnected from me. I would have hoped would have hunkered down even more in March, yet some of those communities (I normally attend multiple shuls during an average week) feel more distant, which I think is a shame.
- I recognized that science will be our ticket out of this pandemic and not religion. Even religious leaders are telling us to rely on our scientists recommendations and to stay away from synagogues. In the charedi community where they put their trust in god and kept going to shul, they have suffered a massive number of deaths.
- I have different stress now which is a lot worse than before. I feel more alone.
- I feel the need to pray more for everyone's health; however, I am disappointed and upset and question G-d as to why this is happening and pray for G-d to do something to help
- I got married in a backyard wedding right as the pandemic started to be taken seriously. No rabbis from the shul I belong to now or from my previous community (who I was still in close touch with just two months ago) have checked on us since the wedding. I feel very isolated as a newlywed couple. Because of the situation, we don't have an apartment, and we don't have all of the things we need. I feel like my life was put on hold during a time of transition, and it's been difficult.
- Weakened somewhat because of inability to daven with a minyan, but strengthened because of conscious effort to compensate for these feelings.
- Hard to understand why this is happening and why so many people are suffering and dying.
- Orthodox Jewish leadership may feel they're supporting people but they're failing at being lenient enough in halachik matters. Individuals don't respect the community about not having minyanim. There is a lot of selfish people more concerned about rituals than about others who could become deathly ill.
- Confirmed that I need group meetings / services less, but cultural events / interesting artistic study more - like Talmud class with Rabbi Cantor & stories in The Forward.
- Not being in shul and having human direct interaction has weakened my Jewish feeling. The lack of Shabbat

socialization and connection with others has weakened. But Jewish feelings are strengthened by the outreach of the shul and community to those in need.

- I'm not getting dressed up for Shabbat but everything else is the same
- More than ever I appreciate the need for community. I do not however, miss shul davening. I am not sure there is a need for all the programming that is being done. I am amazed at the halachic responses - now we have to fix the women's issues like agunah and minyan with such alacrity.
- I don't get dressed up for Shabbat like I usually do because we're just at home all day. I miss the Shabbat experience of shul.
- Miss being in a minyan and with other believers.
- Ultimately my faith is strong but clouded by the lifestyle changes. My Jewish life is diminished and can't be with loved ones or share joyous moments. Sometimes faith is strong as have gratitude for all G-d's kindness during this time but sometimes faith weak as so many prohibitions.
- Not being able to pray at shul makes me want to do it even more
- Disappointed by the initial lack of knowledge, sensitivity and urgency of our spiritual leaders as it relates to COVID. Embarrassed of the behaviors of those who attend minyanim despite the law (chillul Hashem). Disappointed by the behavior of non profit institutions as it relates to tuition and membership fees.
- The Jewish community was divided about responses among Rabbis even from the same sector, and there was a lot of disregard for community guidelines. But from the beginning the community teachers and leaders focused on the important things including helping each other get support physically, emotionally, with community conferences, food staples, emunah tidbits from personal accounts, etc. I feel blessed to be part of the greater Jewish community that realizes what is important and not having to get lost alone in the fear, anxiety and unknowing of the media.
- I obviously feel much less connected to the Jewish community. On the other hand, I feel connected to Jews as a whole based on the negative press we have gotten recently about a tiny sect in Brooklyn.
- I appreciate the need for Jewish community more, but at the same time, as a single person living independently of family, I also feel a lot more cut off from the community and left out during this time.

- reaching out to a wider circle, but discovering some darkness, esp. as to scientific understanding(ha mayvin, yavin)
- Proud of the way my congregation has responded and supported our membership through the crisis. that said, I'm disheartened by the way some communities have continued to congregate and make a bad name/impression for others about how Jews are responding to the crisis.
- I am disappointed by the way many are disregarding the pandemic.
- Our minyanim are closed, and our shul will not make any decisions without the approval of the OU. We are in Florida, and the OU is in NY. Very different.
- Prayer is at times more intense Anger about effects of situation on family, children, yeshivas,etc. affecting my spiritual connection
- I have been dealing with faith issues and this corona surely doesn't help.
- I see the value in community even more than before (and it's always been pretty high!) but I feel less connected. Easy to just be alone...

RESPONSES BY HAREDI:

- I left my home to stay with a friend who doesn't have A kosher kitchen but feel more spiritual in his space
- I've been giving more tzedaka since the corona happened, but mainly in honor of my uncles speedy recovery. I pray alone with more concentration, yet I don't pray with a minyan.
- I recognize more clearly that nobody has any control except for Gd. That being said - it's a stressful time without routine, and I'm finding it hard to do certain things like davening.
- Missing out on saying kaddish has been the hardest thing. While I hadn't missed a minyan in months, I find it very hard to motivate myself to daven at home.
- I'm a frum woman who just got married. This challenge has helped me focus in davening and feel Hashem's hashgacha, but it makes it harder to build my new relationship with my husband and maintain healthy relationships.
- Some communities as a whole take the pandamec seriously some dont. Of the ones who dont its telling 2 of the 3 hardest hit communities are them. Children , groups of them with no masks. Couples walking together no masks. Have the levayos not made an impression to not walk outside without covering the mouth and nose? Forget the President and Governor who are trying their best ,with the information they have at the time, how about the King of Kings?

Q. HAVE YOUR EXPERIENCES SINCE THE START OF THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AFFECTED HOW YOU FEEL "JEWISHLY"? THIS MIGHT INCLUDE SUCH ASPECTS AS YOUR SENSE OF CONNECTION, COMMUNITY, INVOLVEMENT, SPIRITUALITY, ETC.? PLEASE TELL US MORE ABOUT WHY YOU RESPONDED THAT WAY.

VERBATIM COMMENTS BY THOSE WHO HAD RESPONDED: NO REAL CHANGE IN MY "JEWISH FEELINGS"

RESPONSES BY NON-ORTHODOX:

- I don't see it as a Jewish event. Except for the antisemitism of some protesters.
- I miss all of the ways that I experience Judaism through community, but that does not make me feel less Jewish or change my feelings about Judaism.
- My Jewish identity has no correlation with staying home or social distancing. The notable exception would be the nazi slogans present in some right-wing "back to work" rallies
- I'm not very involved with my community. This year, I was volunteering with Yachad, a Jewish organization serving people with disabilities, and I attended some events for Jewish young adults. Since I wasn't very involved to begin with, I don't feel that much has changed for me in this area.
- Judaism is an important part of my identity. I don't feel any less Jewish in isolation.
- I am a fairly involved member of the Jewish community and remain so. I miss going to synagogue, but I'm still present and part of the community. For instance, I make calls for the social action group to keep community elders connected.
- No shul or jewish group is reaching out to deaf and hard of hearing people to offer 1) check in on elderly 2,) include in group zoom with captioning 3) advocate to larger jewish org on behalf of deaf/ hard of hearing inclusion with captioning provided.
- Jewishness has been central to my life all my life and now is no exception.
- I'm a traditional jew
- My Shul and community is always there for people in need. Just more people in need now. I was a Jew before COVID, I'm a Jew now, I will remain a Jew after COVID. Every moment I'm following the Torah and serving G-d, without exception, to the max of my ability.
- I have always felt strongly about being Jewish and living a Jewish life.
- I am deeply involved in Jewish learning outside my congregation, and feel nourished by my connections and tradition. We have suffered plagues throughout history and I am strengthened by the perspective our tradition offers.
- I was an observant Jew before this and continue to be now.
- Pandemics are part of life; I knew that such things were possible. That it happened to me is unfortunate but not a reason to rethink the foundational parts of my life.
- Always had strong sense of Jewish belonging.
- I am a rabbi. I have always felt very connected.
- I am very strongly Jewishly connected with many groups. I am not a professional Jew, but my Judaism is part of my daily identity. This remains true. It has taken different forms. I use different tools. My feelings remain the same.
- I was already feeling very Jewish, and feel no change at all in my identification now.
- Why would my Jewish feelings change because of a pandemic
- I am very identified Jewishly--both in observance and in learning. That has not changed since the pandemic. My Jewish community has always been very important to me. I do recognize how crucial community has been in supporting its members and helping us get through this pandemic. But I don't think my "Jewish feelings" have changed.
- I could spend more time on my Jewish education. I could spend more time at services. But otherwise I couldn't be much more obsessed with my Jewish heritage, identification, etc. than I already am
- Very strongly connected and this has not changed that.
- I am a rabbi and teach Judaica
- I was strongly identified as Jewish and an active member of my minyan before the pandemic, and I valued Jewish communal life. The pandemic hasn't changed that.
- I am an active and committed Jew. That's not been altered.
- The fact that I am no longer able to connect in person with my community has not affected the way I personally relate to my Judaism.
- I was already strongly Jewishly identified and religiously observant (shomer shabbat, etc.). I am now davening daily because of my father's death (from coronavirus) but I don't really think this is a change in my Jewish feelings.
- the pandemic has effected my habits and routines - not my political or philosophical life.
- committed before and now

- They were ways strong and remain so
- Both in terms of "Jewish feelings" and synagogue membership: I was raised with very high value on both these items--I have no memory of living otherwise-- and they have only strengthened over the years. In terms of synagogue membership in particular (rather than independent minyanim, etc), my family has experienced a medical and financial crisis ... and since that time I have realized more and more the critical importance to us of our synagogue community. The current pandemic perhaps increases that feeling a little more, but not measurably, only because it was already so strong, central to my life.
- Already had strong Jewish feelings and satisfaction with the Jewish community's support. It has actually exceeded any expectations, but that is because most Jews I know of are not Haredi and use technology regularly (some don't use on Shabbat but are tech literate otherwise)
- I feel very Jewish always wherever I am. No program will make me feel more Jewish than I already feel. I participate in Jewish lectures and programs and will continue to do so after this crisis.
- I am still appalled at much of what goes on in Israel, according to the news I read and hear. I still appreciate the synagogue I used to belong to and expect to rejoin at some point. I still observe some Jewish holidays, but not in a long-winded manner. I still don't know much Hebrew (blackboard, pencil, etc., learned in Sunday School). I'm still glad that my daughter chose to have a bat mitzvah.
- I was deeply involved in my communities beforehand, so I feel like it isn't so hard to maintain some relationships from there and that those will resume somewhat when communities can return to in person meetings.
- I have always valued my Jewish connections and this pandemic validates those feelings. We have been resilient and the Jewish communities have stepped up (even if the expressions of our Jewishness are altered a bit)
- They were high to begin with and have stayed that way
- I am a very connected to the Jewish community: I am an active member of my congregation; I work for another congregation; I am active in a national Jewish organization; I participate in the activities of yet more Jewish organizations. I am a regular daily davener, I light candles, make kiddush, and have a special meal on Friday evening, and even when I don't go to shul, I keep Shabbat as a day that is different from the rest of the week. I am counting the omer. All that has not changed.
- The virus has not caused me to change anything about my "Jewish feelings."
- I have felt connected to my Jewishness for a long time now.
- At my age long standing "feelings" do not change
- I felt Jewish - I feel Jewish What's to change?
- I feel more connected to Jews who do not live in [my city] but less connected to [my] Jewish community.
- They have not changed.
- I was already strongly connected to Jewish community
- I am a committed, observant Jew, and while i miss going to shul, not going, is not going to change my observance and connection to Judaism
- I function more like a secular Jew now, but spent a great deal of time with Jewish friends when my kids attended Solomon Schacter
- I think the Jewish community is doing a great job in general responding to spiritual and other needs. I'm also very glad that the Jewish social justice organizations are keeping us focused on the needs of immigrants, incarcerated people, those without health care, etc. We need more of that kind of leadership from so-called mainstream groups as well.
- I really miss Shabbat in shul, but I daven at home. I continue to take classes and webinars I am interested in. My study group has moved to Zoom. I continue to learn as I always have.
- I am a rabbi
- Nothing in my home has changed. But I feel much less connected to my synagogue because they have not reached out. I'm single and live by myself - a phone call would be nice!!
- I already felt very connected to my community, and the importance of the community. This has reminded me of why I felt that way, but has not changed my feelings very much.
- As a rabbi, I'm steeped in Jewish life. That rarely changes due to circumstance.
- Before the pandemic, my Jewish feelings were very very strong. The pandemic did not, in any way weaken the strength of my "Jewish feelings."
- I am very lonesome and Emanuel community keeps me somewhat in touch with the real world.
- If you become more spiritual because of a scare you will go back to your old ways when the scare has subsided.
- I'm quite Jewish already

- I remain strongly committed to my Jewish identity. The pandemic does not affect those feelings
- Because they haven't.
- I have been able to celebrate Shabbat virtually with my family in Florida which was lovely. I was able to join a Shiva reception virtually. So, with Zoom, I could join the things I wanted to.
- Religion doesn't play a part in this virus for me
- I have strong Jewish feelings about myself and my congregation where I have been a member for almost 40 years.
- I occasionally zoom a service or some other function.
- I have not looked at it as a Jew. I do get upset by the obvious Jewish groups that defy science and evidence and congregated. I understand their commitment to observing the rituals but they created a bigger problem
- My feelings have always been strong and continue to be
- My 'Jewishness' is not affected by external happenings or by my surroundings. It is who I am and what I am and how I live and how I treat people.. I am in my 70's and can truthfully say that throughout my life.. even when the road got bumpy, even a couple of BIG bums, I have remained steadfast in who I am as a Jewish person!
- I am involved on several projects in my synagogue and continue in the same way with the exception that there is no physical presence. I miss actually gathering but there is plenty of contact !
- I am not observant and would have liked to had more engagement from the synagogue community. This is a time when community support is important and I don't think the Jewish community has risen to the occasion. As a result, I am still not inclined to become more observant or engaged in the Jewish community.
- The pandemic is a medical issue, being Jewish is not. I don't associate one with the other so the pandemic is not going to change my feelings towards Judaism.
- I view myself as a Jewish Buddhist Atheist, and I am a clinical psychologist. As such, pandemics are more easily understood by me as scientific phenomena that may or may not be related to Darwinian ideas of evolution. The last great pandemic was in 1918 and killed 50 million worldwide. This could be viewed as natural selection, survival of the fittest, etc., bad luck, or a Supreme Being making everyone miserable. Being a scientist at heart, I hope the residents of planet Earth learn something to prevent or diminish the probability of another such 'plague'. If we don't understand history. we are doomed to repeat it (George Santayana).
- I teach religious school in my Synagogue and we have had classes over the internet. I study each week so I can offer good lessons to my students. I am also on the Ritual Committee. have always been active in my Synagogue.
- Our family's lives haven't been greatly affected so our religious feelings haven't either.
- I continue to have concern around growing anti-semitism and to seek out comfort and growth through Jewish engagement including meditation, shabbat meals, etc. These feelings/tendencies are relevant during this time but pre-existed the pandemic and don't feel notably "stronger" or "Weaker."
- Do not perceive any change
- Was always very interested but now have more access to virtual programs even in more observant synagogues which have included for example virtual shabbat programs at times that are before and after shabbat or holiday times so that the possibility of this type of participation in the community is available to those who otherwise would not have the opportunity.
- I am less-concerned about the effects of the virus/pandemic than the eruption of anti-Semitism and attacks on Jews all over the world and especially that fomented by our disgusting leader's embrace of all kinds of Nazis and authoritarians in our own country.
- Don't think Jewishness has anything to do with response to virus
- I don't feel differently Jewishly. Other than not attending Shabbat services in-person or attending shul meetings in-person, my Jewish observance and feelings haven't changed.
- I don't think the pandemic has affected my Jewish identity at all
- It hasn't changed my view of my Jewish identity
- my Jewish feelings have strengthened but not because of the pandemic
- I am strongly connected to my Jewish heritage but not to institutional religion. I am proud of proactive Jewish activity to assist all people, during this time of crisis. My feelings have not changed, since Jews are ALWAYS in the frontline of community outreach and medical/scientific endeavors. I am proud of the world Jewish community and try to live my life mindful of those attributes.
- How to answer this? I guess my perspective is I am who i am? Not really looking to change my feelings of

my heritage. No matter whether you can attend a social or religious gathering, my identity is clear. Yes I missed celebrating Purim and Passover. But that doesn't change who I am.

