

PUSHED ONTO A CORNER: PODCAST

1. INTRODUCING
2. UNDERSTANDING JEWISH CULTURAL NORMS IN THE ASHKENAZI TRADITION AND ARGENTINIAN CULTURE
3. WHO ARE THESE WOMEN/ HOW WERE THEY TARGETED?
4. WHO IS ZWI MIGDAL?
5. THE ASHKENAZI CONNECTION WITH SOCIALISM IN THE EASTERN BLOCK AND ITS REFLECTION IN JEWISH POLITICS IN ARGENTINA + ALFREDO PALACIOS
6. THE JEWISH ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH GIRLS AND WOMEN (EZRAS NOSCHIM & SOCIEDAD DE DAMAS ISRAELITAS DE BENEFICIENCIA).
7. RAQUEL LIBERMAN
8. THE IMPACT OF DISMANTLING ZWI MIGDAL.

EP.1 - INTRODUCTION

HELLO, MY NAME IS ALICIA GUZMAN. I AM A GRADUATING SENIOR AT ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY IN SAN ANTONIO, TX. THIS PODCAST IS THE PRODUCT OF MY SENIOR RESEARCH PROJECT. I AM INTERESTED IN JEWISH LATIN AMERICAN WOMEN'S STUDIES.

THIS PODCAST WITH DISCUSS MY HISTORICAL CLAIM AND THE PIECES THAT FIT TOGETHER.

JEWISH WOMEN FROM 1860 TO 1939 IN ARGENTINA, MOSTLY SUBJECTS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING FROM THE EASTERN BLOCK OF EUROPE TO ARGENTINA FACED MUCH EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE BY THE JEWISH CRIME ORGANIZATION ZWI MIGDAL AND SOCIAL ISOLATION BY ARGENTINIAN SOCIETY. DURING EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY ARGENTINA, AFTER MUCH EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE, THESE WOMEN FORCED INTO PROSTITUTION BY

SYNDICATE ZWI MIDGAL AND OTHER JEWISH WOMEN, ORGANIZED TOGETHER TO PROTECT THEMSELVES TO IMPROVE THEIR CONDITION THROUGH POLITICAL ACTIVISM, LEGISLATIVE REFORM, AND THE JUDICIAL PROCESS. THIS PAPER WILL ARTICULATE ZWI MIGDAL'S MODUS OPERANDUS, THE POLITICAL ACTIVISM AND HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION, JEWISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF GIRLS AND WOMEN (EZRA NOSCHIM)'S CRITICAL ROLE IN THE SOCIAL REFORM ADVOCACY, ALFREDO PALACIO'S LEGISLATIVE ACTION, AND RAQUEL LIBERMAN'S BRAVERY IN PROVIDING TESTIMONY LEADING TO THE CONVICTIONS OF KEY ZWI MIGDAL ACTORS. ALL OF THESE ELEMENTS ALL PROVIDED TO THE COLLAPSE OF THE ORGANIZATION IN 1939.

THE COLOR BLUE ON THIS PODCAST'S COVER SYMBOLIZES SOLIDARITY WITH SURVIVORS AND VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING. THE HOPE OF THIS PODCAST IS TO GIVE A VOICE TO THOSE WOMEN WHOSE VOICES WERE STOLEN MANY YEARS AGO. WE HEAR YOU.

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING.

**EP. 2 - UNDERSTANDING JEWISH CULTURAL NORMS IN TERMS OF THE
ASHKENAZI TRADITION AND JUDAISM IN ARGENTINA**

THERE ARE TWO PROMINENT SUBCULTURES OF JUDAISM: SEPHARDIC AND ASHKENAZI. THIS PODCAST FOCUSES ON THE ASHKENAZI TRADITIONS.

