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**Social & Behavioral Sciences \ Sociology**

**Tempest in the temple: Jewish communities & child sex scandals**, ed. by Amy Neustein. Brandeis/University Press of New England, 2009. 272p index afp; ISBN [9781584656715](#), \$35.00. Reviewed in 2010apr CHOICE.

This eye-opening collection of essays on sexual abuse within the Jewish clergy brings together 15 practicing rabbis, educators, pastoral counselors, sociologists, legal advocates for abused victims, and mental health professionals who offer insights into child sexual abuse. The book is divided into three parts. The first part, "Breaking Vows," describes rabbis who are active pedophiles. The second section, "Sacrificing Victims," describes how the community covers up the abuse and ignores the offenders and the victims, and shows how the perpetrators are protected by the clergy. The third section, "Let Me Know the Way," focuses on how Jewish communities can circumvent the bias and corruption associated with clergy who sexually abuse. The volume's prevailing strength is in offering insight into the gravity of this crime. "In 2007, an *American Journal of Psychiatry* study of Orthodox Jewish women found that one in four reported sexual abuse occurring by the age of 13, which mirrors data from the non-Jewish population," Barbara Pash, associate editor of *Baltimore JewishTimes.com*, wrote in July 2009. Certainly, a very timely exposure of a current serious problem found in not only the Orthodox Jewish religion, but also other major Christian and non-Christian religions. **Summing Up:** Highly recommended. For researchers and graduate students in the field, including professionals and practitioners. -- *P. J. Venturelli, Valparaiso University*