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Norman Podhoretz to Discuss Controversial New Book *Why Are Jews Liberal?* at the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust

New York, NY— On **Monday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m.** author **Norman Podhoretz**, whom *Publisher's Weekly* calls “an astute and joyously provocative and partisan observer of the political landscape,” will discuss ***Why Are Jews Liberal?*** (Doubleday, 2009) at the **Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust**. In the book, Podhoretz delivers a provocative examination of why most Jews vote for democrats and seem to grow even more committed to liberalism in general, even as they move up the economic ladder. The book, which Henry Kissinger and William Kristol have praised and the *New York Times* has panned, has been generating controversy from readers across the spectrum.

Tickets are free with suggested donation, and are available online at www.mjhnyc.org or by calling the Museum box office at 646.437.4202.

Providing a fascinating account of anti-Semitism in the West, Podhoretz demonstrates why, for much of the 20th century, Jews quite sensibly concluded that they had much more to fear from the right than the left. But since the Six Day War of 1967, he then argues, this political position has no longer made sense, and yet most Jews continue to support the Democratic Party and the liberal agenda. Examining the history and reasons behind Jewish political attitudes, he shows that the usual explanations – such as a passion for justice allegedly deriving from the prophets of the Hebrew Bible – are either inadequate or flat-out wrong. Finally, Podhoretz proposes his own answer to the mystery why most of his fellow Jews remain as committed to liberalism as ever – and, in the process, changes the way we view American politics.

Norman Podhoretz is the bestselling author of *World War IV*. He holds the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest award, and was Editor-in-Chief of *Commentary* for 35 years.

WHAT: *Why Are Jews Liberal?* (Doubleday, 2009) with author Norman Podhoretz

WHERE: Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust
Edmond J. Safra Plaza, 36 Battery Place, Lower Manhattan

WHEN: Monday, November 16 at 6:30 p.m.

COST: Free with suggested donation

About the Museum of Jewish Heritage

The Museum's three-floor Core Exhibition educates people of all ages and backgrounds about the rich tapestry of Jewish life over the past century—before, during, and after the Holocaust. Special exhibitions include *Beyond Swastika and Jim Crow: Jewish Refugee Scholars at Black Colleges*, on view through January 4 and *The Morgenthau: A Legacy of Service*, opening November 16. *Keeping History Center*, a new, interactive visitor experience, opens on November 6. The Museum offers visitors a vibrant public program schedule in its Edmond J. Safra Hall. It is also home to Andy Goldsworthy's memorial *Garden of Stones*. The Museum receives general operating support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

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