



Interviewed: Chips & Paul Klein
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Theme: Jewish Identity
Interviewer: Lisa Newman
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(Paul)

We started this program that was run out of the Lipa Green Building, for Jews in small cities which was very successful. In fact, we were just looking at the statistics in saying, out of this program which ran three years it involved learning at home, which was an important thing and is that the parents were involved and every Friday the parents would get something and some exercise to do in the mail and they would sit down with the kids and they would do it and out of 102 children we tracked, 100 of them married Jewish. So, it was a very successful program and in a way growing up in a small town was beneficial for Jewish identity. And our kids, as much as they didn't really enjoy being in that environment, but they're very strongly Jewish and they both identify strongly with Israel. Well South Africans, identify in whole, very strongly with Israel.

We essentially ran it in Guelph but then we supported all the other communities in Ontario. So we would really put together the documents and programs and the learning material and that would be shipped out. And three times a year they would come here to Lipa Green Building and they'd have like a camping thing, a Shabbaton and they would have fun and games and learning and so on.

(Chips)

What was nice about the program is all the teenagers involved, all came from small communities where they were, they had the same issues. They were either the only Jewish child in the classroom or they had mostly non-Jewish friends, etcetera. So, they had a commonality that they could talk about and bond through that. So, it was an EXCELLENT program.

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