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## NEWS & VIEWS

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Blog Edition

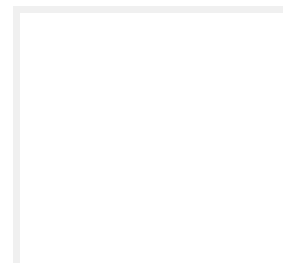
(Full edition published bi-weekly)



Posts from this [Hebrew College-hosted blog](#) is published weekly in [Patheos](#).

### Sacred Fat, Vulnerability, and God's Choice

Parashat Vayikra (Leviticus 1:1-5:26)



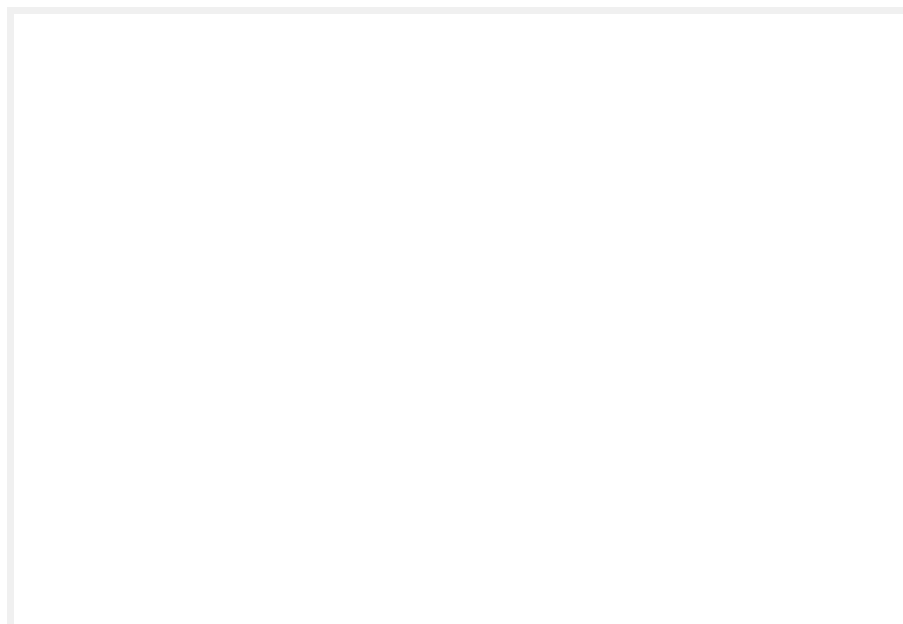
***By Rabbi Micha'el Rosenberg, Associate Professor of Rabbinics,  
Rabbinical School of Hebrew College***



It's the time of the year when I've got fat on my mind. We've arrived in the Torah reading cycle to the book of Leviticus, and there are a lot of fleshy, embodied, animal parts going on. We've got limbs and meat and blood; it's a lot—for some too much—to keep track of. But I think that this year, it's particularly important for us to think about the fat. Because now, it seems to me, in this moment in our nation and our world when those who are most vulnerable, most easily injured, face even greater threats, thinking about fat, it turns out, is an important reminder of what actually matters to God.

Leviticus 3:17 tells us that there's a certain kind of animal fat—***helev***, in the Hebrew, which is usually translated as suet—that one may never eat: "It is an eternal rule for all of your generations, in all your dwelling places: Do not eat any ***helev*** or blood." The language of the verse makes it seem pretty important: it is an ***eternal*** rule, for ***all generations***, in ***all places***. That's a lot of emphasis. And in case you missed the point anyway, the rule is basically repeated (with some differences that need not detain us here) in chapter seven of Leviticus (verses 24–26). So avoiding this ***helev*** is a rather big deal.

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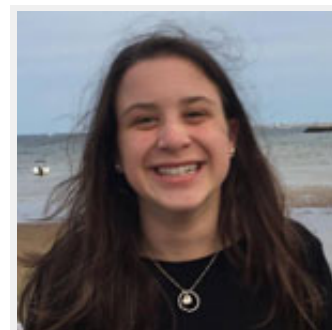


*This blog post also appeared March 12 on [JewishBoston.com](http://JewishBoston.com).*

## Women of Valor in Boston's (Nonprofit) Community

How one teenage girl has been inspired by the female leadership of Boston's Jewish Community

**By Emma Sullaway, sophomore at Gann Academy and Hebrew College JTFGB participant**



If you walk around Boston on any given day, you will see many people wearing shirts with slogans like, "Women are the future," "Girls run the world," "Nevertheless, she persisted" and the list goes on. You will also walk past offices of several Jewish nonprofit organizations that are building a better future, changing the world and persisting to gain justice. Jewish organizations like Hebrew College, CJP, Jewish Family & Children's Service, Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters, Gateways and so many more.

Before recently, as a young Jewish woman, I wholeheartedly believed in the slogans on the shirts and in the importance of the work of these nonprofits that I was brought up to support through giving *tzedakah*. However, I never realized how true the words on the shirt are: **women really are the future**, running and persisting to lead Jewish nonprofits. This realization came to me recently when I was attending my Jewish Teen Foundation of Greater Boston ([JTFGB](http://JTFGB)) meeting at Hebrew College.

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