Blacks in the Jewish Mind

Forman, Seth

Published by NYU Press

Forman, Seth.
Blacks in the Jewish Mind: A Crisis of Liberalism.
Project MUSE. muse.jhu.edu/book/12754.

⇒ For additional information about this book
https://muse.jhu.edu/book/12754

⇐ For content related to this chapter
https://muse.jhu.edu/related_content?type=book&id=381337
Acknowledgments

Most scholarly research is performed in relative isolation, but the development of a manuscript inevitably draws into its orbit a number of individuals without whose assistance its completion would not be possible. First, there are all those people who have offered the moral and spiritual support without which the author would long ago have abandoned the project. In this respect I owe a tremendous debt to my wife, Danielle, and to my mother, Edith Forman. Neither of these two women ever countenanced for a minute the inevitable self-doubt involved in writing a book or the recurring feeling that my time might be better spent at some other pursuit. The personal sacrifices Danielle has made to see this project through is testimony to her unwavering commitment to my happiness.

I would also like to thank, in memory, my beloved father, Gerald Forman, who managed, against terrific odds, to leave me with an important fragment of the enormous Jewish past.

In a similar vein, I would like to thank all of my friends and relatives who have ever furtively asked the hated question "How is the book going?" only to receive a caustic and surly reproof. Many thanks to Pat and Marie Vecchio, Andrea Forman-Morris, and Greg Morris, as well as to Larry Alper, Joe Willen, Marge Glueck, Stuart Besen, Rob Ciccotto, Billy Ferro, Scott "Scotch" Janicola, Marty "Marts" Paulker, and Gary "Gazzo" Rosenthal, who never failed to support my endeavor, however different from their own. Arriving at a crucial moment in the development of the manuscript, Joshua B. Morris never let me lose sight of life's larger purpose. Special thanks to Chip and Diane Burman, who, at crucial intervals, consistently indulged me in the illusion that my work might be of interest to someone other than myself.

This book began as a doctoral dissertation, which cannot be completed without the selfless help of an academic mentor and adviser. I am convinced that I found the best there is in Dr. Matthew Jacobson, currently of Yale University, whose tireless and painstaking efforts on my behalf are beyond
Acknowledgments

reciprocation. Dr. Jacobson is a scholar and teacher of such immense skill and patience that if I can do for my future graduate students only half of what he has done for me, my career goal will be largely fulfilled. In this regard I must also mention Dr. David Burner of SUNY at Stony Brook, a “second reader” who has been more generous with his time and erudition than anyone bearing such an appellation need be. Thanks also to Dr. Carole Kessner and Dr. Nikhil Singh for their thorough reading of the manuscript and helpful comments.

Special thanks to Dr. Lee E. Koppelman of the Center for Regional Policy Studies at SUNY at Stony Brook and the Long Island Regional Planning Board, a mentor and role model for so many students and staff over the years. While Dr. Koppelman is involved in policymaking at all levels of government and planning, his students and employees always come first. His support and encouragement of my educational pursuits, along with his personal guidance and friendship, have been an indispensable part of the past five years of my life.

Regarding the actual details of my research, I would like to thank a number of individuals. Ms. Syma Horowitz and Ms. Michelle Anisch, of the Blaustein Library of the American Jewish Committee in Manhattan, and the interlibrary loan librarians at the Frank Melville Jr. Memorial Library at SUNY at Stony Brook, notably Ms. Donna Sammis and Ms. Victoria Grasso, were extremely helpful in providing access to an enormous amount of obscure material.

My editors at New York University Press, Jennifer Hammer and Despina Papazoglou Gimbel, helped me turn a sloppy doctoral thesis into a presentable scholarly book, a seemingly impossible task. For their competence and professionalism I give them my most heartfelt thanks.

Finally, thanks to Samara Eve Forman, whose imminent arrival proved to be my greatest inspiration.