

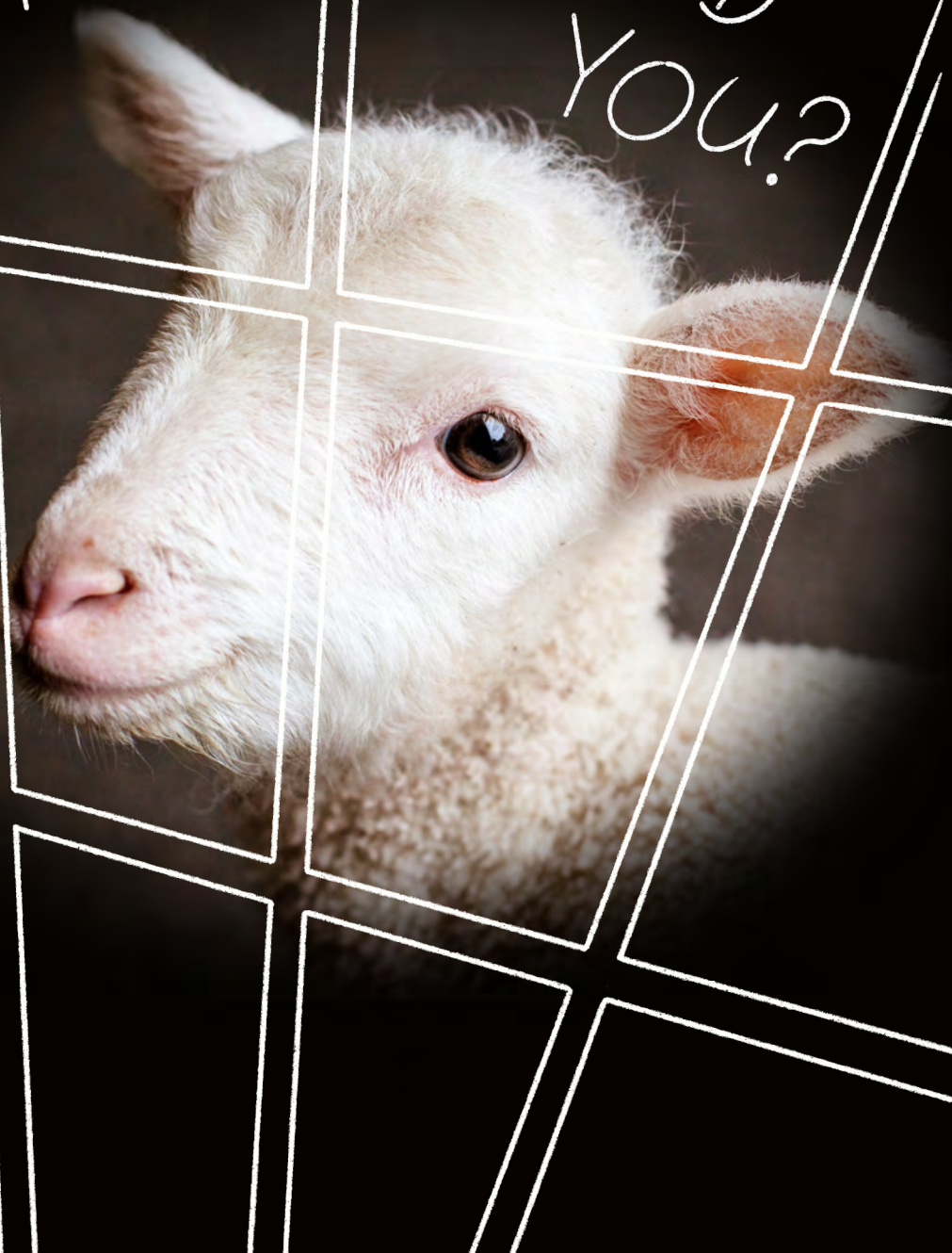
HOW COULD YOU?



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HOW COULD
YOU?



HOW COULD God tell the Jews to tie an animal to their beds before leaving Egypt - isn't that animal abuse?

WHAT DO YOU
THINK?

THE JEWISH VIEW:

The Egyptians worshiped sheep as their god. At the climax of the Egypt experience, binding a lamb sent the message that Hashem is the only God. This may appear as animal abuse, but actually it was purely an attack on the Egyptians serving their god and had the Egyptian god been something other than a sheep, that would have been challenged instead.



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HOW COULD YOU?



HOW COULD the Jews take the Egyptian's wealth with them, when they left Egypt? Isn't that stealing?

WHAT DO YOU
THINK?

THE JEWISH VIEW:

God made Abraham a promise that his descendants will become enslaved in Egypt but leave with great wealth. Before leaving Egypt, the Jews were instructed by Moses to ask their Egyptian neighbours for their wealth. At this time, in order to fulfil both parts of His promise to Abraham, God helped the Jews find favour in the Egyptians' eyes and the wealth was given to them willingly.

(Exodus 11:2, Exodus 12:35-36)

HOW COULD
YOU?



HOW COULD the Jews have children in Egypt, when there was such a strong chance of them being killed?

WHAT DO YOU
THINK?

THE JEWISH VIEW:

When Pharaoh decreed that all Jewish baby boys would be killed, Amram, the leader of the Jews at that time, divorced his wife Yocheved. The entire nation followed his example. His daughter Miriam then said “by doing that you are worse than Pharaoh. Pharaoh kills just the baby boys, by ending Jewish family life you stop both baby boys and girls from coming into this world”. Amram heard the harsh truth she was telling and remarried Yocheved. A few months later a baby boy was born, who grew up to be Moses. Sometimes hope is far away. Miriam teaches us that we need to hold on to hope and stick to our values, for that will lead us to salvation.

HOW COULD
YOU?



HOW COULD the Jews hold on to their religion during slavery?

WHAT DO YOU
THINK?

THE JEWISH VIEW:

Only 20% of the Jewish people emerged from Egypt during the Exodus. Many were killed, others had assimilated. So not all Jews kept their faith. Those who did, might have questioned God at times but decided not to abandon their religion. Rabbi Sacks in his book 'To Heal A Fractured World' (p.23) mentions a Holocaust survivor who was asked in an interview: 'Seeing what you saw did you have no questions about God?' He replied 'Of course I had questions. So powerful were those questions, I had no doubt that were I to ask them, God would personally invite me to heaven to tell me the answers. And I prefer to be down here on earth with the questions than up in heaven with the answers.' Religion is very personal. For some people, facing challenges to their wellbeing or the temptation of assimilation, makes them feel distant from God, while for others, it brings them closer and makes them hold on tighter.



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HOW COULD YOU?

The Pesach Seder is all about questions. Some of them are formulated for us in the Haggadah such as the questions of 'Ma Nishtanah,' but their purpose is to trigger other 'freestyle' questions which are stimulated at the time.

Tribe's educational approach is to generate conversations in which young people consider our heritage through the lens of their own lives. This makes the issues relevant and the discussions intergenerational.

**That's why this set of cards is not called 'How could they?'
Instead, it asks 'How could you?'**

We invite you to think about and debate some of the key moments of the period that the Jewish people spent in Egypt – not just for the sake of history but for the here and now. How would we deal with the same situations? What do we feel about their response? How is their experience similar to ours in some form? What do **you** think?

We want to hear the voices of young people and hope that these cards will get your Seder participants talking, asking and engaging.

Wishing you a happy & kosher Pesach!

Rabbi Eli Levin

Tribe Rabbi

Batsheva Wolf

Tribe Secondary & Youth
Education Manager



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