RESPONSES BY MODERN ORTHODOX:

- I have not changed my lifestyle. I still get up early and daven, albeit not in shul. Our af yomi group gathers at 7 via Zoom. We connect with our extended family via phone and video. Boruch Hashem we have recovered and do not worry too much about a relapse. Our family have all recovered.
- My primary "Jewish feelings" are between myself and G-d and therefore not subject to change based on community involvement.
- The way I feel Jewishly is fairly strong and stable. Coronavirus has not affected that it's only affected my wallet and sense of isolation
- overall no change except one change that i love is that on shabbos my husband and I pray together and he is my baal tefilos
- Very Jewish before and now also.
- I have very committed and continue to be so.
- It is not a Jews only issue. Everyone is in the same boat.
- Nothing has caused me to tip in any direction. I'm too focused on the here and now and survival to think too broadly about other things.
- We are religiously observant and continue to be so. While synagogue life is a big part of that there is still a lot of Jewishness we do regardless.
- Not less Jewish, but harder to daven alone.
- I had a strong Jewish identity before and still do.
- I love my Modern Orthodox strong sense of community. I very much miss the constant personal interaction. BUT I am very satisfied with my rabbi's and my synagogue friends' warm "virtual" expressions of concern and friendship. My ritual observance is unchanged except for not being able to pray together.
- I have always enjoyed diversity and have participated in a wide variety of classes both before and during the pandemic
- Davening at home has become very meaningful. Observing shabbat has always been important in our house, but now it is really one of the only ways we have of marking time and distinguishing this day from the others.
- I continue learning & praying
- I am Jewish. I do not get involved with the community other than to help those that request my help mainly senior citizens.
- I feel the same way.
- my jewish feelings are solid and "built in" and not dependent on whether I am home or alone or on zoom online or physically present at a Jewish institution or among other Jewish people physically etc.
- I always believe that HaShem runs the world and that prayer could help change the current reality- but I don't necessarily feel stronger inspiration to pray at this time
- I have a strong basis for my jewish identity - and it is not really impacted by outside forces - it is more by how I feel internally
- I am an observant Jew and the virus has not undermined my beliefs.
- I am an observant Orthodox Jew and I feel we must do our hishtadlut along with prayer. I have always felt this way and even more so now for the protection of myself and others
- My Jewish feeling is rooted in me and my family. Our synagogue, Ohev Sholom in DC, responded incompetently to the coronavirus pandemic and put us at risk.
- I have always been connected to God, to Torah, and the community. I remain so, as strongly as I ever was.
- I just don't think it has really affected my Judaism much.
- I have always had a strong feeling of Jewishness and strong connection with my synagogue. Also, I have been close friends with past and current rabbis, their wives and families, as well as active in synagogue activity. My spouse was an officer, 3 year president, and our children have followed our ways, as have our 7 grown grandchildren and in-law grandchildren! We sent our children to day schools from preschool age to high school graduation, to Israel education, etc. We are strongly committed to our Jewishness so our faith is in G-d and not determined by a tragic pandemic nor our community reaction to it. This, my personal feelings about my Jewishness have remained the same throughout this virus.
- I am a committed Jew. I stay committed.
- i already strongly identify as Jewish
- I see the current situation as a social, medical, economic and political issue and not as a Jewish issue per se
- I have always had very strong Jewish feelings. They are not affected by the Corona virus.
- I have more time for daily prayers than I did when I had to go into the office daily. I also miss the sense of

community from praying with a minyan and seeing people in synagogue.

- My feelings are very strongly attached to the community despite what is going on
- Reinforces the value of participating in Jewish communal life.
- I am as strong in yidishkite as I was before the virus.
- I miss the Jewish engagement that is currently impossible, but I have not changed how much engagement I want.
- My Jewish feelings are strong and not affected by external circumstances
- Much of my Jewish identity involves studying Jewish texts (Talmud, Tanach, Jewish history and philosophy). I continue to do this on my own. I continue to daven on my own. I do miss Shabbat and Chag services.
- I felt very Jewishly connected before the pandemic and I continue to feel that way.
- I learned to appreciate my Jewish community when my eldest son was in and out the hospital for three years. People reached out to help - I see the same behaviors now.
- My Jewish feelings are extremely strong and they have remained extremely strong.
- My belief in prayer, repentance and ridiculousness is as firm as it ever has been
- I have always considered myself Jewish" by religious standards and by nationality.
- I am a Shabbat shul attendee and participate on a committee or communal effort or regularly. I may miss davening with the kahal, but our Rabbi and the community have been creative in offering programs and online experiences which bring us together. My Jewish feelings are strong and haven't changed. My appreciation for our community have been enhanced.
- I feel strong in my Jewish identification, spiritually, culturally, communally. I have always felt that way. It has not changed.
- I feel pretty Jewish all the time. We still observe Shabbat every week. Do my connection to Judaism has neither increased or decreased.
- This virus is not a "Jewish" problem.
- I am already a very committed Modern Orthodox Jew so this has not changed. I have been more involved in online activities from other shuls and yeshiva day schools. Terrific programming.
- Online connections have (in a limited way) replaced face-to-face and the community has largely adjusted

to meet our new realities. This doesn't change my Jewish feelings.

- Jewish is forever, Corona is temporary.
- I am Shomer Shabbat, Kashrut observing Jew. This is one pandemic in a 4,000 year old history of a religion with many road bumps. This is one small event.
- I have always felt strongly about being Jewish and the pandemic has pretty much reinforced that feeling.
- I always felt that the Jewish community responded strongly in the face of adverse events, and this is no different. It's why I'm proud to be Jewish.
- I consider myself Orthodox but spend most of my time in a Conservative community ... especially since March 17. The Ortho world is not pivoting fast enough regarding technology and Shabbat. I take what's best from two worlds.
- I already felt strongly Jewish and this has not abated.
- Very identified Jewishly beforehand. That hasn't changed
- I work in the Jewish world. My days are filled with Jewish content and intention.
- My Jewish feelings are not connected to day to day activities. I tend to think in decades for this kind of thing.
- My sense of connection, community, involvement and spirituality has remained strong. The Rabbi and Rabbanit have made great efforts to reach out. My involvement only has diminished because of physical impediments and restrictions.
- I was actively involved in my community before", and I expect that I will be actively involved in my community "after." I'm not very involved with "feelings."
- I have been awed and inspired by my Rabbi's response and leadership to the pandemic and a bit overwhelmed by the plethora of my synagogue's offerings of all kinds. I don't participate much myself but I feel that there is something for everyone.
- I am strongly identified and affiliated with the Jewish community since childhood.
- I was always impressed with the way my shul handles issues of public engagement. I had pretty strong "Jewish" feelings before and I still do.
- I had strong Jewish feelings before this pandemic and they have not changed.
- I still feel Jewish but I don't feel I wasn't Jewish or connected Jewishly before. How I connect has changed... it's different and I'm not sure "more" is the word but I would say "changed" considering we can't go to synagogue now or meet in person. That's my

personal experience. I feel it's a time of spiritual growth but I'm not sure if I feel more Jewish than before... there's something about sitting in a sukkah with other Jewish people

- I work in the Jewish Community
- My beliefs and connections remain strong, just like they did before this pandemic.
- If you are not a person who goes to synagogue on a regular basis the pandemic did not change that. Unfortunately, I feel disgusted by the pandemic and the community is doing the best it can to "reach" people under the circumstances.
- I am not more positive or negative. I live in Riverdale where we knew about the gravity of the virus by the end of Feb and all reacted well
- No changes but practice and teaching Judaism to children all moved to home practice
- As a retired woman, things are the same for me.
- My feelings haven't changes because my Jewish life hasn't been severely impacted (other than not being able to go to shul and have guests for shabbos and Pesach). The community I live in has done a fantastic job at giving us information and halachic guidance.
- I do not need a shul to feel Jewishly connected. It is just a way of life with me.
- I had a strong belief before and it has not diminished.
- I've always felt strongly about my Judaism and Torah observance.
- My being Jewish and the feelings that I possess have nothing to do with the virus. The virus is here today but will be gone tomorrow, however, I will always be Jewish. The virus has nothing to do with that.
- A pandemic is unusual, and in 2 years we'll be back to normal, so I don't see any reason to see a large change. I'm worried about Jewish institutions' ability to persist through this time, although we are still paying synagogue and day school costs.
- I have always felt super Jewish, still do
- I'd like to think I already had strong "Jewish feelings" which would not be affected by external circumstances.
- I always felt closely connected to the Jewish community and remain that way
- Have always felt we have a strong and active community and corona iris has just proven that
- My Jewish feelings are not what's being affected. Work is, feelings of isolation yes.
- My situation is not very representative. I lost my job a year ago and have been living in my mother's home. My mother has moved into an independent-living

facility. I miss synagogue and community, but my isolation is not due to COVID-19, but has been affected by COVID: my relocation, financial precarity, family medical situation etc.

- I have always felt strongly positive about my connection to the Jewish community.
- Always felt strongly Jewish and connected.
- Not going to Shul on Shabbat and Yom Tov is difficult.
- Before this I had very strong "Jewish feelings." I still do.
- I miss davening b'tzibur, but I'm perfectly capable of davening b'yechidut, and Jewish life centers on the home anyway.
- I was just a Saturday morning attendee While I appreciate all the rabbis are doing (zoom meetings 12 hours a day) i still am not any more involved (even less now that Saturday morning is missing) My feelings about synagogue and judiasm have not changed.
- My family and I attend shul on the Jewish holidays. We are not involved in other activities provided by the shul. However, we enjoy being members, and will begin attending services on the Jewish holidays again after the coronavirus pandemic. My children do attend Jewish schools, and we are very pleased with the proactive professional steps that have been taken to ensure that the Jewish community and academia remain healthy, safe, and a top priority during the coronavirus pandemic.
- I believe in Hashem and His will.
- I usually keep a balanced rational head, but also it's possible that being relatively unaffected by the virus has impacted these lack of feelings
- The pandemic has no bearing on how I feel about Judaism.
- Except for mayor deblasios comments, nothing has changed
- My "Jewish feelings" are stem primarily from personal observance and family. Although I miss shul and other public religious experiences, it doesn't affect my Jewish connection or spirituality.
- Not much has changed in my long term view. When this is fully over, I expect things to revert to the way they were before this began.
- Love my shul. It will be there G-d willing when this is over. We are who we are. It doesn't change our affiliation or connectedness
- I wouldn't actually really say that there has been no real change in the content of my "Jewish feelings," but it's not that they have been either strengthened

weakened- i.e., I would say that they may have changed more qualitatively than quantitatively.

- Attempting to feel connected and involved in something
- I've always been a very spiritual person, with great faith in Hashem. That hasn't changed. I don't feel any more or less connected to my community. I probably talk to friends more than I used to, but I don't feel like anything has really changed.
- I was observant before covid19 and this hadn't changed.
- Except to see ppl not observing the rules of the government
- I am a rabbi working in a congregation. I have strong Jewish feelings - those feelings haven't changed, rather just in the way they are manifested. Still feel strongly connected to my community, the general Jewish community and God. What has changed is my connection to the world outside the Jewish community
- I'm marginally involved with my shul and community and I'm ok with that
- I'm orthodox, so while we are not going to shul we are still practicing the same way as before just at home doing the best we can.
- I have been of the mindset "gam su la Tova" that is everything is for the best. Nothing has changed.
- Still committed to Torah/Mitzvot etc. Miss the socialization of shul/Shabbat/Chag
- While not going to shul has limited my Jewish engagement, I have been able to celebrate Shabbat and holidays in other ways with family (if not friends). Things have been different but are unlikely to change my feelings or behaviors in a post-pandemic world.
- I have accepted the rigors (staying at home, social distancing, masks) the pandemic has caused but I don't feel it really matters if one is "Jewish" or not. The pandemic is what it is - Jewish feelings hav very little to do with it for me.
- I have always felt connected Jewishly and find n0 change at this time
- Torah observance and communal participation have always been important to me.
- I believe that G-D runs the world. There's no reason that would change for me, even though I'm immunocompromised and fearful of getting sick.
- Isolated

RESPONSES BY HAREDI:

- Because I have parents that were on concentration camps. Ancestors murdered. Had family business firebombed. Enough said
- Still davening and learning. No changes
- This is part of Jewish life. We go thru tough times, we move on..
- felt very connected before and now
- Felt connected before. Feel connected now. Proud to be part of a community that goes out of its way to help everyone. Delivering meals to quarantined families, raising money to help with tuition payments etc
- I am wholly committed to my Judaism and observance. This has had no impact on these feelings. I do, however, daven with more concentration.
- I live in a very small community that has always had all community members welcome at any individual shul event, and the community has only drawn closer through the crisis. It seems wrong to say that my shul hasn't provided any programming or checked on its members when the school and kollel have stepped up and are doing that for everyone. I have attended shiurim put together by the community and ones from NY, just none specifically sponsored by our tiny shul.
- I don't see why this virus or community response should affect my Jewishness
- Judaism is based on halacha. This still applies to me.
- Couldn't possibly get stronger
- Nothing has changed in that regard
- I always feel Jewish regardless any circumstances. Corona virus or no Corona virus.
- I am the same as I was before
- I'm orthodox, and this didn't really change my beliefs

IF YOU HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE WITH YOUR RELIGIOUS LEADERS (RABBONIM, POSKIM, ROSHEI YESHIVA, ETC.) IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS YOU GAINED DURING THIS PANDEMIC, WHAT WOULD YOU TELL THEM?

