

# FOCUS

## THE AFRICAN CONNECTION



A bat mitzvah, a college student, a professor, a retired teacher—all drawn to Africa to engage in *tikkun olam*, the repair of the world. Why do Reform Jews identify with the suffering of the people of Africa,

who for centuries were the victims of European colonialist powers? Perhaps it is because every year at our seders we repeat: “I was once a slave in the land of Egypt.”

Perhaps it is because of the struggle in the 1980s to save Ethiopian Jewry, or more recently the discovery of African Jewish communities in Uganda, Ghana, and elsewhere.

Here are the stories of Jews who have made a difference in the lives of Africans and been transformed in the process. >

