

B'tzelem Elohim Documentary Series

Congregation B'nai Israel of Millburn, NJ

Diversity & Inclusion Committee presents...

Joachaim Prinz – I Shall Not Be Silent

Come join us to watch, with reflections to follow

[Click on Link Here](#) on MLK Day January 17, 2022 1-3pm.

(Meeting ID: 894 7130 7974 // Password: CBI // dial in 929-436-2866)

In Berlin in the 1930's, the civil rights of Jews were systematically stripped away. A young rabbi refused to be silent. His name was Joachim Prinz and he set out to restore the self-esteem of the German Jews. Knowing the Nazis were monitoring his every word, and despite repeated arrests, Prinz continued to preach about the value of Judaism. He saved many lives by encouraging Jews to emigrate from Germany.

Expelled from Germany in 1937, Prinz arrived in the United States, the land where democracy had supposedly triumphed over bigotry and hatred. Here, he witnessed racism against African Americans and realized the American ideal was not a reality.

As rabbi of Temple B'nai Abraham in Newark, NJ and later as President of the American Jewish Congress, Prinz became a leader of the civil rights movement. Prinz worked to

organize the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, declaring, "bigotry and hatred are not the most urgent problem. The most urgent, the most disgraceful, the most shameful and the most tragic problem is silence." Moments later, Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his "I Have A Dream" speech.

Throughout his career, Prinz spoke out for justice, unconcerned with the popularity of his positions. He identified with the prophets, writing in a 1975 letter, "Remember the Biblical adage, 'For the sake of Zion, I shall not be silent.'"



JOACHIM PRINZ I SHALL NOT BE SILENT

*"America must not become
a nation of onlookers.
America must not remain silent."*