The Jewish Phenomenon: Seven Keys To The Enduring Wealth Of A People
Synopsis

Spielberg, Brin, Dell, Seinfeld—phenomenally successful . . . and Jewish. Why have Jews risen to the top of the business and professional world in numbers staggeringly out of proportion to their percentage of the American population? Steven Silbiger has the answer. Based on the author’s synthesis of wide reading and research, The Jewish Phenomenon sets forth seven principles that form the bedrock of Jewish financial success. With startling statistics, a wealth of anecdotes, and the fascinating details behind some of America’s biggest business success stories, Silbiger convincingly shows how these seven keys have helped the Jews historically and how they continue to ensure Jewish success today. More important, the author makes clear that these principles are equally at the disposal of Jews and non-Jews alike. The amazing success of the Jews simply proves that they work. The Jewish Phenomenon pays tribute not merely to the success of a people but to the commonsense wisdom and enduring values that can enrich us all.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As soon as I finished the book, I emailed several of my "mommy friends" to recommend the book. I've read many nurturing and education-related books over the past 3 years and The Jewish Phenomenon is by far the most instructive and enlightening on this topic. The book is a lot of things:-- A sociological study on the successes of the Jewish people (Basically, the Jews emphasized education and books because they have long realized that real power is portable knowledge. This is owing to the history of persecution as a minority group in foreign lands who were forbidden to own land. Therefore, instead of being farmers, Jews became craftsmen and artists,
tradesmen, etc. They also learned that circumstance can change (e.g. the Holocaust) so they must be ready to meet whatever challenges lie ahead by having power. And what is power? Wealth is power. And what creates wealth? Knowledge. Silbiger also explains that the long history of persecution also created a framework of support for each other.)-- An educational guide for parents who want to cultivate the love of learning in their children (e.g., Teach them to be verbally confident by encouraging them to ask questions and challenge authority as the Jews do when studying the Talmud. Allow your child to be creative and confident by not demeaning them. Let them pursue their own passions. Let them take risks. This explains why there are so many Jewish entrepreneurs in the Forbes top 400 list.)-- A psychological analysis on what traits and cultural norms lead to success... and the list goes on (e.g., the need to prove oneself, thinking creatively and critically, being aggressive, being frugal with money yet being generous when it counts such a philanthropy or funding the Civil Rights movement in the 1960s).

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