



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE  
**AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

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**A Finding Aid to the  
Roy A. Rosenberg Papers**

**Manuscript Collection No. 735**

## Collection Summary

<b>Title</b>	Roy A. Rosenberg Papers
<b>Dates</b>	1948-2000
<b>Collection Number</b>	MS-735
<b>Repository</b>	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
<b>Creator</b>	Rosenberg, Roy, 1930-2001
<b>Extent</b>	5.6 linear feet (14 Hollinger boxes)
<b>Language of the Material</b>	English

## Administrative Information

### Biographical Sketch

Roy A. Rosenberg was born in 1930 in Baltimore, Maryland. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in 1951 with a degree in Anthropology. In 1955 he was ordained by Hebrew Union College and also became the full time rabbi at Temple Emanu El in Rochester, New York where he had done his student pulpit work. In 1956 Rosenberg left Rochester to become a chaplain for the U.S. Army. He remained in the army both in Arizona and in Verdun, France for two years.

In 1958 Rosenberg became the rabbi at Temple Emanu El in Honolulu, Hawaii. Rosenberg was very active in the local Jewish community during his eight years in Honolulu. In addition to his duties at the temple he was the President of the B'nai B'rith lodge, secretary of the Hawaii Jewish Welfare Fund, President of the Volunteer Service Bureau and founder and chair of the Interfaith seminar program. Rosenberg was also on the Mayor's Committee for Ethics in Government and an active member of the Waikiki Rotary Club. In 1966 Rosenberg moved to New Orleans and in 1967 became the Head Rabbi of Temple Sinai. He stayed there for a few years.

In 1974 Rosenberg formed the Temple of Universal Judaism, Congregation Daat Elohim in New York City. This congregation was formed to include people historically excluded from congregations. This includes intermarried couples, Jews by choice, non-Jews and people of all sexual orientations and backgrounds. This congregation was more in line with Rosenberg's open-minded concepts of religion and intellectual curiosity. Although always within Reform boundaries, Rosenberg urged his congregants and colleagues to think more broadly about topics than they might have in the past. He stayed there until his retirement in 1997.

Rosenberg was also a prolific writer and researcher. Some of his best known works are *The Concise Guide to Judaism* (1990), *Everything you Need to Know About Jews and Their History* (1997), *Happily Intermarried* (1997), and *Who was Jesus?* (1986) among many others.

Rosenberg died in 2001. He was married to Dr. Ruth Rosenberg with whom he and three daughters and two sons.

### Scope and Content

The papers contain the correspondence, sermons, and writings of Roy Rosenberg, who was a rabbi in Rochester, New Orleans, Honolulu and eventually the Temple of Universal Judaism in New York City. Included in this collection are the outlines and transcripts of sermons that Rosenberg gave throughout his career as well as many articles that he wrote.

### Arrangement

The collection is divided into four (4) series: A. Correspondence; B. Subject Files; C. Writings; D. Sermons; E. Audiovisual Material.

### Terms of Access

The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

### Preferred Citation

Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Roy A. Rosenberg Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-735. Roy A. Rosenberg Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

### Provenance

Received from Ruth Rosenberg, Brooklyn, N.Y., 2003

### Processing Information

Processed by Christine Schmid, April 2006.

## Index Terms

**Subjects** Rabbis  
**Personal Names** Rosenberg, Roy A., 1930-2001  
**Media** Sermons

## **Series A. Correspondence, 1953-2000**

**Extent** 1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** Contains mainly correspondence regarding Rosenberg's congregations and research that he was working on. Most interesting in the series are the documents regarding the foundation of Congregation Daat Elohim Temple of Universal Judaism. Rosenberg was the founder of this new kind of congregation which focused more on inclusion than exclusion by inviting intermarried couples to join. The material on Temple Sinai in New Orleans is also an interesting look at a tumultuous yet productive and fulfilling time in Rosenberg's life.

### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 1. Folder 1. Army chaplaincy, 1956-1958

Box 1. Folder 2. Correspondence, 1969-1980

Box 1. Folder 3. Correspondence, 1990s

Box 1. Folder 4. Cronbach, Abraham, 1962, 1965

Box 1. Folder 5. Congregation Daat Elohim The Temple of Universal Judaism (New York, N.Y.) constitution, articles of incorporation, minutes.

Box 1. Folder 6. Congregation Daat Elohim The Temple of Universal Judaism (New York, N.Y.) Governing Board minutes and intermarriage.

Box 1. Folder 7. Congregation Daat Elohim The Temple of Universal Judaism (New York, N.Y.) membership.

Box 1. Folder 8. Congregation Daat Elohim The Temple of Universal Judaism (New York, N.Y.) membership.

Box 2. Folder 1. Congregation Daat Elohim The Temple of Universal Judaism (New York, N.Y.) minutes, 1978-1997

Box 2. Folder 2. Congregation Daat Elohim The Temple of Universal Judaism (New York, N.Y.) miscellaneous.

Box 2. Folder 3. Congregation Daat Elohim The Temple of Universal Judaism (New York, N.Y.) opening responses, 1975-1979

Box 2. Folder 4. Congregation Daat Elohim The Temple of Universal Judaism (New York, N.Y.) retirement, 1991, 1996-1997

Box 2. Folder 5. Congregation Daat Elohim The Temple of Universal Judaism (New York, N.Y.) weddings.

Box 2. Folder 6. Congregation Emanu El (Honolulu, Hawaii), 1961-1965

Box 2. Folder 7. Congregation Emanu El (Honolulu, Hawaii) ethics on government, 1965

Box 2. Folder 8. Temple Emanu El (Irondequoit, N.Y.) student pulpit, 1956

Box 2. Folder 9. Temple Emanu El (Irondequoit, N.Y.), 1953-1955

Box 2. Folder 10. Temple Emanu El (Irondequoit, N.Y.), 1956

Box 3. Folder 1. Temple Sinai (New Orleans, La.), 1965-1972

Box 3. Folder 2. Temple Sinai (New Orleans, La.), 1966-1972

Box 3. Folder 3. Temple Sinai (New Orleans, La.), 1968-1970

Box 3. Folder 4. Temple Sinai (New Orleans, La.), undated

- Box 3. Folder 5. Temple Sinai (New Orleans, La.) information about.
- Box 3. Folder 6. Temple Sinai (New Orleans, La.) intermarriage, 1973
- Box 3. Folder 7. Rabbinical correspondence, 1974-1975
- Box 3. Folder 8. Responses to books, 1990-2000
- Box 3. Folder 9. Susskind, David, 1973 April
- Box 3. Folder 10. Weddings.
- Box 3. Folder 11. Weddings and conversions.

## **Series B. Subject Files**

**Extent** 2.2 linear feet (5.5 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** Contain the topics that interested Rosenberg throughout his life. His interest in the many cultures and religions of the world is evidenced by the subject headings. These files contain his notes on the topics and were often later turned into articles, books, sermons and speeches.

**Arrangement** The series is arranged alphabetically.

### **Box and Folder Listing**

- Box 4. Folder 1. Abraham and the Promised Land.
- Box 4. Folder 2. Academic records.
- Box 4. Folder 3. Affluent society.
- Box 4. Folder 4. Algeria, Argentina, England.
- Box 4. Folder 5. Aliyah: the Peoples of Israel.
- Box 4. Folder 6. Amalek.
- Box 4. Folder 7. Animals, kindness to.
- Box 4. Folder 8. Anti-communism.
- Box 4. Folder 9. Anthropology.
- Box 4. Folder 10. Arizona.
- Box 4. Folder 11. Art.
- Box 4. Folder 12. Asch, Sholem.
- Box 4. Folder 13. Astrology.
- Box 4. Folder 14. Atheism.
- Box 4. Folder 15. Authorship of the Bible.
- Box 4. Folder 16. Awards.
- Box 4. Folder 17. Baby blessings.
- Box 4. Folder 18. Balak-Balaam.
- Box 4. Folder 19. Benedictions.
- Box 4. Folder 20. Bible.
- Box 4. Folder 21. Biblical instruments.
- Box 4. Folder 22. Biography.

