

Fixing A Broken World: Tikkun Olam/Social Justice (Part 2) *Specialty Track*

AUTHOR(S):	Chana Rothman
SUMMARY:	We will explore several frameworks for making social change, as well as reflect on brokenness and a deeper engagement with the concept of Tikkun Olam. - <i>Submitted by Chana Rothman</i>
TOPIC(S):	Tikkun Olam
LEARNING OBJECTIVE:	<p>Participants will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Become familiar with several frameworks for making social change - this is the central focus of today's session - Identify some ways to address and begin fixing the brokenness in their world and at camp - Physically glue together the broken pieces of their "world" (graham crackers and frosting) - Reflect on brokenness and healing - Identify and write down 2 takeaways from the session, one for their own lives and one for camp
AUDIENCE:	Group of 15-20 young adults
TIMING:	90 minutes
APPENDICES:	<p>Appendix Aleph:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Debrief questions from "The Story of Change" video - NFTY 5 A's of Social Action web article "Aleinu: A Call to Divine Service" by Rabbi Tiferet Birenbaum https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/aleinu-a-call-to-divine-service/ <p>Appendix Bet: Reflecting on Brokenness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Photos of Kintsugi - Lyrics from Leonard Cohen's "Anthem"
MATERIALS NEEDED:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aluminum cake pans • Wax paper • Cake/cookie frosting • Rice Crispies • Dried edible flowers • Chocolate chips • Popsicle sticks (for spreading frosting - without using plastic!)

SET-UP DETAILS:

The room for this session needs:

- access to AV (video and audio)
- at least three tables
- chairs and alternative seating (not necessary but ideal)
- Some space for movement during stretch breaks
- Ideally easy access to outdoors for stretch breaks

SESSION TIMELINE & OUTLINE:

There is a sheet of poster paper in the room outlining the main agenda for the day. Text will read:

FIXING A BROKEN WORLD
SESSION 2: Building an Activist Toolbox

Facilitator: Chana Rothman

Goals

Participants will:

- Become familiar with several frameworks for making social change - this is the central focus of today's session
- Identify some ways to address and begin fixing the brokenness in their world and at camp
- Physically glue together the broken pieces of their "world" (graham crackers and frosting)
- Reflect on Brokenness and Healing
- Identify and write down 2 takeaways from the session, one for their own lives and one for camp

Agenda

1. Opening Activity
2. Explore tools and framework for social change
 - a) **Being a change-maker** - Video: The Story of Change
 - b) **Framework for making change** - 5 A's of Social Action
 - c) **Jewish concept of Aleinu** - from Rabbi Tiferet Birenbaum
 - d) **Social Justice library** - a few books to look through
3. Re-attaching the broken pieces of...graham crackers...ahem, world!
4. Closing

0:00 - 0:10 Opening Activity

Make a machine with different noises and movement, each person adding a movement or sound that works with the overall machine.

0:10 - 0:60 Explore Tools and Framework for Social Change

0:10 - 0:30 Video: The Story of Change

1. Watch video (6:28 min)
2. In groups of two or three, look over these statements from the video or just share anything that came up for you while watching the video. If time permits, we will stop to listen to clips of the songs mentioned in the Jewish frame/application.

Talking points from "The Story of Change"

link for video: <https://storyofstuff.org/movies/story-of-change/>

Quote from "The Story of Change"	Jewish frame/application
<p>The solutions we really need are not for sale at the supermarket.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • concept of <i>Bal Tashchit</i> - do no waste/only take what you need • the Golden Calf - building something shiny and bowing down to it • Shabbat and <i>Shmittah</i> - letting the systems of production take a rest, letting the land rest, challenging overconsumption and capitalism
<p>Real change happens when citizens come together to demand rules that work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gates of Justice song on Youtube https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VUiLSBFaWpc - we as Jews get to demand justice, it's part of our tradition - by Chana Rothman from #3songsforjustice • Daughters of Zelaphehad - challenge Moses about rules of inheritance, that females should also get inheritance
<p>Equation for social change:</p> <p>BIG IDEA to make things better for everyone (not just a few people) + WE WILL WORK TOGETHER until the problem is solved + ACTION = REAL CHANGE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Im Tirtzu</i> - Herzl's idea of "If you will it, it is not a dream" • Kibbutz movement in Israel • Song: Tzedek Tzedek Tirdof https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZbjR4q5Hx4 - all the ways we can make collective change by pursuing justice - by Isaac Zones from #3songsforjustice
<p>Making real change takes all kinds of citizens, not just protesters.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moses appointed judges because he couldn't do it all himself. • Collective change as suggested by the author's 8 year old, Izzy - "Martin Luther King - he couldn't make all those changes by himself!"
<p>Ask yourself: What kind of change-maker am I? (Investigators, Communicators, Builders, Resisters, Nurturers, Networkers)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building the Mishkan - the portable sanctuary in the wilderness - Moses is commanded to build Mishkan, constructing communal home - V'asu li Mikdash - all people are asked to give what they were capable of giving, ie goods and skills and gifts - B'tzalel - give as your heart moves you • Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg spent a lifetime flourishing in the face of adversity before being appointed a Supreme Court justice, where she successfully fought against gender discrimination and unified the liberal block of the court.

