

Binghamton University

## The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB)

---

Research Days Posters 2022

Division of Research

---

2022

### Judaism and Capitalism: Ideologies in Conflict

Benji Hoff

*Binghamton University--SUNY*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://orb.binghamton.edu/research\\_days\\_posters\\_2022](https://orb.binghamton.edu/research_days_posters_2022)

---

#### Recommended Citation

Hoff, Benji, "Judaism and Capitalism: Ideologies in Conflict" (2022). *Research Days Posters 2022*. 21. [https://orb.binghamton.edu/research\\_days\\_posters\\_2022/21](https://orb.binghamton.edu/research_days_posters_2022/21)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Division of Research at The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). It has been accepted for inclusion in Research Days Posters 2022 by an authorized administrator of The Open Repository @ Binghamton (The ORB). For more information, please contact [ORB@binghamton.edu](mailto:ORB@binghamton.edu).

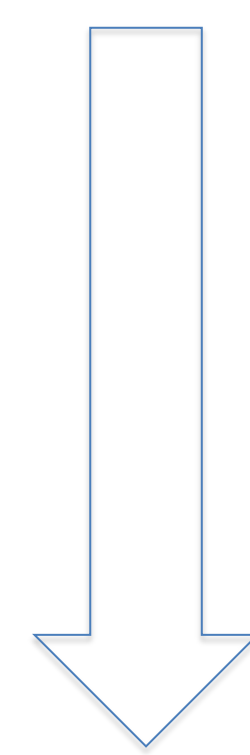
# Judaism and Capitalism: Ideologies in Conflict

Benji Hoff



1

Does Judaism espouse socialist ideals? How?

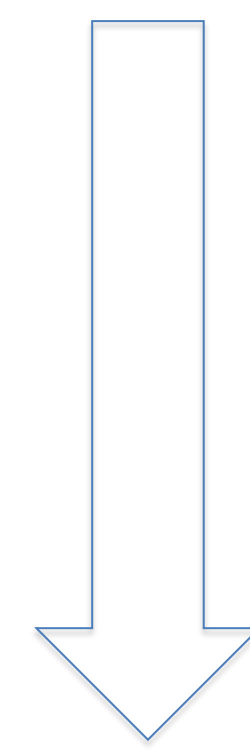


Biblical institutions regarding agricultural practices and property distribution that create socialist standards:

- 1) Shmita Year - שמיטה
- 2) Jubilee Year - יובל
- 3) Tithes

2

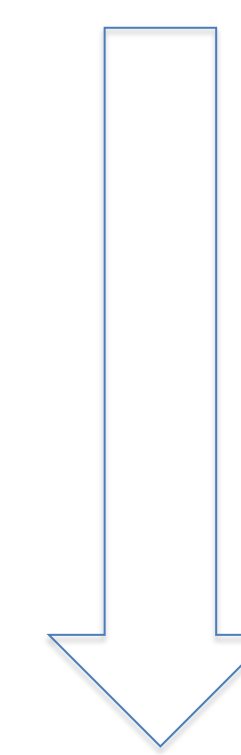
How do these values manifest in Jewish communities today?



These values are still the root of Jewish communities today. High schools and philanthropic organizations are examples of institutions that practice these socialist values

3

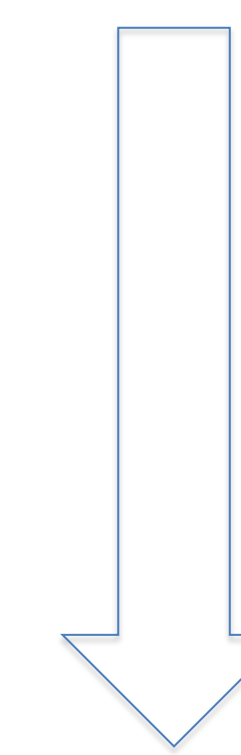
How do these values interact and conflict with capitalism?



Judaism prizes social sensitivity, responsibility, and kindness. Under capitalism, monetary gain supersedes these values as most important, and Jewish socialist values are sublimated to capitalist ones

4

Are there any forms of Judaism today that critique capitalism?



- 1) In Israel, *kibbutzim* are agricultural communities that were founded on pure Zionist-socialist principles. They still exist today, but with some problems.
- 2) The ascetic *Chassidic* sect of Judaism displays values that run contrary to those of capitalism.

Research Question:  
How do Modern Orthodox Jewish communities mediate between their commitment to both Torah values and their participation in a capitalist society?

