



Rabbi Eric S. Gurvis
egurvis@templeshalom.org

Temple Shalom
of Newton

175 Temple Street
Newton, MA 02465
Tel 617.552.9550
Fax 617.552.9857
www.templeshalom.org

September 4, 2008

To Whom It May Concern,

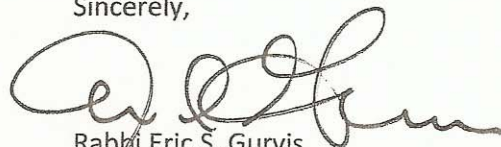
I am quite pleased and honored to write this commendation for *The Black-Jew Dialogues*.

I first became acquainted with this entertaining and thought-provoking presentation by Ron Jones and Larry Tish when it was first presented here in Boston several years ago. Attending that first performance with a number of friends we were all immediately impressed. Following the performance I approached Ron and Larry to inquire about the possibility of bringing the show to Temple Shalom of Newton, which we did in November of 2006. The audience, which included high school students, their parents, and other members of our broader community, were captivated by the colorful array of characters, and the honest approach to important issues in the relationship between the African American and Jewish communities. To be sure there is a rich history in our communities' respective journeys. At the same time, there are tensions, and *The Black-Jew Dialogues* offers viewers (and I should say, participants) to engage in some soul-searching and reflection about attitudes and relationships that extend far beyond just the Black and Jewish communities.

Especially important in the experience is the opportunity for talk-back with Ron and Larry at the conclusion of the presentation. The dialogue with our community was lively and informative. Put simply, members of our community are still talking about this as one of the best programs we have ever brought to Temple Shalom for our high school community.

I highly recommend Ron Jones and Larry Tish, and *The Black-Jew Dialogues* as a worthwhile and engaging event for our communities.

Sincerely,



Rabbi Eric S. Gurvis