

Wherever I travel in the Jewish world, I am struck by the way that Jewish people of all types are determined to make a Kiddush Hashem (sanctification of God's name) and to avoid a Hillul Hashem (desecration of God's name). The concept of the Kiddush Hashem originates in the Biblical command "I shall be sanctified amongst the people of Israel". One interpretation of this verse is that Jews should display total dedication to their faith and even be willing to lay down their lives for it. This belief motivated millions of Jewish martyrs throughout our history to give up their lives rather than abandon their Judaism. Today, it is rare for Jews to be faced with such a stark choice between their faith and their lives, but Kiddush Hashem offers another powerful challenge which has particular resonance in our times. Each one of us has to ensure that the word "Jewish" is always associated with the highest levels of ethics and kindness, so that our behavior always brings credit to our heritage and to our God.

On a daily basis, we witness the disgrace that is attached to religion when it is linked with the horrors of priests engaging in child abuse and the fanaticism of "religious" suicide bombers. Tragically, throughout our long history, our own faith has also spawned instances of the desecration of God's name. The rabbis recognized these and declared that it was our failure to show care, compassion, decency and loving kindness to one another that caused so many of our sorrows including the destruction of the Temple. In our own times, the most famous desecration of God's name was the massacre of Arabs at prayer in the mosque in Hebron and the murder of the Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin. It was these outrages that drove me to put to aside my work as a Chief Rabbi of Norway and to enter Israeli politics. I felt that it was crucial for the government of Israel to work on a grand scale to restore the image of Judaism from one of intolerance and fanaticism to one of ethics, tolerance and compassion. It was my duty as a rabbi to play my part in that campaign. This is a crucial message of Judaism. Holiness is not the exclusive possession of those who engage in detailed ritual observance nor is it the preserve of those who devote their energies to the pursuit of spirituality; true holiness is found in the small actions that make a profound difference to the lives of the people around us and the world they live in.

This is why I am so delighted that in partnership with the Koldor organization, my office is launching the Jewish Social Action Month this Cheshvan (November). It falls one month after Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur so it is a time to draw on all of the resolutions that we made over the High Holidays. It's also a month with no festivals in it which enables us to dedicate time to Social Action activities.

Throughout the month Jews from across the globe will be performing acts of loving kindness to their neighbors both Jewish and Gentile. The concept of social action can be interpreted broadly and there are endless possibilities for action. The Israeli Friends of the Earth, for example, will be launching initiatives to clear up the debris which ruins our countryside, the Israeli Police Force will be engaging in projects to show care and concern in the community, one youth movement will be organizing a sports event for the underprivileged, another arranging a national blood donation drive. It is beautiful to see how in Israel, and spreading across South America, North America, Russia, and Europe, Jews ranging from Chief Rabbis to the most secular of our people will be engaged in the Social Action Month.

I very much hope that you will feel moved to join in the project; to make a Kiddush

Hashem and turn our world into a better place. I look forward to hearing about your activities and reading about them on the website of the Prime minister of Israel.

CHECK THE CALENDAR—CHESHVAN IS NOW
JEWISH SOCIAL ACTION MONTH

(By Tzvi Kahn)

NEW YORK, June 30.—Aryeh Green and Yosef Abramowitz were sipping tea in a Bedouin tent last year in Sde Boker, a kibbutz in Israel's Negev desert, when they had an idea.

Participants at a conference of Kol Dor, an organization that seeks to revitalize Jewish activism and unity across the globe, the two were discussing how the group could promote Jewish identity and peoplehood.

"Most Jewish institutions and endeavors are out of touch with the next generation of Jews because of a lack of relevance," Abramowitz, CEO of Jewish Family and Life, which publishes several Jewish Web sites and magazines, told JTA. "But we do know that the idealism and the desire to contribute to the world" are predominant.

It occurred to them that a month in the Jewish calendar formally dedicated to social action would be an ideal means of mobilizing and inspiring the Jewish community.

Their initiative received a major boost this week when the Knesset's Committee on Immigration, Absorption and Diaspora Affairs proclaimed the Jewish month of Cheshvan, which falls in November this year, as Social Action Month.

According to Green, who serves as an adviser to former Israeli Cabinet minister Natan Sharansky, "We agreed that if we wanted Kol Dor to succeed, we would have to focus on practical, tangible contributions."

"What makes this initiative interesting and unique is that it harnesses the power of different social action and Jewish organizations to get involved," Green said. The goal is not to spearhead specific projects, but to "pull together the existing frameworks of social action."

The effort has garnered the support of various Jewish groups, including the Jewish Agency for Israel and Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life, the Israel Defense Forces' education branch and the World Union of Jewish Students.

