

National Council of Jewish Women
Bergen County Section
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RENOWNED AUTHOR SHULEM DEEN TO SPEAK AT NCJW MEETING

TEANECK, NJ – National Council of Jewish Women Bergen County Section is delighted to welcome Shulem Deen, author of “All Who Go Do Not Return” and winner of the 2015 New Jersey Book Award, as the speaker at its next General Meeting. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 21, 2017 at 12:30 pm, at Temple Emeth, 1666 Windsor Road, Teaneck, NJ. Light refreshments will be served

Described as “eloquent and heartbreaking” by the *Wall Street Journal*, “All Who Go Do Not Return” is a moving and revealing exploration of Hasidic life and one man's struggles with faith, family, and community. Shulem Deen was raised as a member of the Skverers, one of the most insular Hasidic sects in the United States. His arranged marriage at the age of eighteen was followed by several children. One day he turned on the radio – an action forbidden by the sect - and from there his curiosity led him to the library, and then the Internet. Soon he began to seriously question his religious beliefs, and, gradually, his faith unraveled entirely. At the NCJW meeting, Mr. Deen will discuss his life growing up in the Skverers and will share his experiences and insights and discuss the forces which led him to leave the ultra-Orthodox community.

As a former columnist for *The Forward*, Mr. Deen's articles have appeared in *The New Republic* and *Salon*. He was listed in the *Forward 50*, an annual list of American Jews with outsized roles in political and social spheres. He serves as a Board member of Footsteps, a New York City based group providing help to those who have left the ultra-orthodox community. He started a magazine called *Unpious* and lectures nationwide on his life-changing experiences.

Elaine Bieger, NCJW Program Coordinator, said “We are very much looking forward to learning more about a Chasidic sect little known to many of us, through the eyes of one who lived in its midst.”

All are welcome to attend the meeting, which is free for members. There will be a \$10.00 charge for non-members, payable at the door, which can be applied toward new membership if paid that day. NCJW BCS provides educational and stimulating programs and speakers throughout the year, including six general meetings and a myriad of study groups, book groups and trips. For more information on this meeting, or NCJW BCS and its upcoming programs, please contact office@ncjwbc.org, call 201-385-4847 or visit <http://www.ncjwbc.org>.

The National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) is a grassroots organization of volunteers and advocates who turn progressive ideals into action. Inspired by Jewish values, NCJW strives for social justice by improving the quality of life for women, children, and families and by safeguarding individual rights and freedoms.

Photo caption:

Shulem Deen, author of “All Who Go Do Not Return” will be the speaker at the next General Meeting of the National Council of Jewish Women Bergen County Section on March 21.

