

# 2016 Survey of Camp Ramah Alumni

Note: Blue highlighted text will not be seen by respondents

1. In which of the following ways have you been connected to Ramah?
- |   | Yes | No |
|---|-----|----|
| a. Camper or staff member at a Ramah program                            |     |    |
| b. Parent or grandparent of a camper or staff member at a Ramah program |     |    |
| c. Donor to a Ramah program   |     |    |
| d. Spouse attended or worked at a Ramah program                         |     |    |
| e. A connection to Ramah not listed above                               |     |    |
| f. Mishlachat   |     |    |

2. IF YES to 1a, ask a-e. IF NO, skip to 3.

- For how many years were you a camper?
- For how many years were you a staff member? \_\_\_\_\_

IF >1, ask 2c; if <=1, skip to 2d)

c. Were you ever a rosh edah ?

Yes

No

d. How old were you when you first attended or worked at a Ramah camp?

e. How old were you when you last attended or worked at a Ramah camp?

f. [If 1a is Yes] Which program(s) did you attend or work at

3. Have you ever recommended Ramah to others?

No, never

Yes, once or twice

Yes, a few times or more

## Your Jewish Involvement

4. [PEW Q.H5b] How important is being Jewish in your life?

Very important

Somewhat important

Not too important

Not at all important

5. [PEW ATTEND1 ] Aside from life cycle events like weddings, funerals and bar mitzvahs, how often do you attend Jewish religious services at a synagogue, temple, minyan or havurah?
  - Once a week or more
  - Once or twice a month
  - A few times a year, such as for high holidays
  - Seldom
  - Never
  
6. [PEW Q code?.] How many of your close friends are Jewish?
  - All of them
  - Most of them
  - Some of them
  - Hardly any of them
  - None of them
  
7. Of your close friends, how many, if any, are people you met at Ramah?
  - 3 or more
  - 1-2
  - None
  
8. Do you now/have you ever serve(d) as an officer or board member of a Jewish organization?
  - Yes
  - No
  
9. Are you now/have you ever been employed by a congregation or a Jewish organization?
  - Yes, full-time
  - Yes, part-time
  - No
  
10. In the past 12 months, how often, if at all, did you:
 

	<b>Many times</b>	<b>A few times</b>	<b>Once or twice</b>	<b>Never</b>
Attend a Shabbat meal at someone else's home?				
Invite friends to a Shabbat meal at your home?				
  
11. Do you belong to a synagogue? 1 YES 2 NO
  
12. (IF YES) Is this synagogue ...
  - 1 Conservative
  - 2 Orthodox
  - 3 Reform
  - 4 Reconstructionist
  - 5 Other

13. During the last year, have you ...

	YES	NO
Led services (as the cantor or "shaliach tzibbur")?	1	2
Given a "d'var torah" or sermon?	1	2
Chanted a Haftarah?	1	2
Chanted Torah?	1	2

	YES	NO
13a. Last year, did you fast on Yom Kippur, all or part of the day?	1	2
13b. Does your household usually light Shabbat candles?	1	2
13c. Does your home use separate dishes for meat & dairy?	1	2
13d. Do you refrain from eating meat in non-kosher restaurants?	1	2

### Israel and You

14. Have you ever been to Israel, or not?

- Yes, I now live in Israel
- Yes, I have lived in Israel for 3 months or more
- Yes, I have visited 3 times or more
- Yes, visited twice
- Yes, once
- Never

#### If yes to previous question

15. [PEW] Have you ever participated in a Birthright Israel trip, or not?

- Yes, while in college
- Yes, after college
- No

16. [PEW Q.G2] How emotionally attached to Israel are you?

- Very attached
- Somewhat attached
- Not very attached
- Not at all attached

17. [If 14 NOT I now live in Israel, ask:] Do you have any close friends or immediate family living in Israel?

- Yes
- No

18. [If 14 NOT I now live in Israel and NOT I have lived in Israel, ask]: Have you ever seriously considered living in Israel?

- Yes
- No

## Raising Jewish Children

19. Do you have any children?  
Yes  
No

20. [IF YES] How old is your oldest child? [DROP DOWN 0 to 40 or older]

[IF CHILD 8 or older, but less than 40] Please answer with respect to your oldest child.

21. What is the main source of Jewish schooling your oldest child has received/will receive until the age of 13?  
Day school  
Hebrew or religious school that met more than once a week  
Hebrew or religious school that met once a week  
Private tutor (to match question 40)  
Other  
None

22. [IF CHILD 8 or older, but less than 18] How important is it to you that, when your child is an adults, he/she ...