Box 4. Folder 23. Black Muslims and Black Jews.

Box 4. Folder 24. Blessings at meal times.

Box 4. Folder 25. Boy Scouts.

Box 4. Folder 26. Buber, Martin.

Box 4. Folder 27. Business.

Box 4. Folder 28. Calendar Jewish.

Box 4. Folder 29. Censorship in a Free Society.

Box 4. Folder 30. Change in Human Nature.

Box 5. Folder 1. Children and youth.

Box 5. Folder 2. Chinese philosophy.

Box 5. Folder 3. Christian religions.

Box 5. Folder 4. Christmas season.

Box 5. Folder 5. Cities of refuge.

Box 5. Folder 6. Civil War centennial.

Box 5. Folder 7. Civil rights.

Box 5. Folder 8. College courses.

Box 5. Folder 9. Concentration camps.

Box 5. Folder 10. Contemporary Jewish problems.

Box 5. Folder 11. Courage and character guidance.

Box 5. Folder 12. Crossroads.

Box 5. Folder 13. Crime in the streets.

Box 5. Folder 14. Creation.

Box 5. Folder 15. Education Religious schools.

Box 5. Folder 16. Eichmann trial.

Box 5. Folder 17. Elijah.

Box 5. Folder 18. The Enemy Camp. Weidman.

Box 5. Folder 19. Ethics in modern society.

Box 5. Folder 20. Eulogies.

Box 5. Folder 21. Evolution of God idea.

Box 5. Folder 22. Existence of God.

Box 5. Folder 23. Exams.

Box 5. Folder 24. Exodus.

Box 5. Folder 25. Falashas.

Box 5. Folder 26. False prophets.

Box 5. Folder 27. Family unity.

Box 5. Folder 28. Farewell to Schwarz.

Box 5. Folder 29. The Fixer. Malamud.

Box 5. Folder 30. Fundamentals of Judaism.

Box 5. Folder 31. God's covenant with man.

Box 5. Folder 32. God's law.

Box 5. Folder 33. Golden calf.

Box 5. Folder 34. Graduation address. Hawaii.

Box 5. Folder 35. Graham crusades.

Box 5. Folder 36. Gratitude.

Box 6. Folder 1. Haazinu.

Box 6. Folder 2. Hanukah.

Box 6. Folder 3. Hawaii Jewish community.

Box 6. Folder 4. Hawaii miscellaneous.

Box 6. Folder 5. Hebrew Union College notes.

Box 6. Folder 6. Hecht. A Child of the Century.

Box 6. Folder 7. Herzl, Theodore.

Box 6. Folder 8. Herzog.

Box 6. Folder 9. History.

Box 6. Folder 10. Human relations material.

Box 6. Folder 11. Humility. Nadab and Abihu.

Box 6. Folder 12. Idolatry.

Box 7. Folder 1. Indian philosophy.

Box 7. Folder 2. Inter-marriage.

Box 7. Folder 3. Iranian influence.

Box 7. Folder 4. Intellectuals and Judaism.

Box 7. Folder 5. Israel crisis.

Box 7. Folder 6. Israel trips.

Box 7. Folder 7. Jacob and Esau.

Box 7. Folder 8. Jacob's Ladder.

Box 7. Folder 9. Jewish basis of Christian thought.

Box 7. Folder 10. Jewish community centers.

Box 7. Folder 11. Jewish contributions.

Box 7. Folder 12. Jewish exclusionism.

Box 7. Folder 13. Jewish voting pattern.

Box 7. Folder 14. Joseph.

Box 7. Folder 15. Judaism and Christianity.

