



Rabbis for Human Rights - North America

Do Justice and Right

רבנים למען זכויות האדם – צפון אמריקה

Dear Trader Joe's,

We, the undersigned rabbis, urge Trader Joe's to work with the Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW) and the Florida tomato industry to address the sub-poverty wages and human rights abuses faced by farmworkers who pick tomatoes sold at Trader Joe's. By working with the CIW to enforce a code of conduct for basic rights for farmworkers, including zero tolerance for slavery, Trader Joe's can ensure that the tomatoes you sell are not the product of slave labor and exploitative working conditions. Won't you be a leader in the grocery industry by agreeing to the CIW's Fair Food Campaign?

The Jewish story begins with the journey of our ancestors from slavery to freedom. Each Passover, we recall our people's experience as slaves to Pharaoh: the families ripped apart, the back-breaking labor, and the violence. This legacy informs our moral imperative to fight modern slavery and uphold the right of every individual to be free.

We wish that slavery had ended when the Jewish people left Egypt, or 149 years ago after the Emancipation Proclamation, but it didn't. The Florida tomato industry has been called "ground zero" for modern slavery by one federal prosecutor. Slavery is the extreme end of a continuum of worker mistreatment in the fields that includes wage theft, violence, sexual harassment, and exposure to pesticides. Jewish tradition demands that workers be treated with the respect and dignity due to a reflection of the divine image and paid a fair wage. Trader Joe's can support a slavery and violence-free tomato industry by signing a Fair Food Agreement with the CIW.

The Jewish community is grateful to Trader Joe's for your commitment to carrying kosher food and Israeli products. Many of members of our congregations are your loyal customers, in part because of Trader Joe's longstanding reputation as an ethical company. We hope that you will now prove that loyalty and reputation are deserved by signing onto the Campaign for Fair Food.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Thomas Alpert

Rabbi Steven Chester

Rabbi Daniel Epstein

Rabbi Melanie Aron

Rabbi Sandra Choukroun

Rabbi Charles Feinberg

Rabbi Linda Bertenthal

Rabbi Ayelet Cohen

Rabbi Michael Feinberg

Rabbi Marjorie Berman

Rabbi Jody Cohen

Rabbi Michael Fessler

Rabbi Aaron Bisno

Rabbi Neil Comess-Daniels

Rabbi Reuven Firestone

Rabbi Anna Boswell-Levy

Rabbi Robert Dobrusin

Rabbi Adam Fisher

Rabbi Kerri Blumenthal

Rabbi Lawrence Edwards

Rabbi Nancy Flam

Rabbi Sharon Brous

Rabbi H. Bruce Ehrmann

Rabbi David Freidenreich

Rabbi Marcus Burstein

Rabbi Amy Eilberg

Rabbi Elyse Frishman

Rabbi Joshua Chasan

Rabbi Lynne Eisenberg

Rabbi Miriyam Glazer

For more information please visit: www.rhr-na.org or www.ciw-online.org, or email rkahntroster@rhr-na.org.



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רבנים למען זכויות האדם – צפון אמריקה

Rabbi Rachel Goldenberg	Rabbi Daniel Liben	Rabbi Amy Small
Rabbi A. Bruce Goldman	Rabbi Valerie Lieber	Rabbi Eric Solomon
Rabbi Jerrold Goldstein	Rabbi Mordechai Liebling	Rabbi Toba Spitzer
Rabbi Niles Goldstein	Rabbi Rebecca Lillian	Rabbi Mychal Springer
Rabbi Marc Gopin	Rabbi Andrea London	Rabbi Naomi Steinberg
Rabbi Lynn Gottlieb	Rabbi Michael Luckens	Rabbi Rachel Steiner
Rabbi Mel Gottlieb	Rabbi Maxine Lyons	Rabbi Yehudit Steyer
Rabbi Laurie Green	Rabbi Audrey Marcus-Berkman	Rabbi Joshua Strom
Rabbi Jarah Greenfield	Rabbi Shana Margolin	Rabbi Lawrence Troster
Rabbi Terry Greenstein	Rabbi Jeffrey Marker	Rabbi Andrew Vogel
Rabbi Adam Greenwald	Rabbi Jeff Marks	Rabbi Pamela Wax
Rabbi Joshua Guttoff	Rabbi Ephraim Pelcovits	Rabbi Donald Weber
Rabbi Debra Hachen	Rabbi Barbara Penzner	Rabbi Nancy Wechsler-Azen
Rabbi Sharyn Henry	Rabbi Carl Perkins	Rabbi Elyse Wechterman
Rabbi Rachel Hertzman	Rabbi James Rosenberg	Rabbi Sheila Weinberg
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Rabbi Jill Jacobs	Rabbi Chaim Schneider	Rabbi Simkha Weintraub
Rabbi Rachel Kahn-Troster	Rabbi Rachel Schoenfeld	Rabbi Avi Winokur
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Rabbi Yaacov Kravitz	Rabbi Suzanne Singer	Rabbi Richard Young
Rabbi Judith Kummer	Rabbi Lance Simon	Rabbi Daniel Zemel
Rabbi Gilah Langner	Rabbi Judy Simon	
Rabbi Aaron Levy	Rabbi Joel Sisenwine	
Rabbi Benjamin Levy		