

present

A Sunday Conversation with Judge Richard Gergel and Robert Rosen: The Rabbis and the War Against Jim Crow Pt. 2

Featuring **Dr. Julian Zelizer** of Princeton University,
and special guest, AJA Executive Director, **Dr. Gary P. Zola**

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Judge Richard Gergel is a United States District Judge who sits in Charleston, South Carolina. He is a native of Columbia, South Carolina and is a graduate of Duke University and the Duke University School of Law. He is the author of [Unexampled Courage: The Blinding of Sgt. Isaac Woodard and the Awakening of President Harry Truman and Judge J. Waties Waring](#) and co-authored with his wife, Dr. Belinda Gergel, [In Search of the Tree of Life: The Early Jews of Columbia, South Carolina](#).

Attorney Robert Rosen is a shareholder in the Rosen Law Firm, LLC in Charleston, South Carolina. He received his B.A. degree in history from the University of Virginia in 1969, his M.A. degree in History from Harvard University in 1970, and his J.D. degree from the University of South Carolina School of Law in 1973. He is the author of [A Short History of Charleston](#), the bestselling history of the city, [Confederate Charleston: An Illustrated History of the City and the People During the Civil War](#), and [The Jewish Confederates](#), all published by the University of South Carolina Press; [Charleston: A Crossroads of History](#) with Isabella Leland; [Saving the Jews: Franklin D. Roosevelt and the Holocaust](#).

Dr. Julian E. Zelizer is Malcolm Stevenson Forbes, Class of 1941 Professor of History and Public Affairs at Princeton University. He has been one of the pioneers in the revival of American political history. He is the author of [Taxing America: Wilbur D. Mills, Congress, and the State, 1945-1975](#) (1998), [On Capitol Hill: The Struggle to Reform Congress and its Consequences, 1948-2000](#) (2004), [Arsenal of Democracy: The Politics of National Security—From World War II to the War on Terrorism](#) (2010), [Jimmy Carter](#) (2010), [Conservatives in Power: The Reagan Years, 1981-1989](#) (2010), [Governing America: The Revival of Political History](#) (2012), and [The Fierce Urgency of Now: Lyndon Johnson, Congress, and the Battle for the Great Society](#) (2015). His most recent book is [Abraham Joshua Heschel: A Life of Radical Amazement](#) (2021), which tells the story of Rabbi Heschel, a Polish-born American rabbi, theologian, and civil rights and anti-war leader. He has edited 10 books on American political history, with subjects ranging from the politics and the media to the presidency of George W. Bush. In addition to his scholarly articles and book chapters, Zelizer is a frequent commentator in the international and national media on political history and contemporary politics. He has published over seven hundred op-eds, including his weekly column on CNN.com. He is a regular news commentator on radio, television and in print. He has received fellowships from the Brookings Institution, the Guggenheim Foundation, the Russell Sage Foundation, and New America.

Dr. Gary Phillip Zola is the Executive Director of [The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives](#) (AJA) and the Edward M. Ackerman Family Distinguished Professor of the American Jewish Experience & Reform Jewish History at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (HUC-JIR) in Cincinnati where he received both his rabbinic ordination and his Ph.D. in American Jewish History. He specializes in 19th-century American Judaism and the history of American Reform Judaism. He has written dozens of scholarly articles and numerous books including [We Called Him Rabbi Abraham: Lincoln and American Jewry](#) and [Isaac Harby of Charleston](#), a major biographical study on the life of one of the founders of the first organized effort to reform Judaism in the United States. His most recent publication is [New Perspectives in American Jewish History](#), co-edited with Mark A. Raider and published by Brandeis University Press, a commemorative volume in honor of their teacher, Dr. Jonathan D. Sarna.