SOME OF THE MAIN DIFFERENCES INCLUDE HISTORICAL ORIGIN RESULTING IN DIFFERENCES IN INTERPRETATION OF JEWISH LAW AND CUSTOMS. FOR EXAMPLE, THE PRONOUNCIATION OF HEBREW BETWEEN THE SEPHARDIC AND ASHKENAZIC TRADITIONS IS DIFFERENT AND DISTINCT. ASHKENAZIM ARE ALSO YIDDISH-SPEAKING

ASHKENAZIC JEWS ARE THE JEWS OF FRANCE, GERMANY, AND EASTERN EUROPE AND THEIR DESCENDANTS. THE ADJECTIVE "ASHKENAZIC" AND CORRESPONDING NOUNS, ASHKENAZI (SINGULAR) AND ASHKENAZIM (PLURAL) ARE DERIVED FROM THE HEBREW WORD "ASHKENAZ," WHICH IS USED TO REFER TO GERMANY. THE FIRST JEWS TO ARRIVE IN ARGENTINA WERE SEPHARDIC AND WERE REFUGEES FROM THE SPANISH INQUISITION IN THE EARLY 16TH CENTURY. MOST JEWS IN THE AMERICAS TODAY ARE ASHKENAZIM, DESCENDED FROM JEWS WHO EMIGRATED FROM GERMANY AND EASTERN EUROPE FROM THE MID 1800S TO THE EARLY 1900S. MANY OF THESE JEWS WERE FLEEING POVERTY AND POGROMS HAPPENING IN EUROPE AND ARGENTINA'S OPEN-DOOR IMMIGRATION POLICY BECAME IDEAL. THE JEWISH COLONIZATION ASSOCIATION AND THE COLONY MOISES VILLE HELPED TO IMMIGRATE APPROXIMATELY 13,000 JEWISH FROM EASTERN EUROPE. THIS LED TO ASHKENAZIM BECOMING THE MAJORITY IN ARGENTINA. THE JEWISH POPULATION IN ARGENTINA IS THE LARGEST IN LATIN AMERICAN AND THE SEVENTH LARGEST OUTSIDE OF ISRAEL.

PROJEWISH IMMIGRATION POLICIES THRIVED IN ARGENTINA UNTIL THE START OF WORLD WAR II RESULTING IN THE ARGENTINIAN GOVERNMENT SEVERELY CURTAILING ALL JEWISH IMMIGRATION INTO THE COUNTRY. AS

MINISTER OF WAR, PERON WAS A KNOWN ADMIRER OF MUSSOLINI AND AS PRESIDENT ALLOWED THE FLEEING NAZI WAR CRIMINALS FLEEING PERSECUTION IN GERMANY THE ABILITY TO IMMIGRATE INTO ARGENTINA. THOUGH IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT PERON EXPRESSED SYMPATHY FOR JEWISH RIGHTS, ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS IN 1949, AND WAS THE FIRST ADMINISTRATION TO ALLOW JEWISH CITIZEN TO HOLD PUBLIC OFFICE. IN 1955 PERON WAS OVERTHROWN BY A ANTISEMITIC AND NATIONALISTIC MOVEMENT WITH FASCIST TIES. THE TACUARA NATIONALIST MOVEMENT ENCOURAGED THE VANDALISM OF SYNAGOGUES, JEWISH CEMETARIES, AND FIGHTING JEWS IN THE STREETS.

IN THE 1960S AND 1970S NUMEROUS JEWS LEFT DUE TO ANTISEMITIC ATTITUDES IN SOCIETY, GOVERNMENT, AND THE MILITARY JUNTA. MANY JEWS DISAPPEARED AND WERE THE PRIMARY TARGET OF THE MILITARY JUNTA DUE TO NAZI IDEOLOGIES. SOME ESTIMATES ARE AS HIGH AS 3,000 MISSING. A WELL-KNOWN SURVIVOR OF IMPRISONMENT AND TORTURE OF THE JUNTA WAS JOURNALIST, JACOBO TIMERMAN WHO EXTENSIVELY COVERED THIS PERIOD KNOWN AS THE DIRTY WAR. HE WAS RELEASED LARGELY DUE TO US AND ISRAELI GOVERNMENT PRESSURES.

