



Rabbi Jonah Dov Pesner
Director

Susan Kalson, Chair
Commission on Social Action of Reform Judaism

Arthur and Sara Jo Kobacker Building
2027 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
at Kivie Kaplan Way
Washington, DC 20036

202.387.2800

Fax: 202.667.9070 E-mail: rac@rac.org

Visit our website at www.rac.org

To whom it may concern:

The L'Taken Seminar: A Teen Social Justice Program is an educational leadership program of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism exposing students to a variety of public policy issues. Among the issues that are explored are: first amendment rights, the environment, economic justice, abortion, civil rights, foreign aid, and human rights. On each issue students engage in creative educational exercises as well as meet with individuals who are part of the public policy debate on each subject. These speakers work for public interest organizations, Congress and the U.S. Administration.

The students learn about the structure of the American political system and government. During the seminars, students come to learn the complexity of public policy issues, how the American democratic system functions and how they can become more active and informed citizens. After approximately 35 hours of seminars, discussion, and educational exercises under the supervision of an expert educational staff, the program culminates with a day on Capitol Hill meeting with the offices of both their senators and representatives. Often, students meet with the member of Congress themselves.

Our teen social justice program is a valuable complement to high school courses in American History, Civics or American Government. Upon completion students earn a certificate. Any consideration that you can give to interested students by excusing their absence for one to two days would help to encourage their participation in this unique educational program. Many of our past participants have also been able to write up their experience for credit with their social studies departments. We hope that your school would similarly permit such an arrangement.

Thank you for your cooperation in this matter. If you would like to know more information about the program, please visit the Religious Action Center's website, www.rac.org/ltaken.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Namath".

Michael Namath
Program Director



The Religious Action Center pursues social justice and religious liberty by mobilizing the Jewish community and serving as its advocate in Washington, D.C. The Center is led by the Commission on Social Action of the Central Conference of American Rabbis and the Union for Reform Judaism (and its affiliates) and is supported by the congregations of the Union.

