

# GRAND ROUNDS

**Thursday, March 25, 2021**

**Location: Zoom- Meeting ID: 962 9094 0826; Passcode: 722068**

<https://stonybrook.zoom.us/j/96290940826?pwd=OTdHQVBXRmhQWnRzR3EvTGx1QytNdz09>

**4:30pm- 6:00pm**

## **Religion and Medicine in the Age of COVID-19**

*Jeff Levin, PhD, MPH*

Intersections between the institutions of medicine and religion are multifaceted and of long standing. Whether working in cooperation or in competition, the medical and faith sectors have been part of each other's history, for better or worse, since antiquity. In this presentation, the multiple dimensions of the ongoing conversation between religion and medicine will be discussed, with special reference to the present situation involving the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak and epidemic of COVID-19. Examples will be given of religious institutions and leaders serving as part of the problem—hindering response efforts, promoting misinformation, and fostering animosity—and as part of the solution—contributing to meeting the needs of vulnerable people and assisting in society's recovery from the pandemic.

Questions? Please e-mail

[Stephen.Post@stonybrookmedicine.edu](mailto:Stephen.Post@stonybrookmedicine.edu)



*Dr. Jeff Levin, an epidemiologist by training, holds a distinguished chair at Baylor University, where he is University Professor of Epidemiology and Population Health, Professor of Medical Humanities, and Director of the Program on Religion and Population Health at the Institute for Studies of Religion. He also serves as Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke University School of Medicine, and as an Affiliated Member of the Center for Medical Ethics and Health Policy at Baylor College of Medicine. He is a member of the Society for Epidemiologic Research, the International Epidemiological Association, the American College of Epidemiology, and the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, and is a fellow of the Gerontological Society of America and the International Society for Science and Religion. Dr. Levin has authored or edited over 230 scholarly publications, including 11 books, most recently Religion and Medicine: A History of the Encounter Between Humanity's Two Greatest Institutions (Oxford, 2020). His current work is focused on three subjects: (a) social and epidemiologic research on religion and population health, (b) theories of healing and the work of healers, and (c) the role of faith-based initiatives in public health and healthcare policy. He is a former president of Congregation Agudath Jacob, the Conservative synagogue in Waco, Texas.*



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