THE 1980S, WITH DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED PRESIDENTS THE TERRORS OF THE MILITARY JUNTA SUBSIDING, TOLERANCE IN GOVERNMENT AND SOCIETY BEGAN TO MEDIATE PEACE ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF JEWISH-ARAB RELATIONS. ARGENTINA AND LATIN AMERICA ALSO HAVE A SUBSTANTIAL ARAB POPULATION. IN 1988 LAWS WERE PASSED CRIMINALIZING ANTISEMITISM AND RACISM AS WELL AS THE RELEASE OF FILE RELATING TO THE ROLE ARGENTINA PLAYED AS A SAFE HAVEN FOR NAZI WAR CRIMINALS. THESE LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS WERE THE RESULTS OF PRESIDENT MENEM EXPRESSION OF SYMPATHY TO THE JEWISH PEOPLE FOLLOWING THE DESECRATION OF A JEWISH CEMETARY IN BUENOS AIRES.

IN THE 21ST CENTURY, MANY JEWS HAVE LEFT ARGENTINA FOR ISRAEL DUE TO ECONOMIC CRISES. WHILE ANTISEMITISM IS NOT AS BLATANTLY OBVIOUS AND ARE NOT WIDELY HELD BY A MAJORITY OF THE POPULATION THERE ARE STILL ANTISEMITIC ATTITUDES ALIVE.

EP. 3 - WHO ARE THE WOMEN? HOW WERE THEY TARGETED?

UNDERSTANDING THE FEMALE PERSPECTIVE ANY HISTORY IS CRITICAL. IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN IN ALL ASPECTS FROM THEIR EVERYDAY EXPERIENCE, CONTRIBUTIONS IN SCIENCE, GOVERNMENT, ART, LITERATURE, SPORTS, AND THE OVERALL COMMUNITY STRUCTURE. WHAT IS EVEN MORE IMPORTANT IS UNDERSTANDING THE HISTORY AND EXPERIENCES OF THE VOICES OF THOSE WHO ARE SYSTEMATICALLY SUPPRESSED AND PURPOSELY FORGOTTEN BECAUSE OF PRACTICES THAT ARE CONSIDERED TABOO AND IMMORAL BY THE SOCIETY. FROM THE TIME FRAME OF THE 1860S TO 1939, JEWISH WOMEN TYPICALLY FROM GERMANY, POLAND, AND RUSSIA WERE SYSTEMATICALLY FORCED INTO PROSTITUTION MAINLY IN BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA BY CRIME SYNDICATE ZWI MIGDAL.

THE WOMEN EXPLOITED BY ZWI MIGDAL WERE TYPICALLY FLEEING RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION, POGROMS, ECONOMIC STRIFE, AND THE DAUNTING PROSPECT OF DEVELOPING WAR ZONES IN EUROPE UNDER THE GUISE OF A CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION. IN EARLY TWENTIETH CENTURY ARGENTINA, AFTER MUCH EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE, JEWISH WOMEN FORCED INTO PROSTITUTION BY SYNDICATE ZWI MIDGAL AND OTHER JEWISH WOMEN, ORGANIZED TOGETHER TO PROTECT THEMSELVES TO IMPROVE THEIR CONDITION THROUGH POLITICAL ACTIVISM, LEGISLATIVE REFORM, AND THE JUDICIAL PROCESS.

