

L E T T E R S

College Choices

University of Florida student Deborah Swerdlow (“The Menorah/Tree Dorm Dilemma,” Fall 2008) makes a number of worthwhile suggestions regarding how students can observe Jewish traditions while their dorm rooms are their homes. I was, however, appalled at the *chutzpah* exhibited by Shaina, a college student who not only covered her dorm countertops with foil during Passover, but expected her roommate to abstain from use of the microwave to avoid “contaminating” it with *chametz*. My experience at the Naval Academy and

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subsequent life aboard ship has taught me that there is always a way to be observant without being a nuisance. Indeed, one of the lessons of dorm life is that respecting others’ space and religious beliefs is at least as important as observing our own rituals.

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We want to correct an inaccurate statement in “Admissions 103: Big Bucks, Small Print” by John Boshoven (Fall 2008). Ursinus College has raised its tuition to support the quality of its offerings. Over the last decade the college has invested over \$125 million in infrastructure and increased its offerings to students in the areas of independent research, study abroad, internships, and interdisciplinary academic offerings. Our students have a high success rate

entering graduate and professional programs and are winning national Fellowships. We maintain a student-faculty ratio of 12:1, and attract stellar faculty. Moreover, the college has increased its aid budget at double the rate of tuition increases to maintain accessibility for lower and middle income families.

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Respecting Rabbis

Lucy Kline (“My Opinion: Thou Shalt Respect the Rabbi,” Summer 2008) is unfortunately right about the lack of honor and respect shown to our rabbis, a symptom of today’s society.

The blame also falls on the younger rabbis. Like too many parents and teachers, young rabbis want to be

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