THIS QUESTION WAS ASKED OF HAREDI:

- I believe the pandemic will accelerate many issues currently prevalent in the community. I am waiting to see the effects.
- I would tell them that making online zoom classes allows for a wider outreach to members of the community.
- The YU community (specifically Rav Schachter) seems to be doing a great job offering guidance to the community, other communities could learn from that
- Some sort of filtered internet access is vital for distance learning. Phone hook-up is not enough for young children to learn effectively.
- Our community has a higher median number of contacts and by extension a higher R0 for viruses. This means that we are more susceptible to exponential infection by orders of magnitude, and require particular guidance from epidemiologists. 2. Epidemiology and virology are distinct from other medical fields. We need guidance from experts in these fields. A local pediatrician or even an infectious diseases specialist doesn't necessarily have a better grasp on the issues than those turning to them.
- Stop making speeches that you know reasons for anything and how everyone should fix things.
- I would urge them to appeal to their constituents that they must always adhere To the 'rules' that Government officials demand from us in times of crises. Jews are being examined under a 'microscope' And whenever we appear to ignore rules that are issued by Government officials, we are singled out more so than any other nationality.
- Stress communal unity.
- Science and technology are gifts from HaShem for us to use with our sechel. Scientists and public health officials generally have the public's best interests in mind. They should be heeded.
- People need guidance and connection in order to know how to deal with crises, such as the current one, personally and communally.
- Note A to survey: this is a silly question. Most of my "yeshivish" peers have full and unfettered internet access. So the assumption perhaps that we didn't have it or increased our access to it is false. That being said there were those in our community that did not have internet access and had to get in order for their kids to do zoom classes. That was less than

10% of our community. In summation Yeshiva light and Modern Orthodox (observant) are very close in practice. 2) I was very impressed by my communities willingness to switch to zoom for adult learning and children's classes

- While there are positive aspects to technology, we see clearly how detrimental it can become, especially with children. It can completely consume one's life and remove all aspects of social interaction and outdoor activity.
- In my community, thank Gd, all of the rabbonim have been on the same page in terms of closing shuls and Jewish life. it was very nice to see them come together (yeshivish, modern, centrist, Chabad, etc.).
- My husband and I, especially my husband, really wants a minyan that is much slower so he can continue to take his time when davening. Also, my opinion is that the Rabbaim of our local shul have hit much higher levels of spirituality, in their drushas, rather than the more intellectual emphasis of the past. It is more touching and helps us to connect to Hashem. I would encourage them to continue thus even when the shul is reopened.
- allow technology for schooling
- It is good to hear that sometimes it's ok to just do whatever you have to do and not constantly push yourself to try harder, do more, be better. It's a tricky balance between not overwhelming yourself with a pressure to grow and not being stagnate or falling back. But if we could hear das torah on the matter I'd appreciate it.
- Can't think of anything specific
- They need to respect science They need to care about safek pikuach nefesh They need to care about kiddush Hashem And they need to do better enforcing/encouraging all of it
- We do not need shul rabbis. Just a few major rabbinical figures.
- They are so wonderful and we are so lucky to have them
- Please subscribe to one organizational Vaad, Moetzes or another one for the purpose of one voice for all when it comes to urgent matters: rapists, pedophilia will not be welcome, neither will those that dont care about infecting others in this mageifa of C-19
- Not been happy with the response to outdoor minyanim. They are some people (myself included) who want/need to say kaddish for someone and have not been able to do. I strongly believe that this can be achieved in a safe way. If people can safely go to the supermarket which is an indoor enclosed space,

people can safely have a minyan outdoor on the street.

- Keep up the great work
- Educational and religious groups should develop ways of using the internet without being open. Even if you have filtered internet, the ads can border on pornographic.
- Our congregation may benefit from some "social" online gatherings. I miss the personal contact.
- The biggest thing that changed with covid, was our immediate access to truly great people all over the world. Rabbonim, Roshei Yeshiva, and speakers could be heard across the world - much more so than usual.

Q. IF YOU HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE WITH YOUR RELIGIOUS LEADERS (SHUL RABBIS, HALACHIC POSKIM, EDUCATORS, ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERS, ETC.) IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS YOU GAINED DURING THIS PANDEMIC, WHAT WOULD YOU TELL THEM?

THIS QUESTION WAS ASKED OF MODERN ORTHODOX:

- I really appreciate the access to religious leaders outside of my city and I feel like that has only been made possible now that everyone has taken to online classes.
- I know i'm rather marginal in my communities, i still wish that people were reaching out to me.
- Stop panicking about whether folks will never come back to daily minyan.
- THanks so much for being proactive,
- Try to enhance the prayer of those in their homes in other ways if you can. I know it's difficult especially during sefirah but it's not easy for anybody.
- I have come to recognize that belonging to a community is very important. I would suggest that all synagogues in my town work on this, and foster inter-synagogue community as well.
- I appreciate the zoom learning opportunities and knowing there's a support system financially if I need
- We could do many of the remote or small group activities on a regular basis. Not everything needs to be in large groups and in the synagogue to create a sense of community.
- more people could have called us
- Don't believe everything you hear. The doctor who says "don't know" is probably among the smart ones. Stay away from those who think they know it all—
- Make sure that EVERY person in a leadership position in the community stays in frequent contact with local security and healthcare organizations and understand that, in similar circumstances, everyone in the community is informed about changes in routine and behavior.
- You need to speak more openly and insisently about the mental health consequences of isolation and why some individuals require special guidance and help not being isolated-- not just hotlines.
- The experience of davening at home enables me to go at my pace with no talking and distractions around me. It would be great if silence, concentration and a slower davening would carry over to when we return to Shul.
- We needed more lenient rulings about food on Pesach (for instance, which foods actually NEED to be kosher for Pesach, and which do not).
- How extremely thankful I am for all they have done.
- My rabbi is close to perfect--really--and I have few suggestions for him to do what is not already doing. Other rabbis and leaders could follow his example of attending to congregants' psychological, personal needs as well as spiritual needs.
- Shul is more than the place I daven on shabbos.
- Religious leaders are working really hard to help people who are isolated during this pandemic. I encourage them to continue to do so after the pandemic ends. Before COVID, there were plenty of people who couldn't make it to shul for various reasons--health, accessibility, caregiving responsibilities, etc. When shuls re-open, I encourage clergy to think about how to be more inclusive of people who can't physically attend frequently/at all. Perhaps they can continue livestreaming events and classes. People with health problems will likely not be able to go to shul when it re-opens until COVID is significantly more under control. All Jewish community institutions should think about how to improve accessibility and include people who struggle to attend events in person for any reason. With regard to the question below, I am very happy to see clergy taking mental health issues so seriously by allowing some flexibility with technology on Shabbat and chag. While I think technology on S
- Need for greater halachic flexibility, e.g.ZOOM seder
- When we say "Jewish community" what do we mean?
- Even if the restrictions are eased and synagogues, Jewish schools, etc. reopen, I am still hesitant for me or my kids and grandkids to leave the house to be among people bc I doubt the Jewish institutions will be able to provide adequate germ protection measures, disinfection, disease prevention and screening measures, etc. Jewish schools, camps, pre-schools, etc. on shutdown should not be charging parents tuition unless they provide a full day of instruction online or otherwise---even still working parents still have the extra expense for childcare for their homebound children.
- Regular communication is very important.
- Better communication with the congregation, better organization of outreach to those in need
- That there are no one size fits all solutions to problems in life. It's important to empower people to do their own introspection and self evaluation
- Be more visible.
- we have an obligation to look out for the community as well as ourselves so we must enforce the preventive regulations. Common sense rules here - all for one and one for all.

- At [name of shul] the rabbi is not interested in what you have to say
- Please keep up the good work!
- Probably to focus more on the "good" stuff we've learned while in isolation. Appreciation of the many blessings that often went unnoticed before COVID-19 because they had come to be...ordinary and expected.
- That I am grateful for the decisions they have made during these unbelievable times to help those in need, those who required any sort of assistance or information, that they were, for the most part, available. With Passover coming with the virus, it created extraordinary time, effort, decisions, and they came through it!!! Also, I have to commend all denominations for adjusting and/or modifying what are called rules, laws, traditions etc. to meet the needs of our people yet within the accepted practices except for those sects that continue to defy wisdom and put health and survival second to their interpretation of the will of G-d. This is one area that I would urge our Jewish leaders of all denominations to join together to attempt some way of change in this limited number of Jewish observers that greatly harm their own members and potentially others in contact with them. Municipal laws and civil punishment have failed to gain needed change.
- I feel that MO poskim "get it." Haredi poskim don't. I think that MO rabbis could be even more flexible than they currently are.
- call your members
- Send emails to congregants about their well being. Have others call congregants. Offer assistance with food delivery. Invite congregants to call if pastoral care is needed. Otherwise congregant's lives are too busy. They surely are. But nice to know if a call can be placed.
- We need to get back to shul as soon as possible and not be ultra conservative in waiting for treatment or a vaccine.
- We ought to figure out a way to pray together and interact as a community while still respecting social distancing practices.
- Not sure if there's room for this later, but I belong to a traditional egal minyan (men and women have equal roles in prayer/ torah reading, being counted) as well as a liberal Ortho shul. The minyan is my main davening community. So...I wish the minyan were better organized to deal with things with greater foresight. Some of it has been seat of the pants. Things get done, but had no idea some things were - contacting our older single members, for example -

and absolutely should be. WE also are not much planning yet for re-entry when we can as a community for davening. WE should have discussed the idea of whether a shiva minyan should be thought of as a real minyan for kaddish purposes, but did not. We are entirely member driven, no rabbi. We don't have a very strong head either who would drive some of these things. On the Ortho front: I wish it were standard that a "zoom" minyan is a real minyan for these particular times, but that's a greater issue than the local shul I belong

- Stop pressuring people to go above and beyond in terms of social distancing. There are other consequences in terms of social isolation that were not considered to be serious enough.
- We should devote more attention to on-line activities in addition to what we did before. Many activities should be offered both in person and online.
- I am fearful that this experience might lead people to decide that they're fine without traditional Jewish observance, or that there's no reason why Zoom is inconsistent with Shabbat. I would urge that the necessary kulo and temporary measures that rabbis are rightly authorizing be balanced with powerful and stirring exhortations about why mesorah and continuity matter.
- Maybe try to explore davening outside where you can have social distancing.
- More communication is better.
- On line services on shabbat
- While it is important to listen to public health officials in deciding whether to resume shul activity, the principle of dina d'malchuta dina should also be considered. When civilian officials prohibit gatherings for health reasons, and they are taking advice from competent health authorities, there should be no question of ignoring these orders.
- Carry on the strong leadership. Be unified.
- Thank you for what you are doing! I don't feel like I personally need more zoom programming since I am juggling my work zoom and kids school zoom all day. I appreciate knowing that leaders are thinking about everything from how to support the most vulnerable, and how to support local kosher restaurants (and give us a break from cooking!)
- Need to be more flexible
- I don't have suggestions-I think overall they have done a very good job addressing the current situation.
- Classes should all be available on Zoom and we need to call each other more frequently before going shopping to offer each other a hand.

- There are much more important things in life than every last religious observance detail...
- Everything they're doing is valuable, and I appreciate the effort and breadth of support. But they shouldn't be worried if not everyone is participating.
- My father and his family experienced Kristallnacht and escaped Berlin in 1939. I think I now have, to a lesser extent, some understanding of what it means to fear for your own safety and safety of your family.
- I'm proud that the local board of rabbis was proactive and early in closing synagogues and prohibiting any gatherings, even shivas. This saved lives. I do think that the senior rabbi could loosen up a bit, fewer sermons in suit and tie, broadcast from an empty sanctuary, and more heartfelt, down to earth human connection.
- I have great respect for the amount of time they are putting in by keeping in touch with their entire congregations and catering to their every need - emotional, spiritual and physical.
- Their presence is invaluable.
- The availability of online programming is tremendous, and I hope it continues even after the pandemic. This goes for religious programming and also Jewish community programming from other organizations.
- I feel like they have the same ideas that I have. They've been amazing - reaching out, organizing, offering online programming, etc.
- Would appreciate more outreach , phone call from Rabbi or offer of help from younger members
- Communication is key. So is checking in regularly with your constituents. I know it's time consuming but shuls should be connecting individually with members, educators with students, organizational leaders with supporters, etc. Not everyone is experiencing this the same way and email blasts are not a replacement for one-on-one check ins.
- Keep up the good work---my Rabbi is outstanding.
- Would appreciate more online learning. Although I am a member of a local synagogue, too many synagogues in my area do not open their learning to the community. The send an email to their congregants about learning and do not post their learning opportunities to the internet community.
- The incredible importance of allowing people to say Kaddish and hold Seders over Zoom. It's pikuach nefesh to break down isolation
- Zoom seders on yom tov was a bad idea
- Can't really think of anything to say other than to move carefully in reopening our institutions.
- The importance of shul gatherings and face to face. Programs, classes and davening are extremely important in our building our connections to Judaism and each other.
- Personally reach out to people more
- Be more liberal in terms of allowed online prayer services.
- Thank you for adapting halacha to our current needs.
- Flexibility for Pesach should remain.
- Start adjusting to the times and modernize hallachic restrictions and loosen constraints that are not relevant today.
- there can be no more relying on "gedolim" and rabbis for decisions that involve secular, scientific and civic matters. rabbinic leadership is ignorant and uneducated regarding secular matters, period. that is true amongst the "modern" as well.
- It has reinforced my ideas about the primacy of the social aspects of Judaism. I don't mean just socializing. I mean social action, social justice, and the absolute value of community.
- I can't imagine how hard this must be in the realm of halachic decision making, and I am thinking of you the whole time and appreciate your continued support of our community.
- Keep up the good work. Outreach and offers of personal help have been exceptional. Just sick of living on Zoom!
- This is a time to cultivate not so much our public identity, but instead to focus on our inner lives and spirituality.
- Call members who are alone at home. more often. Zoom classes each day are good.
- The use of zoom and Skype as a means of creating community to combat isolation for prayer, classes and community activities. Having our Rabbi and kosher caterer create a "Seder in a box" allowed me to go into Pesach not exhausted.
- that is the meaning of being jewish, our community, our shul and to be here for each other.
- Regarding meeting in groups of 10 or more: Rotating minyans--With the creativity that some organizations have demonstrated since March, I feel that we could theoretically meet in groups of ten especially for those in great need (kaddish, yartzeit etc). Family friend's burial: My family heard of a long-time friend and member of the community who passed away recently due to complications of corona. There was not even a minyan at the cemetery for them. This is unacceptable! We have been around for more than 4,000 years, and with G-d's help, we transformed

Judaism from a Temple service into a rabbinic system which has carried us 2,000 years and ensured our continuity. Surely, we, as Jews, can creatively find ways to get 10 men to the cemetery for a funeral! There must be ways to do this safely and still live and in-person! We are too smart for this. I fully trust that the Jewish people, at least, can come up with solutions. We would never have survived this lo

