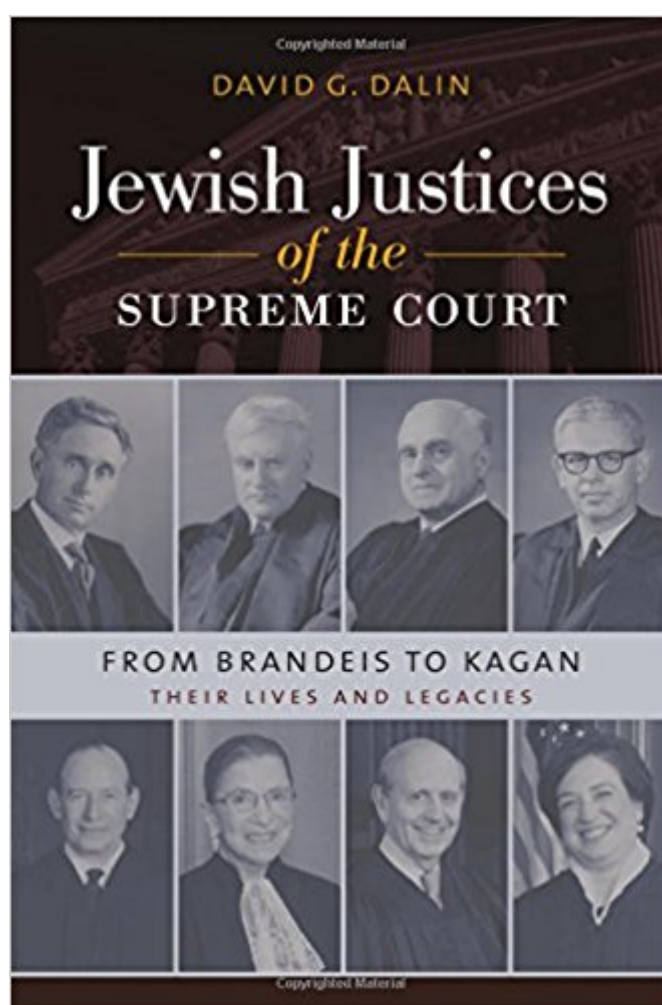


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Jewish Justices Of The Supreme Court: From Brandeis To Kagan (Brandeis Series In American Jewish History, Culture, And Life)



Synopsis

Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court examines the lives, legal careers, and legacies of the eight Jews who have served or who currently serve as justices of the U.S. Supreme Court: Louis D. Brandeis, Benjamin Cardozo, Felix Frankfurter, Arthur Goldberg, Abe Fortas, Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Stephen G. Breyer, and Elena Kagan. David Dalin discusses the relationship that these Jewish justices have had with the presidents who appointed them, and given the judges' Jewish background, investigates the antisemitism some of the justices encountered in their ascent within the legal profession before their appointment, as well as the role that antisemitism played in the attendant political debates and Senate confirmation battles. Other topics and themes include the changing role of Jews within the American legal profession and the views and judicial opinions of each of the justices on freedom of speech, freedom of religion, the death penalty, the right to privacy, gender equality, and the rights of criminal defendants, among other issues.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I thought I knew a lot about the Supreme Court's eight Jewish justices, since I have known six of them personally. But I learned so much more from David Dalin's brilliant and readable account of their very different lives and connections to their Jewish heritage. A must read for anyone interested in Jewish, American or legal history. — Alan Dershowitz, Felix Frankfurter Professor of Law, Emeritus, Harvard Law School, and author of Taking the Stand: My Life in the Law — In an accessible style, abundance of illuminating anecdotes, and helpful synthesis of an extensive

scholarly literature will make it valuable to historians of the American Jewish experience.â •

â "Jewish Review of Books" "An unprecedented assessment of all eight of the legal superstars.â •

â "Israel Times" "Individual assessments of the justices are united by a common appreciation among Jews of the connection between Judaism and the rule of law, both as an extension of religious law and as a bulwark against political persecution and oppression. Thumbnail biographies of each justice chart their personal journeys to the Court, nomination fights, and contributions to constitutional history and interpretation. . . . Highly recommended.â • "Choice

â "This landmark collective biography of the Jewish men and women who have served on our nation's highest court reminds us that, long before the twenty-first century, conservatives and liberals battled over the limits of free speech, the rule of reason, and even fake news. David Dalin's Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court is that all-too-rare history that serves up lessons from the past that speak to our moment in time.â • (Pamela S. Nadell, president of the Association for Jewish Studies, and Patrick Clendenen Chair in Women's and Gender History at American University) "Although Jewish justices have played a central role on the modern Supreme Court, David Dalin's book is the first to offer a comprehensive series of portraits of the entire group, from Louis Brandeis to Elena Kagan. With memorable details and gripping narrative, Dalin provides an invaluable account of the contributions of these remarkable justices, who continue to shape our understanding of the Constitution today.â • (Jeffrey Rosen, president and CEO, National Constitution Center, and author of Louis D. Brandeis: American Prophet) "The scholarship behind this work is impressive. The writing is authoritative, and the research and knowledge displayed are extraordinary. . . . this will be the go-to book regarding Jews and the Supreme Court.â • (Gil Troy, professor of history, McGill University, and author of The Age of Clinton: America in the 1990s) "David Dalin's book is a fascinating history of American law, of Jewish accomplishment in the American legal field, and of the lives of the Jewish Justices who have served on the Supreme Court.â • (Rabbi David Wolpe, Sinai Temple (Los Angeles); author of David: The Divided Heart) "David Dalin has provided an engaging and well written book on the eight Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court. It will be essential reading for students of Supreme Court history, for students of American Jewish history, and for all those who think about the relationship between Jews and the legal profession. Dalin offers a unique perspective on important aspects of American history.â • (Marshall Breger, Professor of Law, Columbus School of Law at Catholic University)

This is a great book. It is easy to read with lots of information about the Supreme Court...if focuses

on the Jewish justices, of course, but also describes how the judges are chosen and the dynamics of the supreme Court decisions I found it fascinating.

Well written. A nice overview of Jewish Supreme Court Justices. Insightful as well with tidbits not found in other similar books.

Found it well written and very informative.

An excellent read - written for the layman too. Thoroughly researched with many interesting facts about the Justices that I wouldn't have known. Nice selection of pictures too.

David Dalin has written a powerful and compelling history of the Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court. This volume offers a brilliant view of the eight Jews who have left a profound mark on the history of the United States. This book is a must read for those interested in the history of the Supreme Court.. Dalin's book is an instant classic!!

Fantastic book, highly recommended!

This book is not only about Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court. Anyone interested in American history, Jewish history, history of antisemitism in the United States or even the development of the legal system in our country will find this book fascinating and even entertaining.

An interesting history. A little repetitive in parts.

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