<p>Faith is taking the first step even though you don't see the whole staircase" - Dr Martin Luther King Jr.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lo Alecha Hamlacha Ligmor</i> from Pirke Avot - You don't have to finish the work, but you have to face it and you can't run away or ignore it • Nachshon stepped into the sea, trusting that it would part, when everyone else stood there afraid • Song: Towards Justice https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ltEGwRbKAjs asking for strength to bend the arc of the universe towards justice - by Eliana Light from #3songsforjustice
<p>THIS IS BLANK FOR YOU TO FILL OUT!</p>	

0:30 - 0:40 The 5 A's: A Starting Point for Fixing the Broken Pieces

Read NFTY's 5 A's found in Appendix

Discuss briefly in large group

Name similarities and differences from "Story of Change"s approach

Think about what elements apply to camp and how they might look different.

0:40 - 0:45 Joke/Dance/Shake/Stretch Break

Shake/Countdown activity - talk about how shaking is a way for our body to heal

Move through the room in different pathways to give our brains a chance to process

Go outside

Brainstorm other ways to take short breaks

0:45 - 0:55 Text Study

Read "Aleinu: A Call to Divine Service" by Rabbi Tiferet Birenbaum found in the Appendix

<https://www.myjewishlearning.com/article/aleinu-a-call-to-divine-service/>

Facilitator: in New York City at LabShul, a non-denominational artsy Jewish congregation, Aleinu is translated as "It's On Us." Before services end and before actually reciting the Aleinu, members of the community announce different actions and preface it by "Aleinu: It is upon us" (ie, "Aleinu: It is upon us to write letters to our senators about children being separated from their parents at the border..." or "Aleinu: it is upon us to fill out the meal train for Shlomit who just got a concussion and can't get herself to a doctor's appointment") These opportunities show how the community can be involved in helping each other and being a part of change in the larger world

0:55 - 0:60 Social Justice Library

Look through some children's books about change:

- A is for Activist
- C is for Community
- Tikkun Olam Ted
- Some Things Change

0:60 - 0:80 Re-attaching the Broken Pieces

1. Take out the paper bags that hold your broken world.
2. Reflecting on brokenness: Show photos of Kintsugi - old Japanese tradition of mending broken ceramic pieces with gold:
Kintsugi is a Japanese philosophy teaching that breakages and repairs should be treated as an essential part of an object's history. It's something to be celebrated rather than disguised. The art of Kintsugi developed by repairing broken pottery with gold or lacquer.
3. Listen to Leonard Cohen's "Anthem" :
Ring the bells - ring the bells that still can ring
Forget your perfect offering
There is a crack in everything - there is a crack in everything
That's how the light gets in
4. Before we begin putting the pieces of your broken world back together, we take a few minutes for personal reflection, prayer and meditation.
5. Now we will repair our world and instead of using gold paint we will use something much tastier...frosting! We are thinking creatively there, as a metaphor. How do you help put these pieces back together? Using care and intention, how do you want the world to feel? How do you show that It's not JUST putting it back together the same pieces we had before - it's actually making it better
That's why you're getting all these new tools - rice crispies, chocolate chips, berries, edible flowers - to make it even more beautiful than before it broke!
6. Add your art/world to another world until the whole group is connected.
7. Now we eat it (if we want) - internalizing the change. BE the change. EAT the change :)

0:80 - 0:90 Closing

Write down in your notebook:

1 thing you are taking from this into your life

1 thing you are taking from this into your camp

ADDITIONAL NOTES FOR BRINGING IT BACK TO CAMP:

- What was the goal of this program?
- Is this a goal that could be useful for a program at your camp?
- Which activities/parts of the program did you like the best?
- Can you see using any of these activities in your camp? Where? With whom?
- When would you do the activity?
- Which programs would you not use in your camp? Why?
- What could you do in place of this/those activities?