Box 7. Folder 16. Justice.

Box 7. Folder 17. Justice and mercy of God.

Box 7. Folder 18. Korah's rebellion.

Box 7. Folder 19. Labor mediation. Hawaii.

Box 7. Folder 20. Labor relations.

Box 7. Folder 21. Ladejinsky case.

Box 7. Folder 22. Last of the Just.

Box 7. Folder 23. Law and order.

Box 8. Folder 1. "Let this cup pass from me.".

Box 8. Folder 2. Leviticus.

Box 8. Folder 3. Life-cycle situations.

Box 8. Folder 4. Light and darkness.

Box 8. Folder 5. The Lotus and the Robot. Koestler.

Box 8. Folder 6. Love.

Box 8. Folder 7. Marjorie Morningstar. Wouk.

Box 8. Folder 8. Maya.

Box 8. Folder 9. Messiah.

Box 8. Folder 10. Mispatrie.

Box 8. Folder 11. Mission of the Jewish people.

Box 8. Folder 12. Morality.

Box 8. Folder 13. Mourning and burial customs.

Box 8. Folder 14. Mysticism.

Box 8. Folder 15. Names of God.

Box 8. Folder 16. A Nation of Sheep. Ledebur.

Box 8. Folder 17. Nature and Destiny of Man. Niebuhr.

Box 8. Folder 18. National Security seminar.

Box 8. Folder 19. Nazi Party, America.

Box 8. Folder 20. Nazarene. Asceticism.

Box 8. Folder 21. New Year thoughts.

Box 8. Folder 22. Noah.

Box 8. Folder 23. Non-conformist behavior.

Box 8. Folder 24. Numbers.

Box 8. Folder 25. Oriental languages.

Box 8. Folder 26. Passover.

Box 8. Folder 27. Patriarchy in Philo.

Box 8. Folder 28. Peace.

Box 8. Folder 29. Personal photos.

Box 8. Folder 30. Philosophy.

Box 8. Folder 31. Pirke Avot and Pirke Noar.

Box 8. Folder 32. Pharisees and Sadducees.

Box 8. Folder 33. Politics in religion.

Box 8. Folder 34. Post-war Germany.

Box 8. Folder 35. Prayer.

Box 8. Folder 36. The problem and the answer in Job.

Box 8. Folder 37. Prophecy.

Box 8. Folder 38. Public school and religion.

Box 8. Folder 39. Purim and Good Friday.  
Box 8. Folder 40. Purpose of religion.  
Box 8. Folder 41. Racial prejudice.  
Box 8. Folder 42. Redemption.  
Box 8. Folder 43. Reform code of practice.  
Box 8. Folder 44. Reform Judaism.  
Box 9. Folder 1. Religion in the space age.  
Box 9. Folder 2. Religious equality.  
Box 9. Folder 3. Religious convictions and identity.  
Box 9. Folder 4. Remington case.  
Box 9. Folder 5. Review of The Rabbi by Noah Cordon.  
Box 9. Folder 6. Revival of religion.  
Box 9. Folder 7. Reward and punishment Job.  
Box 9. Folder 8. Rights of Women.  
Box 9. Folder 9. Role of religious leaders.  
Box 9. Folder 10. The Rothschilds.  
Box 9. Folder 11. Sifradi Seni'uta. Book of Concealment.  
Box 9. Folder 12. Sifradi Seni'uta. Book of Concealment publication.  
Box 9. Folder 13. Seven marks of the clod.  
Box 9. Folder 14. Speaking.  
Box 9. Folder 15. Talmud and Rabbinics.