ZWI MIGDAL, LURED GIRLS AND YOUNG WOMEN FROM EUROPE IN MANY RESOURCEFUL AND DECEITFUL WAYS. FOR INSTANCE, A WELL-MANNERED AND WEALTHY MAN WOULD APPEAR IN A POOR JEWISH VILLAGE IN POLAND OR RUSSIA. HIS NEXT MOVE WOULD INVOLVE HIM TO ADVERTISE HIS SEARCH FOR YOUNG WOMEN TO WORK IN THE HOMES OF WEALTHY JEWS IN ARGENTINA BY POSTING AN AD IN THE LOCAL SYNAGOGUE. FEARFUL OF POGROMS AND OFTEN IN DESPERATE ECONOMIC CIRCUMSTANCES, THE

TRUSTING PARENTS WOULD SEND THEIR YOUNG DAUGHTERS WITH THESE MEN, HOPING TO GIVE THEM A FRESH START. ANOTHER POPULAR RUSE WAS TO FIND PRETTY GIRLS AND OFFER TO MARRY THEM, USUALLY IN A CEREMONY KNOWN AS A STILLE CHUPPA. OTHER RUSES INCLUDED; THE MEMBER OF ZWI MIGDAL ARRANGING A FAKE WEDDING WITH A FAKE RABBI. THE GIRLS, AGED MOSTLY THIRTEEN TO SIXTEEN, PACKED A SMALL BAG, SAID GOODBYE TO THEIR FAMILIES, AND BOARDED SHIPS TO ARGENTINA. THESE WOMEN WERE LED TO BELIEVE THEY WERE ON THEIR WAY TOWARD A BETTER FUTURE. HOWEVER, THEY SOON LEARNED THE BITTER TRUTH. THEIR PERIOD OF TRAINING AS SEX SLAVES, WHICH BEGAN ON THE SHIP, WAS CRUEL AND BRUTAL. SOME OF THEM WERE MARRIED OFF TO LOCAL MEN SO THEY COULD OBTAIN ENTRY TO BUENOS AIRES. FAR FROM THEIR FAMILIES, WITHOUT FRIENDS OR KNOWLEDGE OF THE LANGUAGE, THEY WERE FORCED TO SERVE MANY MEN PER DAY, THEIR BODIES BELONGING TO THE JEWISH RUFIANOS.

EP. 4 - ZVI MIGDAL: WHO THEY ARE, WHAT THEY DID, + THEIR REPUTATION.

ARGENTINA'S POPULATION IN THE 1860S WAS MORE OR LESS AROUND 1,897,000 AND AROUND 1947 THEIR POPULATION HAD RISEN TO APPROXIMATELY 15,900,000. IN 1887, CENSUS RECORDS INDICATE THAT THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 429,558 JEWS LIVING IN BUENOS AIRES ALONE. BUENOS AIRES RAPID GROWTH BECAME THE CLEAR CHOICE FOR ZWI MIGDAL TO OPERATE OUT OF. ZVI MIGDAL MAINLY ENGAGED IN SEX TRAFFICKING, EXPLOITATION, AND FORCED WOMEN INTO PROSTITUTION.

UNDER THE INITIAL GUISE OF THE VARSOVIA¹ JEWISH MUTUAL AID SOCIETY, THE ORGANIZATION TARGETED THESE WOMEN THROUGH THE PROSPECT OF MARRIAGE AND A BETTER LIFE IN ARGENTINA. IN 1927, THE ORGANIZATION'S NAME WAS CHANGED DUE A POLISH ENVOY'S COMPLAINT OF THEIR USE OF VARSOVIA AND RENAMED THEMSELVES ZWI MIGDAL TO HONOR THEIR FOUNDER. AT ZWI MIGDAL'S PEAK IN THE 1920S, THEY CONTROLLED THOUSANDS OF WOMEN, THOUSANDS OF BROTHELS, AND THEIR PROFITS WERE APPROXIMATELY FIFTY MILLION USD² ANNUALLY. THIS CRIME SYNDICATE FOUND GREAT SUCCESS.