Abramowitz said Labor Party legislator Colette Avital, who chairs the Knesset's immigration committee, has sent a letter to various Jewish organizations expressing support.

Jewish schools in Israel and the Diaspora will be a particular focus of the initiative. According to Abramowitz, Social Action Month will receive special attention in the Babaganews, a monthly magazine on Jewish values that JFL publishes for elementary school students. The magazine serves 1,400 Jewish schools and has a circulation of more than 40,000.

The JFL journal Sh'ma and magazine JVibe also intend to publish features on the subject, he said.

Abramowitz said Cheshvan was selected for the project because it immediately follows the High Holidays, which usually spur higher levels of Jewish observance.

The Knesset decision also represents a victory for Kol Dor, whose philosophy formed the ideological foundation for Social Action Month.

"The paradigm that we are advocating in Jewish life is that peoplehood is a central mobilizing force," Abramowitz said, citing the success of the movement to rescue Soviet Jewry as one example.

The group seeks to use the Jewish concept of tikkun olam, or repairing the world, as a unifying theme.

REMEMBERING MRS. ROSA PARKS

Mr. ALEXANDER. This week we have honored the memory of Rosa Parks, a woman whose quiet stand for her individual rights reverberated across this country.

We often discuss how far we have to go as a country in terms of race relations. Thinking of Rosa Parks reminds me how far we have come. In 1955 when she refused to give up her seat on the bus in Montgomery, African Americans in the South could not eat in the same restaurants, go to the same colleges, sleep in the same motels, be cared for in the same hospitals or compete on the same sports teams as other Americans.

Rosa Parks' actions that day in Montgomery helped spark a movement that changed our country forever for the better. Condoleezza Rice, one of the bright minds leading our country today, rightly noted at the memorial service in Alabama, "... that without Mrs. Parks, I would not be standing here today as Secretary of State."

Rosa Parks and those who took up the call inspired me, too. As editor of the student paper at Vanderbilt University, I wrote editorials urging desegregation of that school in 1962.

We made great progress in those days, as we continue to do today. Our Nation has always been a work in progress, ever since our Founders signed the Declaration of Independence declaring that "all men are created equal." We're still working to achieve that noble goal of recognizing our equality. But thanks to Americans like Rosa Parks, we've come a long way.

Rosa Parks' courage has earned for her a noble place in the history of our Nation's struggle for equal opportunity. We will miss her.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT
ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. Each Congress, Senator KENNEDY and I introduce hate crimes legislation that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society. Likewise, each Congress I have come to the floor to highlight a separate hate crime that has occurred in our country.

On October 1, 2003, just east of West Hollywood, a gay man was attacked in his home with a bat by a pair of assailants. The two assailants took the victims house key after he ran home and left his keys in the door as he hurried inside. The victim, who identified his attackers as Evar Rivera and Selvan Campos in court, said he received 14 stitches for his injuries. According to police, anti-gay slurs were yelled during the bat attack, and police later classified the attack as a hate crime.

I believe that our Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, in all circumstances, from threats to them at

home. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a major step forward in achieving that goal. I believe that by passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

NASA GLENN RESEARCH AWARDS

Mr. DEWINE. Mr. President, I rise today to honor the dedicated team of scientists, engineers, and innovators of NASA's Glenn Research Center in Cleveland for their hard work and perseverance. I have recognized in previous years the award-winning work of researchers and engineers at NASA Glenn and am proud to do so again today.

The Glenn Research Center has come up with a wide range of products that not only contribute to further progress in our space exploration mission, but also provide for remarkable enhancements in the quality of life of citizens throughout the United States. Through NASA's commercialization initiatives, these products have enabled the creation of new jobs in the country, thereby encouraging additional economic growth nationwide.

This year, four products introduced by NASA Glenn have been distinguished among the "Top 100 Most Technologically Significant Products of the Year." They have been recognized by the editors of Research & Design Magazine and awarded four of the "R&D 100" awards—awards known by many as the "Oscars of Invention." Their remarkable achievements clearly illustrate the high level of professionalism that distinguishes the Glenn Research Center, its employees, and the numerous organizations and individuals who work in partnership with the Center.

It is with great pride that I recognize each of the award participants and congratulate them for their outstanding work. In developing an award-winning family of rod-coil block copolymers, Dr. Mary Ann Meador and Dr. James Kinder of Glenn's Materials Division have improved ionic conductivity in lithium polymer batteries. These new polymers will enable cost-saving advances in battery technologies, resulting in improvements to products ranging from mobile phones to fuel cells. Through this important innovation, it will be possible to offer lower manufacturing costs, while increasing battery safety to meet future aerospace application requirements.