## **Series C. Writings**

**Extent** 0.8 linear feet (2 Hollinger boxes)

**Arrangement** The series is arranged alphabetically.

### **Box and Folder Listing**

Box 9. Folder 16. Articles regarding Rosenberg.  
Box 9. Folder 17. "The Canaanite Cult of Jerusalem" and "Judaism and Christianity."  
Box 9. Folder 18. "The Disciples and Tribes of Israel."  
Box 9. Folder 19. "The Holy Assembly and the Lesser Holy Assembly of the Zohar."  
Box 10. Folder 1. "Gods, Priests and Kings in Ancient Israel."  
Box 10. Folder 2. Historical biographies.  
Box 10. Folder 3. "Mendelssohn."  
Box 10. Folder 4. "Law and Morality."  
Box 10. Folder 5. Letters to the editor, 1998  
Box 10. Folder 6. "The Jewish Idea and the Existentialism of Today."  
Box 10. Folder 7. Publications.



- Box 10. Folder 8. Publications and conference papers.
- Box 10. Folder 9. School writings.
- Box 10. Folder 10. Theology papers.
- Box 10. Folder 11. "Traces of the Near Eastern Cults of the Moon and the Planet Saturn in the Bible and Rabbinic Literature."
- Box 10. Folder 12. University of Maryland. English papers.
- Box 11. Folder 1. University of Maryland, 1946
- Box 11. Folder 2. University of Maryland papers.
- Box 11. Folder 3. Writings, miscellaneous.
- Box 11. Folder 4. Philosophy and Theology.
- Box 11. Folder 5. Prize essays.
- Box 11. Folder 6. Publication of thesis.

### **Series D. Sermons, 1952-1990, undated**

**Extent** 1 linear foot (2.5 Hollinger boxes)

**Scope and Content Note** The sermons are either in the form of an outline or written out.

**Arrangement** The series is arranged alphabetically.

#### **Box and Folder Listing**

- Box 11. Folder 7. "American Jewish history."
- Box 11. Folder 8. "Anti-Defamation League. 1959-1961."
- Box 11. Folder 9. "The Case against Congress."
- Box 11. Folder 10. "Ceremonies."
- Box 11. Folder 11. "Chapel sermons. Hebrew Union College."
- Box 11. Folder 12. "China."
- Box 11. Folder 13. "Clothing."
- Box 11. Folder 14. "Confessions of Nat Turner. Styron."
- Box 11. Folder 15. "Confirmation services."
- Box 11. Folder 16. "Confucius."
- Box 12. Folder 1. "The Covenant and Nature of Man in Judaism."
- Box 12. Folder 2. "Daughters of Zelophchad."
- Box 12. Folder 3. "Development Fund for American Judaism."
- Box 12. Folder 4. "Development of the Jewish Faith."
- Box 12. Folder 5. "Dr. Zhivago. Pasternak."
- Box 12. Folder 6. "Dreams."
- Box 12. Folder 7. "Fortas, Abe."
- Box 12. Folder 8. "Greatest Jewish Books."
- Box 12. Folder 9. "Heaven Help Us."

Box 12. Folder 10. High Holy Days. Cairo, Verdun, 1952, 1957

Box 12. Folder 11. High Holy Days, 1966-1969, 1972-1974

Box 12. Folder 12. High Holy Days, 1973-1978

Box 12. Folder 13. High Holy Days, 1974

Box 12. Folder 14. High Holy Days, 1982-1984

Box 12. Folder 15. High Holy Days, undated

Box 12. Folder 16. High Holy Days. Hawaii.

Box 12. Folder 17. "Hinduism.".

Box 12. Folder 18. "How Jewish are New Orleans Jews?".

Box 12. Folder 19. "In the Days of Simon Stern.".

Box 12. Folder 20. "Incident in Beirut.".

Box 12. Folder 21. Installation and Farewell, 1966, 1967, 1970

Box 12. Folder 22. "International Relations and Judaism.".

Box 12. Folder 23. "Islam.".

Box 12. Folder 24. "Israel survey.".

Box 12. Folder 25. "Jesus, Isaac and the Suffering Servant.".

Box 12. Folder 26. "Jews, God and History.".

Box 12. Folder 27. Kennedy Memorial, 1963 November 25

Box 12. Folder 28. "Kissinger.".

