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Taking as their point of departure general theoretical debates in the theory of ethnicity, the authors of this book present a wide-ranging and up-to-date analysis of the characteristics and interrelationships of ethnicity, religion, and class in Israeli society. While much has been written about the basic division between Jews from Europe and from North Africa and Asia, this book puts forward a more nuanced survey than the rather crude division which has formed the basis of most works on the subject. By focusing on four groups of Jewish origin in Israel (from Morocco, Iraq, Poland, and Rumania), and by including from each group both white- and blue-collar workers, the authors demonstrate the importance of breaking down simplistic categories of ethnicity. The work thus takes much further the analysis of ethnic identities and relations in Israeli society, and the data acquired from a rich ethnic mix lead to the analysis of a wide range of theoretical issues, which casts fresh light on social cleavages within Israel in particular and society in general.

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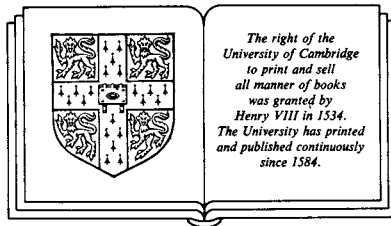
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ELIEZER BEN-RAFAEL AND STEPHEN SHAROT



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## Contents

<i>Acknowledgments</i>	<i>page ix</i>
<b>I Theoretical and empirical background</b>	
1 Ethnicity and society	3
2 Divisions in Israeli society	24
3 Theoretical perspectives in Israeli sociology	36
4 The sample, its background, and its setting	54
<b>II Social patterns and behavior</b>	
5 Neighborhoods: synagogues and neighborhood committees	75
6 Religiosity and secularization	87
7 Friendship networks	101
<b>III Identities and images</b>	
8 Ethnic consciousness	119
9 Class consciousness	136
10 Religious, ethnic, and class divisions: convergent or crosscutting?	155
<b>IV The impact of stratification</b>	
11 Voting	177
12 Discrimination	192
13 Assimilation or ethnic solidarity?	204
<b>V Social cleavages: an overview of Israeli society and some theoretical implications</b>	
14 Cleavages among Jews	219
15 Jews and Arabs	232
16 Toward a theory of social cleavages	243

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*Contents*

<i>Appendix A</i>	The sample	254
<i>Appendix B</i>	Deprivation index	257
<i>Appendix C</i>	Indexes of ethnic identification	258
<i>Glossary</i>		259
<i>Notes</i>		262
<i>References</i>		268
<i>Index</i>		282

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