- We need to recognize the flexibility inherent in halakha that has been demonstrated during the past few months - particularly with respect to virtual tefila, use of electricity on Shabbat and Yom Tov - and be willing to embrace some of these options to ensure greater inclusivity even in more "ordinary" times.
- I am very impressed with my rabbi's work to help all members during this trying time
- Zoom Minyan for Kaddish Sayers is a life saver. Even on Shabbat!
- Keep up your great work but don't lose sight of your own health.
- The Jewish community and organizations should have been and should be much more sensitive regarding women having to go to the mikvah. I consider this a leadership failure on par with the agunah problem. Women feel they are risking their lives when they go to the mikvah. It is not the Jewish way to make people feel like the religion is mistreating them.
- I feel very much connected to my religious leaders, particularly the shul Rabbi and his wife, who have gone to extraordinary lengths to connect, to teach, to offer psychological and spiritual support.
- Need for educated and effective leadership. Organizations should work together to better serve the greater community.
- some should be more open-minded.
- To continue to provide on line/zoom/Skype Lectures and programs for house bound members.
- I appreciate that the community is active during this time of separation. I don't fee the need to be involved in most online community activities, but it is reassuring to know that they are there for people who need them and that they would be there for me if I did need them.
- One size never fits all. Be ready and willing to experiment and adjust as you go, trusting that folks will appreciate the effort and be helpful with feedback. People need to feel seen and heard as individuals, so remain open, reach out, listen deeply, take the time, respond rather than reacting.
- Nothing. They are all doing a wonderful job under very strange conditions
- the halachic creativity and flexibility that we have seen has bene outstanding. how do we keep it up?
- I am dissatisfied with lack of leadership and initiative regarding mikvah and niddah during this time. It's not fair to expect people to risk their heath and safety and their family's health and safety to go a communal mikvah, and it's ridiculous to assume people will not be breaking halacha and not touching their husbands if they can't go to Mikvah for ages. The Rabbis and Rabbinic Leadership and Yoetzet Halachot should look to protect halachic observance by finding halachic solutions and not expecting everyone to hold to insane standards in these crazy times.
- I would like to see the use of only biodegradable products like biodegradable coffee cups and plates instead of plastics for parties gatherings and other events 2) in general I would like to see composters in kitchens and encourages good-for-the-planet electric energy sources such as solar, geothermal 3) I would like to see a few more events geared at a general Jewish audience as opposed to specific demographic; or a shift in the ratio 4) keep up the good work
- Don't wait to hear what rabinic leaders have to say before you caution your own congregation to practice safe distancing. Listen to the advice of the medical community, don't base your recommendations on what a rabbi says.
- I have said that I am concerned about the polyanish view that things are better than they seem and therefore to start opening up mikvah and shuls seems premature especially when there are members of the community are taking matters into their own hands.
- Keep on zooming
- Please show consideration or concern for people who are greatly affected by the virus who may not be Jewish. There are people among you who are both Jewish and a minority group. Please show compassion or understanding, that would be human/nice.
- We need to offer programming that is not only involving daily / weekly prayer for those of us who are less involved in davening, more interested in community building through social engineering
- You see how everything is in gods hands and you really can't plan anything
- The "gedolim" should never establish public policy - and certainly when health is concerned.
- No need for didactic shul going and instead encouraging in home practice. Thinking in smaller group setting.
- As a retired baby boomer, with adequate savings, thankfully, I haven't been affected that much except for keeping busy. However, other older adults are

isolated and families are impacted with loss of jobs or need for respite from kids being home all the time.

- First I would thank them for all of the hard work they've done at this time! And also, thank them for implementing many new ways to support our Jewish life. I don't really have any suggestions....
- More family social opportunities More children activities
- We need more community service opportunities.
- Be in touch with us more and give us updates on when we can expect things to go back to "normal" whatever the new normal is. Should we expect to be back in shul Shavuot, Tisha B'av, Rosh Hashana? How much longer do you foresee this going as you have likely been in touch with larger organizations that have a pulse on this than we have.
- We need to continue the inclusiveness and outreach via Zoom especially to those disaffected Jews.
- More virtual opportunities with engagement. Reading ahead of time. Teaching by the teacher, questions that promote dialog, split into small groups and come back to the larger groups to summarize. Maybe read a book online together for 20 minutes and discuss. Continue to meet to finish the book.
- I believe that given the circumstances, they are doing a good job in the synagogue that I utilize. It is a vibrant young community, so I see a lot of progressive and interesting ideas.
- We held our seders on Zoom much to the displeasure of our rabbis. No one should be made to feel uncomfortable following the religion if it isn't to the letter of the law.
- I'm sorry that our shul didn't close for Purim. At the start of this, in the week of March 9 when things were still open, I worried about families who have both parents hospitalized and their children would need someone to stay with them, although fortunately I haven't heard of any families in this situation in our community.
- Fix the women's issues now or risk a lot of alienation of women. You can fix kadish etc but not agunah?
- I am really disappointed that the Rabbis would not give their blessings for a zoom sedat. It was a three day affair with very little joy. Same old Rabbi digging in the name of Halacha. I wonder if Hashem would have approved a zoom sedar. I dare say Hashem would have approved.
- Availing ourselves of leniencies where possible in extreme situations like this is critical and a kiddush Hashem.
- While I understand the leniencies regarding "zoom seders" - even to the extent that in some cases they really might be necessary for pikuach nefesh - I believe the announcements were a bit too broad and out of step sociologically with the community. Too many took the opportunity to do zoom seders w/o the proper medical necessity, and it has made people look at the greater halachic system as less serious (or perhaps confirmed their existing impressions). (Also, I typed this before seeing that the following question is about technology!)
- MY rabbi does not have a strong presence during non-pandemic times. I had hoped that now he could be a source of ongoing Jewish inspiration via technology and he isn't doing that. I find myself watching other rabbis on FB to hear what they say because they are more inspiring.
- Loosen up on not using technology of connectivity on Shabbat and holy day.
- Really not sure. I think they've done well.
- Reach out personally to people to see how they are doing.
- Stop with the anti-gay hate. Stop with the anti-LGBT language and broad interpretation of Torah. Judaism is about Chesed. None of G-d's creations are mistakes.
- Continue your outreach, recognition, of the wider groups of members you are now attempting to help.
- 1) We have seen that we can still be a community even when we are not able to be near one another. 2) Zoom classes are something we should consider continuing.
- Finding ways within halakhah to allow for saying of kaddish and enabling devarim shebikdushah to be said via Zoom. Since a vast majority of the world has missed the public reading of the Book of Leviticus and we do not know when we will come back, rabbis should find a way to have a public reading online that would serve as a Hakhel (communal gathering) of global Jewish community. Would re-infuse an ancient custom with meaning in modernity.
- to please help Jewish in need or who lost their home job they must help financially especially parents with kids and the sick do not leave any jew behind thank you ps I struggle to keep going I hope this will end soon I worry about the future I get panic anxiety attacks when I think about our future this is very scary we must all do techouva be good be humble help with great mitzvot a lot wr must ask HASHEM for forgiveness sask HASHEM to heal the world from all infections it all depends on us on how to love a jew as yourself respect the 10 commandments!!! if

we do respect deeply only 10 commandments
HASHEM will be very happy with us our world will be
heaven!! 10 Commandments !!!!!

- Stop turning this time into a platform to announce the Mashiach is coming. Stop using this time to promote preachy speakers and commercializing Judaism into pre-Shabbat shows and online Kiruv.
- Less zoom -more articles
- The Jewish community must remain alert and strong, and must not be intimidated by antisemitism. We cannot allow antisemites to create a second Holocaust by disguising it as the coronavirus pandemic, and obliterating the extraordinary Jewish intellectual and talented individuals and leaders of today. The Holocaust must never happen again. The Jewish community must continue to lead, and not give in to the unethical and greedy behaviors of gentiles. Goodness and justice must succeed over evil and criminal behaviors, because there is no plan B. A healthy, honest, and safe Jewish life must prevail forever.
- Focus on what you learned about your home life
- I think they are handling it well
- People should appreciate what shul offers and less talking in shul.
- There are people in the community who are in financial difficulties....people you interact with but don't realize
- Listen to the doctors. Don't try to be the savior of minyanim. Instead of generic emails and letterhead messages, maybe try calling the families to discuss the pandemic, and why these guidelines are put in place.
- Education on what consultation with a rav is for. I hear people saying they need to get a heter to have their babysitter come to their home when that is explicitly against the stay at home order. They are confusing following halacha with following the law of the land, which is also why i think there are still minyanim happening. People are not fully understanding halachot of pikuach nefesh
- Call and talk to your members often. Respond to emails. Be very sensitive regarding people's finances.
- I personally think that much less social distancing was needed than has actually been required. I don't fault community leaders for going along with government recommendations, because there was no reasonable way to find an alternative path. However, going forward, now that we have far more data as well as more understanding of the different levels of social distancing, it is very important to not overreact in the future and jump to the strictest levels of distancing in

response to any perceived problem. Instead they need to make a serious effort to learn what is really necessary and to practice that rather than to keep jumping to extremes.

- It would be nice if, after the crisis is over, organizers in the communities could help us all stay in touch with the frum Jewish community and it's leaders like we've been doing on live online events now. As a frum BT girl living in Brooklyn, I have never heard of a lot of the leaders who are now accessible to me in a way that I've never had the privilege to hear and see before. It's a shame that many great tzaddikim have died during this time, many near my home, and I never even knew of them until they were already gone. It would have been nice to know their greatness and learn from them while they were alive. It's ironic that I feel like a part of the community more now when we are all separated.
- To take care of our seniors, to help people who are isolated and in shidduchim, etc.
- The world is heading to a more digital age; ex you can work from almost anywhere in the world almost as efficiently as being in the office. We need to keep up with that, so more online divrei Torah and shiurim etc
- Please continue to discuss mental health in terms of pikuach nefesh. I am so thankful I was able to be with family for Pesach. I know a lot of people were stuck by themselves, which is a huge risk for people with mental health issues. I appreciated the number of halachic authorities who made public statements about how not only is calling a friend allowed if you feel unwell, but it is required. I wish there was more discussion of this as it relates to Shabbos. Even those 25 hours can be painful if you have nobody to talk to.
- How our religious leaders reach out to the community with compassion and leadership matters, just as it does for non-religious leaders.
- More personalized support, involvement, personalization based on age group and varying needs of different groups of community members
- Paris up to chat with someone, not about the pandemic but just to chat chat frequently, not just a one time deal. And perhaps some technical advisers to deal with computer connecting issues
- As a smaller institution, we should be making use of the resources available in the wider community and publicizing their accessibility. We should be encouraging everyone to be involved and contribute.
- Please continue to be mindful of the critical mental health issues at stake, both during this time of crisis, and at all times generally. Individuals and families need so much support and understanding in ways

that go well beyond the instrumental. Much is being done to address these needs, and there is still so much more that is required. Direct therapeutic support, in the form of individual or group psychotherapy, or related interventions, can make a big difference for those who are struggling in various ways.

- Don't expect to have Yomim Noraim services. Keep up the quarantines
- Continue the virtual community ... so that the community is a hybrid of in person and on line activities and connections.
- The vitriol coming out of some shul rabbis and vaads regarding private minyanim or having yomtov guests is appalling. Stop telling people what to do in their private lives and fomenting hate and lashon harah.
- I think it is important to remember that we need to find a place to atypical families within the Jewish community. Personally, speaking as a single person, my "family" is largely comprised of my other single friends, who I have now been cut off from for many months. In addition, I think it is also important to look at mental health and how we can incorporate that more into Jewish life. Finally, I think that there needs to be more "Torah guidance" available - I'm not completely sure how to do this, but I think it's important. My Jewish high school staffed Torah Guidance Counselors (male and female) along with the regular Guidance Counselors to help students deal with issues and challenges that might come up. I think it could be helpful to have similar figures in communities for adults, beyond just the Rabbi, as many people may not feel comfortable speaking with the rabbi for a variety of reasons.
- I was disappointed in the leadup to the Shabbat of March 13-14. Despite the fact that things were shutting down and the RCA suggested services should not happen, my synagogue sent multiple emails on March 12-13 saying, "it's the last Shabbat before we have to isolate, everyone should come to shul!" Our health and safety was not prioritized at that point. 2. As is often the case at my synagogue, programming is geared toward either families with children or empty nesters -- timing is inconvenient for people who are working 8-5, for example. I've been encouraged to attend the pre-Shabbat services, at a time when I'm cooking and trying to get everything in order before Shabbat. It's a challenge.
- To do a survey of the community to find out what the needs and talent sharing are each week as things can change so rapidly during this period. In other words, while we are blessed to hear from the leadership a lot more than before, would appreciate their reaching

out to establish a way to hear more from us on a regular basis

- We need to talk more about G-d. Our people are wonderful and the chessed is truly amazing and inspiring. And we are not in control. What does G-d want from us? How can our religious leaders and educators help our young people and all of us grow in faith and connection to G-d. And to deeply focus on how each of us can grow to be the best versions of ourselves in this life. Also, how we can we better serve people who are alone - especially older people and people who are looking for shidduchim. Before this I felt that people in my shul were mainly focused on their own social networks, often by age. We have broken out of that in many ways because of this pandemic and I want to see that continue.
- Israeli friend just told us they are having outdoor services up to 50 people. Not here :(
- We need to be rethinking our priorities as a community. And I've thanked them for the strength of support they've show my fellow community members and myself.
- They wouldn't listen
- How important it is to be kind and gracious to all people but particularly family members. Don't take them for granted. Be supportive. Show your love. Be joyful. Be grateful. Don't sweat the small stuff.
- I would hope that the rabbis would have better appreciation of the "pikuach nefesh" situations that we physicians deal with daily, not just during this Pandemic.
- There appears to be a lack of planning and communication. Telling people we will the OU is not a plan. Telling people we believe in the medical experts, but we will not open for 2 weeks after they say so because we don't believe them is hypocritical.
- I am very happy that they take this pandemic very seriously and that, although very painful, they have had the courage to make the right decisions.
- Thank you for your care and guidance
- Importance of addressing contemporary issues in a religious context to create bedrock of emunah
- Rabbis and others should be sure to reach out to those who may be struggling and don't feel comfortable reaching out. Some Rabbis are doing a great job.
- Classes are too cut and dry. Not really engaged with the group. It's better than no contact. A phone team would help.
- Everything that I would like to receive has been done.

Q. WHAT HAVE YOU AS A PARENT LEARNED FROM THE EXPERIENCE OF YOUR CHILD(REN)'S VIRTUAL SCHOOLING? INCLUDE ANY FEEDBACK YOU WOULD GIVE TO YOUR CHILD(REN)'S SCHOOL(S)?

RESPONSES BY NON-ORTHODOX:

- Not much, for better or worse.
- I could not be more impressed. Kids are resilient and our day school has been incredible thoughtful and open to feedback, while being attuned to the needs of its staff as well. When the school gets it right, it's easier for everyone.
- Our school district decreed that the students are not to learn anything new, which is ridiculous, and are not to have online classes beyond "check-ins" which is also ridiculous.
- The school made a number of recent adjustments including smaller class sizes with more work time and a teacher available for 'tonekeeping' during work time. Both of these have been very helpful in terms of my child's engagement my ability to get work done while my child is working since there's a teacher available on zoom to answer questions during work time.
- I sacrificed an enormous amount to send my child to Jewish day school I am not happy I haven't gotten a refund on my tuition money when I know they have furloughed staff and are saving on utilities and supplies I do not know if I will send her next year as I am sending her for an immersive education not classes online
- School can in no way be simply transferred to online!
- Depends on the child either like it very much or hated completely
- Private schools have the resources to conduct online schooling much better than public schools do.
- They are trying, we are trying, My kids need the attention of a teacher.
- I think my kids schools could give a little bit more challenging work. I wonder if there is a way for the work to be more child-directed?
- I appreciate what the schools are trying to do though. It's really the best we can all do with the world right now being as it is. My kids school is really trying to make this a successful learning situation and I'm sure for some kids it's better/ worse than others. Oh and as a parent, I learned from this experience of Having then home schooled is that having all of my kids home day after day can seriously damage my mental well-being.
- Most teachers are not that adept at teaching online. When they were shut down for two weeks they

should have been preparing their teachers to adapt to the technology and new teaching methods.

