

Neurodiversity

NEURODIVERSITY AS A JEWISH VALUE

Our Jewish heritage prioritizes each member of our community, regardless of ability or disability. Neurodiversity is an inclusive framework that celebrates differences rather than viewing them as deficits. Below are some of the most famous Jewish texts about inclusion.

"Every member of the people of Israel is obligated to study Torah— regardless of whether one is rich or poor, physically able or with physical disability." (Mishneh Torah, Hilchot Talmud Torah, 10)

"You shall not insult the deaf, or place a stumbling block before the blind."
(Leviticus 19:14)

"But Moses said to the Eternal, 'Please, O Adonai, I have never been good with words, either in times past or now that You have spoken to Your servant; I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.' (Exodus 4:10-11)

"All Israel is responsible for one another."
(Mishnah Sanhedrin)

"If there be among you a person with needs, you shall not harden your heart, but you shall surely open your hand." (Deuteronomy 15:7)

"Speak up for those who cannot speak...speak up, judge righteously, champion the poor and the needy." (Proverbs 31:8)

"Do not despise any man, and do not discriminate against anything, for there is no man that has not his hour, and there is no thing that has not its place." (Pirkei Avot 4:3)

"For my house shall be a house of prayer for all people." (Isaiah 56:5)

"And God said, 'Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness...' So God created the human beings in [the divine] image, creating [them] in the image of God."
(Genesis 1:26-27)

"Do not look at the container, but what is in it"
(Pirkei Avot 4:27)

"Teach a child according to their way." (Proverbs 22:6)
(according to their needs and abilities)



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