

Gender & Sexuality: Creating a Culture of Equity & Consent, *Specialty Track 3*

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TOPIC (S)	Gender, Sex & Sexuality; Identity
SUMMARY	Together we will challenge, dissect, and explore the ways in which the Beresheet creation story in Genesis enforces binaries that restrict us with regards to identity, community, and culture.
GOALS:	In addition to expanding our identity lens beyond binaries, the goal is to create an action plan - our own creation stories - to effectively bring this work back to camp.
AUDIENCE:	Staff and campers of any age and any group size.
TIMING:	75 minutes
APPENDICES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamboard link for those doing this virtually • “The Origin of Love” source sheet • A link to “The Origin of Love” video
MATERIALS NEEDED:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps from Session 1 (if being done in succession with Sessions 1 & 2) • At least 3 different colored markers per participant • Any other craft supplies that might be fun or easy to use like stickers, scissors, construction paper, etc. • Blank paper • Any A/V Tech needs to share “The Origin of Love” video
SET-UP DETAILS:	Any indoor or outdoor space where participants can sit comfortably in a circle on the ground/floor and/or around tables whereby everyone is still in a circle.

SESSION TIMELINE

- Introduction (5 minutes)
- Dismantling the Creation Binary (30 minutes)
- Maps 3.0 (15 minutes)
- Creation Plans (10 minutes)
- Bringing It Back To Camp & Beyond (10 minutes)
- Closing (5 minutes)

SESSION OUTLINE:

- **Introduction (5 minutes)**
 - Welcome participants back
 - Session goal: To challenge, dissect, and explore the ways in which the Beresheet creation story in Genesis enforces binaries that restrict us around identity, community, and culture, and then create an action plan to effectively bring this work and these ideas back to camp.
 - Session agenda:
 - Introduction
 - Dismantling the Creation Binary
 - Maps 3.0
 - Creating Action Plans
 - Bringing It Back To Camp & Beyond
 - Closing
 - Note that the group agreements remain. Copy/paste into chat.
 - Group guidelines and agreements:
 - Use “I” statements
 - Confidentiality / privacy
 - Ask clarifying questions
 - Meet risk with risk
 - It’s ok to be messy
 - Self-regulate self-care
 - Facilitator is available after
 - Invite each participant to share a word to describe one thing they’re grateful for today.
- **Dismantling the Creation Binary (30 minutes)**
 - Watch “[The Origin of Love](#)” from *Hedwig and the Angry Itch*
 - What stood out?
 - What resonated?
 - Break into hevruta (break out rooms) to read through parts / segments of “[The Origin of Love](#)” source sheet. It’s ok to skip through parts.

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- Please pay special attention to 1:1-6, 1:16-18, and 1:26-27.
- What patterns do you notice?
- What resonates?
- What doesn't resonate?
- Bring everyone back together.
 - Ask participants to share what came up in their hevruta with the larger group.
 - How does this creation story perpetuate or enforce binaries?
 - Write down the ways you see this happening in Judaism. Share some in the chat.
 - Write down the ways you see this happening at camp. Share some in the chat.
- Writing activity:
 - Consider: How does the Hedwig video and this text relate to what we discussed around twilight and liminality?
 - Take a few minutes to free write / stream of consciousness write your thoughts to that question.
 - Consider: What would it be like to dismantle the creation story? What would it be like to create from a place of twilight and/or liminality?
 - **IMPORTANT NOTE:** Another way to think about it is: to what extent -- if at all -- do we need to dismantle something in order to make room for liminality and to what extent is there room for liminality with what we already have?
 - Take a few minutes to free write / stream of consciousness write your thoughts to that question.
 - Ask volunteers to share some of what came up for them with the group.
- **Maps 3.0 (15 minutes)**
 - Let's return back to our camp maps.
 - Take a look at the areas you highlighted where you said you want to be an agent for change.
 - Based on the past two days and everything we've learned about queering time/space, twilight, liminality, and dismantling the creation story/binary, what other places at camp do you see the possibility for change?
 - Also consider - what areas of camp are binaries useful / helpful? Perhaps note that as well.
 - How might you do the work of bringing about this change?
 - What are you creating with your campers? Think about them, specifically. What might you co-create together and how?
 - What might you potentially lose in creating something new? And how do you manage that loss?

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- Feel free to take notes or use stickies to jot down some ideas about how you might bring these changes back to camp.
- **Creation Plans (10 minutes)**
 - Let's create alternative creation stories for camp to push back on binaries that are not helpful, while still making space for the prospect that in some instances the binaries serve purposeful use.
 - Who gets to tell these stories and how?
 - How can these stories be a catalyst for change and action?
 - Spend some time drafting these ideas and then sharing with a hevruta partner of the group.
 - Feel free to write or draw or map or bullet — whatever inspires and serves you!
- **Bringing It Back To Camp & Beyond (10 minutes)**
 - What are ways you can see yourself applying anything from this Specialty Track at/to camp?
 - What elements feel easiest?
 - What potential challenges do you foresee?
 - How can you apply any of this Specialty Track to college, family, or any other communities of which you're a part?
- **Closing (5 minutes)**
 - Ask everyone to share one final thought (brief!) for something they're feeling, something they learned, or something they're taking away from this Specialty Track.

BRINGING IT BACK TO CAMP & SHIFTING TO IN PERSON:

- While the programming of this session builds on the entire Specialty Track and the two previous sessions, I encourage you to use the “Dismantling the Creation Story” programming and activities on their own with any size or age of campers/staff.
- Another video to use for the “Dismantling the Creation Story” section is [this video](#) and song by Alicia Jo Rabins. I encourage you to choose others, as well.