

ASSIMILATION

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Needed: Six voices and a narrator. The group is split in half, with the narrator standing in the middle of the two groups.

ALL SING: Vi Yehuda Li Olam Tashev
Vi Yehuda Li Olam Tashev
Vi Yerushalayim li Dor Va Dor
Vi Yerushalayim li Dor Va Dor

Narrator: The two stories which you are about to see can be true. The names don't have to be changed because these people could be any Jews--that is any Jews in America.

(Half sings softly): Mao Tzur

Narrator: (Pointing to them) These are the Jews of Today--during Hanuka time

(Other half sings softly): Jingle Bells

Narrator: (Pointing to them) These are the Jews of Tomorrow--any year not so distant from now--during Hanuka time. Let's listen to what each of them has to say, and why they are different.

Voice 1: I don't see why I, a middle class Jewish teenager of the '70's, should worry about things like that.

Voice 2: Things like what?

Voice 1: You know (hesitates)--assimilation

All: (Gasp) Huh!

Voice 3: I don't even know what it is.

Voice 2: The dictionary definition of it is "the absorption into the cultural tradition of a population or group."

Voice 3: I guess that's easy enough to understand, but what does it have to do with my being Jewish?

Voice 2: Don't you see? Gradually we give up various traditions and practices, till we eventually lose our whole religion.

Voice 1: Well, I personally have nothing to worry about.

Voice 3: What makes you so sure?

Voice 1: I go to services a lot, except when I have a date on a Friday night. We have a kosher house, except on Passover when we aren't that strict. We don't want to miss the chocolate bunnies, jelly beans and chocolate covered eggs for Easter.

Voice 2: Wait a minute--don't you know what you're saying?

Voice 1: Sh! Let me finish! We light Hanuka candles, even though we save the gift-giving for Christmas.

Voice 2&3 (Pointing to Voice 1) Doesn't he REALIZE what he's saying?

Voices 1,2, 3 sing (slow version): Lo Yisa Goy el Goy Herev
Lo Yilmadu od Milchama

Goodbye America,
Goodbye Assimilation,
We're going to Yisrael to
build a Jewish nation

Narrator (to congregation): Are you scared? I don't think so, yet...Let's hear what the Jews of Tomorrow have to say.

Voice 4: Dovin? God? A Shul? What language are you speaking?

Voice 5: Come on, try to remember--a synagogue, a temple!

Voice 6: Try to remember what?

Voice 5: Stories your great grandfather told you--about a people, a land.

Voice 4: What could a people possibly have in common with a land?

Voice 5: The JEWISH people--the land of...of...Oh, I can't remember!

Voices 1, 2, 3 sing softly: Am Yisrael Chai

Voice 4: See, I think you're making this all up.

Voice 6: Yes--let me refresh your memory better...Your name is B510. You live in North America. That thing you called God, that you spoke of before--well, we don't believe in Him.

Voice 5: The land of...Oh, why can't I remember?

Voice 4: Only the upper class people believe in a God.
We, in the lowest ranks, have no religion.

Voice 6: Yes, remember, this is the year 2000.

Voice 5: Land of Yis...Yis..Oh, it's on the tip of my
tongue.

Voice 4: Let's face it--you're a lost cause!

Voice 5: YISRAEL! YISRAEL!

All sing softly: Vi Yehuda Li Olam Tashev (2 times)
Vi Yerushalayim Li Dor Va Dor (2 times)

Narrator: And Judah will live forever
And Jerusalem, from generation to generation

All Sing: Vi Yehuda Li Olam, etc.