

ZALMAN ROTHSCILD
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law, 2024–
Assistant Professor of Law and Horn Family Distinguished Research Scholar in Law and Religion
Courses: Civil Procedure, First Amendment's Religion Clauses, Law and Antisemitism,
Antidiscrimination Law Colloquium

University of Chicago Law School, 2022–2024
Bigelow Fellow and Lecturer in Law

Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies, University of Pennsylvania, Spring 2018
Postdoctoral Researcher

EDUCATION

Harvard Law School, J.D., *magna cum laude*, 2018

New York University, Ph.D., Religion & Jewish Studies, 2016

Yeshiva University, M.A., Jewish Philosophy, 2010

Binghamton University, B.A., Jewish Studies & History, 2008

Ariel Institute Rabbinical School of Jerusalem, Rabbinic Ordination, 2006

PUBLICATIONS

Parental Religious Rights, MINNESOTA LAW REVIEW (2027) (forthcoming)

Anti-Zionism, Antisemitism, Antidiscrimination, AMERICAN JOURNAL OF LAW AND EQUALITY (2026) (peer reviewed) (forthcoming)

Vaccines, Religious Liberty, and the GVR as Doctrinal Signal, HARVARD LAW REVIEW FORUM (2026)

- Featured in Adam Liptak, *What I'm Reading*, NEW YORK TIMES (March 12, 2026)

The Right to Exit Religion, 113 GEORGETOWN LAW JOURNAL 1459 (2025)

The Impossibility of Religious Equality, 125 COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW 453 (2025)

- Harold Berman Award for Excellence in Scholarship, AALS Law and Religion, 2026
- Reviewed in JOTWELL by Ezra Young

Free Exercise Partisanship, 107 CORNELL LAW REVIEW 1067 (2022)

- Harold Berman Award for Excellence in Scholarship, AALS Law and Religion, 2023

- Discussed in Linda Greenhouse, *Should Reporters Identify Judges by the President Who Nominated Them?*, NEW YORK TIMES (May 12, 2025); Adam Liptak, *An Extraordinary Winning Streak for Religion*, NEW YORK TIMES (April 5, 2021); Linda Greenhouse, *Justice Amy Coney Barrett's Choice*, NEW YORK TIMES (Dec. 3, 2020); Eric Posner, *Legal Assaults on Coronavirus Shutdowns*, WASHINGTON POST (Oct. 14, 2020)
- Reviewed in JOTWELL by Professor Mae Kuykendall
- Discussed in Michael W. McConnell et al., RELIGION AND THE CONSTITUTION (5th ed., 2022)

Individualized Exemptions, Vaccine Mandates, and the New Free Exercise Clause, 131 YALE LAW JOURNAL FORUM 1106 (2022) (solicited)

- Discussed in Linda Greenhouse, *An Unhealthy Definition of Rights*, NEW YORK REVIEW OF BOOKS (Dec. 21, 2023); Jeannie Suk Gersen, *The Supreme Court's Conservatives Have Asserted Their Power*, THE NEW YORKER (July 3, 2022)
- Cited in *Campbell v. Bowser*, No. CV 22-3422, 2023 WL 3646934 (D.D.C. May 25, 2023)

Sovereignty, Reason, and Will: Carl Schmitt and Hasidic Legal Thought, 37 JOURNAL OF LAW & RELIGION 319 (2022) (peer reviewed)

- Accepted for Law & Humanities Junior Scholar Workshop, Stanford Law School (peer reviewed)

Free Exercise's Outer Boundary: The Case of Hasidic Education, 119 COLUMBIA LAW REVIEW FORUM (2019)

- Cited in Martha Minow, *Remarks Before the Commission on Unalienable Rights, United States Department of State* (Feb. 21, 2020), in 2020-003 CARR CTR. DISCUSSION PAPER SERIES 7

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Definitional Discrimination

Free Exercise's False Binary

What Makes a Hostile Environment Discriminatory?

Religion as Disability

The Constitution of Indoctrination

SHORTER PIECES & CHAPTERS

Fulton's Missing Question: Religious Adoption Agencies and the Establishment Clause, 100 TEXAS LAW REVIEW ONLINE 32 (2021)

Free Exercise's Lingering Ambiguity, 11 CALIFORNIA LAW REVIEW ONLINE 282 (2020)

Free Exercise in a Pandemic, 87 UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO LAW REVIEW ONLINE (June 2020)

- Discussed in Geoffrey R. Stone et al., CONSTITUTIONAL LAW (9th ed., 2023)

American Judicial Blindness: The Myth of Objectivity in Cruzan and Heller, THE DARK SIDES OF THE LAW: PERSPECTIVES ON LAW, LITERATURE, AND JUSTICE IN COMMON LAW COUNTRIES, Geraldine Gadbin-George et al., eds. (Houdiard, 2019)

