

Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum
Congregation Beth Simchat Torah
New York City

Tel. 212-929-9498

Fax 212-620-3154

E-mail: rabbikleinbaum@cbst.org

[return to index page](#)

[Douglas Gould and Company](#)



"Hatred and violence against anyone is an evil that we as a moral and religious people must work our whole lives to eradicate."

Areas of expertise

- Judaism/religion & homosexuality
- Gay & lesbian civil rights
- Social justice & human rights
- Religion & AIDS

Topics in the News

- [Constitutional amendment to ban same-sex marriage](#)
- Human rights and the Middle East conflict
- Gay parenting and adoption

[Biography](#)

[Resources
by this Expert](#)

[Recent Interviews
and Articles](#)

[Organizational Links](#)

[Print](#) the PDF version
of this page

Biography

Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Simchat Torah in New York, the world's largest lesbian and gay synagogue. The congregation is a model of civic engagement and theological innovation, taking the experience of gay and lesbian Jews as a starting point for rectifying the status of marginalized groups in Judaism and in society. Rabbi Kleinbaum leads the congregation in being a voice for

justice in Judaism, in the national dialogue on religion and society, and in the civil rights struggles in the U.S. and Israel. She was recently appointed National Co-Chair of Rabbis for Human Rights. Rabbi Kleinbaum is a pioneer in pastoral care for people with AIDS and their families. She grew up in a Conservative synagogue, attended an Orthodox high school, was ordained a Reconstructionist rabbi, and worked for the Reform Movement prior to becoming Congregation Beth Simchat Torah's rabbi.

Resources by this expert

- Essay in the anthology *Lesbian Rabbis: The First Generation* (Rutgers University Press, 2001)
- Essay in *Rabbis: The Many Faces of Judaism: 100 Unexpected Photographs of Rabbis With Essays in Their Own Words* (Universe Publishing, 2002)

Recent Interviews & Articles

- *The New York Times*, April 30, 2007, "[A Push to legalize Gay Marriage](#)"
- *Newsweek*, April 2, 2007, "[America's Top 50 Rabbis](#)"
- *Agence France Presse*, March 15, 2007, "[Rabbi arrested at New York demo over gays in the military](#)"
- *New York Blade*, November 20, 2006, by Brenda Gazzar, "[Local Jews Clash Over Pride in Israel](#)" 
- *Religion News Service*, November 6, by Michele Chabin, "[Controversial Gay Parade OK'd for Jerusalem](#)" 
- *Gay City News*, August 23, 2006, "[With Hope, World Pride Closes: Lasting impact of Jerusalem event marred by war and divisions remains to be seen](#)" 
- *Haaretz*, March 12, 2006, by Daphna Berman "[Pride and Lots of Prejudice](#)" 
- *Gay City News*, March 2, 2006, "[A Civil Rights Movement Getting Religion](#)" 
- *Washington Post*, February 1, 2006 "[Various Diplomatic Dispatches](#)" 
- *The Advocate*, letter to the editor, September 22, 2005 "The Vatican"
- *New York Times*, March 31, 2005, by Laurie Goodstein and Greg Myre "Clerics Fighting a Gay Festival for Jerusalem"
- *New York Blade*, April 23, 2004 "[Jews', Palestinians' common cause](#)" 
- *The Jewish Week*, April 23, 2004 "[Twin Points of Light](#)" 
- *The Jewish Week*, April 2, 2004 "The Wedding Guests from the DA's Office"
- *The Jewish Week*, March 26, 2004 "[Rabbi Tells Nassau DA About Lesbian Wedding](#)" 
- *The New York Times*, March 21, 2004 "[At a Gay Synagogue, a Rabbi Isn't Fazed by Legalities](#)" 
- *The Jewish Week*, March 19, 2004 "[Rabbi Vows 'Civil Disobedience'](#)" 
- *The New York Times*, March 19, 2004 "[City Hall Steps: Pulpit, and Now an Altar](#)" 
- *Washington Post*, March 16, 2004 "[Charges in same-sex nuptials](#)" 
- *New York Daily News*, March 12, 2004 "[Clergy rally for gay nups](#)" 
- *The Jewish Week*, March 11, 2004 "[Gay Marriage Debate Now Embroiling Jews](#)" 
- *The New York Times*, March 8, 2004 "[Gay Marriage: A Variety of Lenses](#)"  (letter to editor)
- *Gay City News*, February 26, 2004 "[Split Decision from Elected Officials](#)" 
- *New York Blade*, February 26, 2004 "[Flash rally' draws hundreds](#)" 
- *Gay.com*, February 25, 2004 "[Rallies protest Bush, gay marriage ban](#)" 
- *UJA-Federation of New York News*, February 11, 2004 "[Coming Out for Israel](#)" 
- *Time Out New York*, January 15, 2004, "State of the Union"

Organizational links for this expert

- [Congregation Beth Simchat Torah](#)

[back to top](#)

A [Ford Foundation](#) project
© 2002–2007 Douglas Gould & Co., Inc.