- The more personal interaction the child has, the better
- Teachers work extremely hard, and virtual school is impossible. Also, I see the discrepancy between day schools, which offer live virtual classes, and the chronically underfunded public schools.
- I am very proud of the school for how quickly they transitioned to online learning and how much they have tweaked along the way. It has helped our family maintain some routine and kept my kids focused. I am noticing that in some ways this mode of learning is beneficial and in others it is not. My children really miss their friends and the social interactions, even though they are on video during the school day.
- I hate it, his teachers are doing the best three can, but it's terrible.
- Virtual schooling has great potential for success.
- It's a complete waste of time.
- Flexibility in this sort of situation is crucial, both due to technology issues and children's differences in learning styles. Sometimes finishing all of the assigned schoolwork on time is less important than spending time together as a family, going outside, and/or giving the kids enough "down time." Personal interactions through video conferencing are incredibly valuable and should be offered regularly but not too frequently -- it's hard to schedule these events, especially with so many people in the house.
- I feel that the school could be doing more. There is very little to none lessons being taught by the actual teacher and they are only practicing the material once a week which is not enough.
- That my kids are more independent than I realized they were.
- It doesn't replace real school but it is good for them to have some structure and communication with their friends
- It has worked reasonably well for one child, but only fairly for the other.

RESPONSES BY MODERN ORTHODOX:

- Virtual is not as good as in person. Need to keep schedules consistent
- Overall, virtual school is not a replacement for school. In an emergency, it seems the best alternative way to provide educational continuity in a simulated classroom.
- School is so much more than academics. Though our school is doing lots of distance social activities. For

example, the teachers did a car parade for all the students on Yom ha-Atsma'ut.

- I am great full that I don't need to homeschool!!
- Zoom and remote learning can work well for middle and high school aged children who are motivated and don't need much help or input from their parents. Lower school age children will have a much more difficult time and remote learning is not as effective for them
- Virtual schooling en masse doesn't work. Schools had really made strides in individualized learning the past few years and that has now gone out the door completely.
- Plan ahead. Keep making changes and improvements. Support parents in helping their children learn.
- It's completely and utterly useless. Both my kids hate it with a passion.
- I think it's a nice structure to have, but I am not sure how much they are learning, and I think it is too much screen time. They really need their own space and learning environment and friends.
- It would be great to have the option of homeschooling more
- I think schools and students can learn/teach differently than the current model. Day schools need to be more creative in how they educate. This may impact the quality and cost of education/tuition. If schools don't respond and attempt to be creative, they will lose families.
- Schools needs to make sure they are practicing what they preach - if they are saying go easy on yourselves and your kids, then they have to make sure teachers are being understanding about things like being late to class, incomplete assignments, etc.
- The schools have failed at online education. My children are struggling. I get constant emails from the teacher asking me to do tech support even though I am working
- I am very satisfied with the school's job in virtual schooling. Of course it is not the same as in-person school. Also, the older a child is, the more he / she gets out of it.
- Kids need after school social groups. Kids need to have hang out recess options for different ages facilitated by the school. Kids don't yet have social skills to facilitate that on their own.
- Virtual schooling is only as good as home physical environment. If the home is a chaotic mess with a hoarder then it will be challenging for work to get done. If parents have to work then virtual schooling is also not sufficient as young children do not yet have the wherewithal to work independently. Social connections are critical and small groups are better than large class gatherings.
- Teachers are hard working and dedicated but Zoom school is not a school replacement.
- The teachers really care and notice the kids as individuals and are trying their best to be creative and engage them. It's hard for the younger kids over zoom and harder to teach multiple levels - small groups seem to work better. So grateful looking for what the school and teachers are doing!
- There is no real substitute for real live school- the schools are doing a great job- I hope the community will see the value of day schools and support them so they survive and so families can continue to send their kids there even if they have lost jobs etc
- I see that virtual schooling/home schooling is a very delicate balance. I am a teacher myself but home schooling your own child is very challenging-although her school is doing a fantastic job-my daughter is not enjoying her zoom classes-but I think that's just because it drains her and at time she feels bored or frustrated. I would perhaps like to see some sort of advice or maybe a group of parents where we can discuss challenges of home schooling...
- Not very creative in teaching strategies to get students involved and participating
- That I will be asked to monitor my child's learning.
- Community building is really important. Understanding that kids have limited bandwidth for online engagement after a number of hours is critical.
- It's not ideal but much better than nothing
- They are engaged and learning. They too see the value of face to face and are eager to resume life before the pandemic. However, their school has done an outstanding job of keeping them connected to their peers and continuing their learning.
- Zoom and similar technology can serve as a partial replacement for face to face learning - but it isn't as good. Teachers need more training to effectively use zoom.
- Do not teach to the lowest common denominator. We pay a lot of money for high quality education, which should not suffer because some kids can't handle this.
- However much we deploy technology in the classroom, there is HUGE value in the physical space and human interaction that cannot be replaced.
- Too much computer time. Schools expectations of this time are too high. I feel like they just want to keep my kids occupied without reason.

- How engaged the kids are while on zoom..
- It has made her more appreciative of the in-school experience; while virtual schooling has been handled excellently by our daughter's school, it is not and cannot be a substitute for regular education.
- The virtual schooling has been amazing - it's not really comparable to in-class teaching, but my kids have been thriving. The biggest issue is that it doesn't really provide a social outlet - they have no time to relax with their friends the way they would at school. That has been hard on them. But the school has been wonderful. Classes, basketball clinics, pre-shabbat ruach. So great.
- I have been surprised by how happy my children are. While they feel a loss at not being able to be in person with their friends, they are thriving with the complete lack of stress. I had not realized how much stress going to school in person creates, and to be clear, they like their schools.
- If school works it is much better in person. If homeschooling, then there are better ways to homeschool. Rough times
- To much has been offered!! Need to lay back the different programs
- steady communication with parents as well as children is ideal.
- I have seen other schools provide much more. Our schools have basically wasted the school year.
- Let the parents parent on technology and expect them to do so.
- Had to do for Pre-school
- It helps their mental health to take some of the pressure off by having a reduced workload. They miss being with their friends.
- My youngest is a special ed student, so zoom learning is hard
- Missing the personal connection means missing most of the lesson
- Virtual schooling is great because our kids are the right age and have each other and my wife is a full time at home mother.
- Kids could do so much more learning online and need for projects outside of the screen with creativity. Lack of substance of Hebrew language in school. Could have supplemental learning opportunities offered.
- Schools are trying to make the best of a tough situation. But a big reason of paying tuition at a day school is the in person connections with students and educators. Also having chagim, Shabbatons, school trips, drama, sports, etc. is VITAL to the reason we pay tuition... and all of this has been eliminated by the virus situation.
- Thankfully our school knows how hard it is to get a 5 year old to sit at Zoom sessions and to do their work when not at school. It is still hard, and I'm worried that my son will be delayed in learning to read and write. He loves the computer programs like zearn (math), lalilo (phonics), and codespark (coding) and would play them all day if he could.
- It's not as good as the real thing, even when it's done with intention, creativity, and commitment.
- Small children cannot learn on zoom
- I've been very satisfied with our school's rollout (Harkham Hillel Hebrew Academy) in terms of both getting up and running quickly, and continuous assessment and improvement.
- Teachers are amazing and so dedicated. Learned about my kids individual learning preferences and how they process information and what they are capable of.
- The school has set high expectations that parents be able to help their children stay on schedule with times zoomed meetings. This is hard to do with multiple children. Teachers also need to understand there's a learning curve - especially for the younger children that aren't as independent. They need cues that they don't have now and did have as part of their regular school day of when things start and end.
- Admit that many kids are not 'learning'. Figure out more personalized ways kids can group online at school i.e. sharing feelings and experiences in small groups with a guidance counselor once a week to replace the social emotional piece. Have gym teachers do zoom fitness sessions during normal schedule. Invite interesting speakers once a week on practical ideas of how to keep motivated at home, share space, new possibilities etc. As half a year's curriculum will be lost on many students ... review classes should be offered or inexpensive volunteer tutors next year. Make the online curriculum more collaborative/ have students work in teams and set them interesting tasks.
- My child is very fortunate to be enrolled in a school with a very high teacher to student ration and due to my lack of job at the moment, I am able to concentrate on him much more than in the past. Our son is now excelling in academics. This experience has also reinforced the necessity of physical activity - a minimal amount from school plus a lot of activity after school.
- teaching is HARD

- A seven year old needs assistance with materials etc. and a parent needs to be available throughout the duration of the class.
- Much more appreciation for Jewish education and resiliency of educators
- It's not a substitute for traditional classroom settings. Children can only work independently starting in 3rd grade. There is value for younger children but minimal.
- It's been surprisingly efficient but learning from home is nowhere near as efficient as being in a live classroom. They also need the social aspects of being around friends.
- Schools should increase the amount of assignments to help ensure the students are learning the material.
- It will never compare to being around others in a class.
- We as parents need to be more involved in our children's education, it should not be an outsourced process. Also schools need to rethink their approach to learning long term.
- It's not the school's fault, but virtual learning just doesn't seem to work for my 1st grade son. We have decided it makes more sense to keep him generally happy and engaged, rather than overly stringent about keeping up with the virtual curriculum.
- The teachers are wonderful. The school is on top of their game.
- It works for some kids, and some kids are just not capable of learning on their own online, they need a parent to sit side by side, and I'm not available to do that.
- dedicated teachers structure of learning

RESPONSES BY HAREDI:

- It's nice.
- Can use online methods during the year to augment in person teaching
- We've been homeschoolers, so virtual classes are not new. I think many families may end up preferring them and seeing homeschooling as a future option.
- It's been eye opening to see how my kids function in a school setting, both academically and socially. One child is having a hard time participating, because of her age, her personality, and the fact that my wife and I both have to be at work for much of the time the kids are in class
- This is definitely not a replacement for in person learning. However it has been a great response to the times. Our community is very organized. Every Sunday there is a contactless pickup at the school

where the kids receive their work for the week and papers. Even the preschoolers receive supplies for projects. They then complete these assignments with their class on zoom. I would add that this has potentially given me the idea that these type of lessons should be available for kids who can't make it to school. If a family goes on vacation or needs to be away for a while a child should still be able to dial in.

- It's nearly impossible to move all schooling online - especially for those in grades 1-12. While there are no better options currently available, this can never become the norm.
- Some teachers are incredible. And some need to be pushed to do what's best for their students, not what's most convenient for themselves.
- We tried conference calls first, and the online experience is vastly superior. The kids miss their friends but seeing them on the screen does help a little.
- Gemara is hard to learn over the phone Kids have short attention span over the phone
- It's the best option at this time. No substitute for classroom Use every second.
- I have a greater appreciation for the teachers
- I've seen how amazing our children's schools are and how dedicated the teacher and administration are.
- Zoom is not a replacement for the classroom. We're very appreciative and impressed with how well the Rebbeim and Morah's transitioned to zoom teaching. It is a great bandaid for now, but has many downsides. Kids are truly not focused. Even with strict parental monitoring, they fool around with chat and background pictures. They lose a tremendous amount without their personal interaction with their teachers. My kids complain of headaches after too much zoom....

WHAT HAVE YOU IN YOUR ROLE AS A RABBI LEARNED FROM YOUR EXPERIENCES DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC? HOW HAVE THINGS GONE FOR YOU? PLEASE SHARE ANY KEY LESSONS, OBSERVATIONS, ETC. WE PLAN TO SHARE RESPONDENTS' THOUGHTS WITH THE RABBINIC COMMUNITY. [ASKED OF THOSE WHO INDICATED THAT THEY ARE "A COMMUNITY OR SYNAGOGUE RABBI"].

RESPONSES BY NON-ORTHODOX:

- Leadership's decisions send clear messages. Congregants notice when their leadership fails to distance socially or take safety precautions - and comments. Colleagues notice as well due to the proliferation of streaming services but may feel less comfortable commenting than congregants may feel. I have been frustrated by the staggered willingness to have big-picture conversations and plan ahead. Some communities are proactively making plans, while mine lags and waits for what feels like the last possible moment to make a decision about what to do. The senior rabbi does not consistently attend senior staff meetings so ability of staff to communicate concerns and ideas to him is limited. There is something to the first to decide impacts the larger group - the URJ's camp announcement is having ripple effects, possibly unintended, which influence other camps' decision-making. It seems there are options to determine the trend, follow the trend once it's established, or defy the trend. I would like there to be more space for thoughtful decision-making.
- People don't need stunning production qualities in our video content--just clear and well lit enough to see their leaders' faces. And responsive/interactive content is more helpful than one-way missives
- Humility matters
- the interesting possibilities of distance technology. The depths of personal communication possible remotely. Stronger sense of the compelling depths of close personal interactions. The appreciation expressed by those to whom I have offered outreach.
- I have learned how to connect to people remotely. I make a point of calling various people who live alone either daily or weekly. I have learned how to teach on zoom.
- The experience of isolation as a shared experience is providing some profound insights for people. We have *got* to be more sensitive to people who are isolated not just in times of pandemic!
- The great principle of the Torah is Love your neighbor as yourself
- Judaism better start addressing genuine needs in real ways.
- I am generally frustrated with the inability to daven in our shul and to meet personally and teach my congregants in person. I am learning new tools like Zoom and my YouTube channel, but it is no substitute. I fear what will happen to the synagogue if we are not able to reopen soon.
- That I need to do everything in my power to reach out and try to connect with people (especially through snail mail)
- It pays to get to know your infrequent congregants better, for when you need to check on them during this time period, it seems more out of the blue. We also need to work on better means of getting information to different age groups
- Rabbis need to be moral leaders in this moment, and can help our community not only grieve, but also imagine a world in which everyone has health care, in which we don't imprison more people than any other country, and in which workers have basic safety and wage protections.
- I respond to the energy and mood of the room during services, classes, and counseling sessions. Online makes that impossible.
- People are hungry for a sense of community and this is a tremendous opportunity to helping individuals to build a spiritual life for themselves outside of the structures of school and synagogue.
- My rabbinic role shifted a year before the Coronavirus pandemic, as what had been a Jewish nursing home lost our last Jewish resident and my service was no longer needed. I've been teaching and counseling and the amount has not changed much, though I'm finding teaching via Zoom to be exhausting. At 70 years of age, I'm OK with easing away from the building stage of my career to observing, advising and simply being. The current situation merely accelerates the process that had begun.
- I am a chaplain; chaplaincy is having it's "moment" and the greater Jewish community is more aware of what we do
- I am exhausted. I miss teaching in person; zoom is not as good. I miss communal singing.
- People are definitely in need of more pastoral support but not necessarily classes or services since there is so much content online!
- People are overwhelmed, especially those with kids, but also in need of human interaction. The online sphere has limitations. Also, we don't talk to non-jewish clergy enough

- Importance of providing traditional practices as a touchstone but also the importance of not trying to replicate the synagogue experience. Using technology creatively. Shortening the amount of prayers but increasing the quality, the kavvanah, the intentions and sense of shared community online.