The NASA Glenn Sensors and Electronics Branch team has been recognized for its development of a new sensor-based fire detection system that effectively recognizes the presence of fire while screening out false alarms. Dr. Gary Hunter led the development effort in collaboration with colleagues from Case Western Reserve University, the Ohio State University, Makel Engineering, and the Federal Aviation Administration. This revolutionary device will improve fire alarms in cargo

and baggage compartments of commercial aircraft and is also specifically adapted to fit the requirements of the International Space Station.

The Center also has received recognition for its work on a material known as the Glenn Refractory Adhesive for Bonding and Exterior Repair, GRABER. This material, which was considered for use in the Space Shuttle Return to Flight program, was developed and tested by Dr. Mrityunjay "Jay" Singh, now a four-time "R&D 100" award winner, and Tarah Shpargel of NASA Glenn's Ceramics Branch. This dynamic material will allow in-space repair of both large and small cracks in the space shuttle thermal protection system—a capability that is absolutely essential for the safety and success of future Space Shuttle missions following the tragic loss of the *Columbia*. In addition to its applications in space, GRABER has a number of potential industrial applications due to its low cost and excellent adhesive properties.

Finally, NASA Glenn's Numerical Evaluation of Stochastic Structures Under Stress, NESSUS, software program has been recognized as an award winner this year. The NESSUS program combines state-of-the-art algorithms with general-purpose numerical analysis methods to predict responses in hi-tech systems, such as aerospace and automotive structures, biomechanics, and gas turbine engines. Dr. Shantaram Pai, of Glenn's Structural Mechanics and Dynamics Branch, was responsible for developing the probabilistic heat transfer module integrated in the system and managing the integration of nine other NASA-developed modules into NESSUS, enabling analysis of a diverse range of problems.

I extend my most genuine congratulations to everyone who participated in each of NASA Glenn's award-winning projects.

SUPERFUND LITIGATION

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on the issue of clarifying Congress's intent regarding agricultural operations in respect to Superfund litigation. I, along with my colleague from Idaho, Senator CRAIG, offered an amendment during the agriculture appropriations conference committee that would have done that very thing. The amendment passed the Senate, by a 9 to 8 vote, yet was stripped from the final conference report. Needless to say, I am disappointed with this result. So much so, in fact, I decided not to sign the conference report.

When the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act, or CERCLA, was passed in 1980 and the Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act, or EPCRA, was passed in 1986, agriculture was never part of the deal. These acts were intended to provide for clean up of toxic waste dumps and spills such as

Love Canal and Times Beach. To this end, Congress created the Superfund to tax building blocks, such as petrochemicals, inorganic raw materials and petroleum oil, used to make all hazardous products and waste. Animal agriculture waste, or manure, is clearly not among these materials. In fact, if you would have tried to attach agriculture to either of these two acts, they would not have passed. It was not Congress's intent to apply Superfund rules to manure which contains naturally occurring organic compounds—such as orthophosphate, ammonia and hydrogen sulfide—which occur naturally in the environment in the same form as they appear in manure.

Recently, municipal and State governments have filed suit against livestock and poultry operations claiming Superfund liability in Texas and Oklahoma.

On April 24, 2004, the City of Waco, TX, filed suit in Federal court against eight dairies in the North Bosque River Watershed and later amended the suit to include six additional dairies, seeking \$45 million in damages under Superfund. The suit alleges that orthophosphate is discharged from the dairies and has affected the water quality of Lake Waco which is located approximately 100 miles downstream from the dairies.

On June 13, 2005, the attorney general of the State of Oklahoma filed suit in Federal court against 14 major integrated poultry production firms claiming joint and several liability for damaged water quality in the Illinois River Watershed caused by poultry litter runoff from agricultural lands to which it has been applied as fertilizer. The suit seeks to recover past, present, and future response costs under Superfund, as well as natural resource damages that is expected to add up to several hundreds of millions of dollars. If these two cases are successful, other municipalities and States could bring similar lawsuits and every animal feeding operation and farm could be held liable under Superfund.

This is another example of our judicial system overstepping its boundaries. Our judicial system is usurping the will of Congress and creating laws Congress never meant to create.

Animal agriculture operations have been appropriately regulated and required to have permits for years under the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and various State laws to protect the environment, but never under Superfund. My amendment would have left these laws in place. My amendment would have only protected agricultural producers from another example of an activist judicial system. Agriculture is already an over regulated industry and adding the possibility of Superfund litigation will be too much to bear for farmers and ranchers.

Further, Superfund was created with a specific goal and mission in mind. The EPA is burdened to meet these goals as it is. To now add the millions