



Dear Reader

My first response to the article "Orthodox Judaism" is the only true reflection of Jewish religion by Eli Knight, is to the JR Editorial staff. Journalism 101 requires that you ask for a response from "the other side" so as to encourage a balanced perspective for your readers. My colleagues and I have not been graced with such a request, though if our responses are published, that may go some way in a levelling of the playing fields.

The author sets out his article from start to finish, from what can only be described as a "holier than Thou" perspective. First seeking to demean and then belittle myself, and my colleagues, by incorrectly referring to us as "priests," and while offence is intended, none is actually taken. This as from our perspective we (human beings) are ALL equal in the eyes of G-d, from a spiritual perspective, none of us are orphaned - we are ALL children of G-d. I look upon a priest, with a same respect as I do a Rabbi.

The author then moves on in the same tone by in essence referring to all reform Jews as "second class citizens," the "real" or orthodox Jews, being the ones of great depth, the ones who work hard and do not make a mess of this world etc.

If the author had the ability to be still for a moment, to turn his gaze inward and contemplate on the matter for long enough, he would soon realize that the gist of what he is espousing, is no different at all - in point of fact, is precisely the "thinking" of the fuhrer, his holier than Thou perspective of himself, and "his people," relative to all other communities, nations and people existing on the same planet as him.

In no way shape or form do I speak from an "anti" perspective, my speaking is done to encourage thought, deep thought - this is the way I was raised as a child, and taught as a Reform Rabbi. I lived the vast majority of my life in Jerusalem, served as an officer in the IDF, my Mother is a Rabbi, her parents and grand parents were killed in the Holocaust (a tragic memory, like many others in MY community.) How, I ask you, does the author claim to be "more Jewish" than I am?

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Regards,  
Rabbi Julia Margolis  
Chairman SACRED

+27-76-6730750  
email: [rabbijuliamargolis@gmail.com](mailto:rabbijuliamargolis@gmail.com)