Box 12. Folder 29. "Last Exit to Brooklyn.".

Box 12. Folder 30. "Mardi Gras and Jewish Question.".

Box 12. Folder 31. "Marriage.".

Box 12. Folder 32. "May you Gladden the Beloved Friends as you did in Paradise.".

Box 13. Folder 1. Memorial service sermons.

Box 13. Folder 2. Message of Israel sermons, 1960, 1980

Box 13. Folder 3. "The Messiah in Judaism.".

Box 13. Folder 4. "The Moon.".

Box 13. Folder 5. "On the Problem of Time.".

Box 13. Folder 6. "Our Crowd.".

Box 13. Folder 7. "Palestine and the PLO.".

Box 13. Folder 8. "Parochial schools.".

Box 13. Folder 9. "Pediatric and Cardiac Judaism.".

Box 13. Folder 10. "Police Brutality.".

Box 13. Folder 11. "Repentance.".

Box 13. Folder 12. "Sabbath of Comfort.".

Box 13. Folder 13. "Sabbatical year.".

Box 13. Folder 14. "Sachs, Nelly.".

Box 13. Folder 15. "Sacrificial system.".

Box 13. Folder 16. "Satan.".

Box 13. Folder 17. "Second Isaiah."

Box 13. Folder 18. "The Secular City."

Box 13. Folder 19. Sermons, 1981-1983

Box 13. Folder 20. Sermons, 1987-1990

Box 13. Folder 21. "Seven Benedictions: The Jewish Wedding."

Box 13. Folder 22. "Sex."

Box 13. Folder 23. "Shabbot Haggodol."

Box 13. Folder 24. "A Sign upon my Hand."

Box 13. Folder 25. "Singer, I.B.: Magician of Lublin."

Box 13. Folder 26. "Sisterhood."

Box 13. Folder 27. "Slavery (Jewish)."

Box 13. Folder 28. "Social Legislation."

Box 13. Folder 29. "Something for Nothing."

Box 13. Folder 30. "Sounds of Silence."

Box 13. Folder 31. "Soviet Jewry."

Box 13. Folder 32. "Space Flight."

Box 13. Folder 33. "Spies (Shelach Lecha)."

Box 13. Folder 34. "Spies and Revolution."

Box 13. Folder 35. "Spinoza."

Box 13. Folder 36. "Status Seekers."

Box 13. Folder 37. "Succot."

Box 13. Folder 38. "Tabernacle (Dwelling of God)."

Box 13. Folder 39. "Ten Commandments."

Box 13. Folder 40. "Thanksgiving."

Box 13. Folder 41. "Thirteen Attributes."

Box 13. Folder 42. "This is my god."

Box 13. Folder 43. "Theology of the Holocaust."

Box 13. Folder 44. "Tisha B'Av."

Box 13. Folder 45. Touro memorial lecture.

Box 13. Folder 46. "Toynbee and Judaism."

Box 13. Folder 47. "Verdun."

Box 13. Folder 48. "The Watchers."

Box 13. Folder 49. "What is in it for me?"

Box 13. Folder 50. "What is the Way that a Man Should Choose?"

Box 13. Folder 51. "What Jerusalem is."

Box 13. Folder 52. "What Makes a Jew Believe?"

Box 13. Folder 53. "Weiner, H. Wild Goats of Ein Gad."

Box 13. Folder 54. "While Six Million Died."

Box 13. Folder 55. "Women."

Box 13. Folder 56. "Year 2000."

Box 13. Folder 57. "Youth in Revolt."

Box 13. Folder 58. "Zionism."

### **Series E. Audiovisual Material, undated**

**Extent** 0.4 linear feet (1 Hollinger box)

**Scope and Content Note** Contains tapes and recordings of Rosenberg as well as some of his Rotary Club memorabilia.

#### **Container List**

Box 13. Miscellaneous.

Box 14. Miscellaneous.