**The Not-Always Holy Land: Law and Religion in Israel.**

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Recommended reading:

Halmai G (2016) Constitutionalism, Law and Religion in Israel a State’s Multiple Identities. J Civil Legal Sci 5: 169.

Outline:

1. **Israeli Society: Identity Complex**
   1. Who am I? - Judaism as Culture
   2. Who are we? - Citizens of Israel
   3. Who are we? – Jews in Israel
2. **Legal Framework for Law and Religion: Constitutionalism without a Constitution**
   1. The Declaration of Independence
   2. The Status Quo Agreement
   3. Basic Laws
   4. "Jewish and Democratic State" interpretation
   5. The New Basic Law: Israel as the Nation State of the Jewish People
3. **Judicial Creativity in Balancing Law and Religion: 2 examples of the clash**
   1. Shabbat laws
   2. Marriage and divorce
4. **Discussion**