RESPONSES BY MODERN ORTHODOX:

- I have learned that rabbis need to be far more proactive relating to the mental health needs of those in our community.
- The ultimate purpose of a shul is to give people a sense of community and belonging 2. The most important thing you can do is check in on people
- We can teach/inspire in different ways that can expand our reach. We need to be creative. Ensuring to maintain/nourish relationships is critical when we do not see our congregants as usual.
- Again, although I can't meet with my people in person, I have had many conversations on the phone that touched more deeply and more personally than in the past.
- Importance of hustling - working hard, being creative (halachically and in shaping classes and services on line) and connecting to people.
- I am a rabbi in the community and have been teaching and pastoring more. Sometimes it is a lot. I have also been underused in my community.
- Very difficult without meeting with people individually. People are realizing more the importance of the community.
- That people appreciate being reached out to
- People need to feel looked after and cared for. This is one of the primary roles of the Rabbi. In this time it is extremely important for the Rabbis of the community to be reaching out to congregants to make sure that they are well and to show them that you care. Do people have access to the food that they need (elderly)? Are people unable to pay bills due to loss of jobs? Covid did BH, help bring many communities together and Rabbis who previously never worked together, now did, and in unison. In this time it is essential that the community Rabbonim work together to ensure the safety of their communities.

Q. DO YOU HAVE ANY FINAL THOUGHTS YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE ON ANY ASPECT OF THE CORONAVIRUS, YOUR EXPERIENCES, WHAT YOU LEARNED, SUGGESTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY OR OTHERS ANYTHING AT ALL THAT YOU WANT TO SAY ON THIS TOPIC?

RESPONSES BY NON-ORTHOX:

- That based on historical parallels with previous pandemics as well as severe economic shocks in the last century, Jewish communities should seriously plan on community-wide self-defense. This is especially necessary in areas home to heavily-armed nationalists. Jewish communities must prepare for potential outbreaks of violence in an organized, effective manner.
 - I think we are releasing restrictions too early.
 - Stay inside, please.
 - I've really appreciated the blessing for hand washing during this time. It helps ground me in ritual instead of panic.
 - My work experience wasn't represented on this survey. My office has been closed, but the employees are still receiving pay under "weather and safety leave". Coming back to add a THANK YOU for including a "nonconforming, other" option in the gender demographic question.
 - Jewish community seriously needs to work on class issues. It wasn't fun being a low income worker before this and even less so as a low income essential worker. It makes people uncomfortable and they seem to prefer to just not think of it. Lots of talk about helping people and no one's even asked if I need it (aside from my rabbi).
 - The community has never included deaf and hard of hearing except for one shabbos per year and except for an isolated rabbi (once in a blue moon) reacting out to that demographic. Im not surprised but i am as disappointed as i was before.
 - The concept of serious illness and death from this disease is terrible and we should do individually what is most helpful to reducing its spread. What is good is that it has happened when we have the capability to use our electronic communications to help relate to our synagogues as well as purchasing items and bring entertainment to us.
 - Coronavirus has demonstrated how powerless mankind is. Our response to Coronavirus has demonstrated how stupid we can be.
 - It's been both heartening and deeply disturbing to see how many Jews do and don't put the value of saving a life above all else. Some synagogues and rabbis have been great. The conservative rabbis fighting against the RAs stance are great. But the RA should be
- ashamed, and we should all be ashamed of Jared Kushner.
- There has been so much available in the neighborhood and on line to assist me through this and much less from the synagogue or Jewish community. Granted I have never been a very active member of the Jewish community via shul (though I was a shul ED for 10 years). But I continue to find my spiritual needs met strongly elsewhere. Also, I have not found as many services available through the Jewish community as there has been from the community at large.
 - I have a history of depression and the lockdown is making it worse. I'm struggling but I persist in getting through each day.
 - The pandemic is G-d communicating to us. What is G-d saying? I don't know. But I'm obligated to try and find out and change what I think, say, and do based on the answer. That will bring relief from the plague, I believe.
 - The information preparing for Passover was impressive. It was wonderful to have so much available.
 - ...just that sometimes i wake up and before i am focused, I'm not sure if this is a nightmare where my 'underlying heart condition husband is in that % of people most likely to be negatively affected.
 - Trump is a nightmare
 - The Jewish community should take this opportunity to think about who we are and our goals.
 - i wish the state and country would have acted faster to put parameters in place to keep people at home and social distancing, and that hospitals had proper PPE.
 - I am as a trained scientist appalled at the venality and incompetence of Trump, his family and his administration. And at the depths of anti-scientific fanaticism manifested across US society - far more than In Europe. Also - the neglect of preparation has been persistent and pervasive for too many years over several political administrations
 - While my Jewish feelings have been quite stable, my answers to Coronavirus would have been very different a few weeks ago. I am an ER physician. My fears were significant a few weeks ago, but the local Boston medical community has risen to the challenge, done a great job and I am far less worried for my healthy family as a result. I now worry whether Synagogues and Jewish institutions will successfully continue to adapt to meet the changing Jewish social needs of the higher risk populations over the next few months to year.

- I am a health care professional on the front lines and so I took this survey with that lens... but my day to day experience is very different than the average person during this time. I am wondering if it is worth for you to include a question of whether you are an HCP because it does affect some of my answers (ie., I don't feel more than a little socially isolated, because I socialize with my colleagues and friends very frequently).
- I already spent most of every day at home alone, so there is little difference there, but thanks to online services, lectures, etc, I have been participating in many more Jewish activities, including some in other places, so that's been great and I'd hate to see it end, actually. Live lectures in other cities are of no use, but on video or Zoom or Facebook, I can "attend" from where I live.
- I lost my job and I begged for financial help they said we will only help you if you are food insecure
- As I mentioned earlier, I think those who are involved in a Jewish community have had the benefit of friends and a support to help them through this crisis. I am grateful how my community and others in the ... area have addressed how to keep the community identified and involved with the help of Zoom and other platforms. It does seem that each synagogue has put in incredible effort in figuring out if and how to hold religious services and classes. While it is understandable that each congregation is doing it on their own, considering the incredible effort and time spent--especially initially-- to create meaningful online experiences, it is unfortunate that congregations are not doing more joint events. I do know of two congregations that offered online Passover Seder together but otherwise it does seem that each community is finding their own way of dealing with the pandemic and to continue to engage their members. (I guess that is understandable but there is so much duplicatio
- I work on antisemitism issues. Even I have been surprised at the rise of antisemitic conspiracy theories associated with the pandemic.
- Our synagogue has been incredible in its direct service of reaching out to congregants, offering services morning and evening, classes. Bnai Mitzvah have had to be zoomed in and they are flawless in accessibility and execution.
- I wish my clergy was doing a better job reaching out to individual congregants.
- The US is under threat from xenophobic fascists. The Jewish community must remain alert. While the administration's current focus is on the Chinese, it could turn against Jews at any time.
- This pandemic has reinforced my love of being Jewish, of coming from and belonging to, a group that is intelligent, warm, loving, generous, brave and flexible.
- I am so angry and disgusted with the President, and his lack of leadership. Am impressed by many of the governors and the way they have stepped up. But without a strong federal gov't. working together with the scientific community, I am afraid of what's ahead. I have personally been minimally affected by this "black swan" event, compared to others. But when I see what's going on in communities of poorer people, people of color - all around the world, not only here in the US, I am truly afraid for us all. I am [80+] years old; this is NOT the way I had planned to live out my later years.
- The members of our shul have done more than the shul's elected leaders. We reach out to fellow congregants and stay in touch. Our clergy is doing a great job of keeping in touch with us, and providing online education and prayers, but I think our officers could be doing more.
- I currently belong to a modern Orthodox synagogue, and my practice closely overlaps with that of the liberal end of the modern ORthodox spectrum. I was raised in the Conservative movement, still differ from Orthodoxy in that I believe traditional Jewish practice should be forced into accord with complete gender equality, and therefore do not "identify as Orthodox" when that question is asked.
- Since you asked about government, I am very happy with the mayor and the governor. I believe they truly have the best interests of the citizen in mind as they govern. In contrast, the behavior of POTUS who is only concerned about his re-election, is shameful and despicable.
- For me, who've been lucky to stay healthy throughout the pandemic, so far, pupupu, this has been a huge lesson in the degree to which I do live in my body. We talk about feeling alienated from our bodies, but not being able to see people in person, and especially members of the kahal, has shown me just how physical the act of davening is.
- For Jews who are connected in some way to Jewish communal life, it was possible to connect in the new and immediate web of offerings (pun intended) for prayer, study and spiritual sustenance - things are no longer geographically dependent or dependent on room size.
- We who can stay home and not worry about our finances are supremely privileged. We have health insurance and resources to deal with emergencies. There are many people in our communities, our country and the world who are not so lucky.

- Since you are asking about our Jewish involvement, I think that though I really want to go back to the "old normal" some of what we have experienced during this pandemic I think may remain with us (like having virtual shivas, seders etc) I hope to do this in the normal way again but can imagine having those who are far away participate via zoom or another platform as well
- At the same time as "stay-at-home" orders went into effect, I experienced two significant life changes: (1) I made a long-planned, entirely voluntary change to working part-time at the institution where I had worked full-... (2) To get out of Manhattan, I moved to the home of my romantic partner..., an abrupt change to living together instead of seeing one another on weekends every one to three weeks. I can't separate "effects of the coronavirus" from effects of these two major changes in my life.
- It's been a trying time, but one that offers an opportunity for transformation of the Jewish community in important ways. How can Jewish education use technology to better meet the needs of adults, kids and families? How can we show Jews that Judaism and Jewish community offers resiliency resources that can be very useful to our lives.
- I am disappointed that my synagogue has decided NOT to share services on Zoom on shabbat and holidays. During Pesach, I "attended" services via Zoom at a synagogue far away from me, in another time zone, because the other shuls near me that were "broadcasting" were too "fancy" for my taste. I understand why my synagogue is not "broadcasting," but I don't agree with the decision.
- I find it embarrassing and frustrating that our country has such a narcissistic and incompetent bozo as President, who has consistently demonstrated his inability to act as a unifier when we needed it most.
- I truly hope that we can hold onto the appreciation of some of the things we have experienced during this time. Blue skies, birds singing, roads less traveled, better attended minyanim, more people helping others.
- I could use some help on reaching people other than through Zoom
- I would have liked to have seen one united national directive. The chopped responses for each state have, at times, been baffling to me. If there was ever a time we could have again become the "united states" this could have been it. We blew it!
- I belong to a post denominational minyan which has been fantastic - all Volunteer - and to an orthodox shul which had done nothing worth my time - my husband is a non congregational rabbi - very discouraged about affiliating with the shul in the future
- People should stay inside. Because people are still going outside (not including essential workers), society will be forced to stay inside longer.
- Trump is not only a cruel and authoritarian leader, but also an incredibly incompetent mafia boss. I guess I knew that already.
- I'm totally overwhelmed, stressed and anxious. My husband and I both work full time and have a toddler at home with no child care so it's literally an impossible situation.
- As we face economic challenges, one of the things I'm concerned about is being able to maintain membership and participation in Jewish communal life. My primary concern is our ability to pay for day school.
- It's very disappointing to me that my small Shul has not done more to keep in touch with ALL members. I'm sure a few feel very connected if they are closer to the Rabbi, but I feel very disillusioned by the congregation.
- I am not a pulpit rabbi; I work in education, so my rabbis at different congregations who are talking about humility and resilience have a powerful message that has the potential to stick well beyond the pandemic. As an educator, I also see this as a tremendous opportunity for innovation. Jewish day schools often are seen by both outsiders and insiders as behind public or leading independent schools, but because we are small, we should be more nimble and because we are faith-based, we should seek to touch the souls of our students and not just further their academic progress.
- I am a resident in the independent living section of a CCRC (continuing care retirement community) residence which has been in total lockdown since early March. Efforts made to keep our lives on an even keel have been nothing less than extraordinary. I am more grateful than ever to have the Jewish links to the outside community at this stressful time.
- I have always been more interested in non-traditional ways of connecting with Jewish life than synagogue. I think the era of what I call Real-Estate-Based religious life is no longer either necessary or practical. So I'm very interested in how the pandemic is challenging us to create, even accelerate creating, new effective means of connecting. It's kind of exciting.
- I feel that Donald Trump's behavior regarding the Pandemic is woefully inadequate. He is deeply and totally unfit as a leader and surrounds himself with

many very weak individuals. To use a Yiddish word, as a leader he is a "SHANDA."

- I wish you had added another option to the changes in behavior question. I stay at home, but I don't go out for food or medicine. I have that delivered.
- I understand that these ultra Orthodox Jews are very poorly educated, but why would 2500 attend a funeral recently? Very very sad.
- I & my friends are trying hard to follow the rules as far as social distancing & masks when we have to leave the house. It upsets me when I see members of my community who do not. I find it very selfish & self centered.
- Surprised my synagogue hasn't offered more online.
- Don't know what would have happened without Zoom or equivalent -- Seder, prayer, Bat Mitzvah, family gatherings. We are "isolated" and social distancing in Florida while are family and major Jewish connections are on NY State.
- We are creatures of habit and those who did not wash their hands before will go back to their nasty old ways.
- There's too much news "scare factor". Too much blaming. Too many people are too frightened.
- I've learned that the synagogue is a "fair weather" institution and does very little for its members in these difficult times. The real "hero" is Zoom; without it, there would be no contact at all. If you had asked, the Jewish community would get a D+ grade.
- I don't feel that the long-term consequences of the pandemic are yet realized. I think that the conclusion of Temple Boards that membership will not decline in the next year is wrong. I think that the traditional rules of Halacha have to change and be updated to what the next years post-pandemic's will bring for observance to remain intact.
- I belong to a Conservative synagogue, and taught for nine or ten years, but I have not been active in it for a number of years, so maybe I am just "Jewish in general". The town that I live in is "a very mixed bag" and the synagogue is across the river in another community. ... my children were the only ones in what was largely a Christian population, and socializing was a constant crisis. When they went away to college, they discovered the wider world. I have stayed here over half a century---do you really think COVID-19 is anymore isolating than living with the minute prejudices of a small town?
- Republicans are ignorant for the most part
- I think Trump should stop blaming everyone for the situation we are in and take the blame upon himself.

He is the head of our country and the buck starts at the top!!! He has had 4 years and he should also stop blaming Obama for anything. When he doesn't like questions, he walks away from answering. he is no man and certainly should not represent this country!!!!