	<b>Essential</b>	<b>Very Important</b>	<b>Not very Important</b>	<b>Not at all Important</b>
Raise Jewish children				
Celebrate Jewish holidays as an adult				
Observe Shabbat in some fashion				
Keep kosher				
Regularly study Jewish texts				
Feel emotionally attached to Israel				
Marry a Jew				

## Your College Years

23. At college, how often, if at all, did you attend/have you attended programs, events, classes, services, or meals sponsored by the following organizations?

**Many times   A few times   Once or twice   Never**

Hillel  
Chabad  
A Conservative or Masorti group  
Any other Jewish organization on campus

24. During your undergraduate years, did you take/have you taken any Jewish studies courses for academic credit?  
Yes, 3 or more  
Yes, 1 or 2

No  
Not sure

25. When you were in college or university, did you/have you ...

	YES	NO
Take part in activities of a Conservative Jewish campus group?	1	2
Attend Shabbat services at least once a month?	1	2

### Your Background

26. What is your gender identity?

Male  
Female  
Other

27. How old are you?

Drop down list... Under 21, 21, 22 ... 38, 39, 40 or older

28. In what country do you live?

United States  
Canada  
Israel  
Elsewhere

29. [IF US]: Your Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_ DELETED FROM DATA FILE

30. In what country were you raised?

United States  
Canada  
Israel  
Elsewhere

31. Your highest educational degree

Professional or graduate degree  
B.A., B.S. or undergraduate degree  
HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA

32. Are you currently pursuing an undergraduate degree?

Yes, full-time  
Yes, part-time  
No [Skip to Q.34]

33. [IF YES] What is the name of the college or university at which you're enrolled?

List of universities will appear here/include Israeli universities and colleges

34. Are you married, living with a partner, divorced, separated, widowed, or have you never been married?  
 Married  
 Living with a partner  
 Divorced or separated  
 Widowed  
 Never been married

If answer to “are you married” is Never been married or Divorced or Separated

35. In the last 12 months, have you dated anyone who is ...

	Yes, 2 or more such persons	Yes, 1 person	No, never	Doesn't apply to me
Jewish				
Partly Jewish				
Not Jewish				

If answer to “are you married” is Married or Living with a partner

36. Does your (spouse/partner) consider him/herself Jewish or partly Jewish, or not Jewish?  
 Jewish  
 Partly Jewish  
 Not Jewish

37. **[IF MARRIED & SPOUSE JEWISH]** Did your spouse ever attend Camp Ramah?  
 YES  
 NO

38. **[IF YES TO 37, OTHERWISE SKIP TO 39]** Did you meet your spouse at Camp Ramah?  
 YES  
 NO

39. **[PEW IDEO]** In general, would you describe your political views as...  
 Very conservative  
 Conservative  
 Moderate  
 Liberal  
 Very liberal  
 Not sure

## Your Jewish Background

40. What is the main source of Jewish schooling you received until the age of 13?

- Day school
- Hebrew or religious school that met more than once a week
- Hebrew or religious school that met once a week
- Private tutor
- Other
- None

41. With respect to your parents (or the one or two people who raised you) ...

- Both/all were Jewish
- One was Jewish, one not
- None was Jewish
- It's complicated. Explain, please: \_\_\_\_\_

42. When you were 11 or 12 years old, did one or both of your parents ...

- |  | YES | NO |
|--|-----|----|
| a. Usually light Shabbat candles?          | 1   | 2  |
| b. Use separate dishes for meat and dairy? | 1   | 2  |
| c. Fast on Yom Kippur?                     | 1   | 2  |

43. In your teen years, did you ever ...

- |   | YES | NO |
|---|-----|----|
| a. Participate in USY?                        | 1   | 2  |
| b. Participate in another Jewish youth group? | 1   | 2  |
| c. Visit Israel?                              | 1   | 2  |

44. Referring to Jewish religious denominations, in which of the following were you raised, and which, if any, do you consider yourself now? (Check the single most appropriate answer in each column.)

	Raised	Now
Orthodox	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Conservative	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reform	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reconstructionist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Chabad	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Post-denominational	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Just Jewish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other Jewish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not Jewish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not sure	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

To conclude, three questions for you to answer in your own words.

47. Please share a Ramah story or reflection from your personal experience.

48. In what ways do you feel positive about your Ramah experiences?

49. In what ways do you feel critical about your Ramah experiences?

If you want to write me directly, please write to: [prof.stevenmcohen@gmail.com](mailto:prof.stevenmcohen@gmail.com) .

Again, please click on the forward arrow below to submit your answers.

**THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS QUESTIONNAIRE!**