THE ZWI MIGDAL ORGANIZATION REACHED ITS PEAK IN THE 1920S: 430 RUFFIANS, OR PIMPS, CONTROLLED 2,000 BROTHELS WITH 4,000 WOMEN IN ARGENTINA ALONE.[6] THE ORGANIZATION'S SUCCESS STEMMED FROM THE FACT THAT ITS MEMBERS WERE BOUND BY RULES THAT WERE "BASED ON ORDER, DISCIPLINE, AND HONESTY." THE NETWORK WAS WELL-ORGANIZED AND MEMBERS COOPERATED CLOSELY TO PROTECT THEIR INTERESTS.

THE LARGEST BORDELLOS OF BUENOS AIRES HOUSED SIXTY TO EIGHT WOMEN. THERE WERE BORDELLOS ALL OVER ARGENTINA, BUT MOST OF THEM WERE IN THE BIG CITY, IN THE JEWISH QUARTER. PROSTITUTES WHO

FAILED TO SATISFY THEIR CLIENTS WERE BEATEN, FINED, OR TAKEN TO WORK IN PROVINCIAL HOUSES AS PUNISHMENT. EVERY BUSINESS TRANSACTION WAS METICULOUSLY LOGGED. THE RUFIANOS REGULARLY HELD WHAT WERE KNOWN AS MEAT MARKETS WHERE NEWLY ARRIVED GIRLS WERE PARADED NAKED IN FRONT OF TRADERS. THESE EVENTS WERE REGULARLY ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT. THIS SERVED AS A METHOD OF BRIBERY IN EXCHANGE FOR GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO TURN A BLIND AWAY FROM THE ILLEGAL HUMAN TRAFFICKING PRACTICES ALONGSIDE THE EXPLOITATION OF THESE WOMEN. IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNIZE THE EXPLOITATION AND HORRIBLE TREATMENT THESE WOMEN ENDURED DESPITE THE LEGAL NATURE OF PROSTITUTION BY NOT ONLY ZWI MIGDAL BUT THE ARGENTINE COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE.

PROSTITUTION IN ARGENTINA WAS LEGALLY PERMITTED UNDER A REGULATED BROTHEL STRUCTURE FROM THE TIME FRAME OF 1875 UNTIL 1936. THE ARGENTINIAN GOVERNMENT UTILIZED THE FRENCH MODEL OF REGULATION. IT WAS PUBLIC HEALTH ORIENTED. WOMEN WERE REQUIRED TO MAINTAIN DOCUMENTS LIKE THE PLANILLA DE SANIDAD OR HEALTH SHEET. THIS CARD CONTAINED INFORMATION NOTING NAME, AGE, RESIDENCE, NATIONALITY, A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE WOMEN THAT CORRESPONDED WITH THE PHOTOGRAPH ON RECORD AT THE MUNICIPAL OFFICE, AND WELL AS FOUR SPACE FOR PHYSICAL EXAMS. THE PHYSICAL EXAMS WERE SIGNED OFF BY GOVERNMENT DOCTORS ENSURING THESE WOMEN WERE FREE FROM SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES.

THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE LOCAL JEWISH COMMUNITY AND THE RUFFIANS WERE COMPLICATED. THE LOCAL JEWS CALLED THEM "IMPURE", WOULD NOT ASSOCIATE WITH THEM NOR RENT OR SELL THEM HOUSES. HOWEVER, THE RUFFIANS WISHED TO PARTICIPATE IN PRAYERS AND CEREMONIES, AND ASSUMED GENEROUS DONATIONS WOULD EASILY PAVE THEIR WAY INTO THE COMMUNITY AS DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS.

