

Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz biography

Dr. Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz has been Director, Research and Analysis, at The Jewish Federations of North America since February 2006. His primary responsibilities are to help set the strategic goals and objectives for research at JFNA; design and manage a wide range of research projects for JFNA and its departments; and consult to Federations on their research needs. He also provides information to federations, other communal organizations and the media; establishes and maintains partnerships with other professional researchers to expand the JFNA research capacity; and supports the work of the North American Jewish Data Bank.

Laurence joined JFNA in October 2000 as a Senior Project Director on the National Jewish Population Survey 2000-01 and in August 2003 became the NJPS Research Director. In that role, he was responsible for all of the agency's analysis of NJPS data; served as the lead author of the NJPS summary report; managed and edited a 12-part report series on NJPS; and made many presentations to federations and other communal organizations.

Prior to working at JFNA, Laurence was a lecturer in political science at Haifa University and held a Lady Davis Post-doctoral Fellowship in the political science department at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

He has published articles in leading political science, sociology, Jewish studies and professional journals. His two most recent articles appeared in *Contemporary Jewry*: "Poor Jews: An Analysis of Low Income in the American Jewish Population" and "The Israel Attachments of American Jews: Assessing the Debate."

He earned a B.A. (political science and Judaic studies), M.A. (modern Jewish society and politics), and Ph.D. (political science), all from Brown University, and an M.A. in Jewish communal service from Brandeis University.