



Israel
Religious
Action
Center



Israel Movement for Reform
and Progressive Judaism
התנועה הרפורמית והתקדומת בישראל

Gender Equality in Action

Rights on **Flights**

Israeli law prohibits gender segregation and the exclusion of women in the public domain. However, due to pressure by certain extreme elements in the Haredi community it has become common to encounter public settings with a physical separation between men and women, the removal of women's images, banning a woman from speaking, signs demanding that women observe extreme modesty standards, and other practices that discriminate against women.

In 2017, IRAC represented Renee Rabinowitz, a female passenger and Holocaust survivor who was asked by crew members on Israel's flagship airline, EL AL, to switch seats so that the ultra-Orthodox male passenger sitting next to her would not have to sit next to a woman. We successfully petitioned the court on the passenger's behalf, and helped set a legal precedent prohibiting airline staff from asking a person to change seats on a flight because of their gender.

IRAC is the leading organization in fighting gender segregation in public spaces, and protecting and advancing civil liberties for all women through legal and legislative activism. IRAC continues to offer assistance for anyone who has experienced or witnessed gender discrimination on a flight.

If you or someone else is the victim of gender discrimination on a flight to/from Israel, let us know if an airline failed to protect your rights. Take a video or write down the details of the event (try to get information from witnesses, if possible) and contact us at pluralist@irac.org.

