
Inclusive Orthodoxy

I BEG to differ with Rabbi Chaim Ingram's assertion that I have done Bialik College a disservice by aligning Bialik College with Swinburne and Monash universities, Qantas, David Jones, the AFL and countless other organisations in supporting marriage equality (*AJN* 18/03).

Intriguingly, Rabbi Ingram has read Bialik's website and thus feels equipped to lead a discussion on the nature of a pluralistic school.

A pluralistic school is first and foremost an educational institution – it does not default to any denomination, Orthodox or Reform, but instead seeks to educate and expose children to a range of mainstream Jewish beliefs and practices.

Rabbi Ingram's rejection of "progressivism and liberalism" (and unlike Rabbi Ingram I use these terms proudly in a societal, rather than a narrow or denominational sense) is precisely the reason for the growth of inclusive Orthodoxy and, concurrently, non-right-wing Orthodoxy worldwide.

As a lifelong and paid-up member of the Orthodox community, I reject Rabbi Ingram's approach – it is he who is doing a disservice to our own Orthodox community.

I invite Rabbi Ingram to visit my pluralistic school and my inclusive Orthodox synagogue (and not just our websites) so that he may open his eyes and his heart to a Judaism that is

finding dynamic ways to include, rather than exclude.

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