

Check Your Knowledge: A Spotlight on the Orthodox Jewish American Community

Directions: Decide whether the statement is true or false. Add the reason for your choice on the lines below.

_____1. **True or False?:** Hasidic and Orthodox mean the same thing.

Reason(s) for my answer: _____

_____2. **True or False?:** Orthodox Jews value following all aspects of Jewish law, including laws related to people and laws related to God.

Reason(s) for my answer: _____

_____3. **True or False?:** Orthodox Jews all wear old-fashioned clothing.

Reason(s) for my answer: _____

_____4. **True or False?:** Orthodox Jews do not interact with the modern world

Reason(s) for my answer: _____

_____5. **True or False?:** You have probably eaten food that follows the dietary laws followed by Orthodox Jews.

Reason(s) for my answer: _____

ANSWER KEY

Check Your Knowledge: A Spotlight on the Orthodox Jewish American Community

1. True or False - Hasidic and Orthodox mean the same thing
 - o **FALSE!** There are a variety of ways to be an Orthodox Jew. Hasidic Jews are one subgroup of Haredi Orthodox Judaism.
2. True or False: Orthodox Jews value following all aspects of Jewish law, including laws related to people and laws related to God.
 - o **TRUE!** Orthodox Jews value following the traditional interpretation of all parts of Jewish law. However, there is still a lot of diversity in what daily life looks like for Orthodox Jews!
3. True or False: Orthodox Jews all wear old-fashioned clothing.
 - o **FALSE!** Styles of dress vary. Some Hasidic Jews will wear clothing that has ties to the communities in Europe where their group began, others wear modest versions of contemporary fashion. Most Orthodox women cover their hair with a scarf or wig.
4. True or False: Orthodox Jews do not interact with the modern world
 - o **FALSE!** There is a spectrum. Modern Orthodox Jews are fully engaged with the modern world, while some Haredi groups reject aspects of the modern world like use of the Internet in order to maintain their values and traditions.
5. True or False: You have probably eaten food that follows the dietary laws followed by Orthodox Jews.
 - o **TRUE!** Many foods that are available in the grocery store follow the Jewish dietary laws. These can be identified by a variety of symbols.