



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**To purchase tickets:**

<http://levinjcc.org/conversations>

***JCC CONVERSATIONS: LOVE & EQUALITY***

**August 25, 2013, 3:00-4:30pm**

**Pre-Program Reception 2:00-3:00pm**

DURHAM, NC (August 13, 2013) – [The Levin Jewish Community Center](#) (Levin JCC), announces the first event of a new series of community events titled *JCC Conversations*. *JCC Conversations: Love & Equality* will feature outtakes from the documentary film *Living in the Overlap* and a panel discussion on the topic of marriage rights in North Carolina. Tickets are available online at [levinjcc.org/conversations](http://levinjcc.org/conversations). Tickets for the Pre-Program Reception with a reserved seat at the Program are \$36. General admission is \$12 and \$8 for Levin JCC members.

The panel discussion will include Lennie Gerber and Pearl Berlin, Marcie and Chantelle Fisher-Borne, and Lydia Lavelle.

Lennie and Pearl grew up in Brooklyn in the 1940's, fell in love in the Midwest and made a life together in North Carolina. Lennie and Pearl have been together for 47 years and are the subject of the documentary film *Living in the Overlap*. As we near the year anniversary of the vote on Amendment One, which effectively banned same-sex marriage in North Carolina, Lennie and Pearl have just married.

Marcie and Chantelle Fisher-Borne are plaintiffs in the 2012 lawsuit, *Fisher-Borne v. Smith*, filed by The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) in Greensboro on behalf of six same-sex couples and their children. *Fisher-Borne v. Smith* challenges the state's ban on second parent adoption, a process by which one partner in an unmarried gay or straight couple adopts the other partner's biological or adoptive child.

Lydia Lavelle is a Carrboro Alderperson/Law Professor who was recently involved in reviewing the Supreme Court ruling on Prop 8. Lydia teaches *Sexual Identity and the Law* and *State and Local Governmental Law* at North Carolina Central University School of Law.

“We embrace the opportunity to celebrate the lives of those fighting for equal rights and gender equality,” expressed Steve Schauder, Executive Director of the Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill. “Fighting for justice is one of the highest Jewish values that there is, which is why I am delighted that the Levin JCC is providing a platform for such an important conversation to take place.”

For further information about *JCC Conversations*, visit [levinjcc.org/conversations](http://levinjcc.org/conversations) or contact Penny Rich at [prich@shalomdch.org](mailto:prich@shalomdch.org) or 919-354-4944.

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**About the Levin Jewish Community Center:**

The Levin Jewish Community Center was built by the vision and commitment of the local Jewish community. We celebrate Jewish values, culture and traditions while welcoming the community at large. The Levin JCC is part of the Jewish Federation of Durham-Chapel Hill, a 501(c)3 not -profit organization.

<http://www.levinjcc.org>

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