



Israel
Religious
Action
Center



Israel Movement for Reform
and Progressive Judaism
התנועה הרפורמית והתנועה הפרוגרסיבית
יהדות מתקדמת בישראל

Pride in Action

Advancing

Equal Adoption for LGBTQ Couples

Until recently, the Israeli Ministry of Welfare adhered to a 1981 regulation that adoption is only allowed for “Ish v’Isha (man and woman) together,” reject same-sex and unmarried couples as unfit for caring for children. The Ministry of Welfare often only allowed these couples to adopt children for whom a married man and woman could not be found due to the child’s age, background, or special needs, implying that these “undesirable” couples are only allowed to be parents of “undesirable” children.

IRAC filed a petition together with the Israeli Gay Father’s Association in April 2016, and the government responded that it would no longer discriminate against common-law couples but would continue to prevent same-sex couples from adopting children. After massive protests, the government changed its position to allow same-sex adoption. We are still working to ensure that the language of the law is changed to allow equal adoption rights for all in Israel.