Hasidic Legal Theory, JEWISH LEGAL THEORIES: WRITINGS ON STATE, RELIGION, AND MORALITY, Leora Batnitzky et al., eds. (Brandeis University Press, 2017) (commentary and annotations)

Culturally Competent Adaptations of CBT for Psychosis: Cases of Orthodox Jewish Patients with Messianic Delusions, 17 MENTAL HEALTH, RELIGION & CULTURE (2014) (co-authored) (peer reviewed)

BOOK REVIEWS

Religious Minority Status Upended: The Tale of a Hasidic Town, LOS ANGELES REVIEW OF BOOKS (February 17, 2022) (reviewing Nomi Stolzenberg & David Myers, *American Shtetl: The Making of Kiryas Joel, A Hasidic Village in Upstate New York* (2021))

Foundation Stone, JEWISH REVIEW OF BOOKS (Summer 2021) (reviewing Yoram Bilu, *With Us More Than Ever: Making the Absent Rebbe Present in Messianic Chabad* (2020))

The Deep Humanity of Jewish Law, MARGINALIA REVIEW (October 23, 2020) (reviewing Moshe Halbertal, *The Birth of Doubt: Confounding Uncertainty in Early Rabbinic Literature* (2020))

Succession, Succession!, JEWISH REVIEW OF BOOKS (Winter 2018) (reviewing Samuel Heilman, *Who Will Lead Us?: The Story of Five Hasidic Dynasties in America* (2017))

Book Review, TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION (November 10, 2016) (reviewing *The Last Rabbi: Joseph Soloveitchik and Talmudic Tradition* (2016))

OPINION PIECES

A Disturbing Dissent Lies Beneath New Ruling on Childhood Vaccines, WASHINGTON POST (April 15, 2026)

Remembering a Rabbi, NEW YORK TIMES (BELIEVING) (December 21, 2025)

My Murdered Friend Eli, THE ATLANTIC (December 15, 2025)

The Jewish High Holidays Teach This Lost Democratic Virtue, WASHINGTON POST (September 21, 2025)

My Religious Education was Unparalleled—and That's the Problem, WASHINGTON POST (March 13, 2025)

This Passover, Have Room in Your Hearts for Israelis and Palestinians, LOS ANGELES TIMES (April 22, 2024)

'Religious Equality' is Transforming American Law, THE ATLANTIC (October 29, 2020)

Judges' Politics Absolutely Sway How They Decide Cases, THE GUARDIAN (October 12, 2020)

LEGAL EXPERIENCE

Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison LLP, 2018–2019; 2020–2022
Litigation Associate

The Honorable Jane R. Roth, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, 2019–2020
Law Clerk

U.S. Department of Justice, National Courts Section, Summer 2016
Summer Law Clerk

OTHER TEACHING

New York University School of Law, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Fall 2022
Adjunct Professor of Law. The First Amendment's Religion Clauses (with John Sexton)

Villanova University Charles Widger School of Law, Spring 2020
Adjunct Professor of Law. Children and the Law

Jewish Theological Seminary/Columbia University, Fall 2014
Adjunct Professor. Medieval Jewish Thought

AWARDS & HONORS

Harold Berman Award for Excellence in Scholarship, AALS Section on Law and Religion, 2026
Krivosha Endowed Lecture, University of Nebraska, September 2026
Fishman Family Endowed Lecture, Vassar College, April 2026
Harold Berman Award for Excellence in Scholarship, AALS Section on Law and Religion, 2023
On the Rise—Top 40 Young Lawyer, American Bar Association, 2022

TESTIMONY

U.S. House Committee on Education and Workforce, 119th Cong. (2026), Hearing on “Defending Faith and Families Against Government Overreach: *Mahmoud v. Taylor*,” February 10, 2026 ([statement](#))

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

Vaccines, Religious Liberty, and the GVR as Doctrinal Signal
Yale Law School, Public Law Workshop, September 2026

Free Exercise's False Binary
University of California, Berkeley, Center for Jewish Studies, September 2026 (invited lecture)
University of Nebraska, Center for Jewish Studies, September 2026 (invited lecture)
University of Pennsylvania Carey Law, Gruss Workshop on Jewish Law, April 2026
Vassar College, Jewish Studies Faculty Seminar, April 2026
University of Lucerne, Faculty of Theology, May 2025 (invited lecture)

What is Antisemitism?: A Legal Analysis
University of Hamburg, Faculty of Law, June 2026 (invited lecture)
Vassar College, Jewish Studies Program, April 2026 (invited lecture)
American University of Paris, Center for Critical Democracy, December 2025 (invited lecture)
University of Vienna, Combating Antisemitism Seminar, June 2025

