

Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South



An analysis of the Leo Frank case as a measure of the complexities characterizing the relationship between African Americans and Jews in America. In 1915 Leo Frank, a Northern Jew, was lynched in Georgia. He had been convicted of the murder of Mary Phagan, a young white woman who worked in the Atlanta pencil factory managed by Frank. In a tumultuous trial in 1913 Frank's main accuser was Jim Conley, an African American employee in the factory. Was Frank guilty? In our time a martyr's aura falls over Frank as a victim of religious and regional bigotry. The unending controversy has inspired debates, movies, books, songs, and theatrical productions. Among the creative works focused on the case are a ballad by Fiddlin' John Carson, David Mamet's novel *The Old Religion* in 1997, and Alfred Uhry and Jason Robert Brown's musical *Parade* in 1998. Indeed, the Frank case has become a touchstone in the history of black-Jewish cultural relations. However, for too long the trial has been oversimplified as the moment when Jews recognized their vulnerability in America and began to make common cause with African Americans. This study has a different tale to tell. It casts off old political and cultural baggage in order to assess the cultural context of Frank's trial, and to examine the stress placed on the relationship of African Americans and Jews by it. The interpretation offered here is based on deep archival research, analyses of the court records, and study of various artistic creations inspired by the case. It suggests that the case should be understood as providing conclusive early evidence of the deep mutual distrust between African Americans and Jews, a distrust that has been skillfully and cynically manipulated by powerful white people. *Black-Jewish Relations on Trial* is concerned less with what actually happened in the National Pencil Company factory than with how

Franks trial, conviction, and lynching have been used as an occasion to explore black-Jewish relations and the New South. Just as with the O. J. Simpson trial, the Frank trial requires that Americans make a profound examination of their essential beliefs about race, sexuality, and power. Jeffrey Melnick is an assistant professor of American studies at Babson College and the author of *A Right to Sing the Blues: African Americans, Jews, and American Popular Song*.

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Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim - Google Books The next day, May 24, the jury voted for an indictment. considered the implications of trying a white man based on the testimony of a black man in front of an early 1900s Georgia jury. Jeffrey Melnick, author of *Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South*, writes that the **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in** - jstor In a tumultuous trial in 1913 Franks main accuser was Jim Conley, an African been used as an occasion to explore black-Jewish relations and the New South. **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the** Dec 19, 2003 The black press, Jeffrey Melnick wrote in *Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South* (University of African American **Jewish relations - Wikipedia** In a tumultuous trial in 1913 Franks main accuser was Jim Conley, an African *Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South*. **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the** *Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South*. By Jeffrey Melnick. (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2000. xiv, 165 pp. **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the** *Black-Jewish relations on trial : Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the new South*. Responsibility: Jeffrey Melnick. Language: English. Imprint: Jackson : University **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the** Aug 22, 2012 Webb, Clive (2002) [Review] Jeffrey Melnick (2000) *Black-Jewish relations on trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the new South*. Journal of **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the** *Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South* [Jeffrey Melnick] on . *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the** *Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South*. By Jeffrey Melnick. (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2000. xiv, 165 pp. **Project MUSE - Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim**

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BOOKS OF THE TIMES The Haunting Questions of a Murder and a Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South. Front Cover Jeffrey Paul Melnick. Univ. Press of Mississippi, 2012 - African

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Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New as an occasion to explore black-Jewish relations and the New South. **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim - Google Books** Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South by Jeffrey Melnick on ResearchGate, the professional network for scientists. **[Review] Jeffrey Melnick (2000) Black-Jewish relations on trial: Leo** In a tumultuous trial in 1913 Franks main accuser was Jim Conley, an African Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South. **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the** Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South American Jewish History, Volume 89, Number 3, September 2001, pp. 328-329. **Leo Frank - Wikipedia** African Americans and American Jews have interacted throughout much of the history of the The trial also pitted Jews against blacks because Franks defense attorneys suggested black janitor Jim Conley was guilty of Melnick, Jeffrey, Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South, 2000. **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the** Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South This book uses the example of the Leo Frank case to address the central question of Black-Jewish relations: how **People v. Leo Frank Teachers Guide, ADL - Toronto Jewish Film** An analysis of the Leo Frank case as a measure of the complexities Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South. **Screening a Lynching: The Leo Frank Case on Film - H-Net Reviews** If such a statement is true, then the Leo Frank affair becomes even more Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South. **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the** South struggling to shed its legacy of bigotry and xenophobia, the story is both a and several arrests were made, including Jim Conley, a black janitor at the factory who was seen three Francisco decried the verdict and called for a new trial. But the focus on racism and race relations in the Leo Frank trial and post-. **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the** Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South. Front Cover. Jeffrey Melnick. Univ. Press of Mississippi, 2000 - History - 165 pages. **Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the** In a tumultuous trial in 1913 Franks main accuser was Jim Conley, an African Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South. **Full text of Black Jewish Relations on Trial by Jeffrey Melnick** An analysis of the Leo Frank case as a measure of the complexities Black-Jewish Relations on Trial: Leo Frank and Jim Conley in the New South. By Jeffrey