IT WORKED FOR THEM - BUT ONLY FOR A WHILE. ONE NIGHT, NAHUM SORKIN, A KNOWN ZIONIST, WAS STANDING OUTSIDE THE JEWISH THEATER TRYING TO STOP FROM ENTERING. SINCE THEN, THE ENTIRE COMMUNITY STARTED TO CONDEMN AND DENUNCIATE THE RUFFIANS. THEY WERE NO LONGER ALLOWED IN THE SYNAGOGUE NOR IN THE CEMETERY. IN RESPONSE, THE RICH RUFFIANS ERECTED A FANCY SYNAGOGUE IN THE CENTER OF THE JEWISH QUARTER. THE ENTRANCE FLOOR WAS A GLORIOUS PRAYING HALL, WHILE THE UPPER FLOOR WAS A BROTHEL. DURING THE SYNAGOGUE'S INAUGURATION THE RUFFIANS WENT OUTSIDE WITH THE TORAH IN THEIR ARMS AND CIRCLED THE BUILDING, IN FRONT OF THE DISGUSTED APPALLED NEIGHBORS WHO DARED NOT INTERFERE.

"ZVI MIGDAL" WAS ACTIVE UNINTERRUPTEDLY FOR OVER FOUR DECADES. THE BOSSES WERE FEARLESS, PAYING OFF EVERY MAN WHO MIGHT JEOPARDIZE THEM: IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS, COPS AND JUDGES THAT ATTEMPTED TO SHUT THE CARTEL DOWN; POLITICIANS; AND CITY HALL SENIORS WHO AUTHORIZED THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE SYNAGOGUE/BROTHEL.

**EP. 5 - THE ASHKENAZI CONNECTION WITH SOCIALISM IN THE EASTERN
BLOCK AND ITS REFLECTION IN JEWISH POLITICS IN ARGENTINA +
ALFREDO PALACIOS.**

THE ELECTION OF ALFREDO PALACIOS, THE FIRST EVER SOCIALIST SENATOR ELECTED IN THE ARGENTINE CONGRESS, IMMENSELY HELPED WOMEN IN THEIR FIGHT AGAINST EXPLOITATION. HIS TENURE LASTED FROM 1932 UNTIL THE SENATE DISSOLVED INITIALLY IN 1943.

LEY 9.134, OR COMMONLY REFERRED TO AS LEY PALACIO, WAS THE FIRST MAJOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION IN PREVENTING THE SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN. PRIOR TO LEY PALACIO, THE BUENOS AIRES RULE OF PROCEDURE ONLY STATED THAT NO PROSTITUTION OF WOMEN UNDER OF THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN. THE PROBLEM WITH THIS WAS IT ONLY PROTECTED WOMEN UNDER THE AGE OF EIGHTEEN UNDER THE STIPULATION THAT AS LONG AS THEY HAD NEVER PRACTICED PROSTITUTION. THERE WERE NO RAMIFICATIONS FOR ANYONE WHO TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE SYSTEMS. THERE WERE MANY LOOPHOLES TO THIS AND WAS A FAR CRY FROM HELP. PALACIO CREATED A CRIMINAL CODE OF PROCEDURE TO PUNISH THOSE FACILITATED THE CORRUPTION OR PROSTITUTION OF WOMEN AND MINORS REGARDLESS OF THEIR HISTORY. THIS HELPED REGULATE THE PRACTICE OF PIMPING AND IF THESE TENEBROSOS, WERE FOUND GUILTY OF CORRUPTION AND EXPLOITATION THEY WERE DEPORTED.

AN INTERESTING CONNECTION TO NOTE IS JEWS OF THE ASHKENAZI TRADITION TYPICALLY HAD CONNECTION TO SOCIALISM IN EUROPE. NOT ONLY WERE MOST OF THE JEWISH WOMEN WHO WERE TRAFFICKED TO BUENOS AIRES, FROM THE EASTERN BLOCK BUT OF MAJORITY OF THE JEWISH POPULATION IN ARGENTINA AS A WHOLE. A JEWISH FAMILY, THE CHERTKOFFS, WORKED CLOSELY WITH SOCIALIST POLITICIANS. WOMEN LIKE FENIA CHERTKOFF, BORN IN THE RUSSIA, BECAME AN INFLUENTIAL FEMINIST WHO THROUGH HER HUSBAND'S CONNECTION IN THE SOCIALIST

PARTY HELPED ADVOCATE FOR GENDER EQUALITYVI. IT SEEMS TO BE NO COINCIDENCE THAT THE FIRST LAW PROTECTING AND ADVOCATING ON BEHALF OF JEWISH WOMEN IN TERMS OF SEX WORK. SINCE 1875, PROSTITUTION WAS REGULATED AND LICENSED BY THE GOVERNMENT USING THE AFOREMENTIONED FRENCH SYSTEM.