- While I will vote for Joe Biden, if he is the nominee, the candidate whose policies we TRULY need right now are those of Bernie Sanders. Biden is better than Trump, but COVID-19 has proven how Sanders' Medicare-For-All is desperately needed in the US.
- As an RN, I am afraid we will reopen the country too soon, still not have adequate PPE, and be overwhelmed. More unnecessary deaths.
- lots... but the one that stands out is that I wish that just the scientists were the ones giving us all the updates and the politicians would listen to them....
- My hope is that the world and particularly the US will change our life values to include and heighten being mindful and caring for others on all levels; governmental, as a society, and in personally offering what we have of ourselves !
- Practice social distancing, wear masks , wash your hands frequently. Consider that your local leaders are doing the best they can. Treat each other with patience and kindness. Thank people on the frontline and give what you can to those in need.
- In 1918, Earthlings, without either a vaccine or an understanding of genetics/DNA, finally recognized that social distancing was the only way to reduce the threat.
- I am very much aware that I need to keep both myself and my family safe. My mother in law lives next door and my husband and I care for her...buying groceries etc. We always wear a mask when we see her and keep our distance. We want our family and neighbors to be safe.
- My husband is a physician and is involved of treating patients with CoVId-19, our youngest daughter had CoVId 19 along with her husband and 2 children under 4, They are Orthodox living in an Orthodox community. She donated plasma and is involved in antibody research studies. I work for JFS and we are delivering meals to older adults, helping people who have lost their jobs, leading virtual support groups, My other daughter had her first child ... and is very hard for her. She did Bris in hospital , because of my husband's job I am sheltering in place and social distancing.
- I am outraged by the utter stupidity and incompetence of the person who is supposed to be our leader, who should be using his office to

strengthen our response to the virus itself, soften the effects on all Americans, and help lead cooperation by all nations to improve testing and create a vaccine. He is doing the opposite of all these things.

- Is this really a political survey why are you asking about Biden and trump
- I feel that our shul leadership has not done a good job communicating to members. Furthermore, they seem to be unorganized amongst themselves: emails are very often incorrect, and they don't communicate Simchas to lay leaders.
- The section about local leaders should be broken down more. I support what our town manager and many of the local mayors are doing. Our governor is making mistake after mistake (but has opened up his family owned golf club and was the last to close his family owned ski area...after mandating that others had to close.
- People need to stop freaking out. that applies to you especially
- Efforts directed at controlling the spread of COVID-19 are definitely appropriate. However, I believe there has been an exaggerated depiction of the situation creating fear, collateral damage and a corrupt picture of reality; not an accurate account of what is actually happening. I believe these circumstances are a continued effort to chip away at our individual rights to create a society more dependent on government...leading to globalized power by a small elite group. I do not believe President Trump is not part of that movement. That is why I fully support him, in spite of his many shortcomings. It is imperative that we the American people wake up and understand the slow change that is forced upon us. The Pandemic is simply another venue for pushing this agenda.
- It is horrible that the government eschewed the prospect of the virus until it was just too late to contain. It has cost everyone because of that. A little foresight and proactivity could have averted much of that! Just awful!
- I am so concerned about the infection be ause someone in my household is immune compromised.
- We'll need to keep online learning options as a way to keep people engaged now that they've gotten used to this.

RESPONSES BY MODERN ORTHODOX:

- Make sure to vote Trump out. Due to his disregard of his briefings about the virus many thousands lost their lives. Callous, selfish, criminal incompetence has visited the severity of this plague upon us. Instead of leading a world wide attack against this disease, the

US has isolated every country in a foolish "me first" abdication of God's gift of seichel. If anything, those Jews who shamefully supported Trump need to do teshuva.

- the community is now caring about so many issues of singles being isolated and mental health that they didn't before, and i hope that continues after this situation passes
- I live in Teaneck, NJ in Bergen county, just over the bridge from NY city. we have been hit very hard by the virus. I commend that leadership of the hospitals, schools, synagogues and political entities for working together, and being forward-looking in all ways. I can only imagine how much worse things might have been if we had not had such leadership.
- It's really lonely living alone during this time
- The crisis has magnified the incompetence of the president. My opinion of the republican party has fallen further. While there seem to be those who are less resilient & willing to sacrifice for the common good, most people seem to take this matter seriously, and are willing to "follow the rules." Locally, I am impressed with the actions & responses of my city, synagogue & other organizations.
- I would suggest that members of the community listen to the scientists.
- Just that it was unfortunate that so many ppl might have caught it during all of our Purim events that had happened right when corona was still coming out.
- Though life has changed a lot in many negative ways, I am finding the slow down with regards to activities and schedules a welcome change. I never realized how overwhelming it was (or maybe I did) as a working parent and trying to do my best for my kids and for my work. Though zoom schooling is difficult, I am finding the juggling act much easier in many ways now and am cherishing the time home with my family.
- Doctors look foolish when they make halakhic pronouncements and should not do it. 2. Rabbis look foolish when they make medical pronouncements and they should not do it. 3. Our community needs much more attention to the mental health aspects of isolation and the crisis in general-- it is just as much of a pressing need as Coronavirus itself. This includes the avoidance of hysterical public messaging that doubly isolates and alienates those who cannot, for example, practice separation in the same way as most others in the community, such as individuals suffering with severe depression and anxiety who must be around others during a long Yom Tov. 4. With respect to very vulnerable people, rabbis ought to stop being so uptight about electronic technologies. It makes no

sense to hem and haw about phones or Zoom on Yom Tov for the extremely isolated and vulnerable during a crisis and this does not translate into a general heter. 5. The Jewish community like everyone else needs to be

- I would definitely have voted for the Democratic candidate prior to the virus, but I am puzzled at the notion that anyone would, post - virus, contemplate voting for President Trump.
- Anyone who wears a kippah on his head in public should also wear a mask in public. Parading around with a big kippah and not observing social distancing and consideration of contagion issues is a hillul Hashem.
- It has made me more frum! I appreciate that halacha exists and that it's challenging to keep and I didn't appreciate the role it played in my life until I had to confront it head on
- I like that courses have been free. I make donations to the providers voluntarily
- It's been wonderful to have a plethora of live online activities, but participating in these isn't easy for everyone. With remote working, I'm spending more hours online for work than previously and don't necessarily have the wavelength to participate in more zoom meetings in my free time. I'm sure this is even more true for those with kids at home. If there are other ways for communities to find ways to engage that would be helpful.
- I really hope clergy and community leaders take a very cautious approach to reopening. Unfortunately, one of the strengths of Jewish community--how interconnected people are and how much we see each other--makes us even more susceptible to coronavirus outbreaks. Yes, people have quarantine fatigue, but reopening too quickly will cost lives--pikuach nefesh needs to guide decisions about when and how to reopen. Please keep in mind that there are many people who will be scared to come to shul or go anywhere with crowds. And some people couldn't come to shul before COVID and still won't be able to now. Shuls and communities need to continue reaching out to these people and helping them feel like part of the community.
- We tend to take community for granted.
- I don't really appreciate your political questions in this survey, even though I answered them. We say in our prayers that we do not rely on man, but on G-d alone. We, as Jews, are at G-d's mercy alone, no matter which political party is in power or which country we live in. That said, if recent past and current overall performance (in regards to coronavirus, Israel, Jewish interests, etc.) is any indication of the future, all Jews

should wake up to reality and facts on the ground and be supporting the pro-Israel/Jewish-friendly candidates in the Republican Party, including Pres Trump. G-d help all Jews if the democrats win in Nov in regards to corona and the situation of Jews in this country and the existence of Israel. 2) Ever since the death of my mother and my father-in-law ... and now again with corona, I get the impression based on my actual observations and based on the news, etc. in terms of security measures, medical care and otherwise that Israel values human life

- You asked about value of synagogue membership. You did not give an option to say that I feel less value in my membership. I am not sure if I do, but I am sure some people do feel less value.
- I think that the Orthodox community needs to come up with more solutions about how to safely integrate technology into their lives instead of completely shutting it out
- I live each day as being blessed with life. I have a home, food (delivered) water, a pension, a private garden. I am not, B"H, in a concentration camp, the Gulag, or hiding from Nazis. This, too, shall pass. If I should, G-d forbid, be afflicted with the virus, I will deal with it day by day and do the best I can. I have loving family support - husband, grown children, and grandchildren, and great friends. Every generation has its challenges, especially for the Jews, and this is one of ours. We will survive, G-d willing, but we make the effort, too.
- Yes good organizations have done well such as the federation. Bad organizations have done badly, like [name of shul]. It is embarrassing that the local conservative shuls, that we orthodox won't set foot in, have responded so well. They are competent and caring. We are not.
- Class divisions fill every moment in the Jewish community. When you are orthodox, if you can't afford to live within one mile of the shul, you will have no future in an orthodox shul. you will have no social life. It becomes a club based on whether you can "buy" in. Heartbreaking feeling. If kid with a disability, need for help w/ job connections, those with the Ivy League pedigree will be most sought after relationships. Those caring for disabled kid's or other ill defendants living with them will never fit in.
- Nothing Jewish, but people are DEFINITELY more friendly and apt to say hi. I experienced same thing after 9/11 during a vacation to NY. Strangers here say hi regularly. I'm a runner and it has been rare for that to happen during running heretofore. Now just walking around people say hi. GREAT to see that happen. Gone to a LOT of shiva minyanim in the past

6 weeks. Feel sad for the mourners being unable to greet people beyond zoom. For them, though, some have said it has been better in terms of farflung people being able to visit. Makes sense and that is excellent. Just harder to support them as we would like to.

- Day schools should certainly invest in Zoom: this will help when children are sick and will also allow classes when schools are closed for snow.
- I don't see or hear from or about the Jewish community involved in community support efforts such as promoting universal testing, making safe spaces such as hotels and dorm rooms available to first responders and health care providers, or those who have mild cases of COVID who need to isolate from their families in order to keep them safe. I have seen synagogue communities working hard to assure their members are not socially isolated, even though we are physically isolated, and assuring that vulnerable members have food, medications, etc, that they need.
- I'm hopeful that this crisis will allow us to re-examine our approach to some aspects of communal life... I just don't want religious observance and Halacha to be one of those things.
- We need to think more about risk management on a global basis.
- Don't believe any of this was political. Or caused by Trump or Biden. WHO is at fault
- Glad to have the Jewish language of the liturgy, parsha, mitzvot and Jewish history to help frame and make sense of this experience.
- When isolated for so long, people tend to lose control over their normal sense of civility toward others.
- I'm glad this survey was created. I honestly have been so impressed by everything I have seen come out from schools, shuls, etc. I also work at a Hebrew school and I do zoom classes twice a week with my Hebrew school kids. The only thing I would think of is maybe more social events for parents, moms/dads.
- On a positive note, I have found in many ways my world has expanded tremendously through Zoom in this time of Covid 19--lots of Judaic opportunities throughout the world--Kabbalat Shabbat in Jerusalem, a worldwide 24 hour Israeli dance marathon, meditation with a class led by a Rabbi in Jerusalem, Judaic speakers and classes where I do not have to leave my house to attend and participate, etc.
- Simply that I am petrified that my life will end with this virus!
- We are parents of an adult child who identifies as LBGT. We have been involved with Eshel now for 7

years, getting together with other Orthodox parents in similar circumstances once a year at the annual parent retreat. The pandemic has brought our group, who are geographically very far flung, together via Zoom in wonderful ways we could never have expected. We daven Kabbalah Shabbat together very week now and have formed a loving community this way that we would have been unlikely to do otherwise. So, a silver lining to a horrible tragedy.

- I've learned that keeping in touch with people who are important is a great survival technique. I've learned that I'm more loved and appreciated than I could have dreamt.
- I miss meals with friends. I miss travel to and from Israel where our closest family lives. I miss hugs. There's nothing being Jewish changes about the day-to-day, face-to-face interactions reality. I appreciate my Rabbi and community, and the use of technology to keep us feeling connected.
- I am disappointed at the federal governments response. There could have been more centralization and denial. I am disappointed that government spending support was pushed out as political favors. The swamp was supposed to be drained. It just shifted and got bigger. The small guy, small businesses that drive this country are nobody. It's just all talk from the top.
- Trump is a shameful narcissistic liar as always and has once again done a terrible job for our country. Orthodox Jews need to wake up and see this to be safe from reappearances of the virus next year.
- I appreciate how considerate all the Rabbis were about people who were isolated on Pesach and were at risk. I was not isolated on Pesach, but I would have been at risk if I had been. I hope these small leniencies on the part of Rabbis will continue.
- I believe the media has done a terrible job confusing the population at large delivering mixed messages.
- I just wish the reporting on the virus was a bit less hysterical. I think most people understand the severity of a virus when you're not allowed to leave your house. I don't need to read countless articles a day on death rates and dangers of the virus. It just makes me feel worse and more upset.
- It's going to take a while to process what has happened. You might want to run the survey again when the pandemic is over--hoping that it will be over soon.
- Judaism has so much to engage me and keep me busy. Thanks to my non-religious parents who gave me an excellent Jewish education!!

- We are much more dependent on one-another, as Jews and non-Jews, than I ever expected. In general I see my identity as part of a larger community and not just my own personal life.
- I tend to agree with Radio Jewish Talk Show Host Dennis Prager that the USA has made too much with this plague.. China is responsible for this world epidemic. They should be held accountable for the loss of and the loss of our Country's loss of our economy and 30 million people now losing their jobs.
- There is no place to indicate a single person household. This is a common bias in Jewish surveys. The assumption seems to assume that every household has more than one person. As a result, the needs of single individuals are not often taken into consideration.
- the help and outreach frfom my shul community has been beyond any normal expectation, all for the good of me and family. i knew that the rabbi and cong. cared, but NEER did i expect it to be this profound.
- We will need to rethink everything
- friends are fantastic
- Very distressed that some in the Jewish community have not been taking the need for social distancing more seriously.
- We are not being told everything. All Coronavirus responses have been political - on party lines. There are different opinions and our society has become fractured on political lines. It's very sad.
- That immune-busting supplements and wearing a mask with social distancing is helpful.
- It was embarrassing to see Orthodox people ignoring the CDC rules of not gathering at this time with no regard to the consequences. The online lectures, activities, entertainment, free resources were a welcomed treat, concept should be continued. Especially appreciated are free opportunities for concerts, museums, entertainment etc
- Disappointed in some people in the way that they are hoarding certain grocery items. The supermarkets should limit certain items per customer.
- This challenge could provide a wake up call to humanity to transform the way we organize ourselves, our relationship to our planet and to one another. Woe to us if we fritter it away.
- I know that everyone is going through a difficult time and that resources are strained. However, I wish that community/shul rabbis made an effort to check in on people other than those who are sick with or at high risk for the coronavirus. I feel very isolated and disconnected from my community, and I'm struggling to see the value of being a dues-paying member at this point.
- Suggestions to the community: think positive. Start each day with thinking of what you can do to make the world a little better: for yourself, for your family, for your local Jewish community, the entire Jewish nation, your town, the world, the Universe.. pray as often as you can. And feel good in doing mitzvot.
- Jews of all stripes need to remember we are humans first.
- we need each other. Community is important, as it was before
- Please show some humanity towards Jews who are not Eastern European in background. They have concerns or issues that are important to them, please address them, recognize them.
- I fear that restrictions will be eased too soon. I have hugely appreciated the sense of community. Humans are social beings and we need social time.
- I have come to understand that my rabbi doesn't satisfy my spiritual needs - so I seek that from other leaders and programming offered by other leaders
- Furious with the leaders of the Chareidi world: hypocrisy of risking lives and then overwhelming the hospital systems. And disappointed that the chareidi masses are continuing to follow these leaders.
- Need to support the weak in the community. Could have more coordinated effort with children for giving opportunities.
- My concern is that the country is opening up too soon and a 2nd or 3rd wave will max out our health care resources and have a great impact on the vulnerable population. Unless a vaccine or other treatment is available in the next few months, the odds of getting sick increase exponentially. I expect to get the virus at this rate and hope and pray that the case will be mild.
- Our federal government led by Trump has completely failed in essential preparation for this virus. The entire epidemic and economic meltdown is due to lack of planning and preparation. Look at all of the other countries in the world, and the US is the worst in terms of cases and death.. by far! The Jewish community is doing the best that it can, but it never should have come to this if the idiots in the White House would have taken decisive action in January and February when the risks were known.
- This has been an opportunity to reflect on the value of community and Jewish life. This has been a great equalizer because it is happening to everyone. In this stressful situation we are learning to handle stress and watch others go through the same struggle. We realize that we all have strengths and weaknesses in a

community culture that grooms itself for success based on appearance and connections.

