

From: [David Kraemer](#)
To: [Covid Affiliate Archives](#)
Subject: FW: One Person's Response to Communal Fear 5.14.20
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From: Morris Allen <mojo210al@icloud.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 14, 2020 8:33 AM
To: MOJO210AL <MOJO210AL@aol.com>
Subject: One Person's Response to Communal Fear 5.14.20

WAGON WHEEL CENSUS 1 car 2 Trucks 1 person fishing and only ISD#197 School Bus 1914

I have an 8AM meeting today, and so it is necessary to change my morning ritual up just a bit. I walked earlier and have to be "in" Inver Grove Heights shortly. I am not able to write a full piece today—but do want to share three questions that have come to me from recent postings and one short vignette and call it a day.

1. A very good question comes from someone who played on the Robinson Rockets with me back at Robinson Park in Denver, Colorado. He writes— "what are school busses doing on the streets if school is shut down?"
2. Another question that is intriguing and worthy of consideration is this: "How do you explain why there have been so many good Jewish comedians? Or at least through the 20th Century—now, I don't know. Didn't their mothers want them to become doctors as well?"
3. Another reader from Washington Heights asked "isn't your sister a Doctor also? The answer to that is yes- sadly just not the kind the woman in the joke was referring to. But yes, my parents did ok.

I want to close with one last thing. We have been in a period of semi- mourning for 7 weeks watching this virus take its toll and eat away at the fabric of our communities. But there are other stories to tell as well and today is a day to tell one of them.

I just want to say that one of the funniest lines I ever heard was from a man at his 100th birthday party. As he got up to speak, he said "one of the best things about turning 100 is that you finally don't really need to worry about peer pressure anymore." Two years later, I just want to say Happy Birthday, Harold!! There aren't many people who get to the point in life where they have all three numbers of Moses' age in play at one time --1 and 2 and 0. But when you reach 102 – even with the numbers a little out of order something else becomes apparent. Most of you might know that the number 18 has the numerical value of the Hebrew word for life CHAI— and thus the idealized age of 120- minus the actual age of Harold 102 equals 18 which stands for life!! So more important than anything else I can say today is to say to Harold—L'chayim---to life.

Perhaps most remarkable is that two days ago, Harold joined in a ZOOM study session organized by Camp Ramah -Wisconsin for its staff members. Yes, Harold joined the staff in studying with Maya Zinkow, (formerly of St Paul) a rabbinical student at JTS. I only hope I can still spell JTS at 102, let alone participate in a study session. So Harold— zil G'mor. Go and study, stay safe and forever stay young. I think I can safely state—from all of us who receive this email—Yom Huledet Sameach- Happy Birthday and enjoy!!! Morris

Sent by my iPad