Indoctrination: A Constitutional Analysis
University of Geneva Faculty of Law, May 2026 (invited lecture)
University of Arizona Law, National Conference of Constitutional Law Scholars, March 2026
University of Bergen, Department of Government, June 2025 (invited lecture)

Religious Parental Rights

University of Chicago Law School, Regulation of Family, Sex & Gender Workshop, March 2026
Florida State University College of Law, Junior Scholar Constitutional Workshop, March 2026

The Right to Exit Religion

Brigham Young University Law School, Faculty Workshop, January 2025
Stanford Humanities Center, Religion, Politics, and Culture Workshop, October 2024
University of Sydney Law School, Julius Stone Institute for Jurisprudence Workshop, June 2024
University of Melbourne Law School, Comparative Constitutional Studies Workshop, June 2024
University of Queensland Law School, Faculty Workshop, June 2024
University of Osaka Law School, Faculty Workshop, May 2024
University of Chicago Law School, Regulation of Family, Sex & Gender Workshop, May 2023

The Impossibility of Religious Equality

University of Zurich Law School, Equality Seminar, December 2024
Yale Law School, Free Exercise Speaker Series, April 2024
University of Oxford Nuffield College, Freedom, Equality, Religion Workshop, June 2023

Sovereignty, Reason, and Will: Carl Schmitt and Hasidic Legal Thought

Waseda University School of Law, Constitutional Law Seminar, May 2024
University of Chicago Divinity School, Political Theologies Seminar, February 2023
Lund University Faculty of Law, Law, Theology & Culture Seminar, October 2022

Religious Communities and a Child's Right to Education

University of Lucerne, Right to a Future, Rights of a Child Conference, March 2024 (keynote)
Hebrew University, Role of Law in Diverse Societies Junior Scholar Workshop, June 2022
University of Cambridge-Harvard Medical School, Right to Science Workshop, April 2022
Michigan State University College of Law, Faculty Workshop, March 2022

Clergy Child Sex Abuse and Church Autonomy

University of California, Riverside, Religion and Sexual Abuse Conference, March 2022
Trinity College Dublin School of Law, February 2020 (invited lecture)

Fulton's Missing Question: Religious Adoption Agencies and the Establishment Clause

UMass Amherst, New Directions in Law and Society Junior Scholar Workshop, October 2021

Free Exercise Partisanship

Penn State School of Law University Park, Faculty Workshop, July 2021
University of Chicago Law School, Public Law Workshop, November 2020

Who Owns Children?: The Right to Parental Control

Paris-Panthéon-Assas University (Paris II), December 2017 (invited lecture)

SELECTED PANELS

Panelist, New York Historical, “Defining Antisemitism,” March 10, 2026

Respondent, Duke Journal of Constitutional Law & Public Policy Symposium, “Affirmative Action and the First Amendment,” February 2026

Panelist, Stanford Constitutional Law Center, “*Pierce*: The 100th Anniversary” Conference, May 2025

AFFILIATIONS

Stanford Constitutional Law Center, Stanford Law School, 2024–

Affiliate

Nootbaar Institute for Law, Religion, and Ethics, Pepperdine School of Law, 2022–

Nootbaar Fellow

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS

Fellow, UC National Center for Free Speech and Civic Engagement, 2026–2027

Early-Career Fellow, Education Law Association, 2025–2026

Nonresident Fellow, University of Lucerne Faculty of Theology, 2022–2025

Visiting Fellow, University of Queensland Law School, May 2024

Visiting Fellow, University of Bergen, Center for Research on Discretion and Paternalism, August 2022

Visiting Fellow, Max Planck Institute for Legal History and Legal Theory, Frankfurt, June 2022

Visiting Fellow, University of Glasgow School of Law, May 2022

Faculty Fellow, Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, New York, 2017–2020

Fellow, Harvard Law School, Julius-Rabinowitz Program on Jewish and Israeli Law, 2016–2017

Dissertation Completion Fellowship, Memorial Foundation for Jewish Culture, 2015–16

Fellow, Cardozo School of Law, Center for Jewish Law & Contemporary Civilization, 2013–15

SERVICE

Editor: Marginalia Review (law and religion), 2020–

Organizer: “Skermetti and the Future of Trans Rights,” Cardozo School of Law, February 2026; Jewish Law Roundtable, Cardozo School of Law, December 2025; International Conference on “Right to a Future, Rights of a Child,” University of Lucerne, March 2024

Committees (Cardozo School of Law): Clerkships, 2025–2026; Law and Antisemitism Conference, 2025–2026; Adjunct Appointments, 2024–2025

Ad Hoc Peer Reviewer: Yale Law Journal; Journal of Law and Religion; Journal of Church and State; European Educational Research Journal; Journal of Textual Reasoning