EP. 6 THE JEWISH ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH GIRLS AND WOMEN (EZRAS NOSCHIM & SOCIEDAD DE DAMAS ISRAELITAS DE BENEFICIENCIA

IN AN ATTEMPT TO REGULATE IMMIGRATION FROM EUROPE THAT WOULD RESULT IN EXPLOITATION AND TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN, A SYSTEM OF MORALITY CERTIFICATES BECAME MANDATED FOR JEWISH MARRIAGES AND IMMIGRATION OF SINGLE JEWISH WOMEN BUENOS AIRES THROUGHOUT THE 1930S. THIS WAS A COMMUNITY POLICING ATTEMPT THROUGH ORGANIZATIONS LIKE EZRAS NOSCHIM IN AN EFFORT TO PREVENT FUTURE GENERATIONS FROM FACING EXPLOITATION IN PROSTITUTION AND AN ATTEMPT TO RID THE SOCIETY OF AN ASSOCIATION OF IMMORALITY. EZRAS NOSCHIM (EN) WAS ESTABLISHED 1901 IN BUENOS AIRES. EN WAS THE FIRST BRANCH OF THE JEWISH ASSOCIATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF GIRLS AND WOMEN (JAPGW) OUTSIDE OF EUROPE. JAPGW WAS ESTABLISHED DURING THE 1880S IN GREAT BRITAIN. JAPGW WAS ESTABLISHED TO HELP COMBAT ANY INVOLVEMENT OF JEWISH WOMEN IN ANY INTERNATIONAL PROSTITUTION. THEIR PRIMARY MISSION WAS TO HELP FIGHT WHITE SLAVERY, HUMAN TRAFFICKING, SPOUSAL ABANDONMENT, BIGAMY, DIVORCE/ALIMONY, AND THE CUSTODY OF MINOR GIRLS FACED BY JEWISH WOMEN. BOTH MEN AND WOMEN WERE MEMBERS OF THIS ORGANIZATION.

JEWISH WOMEN FORCED INTO PROSTITUTION BECAME EASY TARGETS BY ANTI-SEMITISM IN ARGENTINE SOCIETY BY CATHOLICS ON TO JEWS AND JEWS ONTO ANYONE ASSOCIATED WITH ZWI MIGDAL - VOLUNTARY OR NOT. THIS CHARACTERIZATION RESULTED IN THE SOCIAL AND RELIGIOUS OSTRACISM. MANY JEWISH WOMEN FROM THEIR OWN RELIGIOUS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE. SINCE ASSOCIATION WITH ZWI MIGDAL EQUATED TO MORAL TURPITUDE, THESE WOMEN WERE BANNED FROM ENTERING ANY SYNAGOGUES, BURIAL GROUNDS, ASSOCIATIONS, THE YIDDISH THEATER, AND FORBIDDEN FROM ANY JEWISH BURIAL RIGHTS. IN AN EFFORT TO COMBAT THIS OSTRACISM, ZWI MIGDAL CREATED THEIR OWN SYNAGOGUES,

CEMETERIES, AND CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS. EN PLAYING A MAJOR IN
ITS DEMISE OF ZWI MIGDAL'S LEGAL STATUS. EN WORKED ALONGSIDE
RAQUEL LIBERMAN AND THE INVESTIGATORS TO PUT AN END TO THE
EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN.

EP. 7 - RAQUEL LIBERMAN, THE JUDICIAL PROCESS, + THE DEMISE OF ZWI MIGDAL.

