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Rabbinic Ordination, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion,  
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B.A., University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, 1974.

**DISSERTATION:** *The ROSH and the RAMBAM: The Halakhah of Ashkenaz Confronts the  
Tradition of Sefarad.*

**BOOKS:**

[\*Reading Reform Responsa: Jewish Tradition, Reform Rabbis, and Today's Issues.\*](#) New York:  
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Joel Roth, *The Halakhic Process*, in *Religious Studies Review*, 1987.

R. Shain, *All for the Boss*, in *Religious Studies Review*, 1986.

## **PAPERS AND LECTURES:**

“Halakhah as a Language for Reform Jews,” Symposium One, HUC-JIR, New York, November 14, 2016.

“Reform Halakhic Decision-Making,” The Van Leer Institute Conference on Reform Judaism, Jerusalem, December 25, 2007.

“Jewish Law, Bioethics, and Stem Cell Research.” University of Tulsa College of Law, January 18, 2007.

“Human Stem Cell Research: A Jewish Perspective,” John Carroll University, March 21, 2002.

“Halakhah and Interpretive Communities,” Conference on the Academic Study of Jewish Law, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York, March 16, 2001.

“Judaism and Advertising,” The Jules Backman Lecture, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York, May 15, 2000.

“Is There a Jewish Bioethics? A Response to Elliot Dorff,” The Second International Conference on Jewish Perspectives on Bioethics in the 21st Century, Boston University, October 10, 1999.

“Reform Judaism and Homosexual Marriage,” Duke University Divinity School, Durham, NC, February 18, 1999.

“From *Halakhah* to *Mishpat Ivri*: Women’s Suffrage and the Politics of Rabbinic Decision”, International Conference on *Mishpat Ivri* and Talmudic Sources, New York, February 14-15, 1993.

“The Study of Medieval Halakhic Literature: The State of Present Research”, Symposium on the Academic Study of Judaism and the Reform Rabbinate, HUC-JIR, Cincinnati, Ohio, Nov. 1, 1992.

Response to Dr. Daniel Callahan, “New Developments in the Abortion Debate,” The Starkoff Institute of Ethics and Contemporary Moral Problems, Cincinnati, Ohio, October 16, 1989.

“R. Nissim b. Reuben Gerondi and the Mishneh Torah of Maimonides,” Tenth World Congress of Jewish Studies, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, August 21, 1989.

“The Halakhic Process in American Reform Judaism,” North American Chevra Conference, CLAL (National Jewish Center for Learning and Leadership), Homowack Lodge, NY, June 9, 1987.

“The Warrant for Abortion in the Halakhic Tradition,” International Congress on Medieval Studies, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI, May 8, 1987.

“R. Asher b. Yehiel and the Mishneh Torah of Maimonides: A New Look at Some Old Evidence,” Association for Jewish Studies, Boston, Dec. 16, 1986.

“Halakhah and Political Theory: Rabbinic Thought and the New Jewish State,” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Washington, DC, Nov. 14, 1986.

“The Langer Case: The Conflict Between Equity and Halakhah,” Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Knoxville, TN, November, 1983.

**ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT:**

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Temple Ohev Israel, Newark, OH 1979-1980.

Temple Israel, Blytheville, AR, 1976-1978.

**OTHER:**

President, Solomon B. Freehof Institute for Progressive Halakhah, 2018 – present.

Chair, Committee on Responsa, Central Conference of American Rabbis, 1996-2017.

Simon Lazarus Memorial Prize, HUC-JIR, 1980.

Rabbi Morris H. Youngerman Prize, HUC-JIR, 1980.

Mother Hirsch Prize, HUC-JIR, 1978.

Bnai Zion Medal, HUC-JIR, 1976.

Phi Beta Kappa, University of Alabama, 1974.