- How dare you ask about our political leanings!
- Our country is more and more like the Rabbinic Sodom and Gemorrah with indifference towards poor and suffering and immigrants. It's depressing how many right-wing Jews are defending propagandists and disinformationists. These serious problems are not going to go away after January 2021, no matter who wins, although obviously better if Biden wins.
- From time to time, even the most "frum" among us lose sight of that fact that we are not, ultimately, in charge and in control. One of the benefits of this dreadful pandemic is that we've all been forced to recognize this. It's imposed a small dose of humility on some within our community.
- I think the Orthodox Jewish Community of Los Angeles responded quickly, thoroughly, and appropriately, which limited the spread within our community. I am exceedingly grateful for the efforts of both my synagogue and my daughter's high school to shift programs and reach out to the community.
- This survey really did not take into account that I am a health care professional (pediatrician). In terms of my risk for coronavirus and my familiarity with those who have it.
- My Rabbis have not really stepped up to the plate and changed their approach to Judaism in this pandemic. They're just trying to keep change at bay as if nothing really changed. They're blind or deaf to the theological and spiritual questions this raises.
- a lot of the survey questions did not apply to my personal situation. in ways that mask the impact. even in minor ways-- e.g., a job for which I had interviewed was cancelled due to COVID. i have not had an immediate family member with COVID, but my elderly mother was hospitalized for a non-COVID problem and was put on hydroxychloriquine, which could have been very dangerous for her. not being able to visit my mother has been a major hardship for our family. also-- the question on Biden vs, Trump in February: Biden was not yet the presumptive candidate in February, separately from COVIF. just a few weeks before that it was not even clear he was viable.
- Some Rabbi's are shining, some seem overwhelmed.
- Virtual minyans should be allowed to say Kaddish. This is not the middle ages. This is the new normal. If you don't evolve, you die out.
- I am surprised that there are still home minyanim going on despite rabbis from across the spectrum telling people to stay at home. I would have thought

that in communities that value daat torah, that would not have been the case.

- I have watched some recordings of live-streamed Shabbat services. They are bizarre and surreal. They feature people performing for an audience. The audience is presumably unable to pray without watching. I am glad my Modern Orthodox community is not so helpless.
- I think that rabbis of all denominations have to recognize the the pandemic will have lasting impact on community and the need to adapt to a 'new normal' similar to changing the religious landscape after the destruction of the second Temple with the shift from one worship center to synagogues. The Jewish community must find creative ways to explore halakhah and technology in ways that will maintain tradition and observance while also enhancing the Jewish religious experience. Once we are back in synagogues, schools, and camps again, certain social distancing practices may well become part of our World View and practice.
- best stay home if u can afforded if course if not there is risk to get sick GD Forbids May HASHEM send to the world a refuah shelima.. Amen
- I learned that America is broken on many levels. After all the years of govt research and planning for a virus pandemic and all the money previously available etc ... America (even if caught off guard or acted too late) should had a much better coordinated response.
- I am a Jewish human being. The number one priority in life is to be a healthy, honest, safe, and successful Jewish human being. We must not focus on labeling ourselves as a Democrat, Republican, Independent, or Other, because these labels will only negatively divide the Jewish people, and power antisemitism. I will vote for the human being who can prove healthy, honest, safe, and successful leadership, with ethical and logical common sense. I am still researching to find such a Jewish human being on this planet and beyond.
- Just as the rabbis found ways for us to use technology on Pesach to have Zoom Seders, so should they use their halachic knowledge to resolve the problem of Iggun. They can do it — if they want to, that is. As Blu Greenberg famously said: Where there is a rabbinic will, there is a halachic way.
- I have been motivated to contribute financially to the extraordinary needs of the Jewish community during this time of crisis. But my mailbox is filled with requests from every single Jewish organization seeing this as an opportunity to solicit support. During a ahealth crisis wrapped in a financial crisis communal

priorities must be set and met, and all of the other institutions should bug off.

- I am enraged by people who refuse to follow the rules. We have seen most Rabbis act responsibly although some have not. I have been proud of the community when it speaks out appropriately. In general, I am furious with the government at all levels for its lack of available and accurate testing. That leads to my next problem, camp. Sleepaway camp is the easiest system to enact - test everyone and then seal the camp. Even with a shorter summer, this is crucial. Our son previously attended Yeshiva but this year switched out. While we engage in Jewish/religious activities all year, this is his most immersive Jewish experience and he looks forward to it. I imagine he is not the only child in this situation. To make matters worse, I understand the camps are doing all they can but to leave families in the lurch on June 1st (planned announcement date for most camps) is also entirely unfair. I know that most would consider being in shul on Rosh Hashanah to be the most important goal but t
- I think governmental leadership needs to be more transparent with how they are making decisions. Are they listening to the advise of epidemiologists and medical professionals exclusively? Are they taking economists view at all? I'd like to know more about why decisions are being made. If the purpose was to flatten the curve, and we have succeeded, why aren't we already in the next phase of reopening?
- People are more selfless and also more selfish than I would have thought. Im suprised at both.
- Don't assume people are on either side of the aisle. Some of us will not be voting for either Trump or Biden. Neither has earned my vote. I will likely be voting for the libertarian candidate. Maybe include an other option on those 2 questions like you did for the party affiliation question.
- I date more seriously and try to view people with an open eye.
- The frum community has not taken the recommendations of social distancing etc anywhere near the extent that they should have been - even after the severity of the epidemic became more known and it began hitting NY and NJ hard. There are still many social gatherings, etc and people aren't being as careful as their non-Jew counterparts.
- our synagogue has a whatsapp group. That way we share schmoozing and general information and remain connected
- Probable need for education of Haredi and ultra-orthodox populations that were called-out and criticized (rightly so) for non-adherence to pandemic

precautions, distancing and limiting gatherings of large groups on several occasions. It is a chilul Hashem and frankly embarrassing, but I will give the benefit of the doubt to this group of people who perhaps are lacking the education and exposure and need guidance and directive (from Rabbis or authorities THEY respect) to educate and change mindset and behaviors.

- I took four weeks off of work but went back to work because I could not take the loneliness. It's very scary to go to work, but I am contributing to feeding people
- I've been very pleased with our Rabbi and how he has reached out to all of us. I'm am extremely disappointed with the lack of presidential leadership during this time.
- Why does the survey only ask about school-age children (grades 1-12)? What about pre-school and kindergarten children?
- People don't understand how dangerous this is. The risk of reopening far outweighs the benefits. Death to self and others is the highest possible risk
- I want to find opportunity to volunteer or continue working.
- There were a few questions where I wish I had been able to explain my answer. In the beginning of the survey, it asked if I or anyone I know contracted the coronavirus. No one in my family has been tested, but my husband is almost certain he had it since his boss had symptoms of it and they've been in contact this whole time, which leads me to believe I must have had it as well. But we'll never really know. 2. A question at the end asked if I would vote for Biden or Trump without offering any other options. I probably would not vote for Biden, but I most definitely will never vote for Trump. I would either vote for any other candidate on the ballot, or I would write someone in. Choosing the lesser of two evils presupposes that even the one I choose is still evil. So why would I choose someone who I believe is a bad choice? 3. I have two children at home with me. One is 3 and the other is 1. There were no questions in the survey asking that. It's been challenging being home taking care of my two young kids by myself while daycare is closed and my husband is an essential worker who goes to work every day. They need my constant supervision and I never get a break until they're sleeping. And of course moms never get a day off from being a mom. I love my children and I am so grateful for this time with them, even though it is challenging. 4. We've fallen into a pretty good routine that works for us. But I wish I knew when this would end. Even if they tell me it will end in 6 months

from now. At least I will have an end date, a goal, something to count down to and look forward to. 5. I miss my parents. They are almost 80 and I can't risk visiting them and getting them sick. That's really hard. 6. I'm so grateful for technology to be able to video call anyone I want, even a friend in Israel.

- Adult mental health programs are more important to provide vs social programs.
- What affected me the most was the volume of Jewish deaths being reported. It saddened me. Not being able to hold my grandchildren. It was all a personal sense of isolation. I don't miss not shopping or being out. Stores worked out systems for safe shopping. It did hit at a terrible time being around pesach and having a hard time with getting food
- To the orthodox Jewish leadership I would say stop shutting down those who ask questions, and encourage dialogue instead of lashon harah. I have no respect left for the current Orthodox Jewish leadership.
- I think it has been really hard for people who are not part of a traditional nuclear family. Although I (thankfully) do not live alone and have a roommate, it has still been incredibly isolating and difficult being single during this time. Since I do not reside with family (or pets) I have not touched another living being in 2.5 months. This is not normal, this is not healthy. I just think this is a group of people whose experience is being ignored/overlooked/forgotten as we watch others stay at home and spend quality time with family. For me there is no quality time - just loneliness.
- It seems like this is a really good time for shuls to meet in partnership, and yet our community still seems so siloed, potentially leading to even greater isolation.
- This needs to be taken very compassionately and seriously, which is harder to do the longer people are at home and see other states reopening and loosening restrictions and hard to realize as many who are contagious are not symptomatic. Also crucial is to continue to offer people ways to safely connect, mainly online. My slogan in this period is "Stay protected and connected!"
- I have learned to do more self-care and also to reach out in new ways. I've had the opportunity to get back to things that I have always wanted to do and to focus on internal growth too. My davening has been slower and richer. I want very much to help in any way I can and I have reached out to volunteer. I have gotten "creative" about how to nurture relationships. I appreciate that our Orthodox religious leaders have issued some guidelines together and I think that

coordinated leadership and communication needs to be further strengthened. Our people need it.

- I live in Baltimore and I am proud of the way the synagogues I belong to took such swift actions and demanded we listen to government officials. I am utterly embarrassed and disgusted by the way Jews behaved in New York
- People need to be considerate of others and by doing not for es their opinions on others. One must make choices for themselves but take responsibility for those choices
- A joke I saw described my feelings exactly. Here it is. Before the coronavirus, I did not realize that the only hobbies I had were spending money and going out to eat.
- I've learned how technology can bring people closer together during times of loss (eg shiva,) and join together family from distant places
- I think our lives and schools are too stressful, would like to see schedules cut across the board.
- President Trump regards the government as the enemy and has therefore destroyed it, leaving the USA unprepared for the epidemic that he "decided" was not coming. Vote for Biden.
- Integrate more technology to increase familiarity with it & be able to mobilize shul, school and work curriculum when needed in future
- I think Trump has been abysmally bad in dealing with the pandemic, and I am disappointed how many Jews support him regardless.
- I am so happy at my community's response to this-- helping people, increased learning opportunities, et cetera (baruch hashem). Especially with helping people prepare for Pesach. My suggestion to all is to focus less on the news to whatever extent possible and channel that energy into tefillah, tzedukah, and teshuvah. My 2 cents.
- follow the rules set out by your state and federal government. I was disappointed by the reaction of the president to pandemic and his own rules. It does not give a good example to people to follow.

RESPONSES BY HAREDI:

- The community Rabbis must band together and issue more united guidelines as to how to respond to emergencies of epic proportions. They need to be ready.
- The government and rabbis should've warned everyone to isolate March 1 and saved hundreds of lives
- It was difficult to watch anti-Orthodox sentiment build during the pandemic. The increase in internal

vigilantism, even when justified by the facts and science, brings me pain

- Let's hope that this pandemic ends real soon and that life after corona doesn't just go back to "normal", but to "better than normal" with the coming of Moshiach NOW!
- Anti Semitism in the US is unquestionably on the rise. We, as Jews, must make a conscious effort at all times to display a positive image of ourselves. Otherwise, Non-Jews will have the opportunity to mumble under their breath "look at those (Blank) Jews. It's too bad that they weren't ALL killed 75 years ago... the world would be a better place!"
- We seem to be at the end of wave 1. As Warren Buffett said if someone would've asked to buy "corona virus" insurance he would've sold it. It's hard to judge everyone how they handled this unprecedented disaster. The real question is how will we handle this if it comes back in the winter. Will we be more prepared? Have more supplies? Able to prevent the unnecessary deaths caused by medical mistakes and lack of supplies. 2) the Jewish communities should also be prepared but it's less vital and will most likely look similar to what's going on now.
- The few bad apples across the Jewish community writ-large is disheartening. But the community as a whole has been responsible with some incredible leadership from the Aguda, Young Israel, RCA, and OU.
- My husband and I both had the virus and felt very sick. BH' we were able to remain home; our neighbors sent food morning, noon and night. We did not and do not feel alone. We treasure our community relationships more than ever and are very grateful. Can't wait to bentch gomel and make a seudah hodaah. However, we are further along in our desire to spend more time in Israel if not make aliyah altogether.
- I hope that the opportunity to attend Virtual shiurim in other communities continues. It's so nice to have more opportunities that were previously closed to "out of towners" available to us.
- We need to do better with dina d'malchisa. We can use this as an opportunity for growth, like learning to live with less social pressure, less academic pressure for kids, and let's not squander this opportunity.
- I didn't go to shul so much before, and took a lot of things for granted. Now I long to be able to go to shul. When we're able to go again, soon G-d willing, I will try to remember this time to remind myself to be more appreciative and grateful.
- We're moving to reopen too slowly.
- Surveys are a waste of time.
- I applaud the RCBC ruling on closing the shuls, they were in fact the first ones to do so and deserve all the credit in the world since they 100% saved lives.
- We live in uncertain times. I can't stand that everything is still politicized while we are fighting an equal opportunity foe. New York should look at Israel and be ashamed at how it handled this crisis and instead of pointing fingers, do something pro-active.
- Having Emunah is a great help getting through this.
- Overrated reaction. Mass media try to instigate panic and fear. Instead of a rational view. Statistically speaking, percentage wise number of sick to number of infected was in the like regular flu.
- Thanks for organizing this survey. I would love to see the results once they are in!
- Thanks to community leaders and public service ppl. I hope Moshiach gives very soon.