ZWI MIGDAL WORKED TO FORCE RAQUEL LIBERMAN, A FORMER PROSTITUTE, TO RETURN TO PROSTITUTION. RAQUEL LIBERMAN EMIGRATED TO ARGENTINA FROM RUSSIA AFTER HER HUSBAND. HER HUSBAND DIED FROM TUBERCULOUS A YEAR AFTER HER ARRIVAL. THIS LEFT HER AND TWO SMALL SONS DESTITUTE. NOT KNOWING ANY SPANISH, SHE COULD NOT FIND WORK AS A SEAMSTRESS. SHE WORKED AS PROSTITUTE AND PAID TRIBUTE TO JAIME CISSINGER FOR PROTECTION UNTIL SHE SAVED ENOUGH MONEY TO OPEN AN ANTIQUE SHOP. HER ANTIQUE WAS LATER RAIDED BY MEMBERS OF ZWI MIGDAL. THEY ROBBED HER STORE OF HER SAVINGS AND SHE WAS FORCED BACK TO PROSTITUTION IN ORDER TO PROVIDE FOR HER CHILDRENXI.

IT IS WITH RAQUEL LIBERMAN WHERE THE JUDICIAL DEMISE OF ZWI MIGDAL STARTED AND ENDED. LIBERMAN CONTACTED THE POLICE SUPERINTENDENT, JULIO ALSOGARAY. HE HAD BEEN KNOWN NOT TO ACCEPT BRIBES FROM ANYONE BUT PARTICULARLY ZWI MIGDAL. SHE PROVIDED DETAILED TESTIMONY IN A MANNER THAT IS PARALLELED TO AN AFFIDAVIT GIVING AN ACCOUNT OF HER EXPERIENCE AND ON THE WORKINGS OF ZWI MIGDAL. THIS TESTIMONY CONSISTED OF HOW WOMEN WERE TRANSPORTED FROM ONE PLACE TO ANOTHER, THEIR METHODOLOGY, AND THE PHYSICAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE USED IN ORDER TO TERRORIZE THE WOMEN INTO SUBMISSION. THIS FINALLY GAVE POLICE THE INFORMATION THEY NEEDED TO LAUNCH AN EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION.

THE CASE WAS TURNED OVER TO AND HANDLED BY AN INVESTIGATIVE JUDGE, MANUEL RODRÍGUEZ OCAMPO. HE ALSO REFUSED TO TAKE BRIBES. DURING THE INVESTIGATION THAT CORRUPTION OF THE FEDERAL POLICE WORKING WITH ZWI MIGDAL WAS UNCOVERED.

WHEN THE TRIAL ENDED SEPTEMBER 1930 RESULTING WITH ONE HUNDRED EIGHT CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS AND LENGTHY PRISON SENTENCES. DIARIO CRITICA FOLLOWING THE CONVICTIONS OF THE TENEBROSO, PUBLISHED A PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THE MUGSHOTS OF THE MEN CAPTIONED, "CAUTRO FAMOSOS TENEBROSOS". THE EXACT NAMES OF THESE MEN ARE UNKNOWN. THE FRONT-PAGE NEWS ANNOUNCED THE INDICTMENT OF THE FOUR KEY PLAYERS POSING FOR THEIR MUG SHOTS AFTER BEING CONVICTED. THIS RESULTED IN THE DISSOLUTION OF ZWI MIGDAL THROUGHOUT A NINE-YEAR PERIOD. THE MAGISTRATE PUBLICLY DENOUNCED THE ORGANIZATION AND CITED IT AS A DIRECT THREAT TO ARGENTINE SOCIETY. FOLLOWING THEIR CONVICTIONS, HUNDREDS OF PIMPS WERE DEPORTED TO URUGUAY, BUT THEY SLOWLY RETURNED OVER THE YEARS, ONE BY ONE - BUT AT THIS POINT THE PUBLIC WAS AWARE THE ORGANIZATION.