



Thank you for joining us at the OU SPIRIT Webinar, **A Conversation for Mortals**, with Rabbi Elchonon Zohn. We are happy to present you with this guide to the topics discussed. Links to everything on this sheet, plus the PowerPoint Presentation, and other resources of interest, can be found at nasck.org/ou-webinar. A video recording of the webinar, when released, will be available on that page, as well.

Halachic Living Wills are a must for everyone over the age of 18. Advance Directives cannot take their place, since any medical decision made in an emergency needs to be based on the specifics of the situation. You can easily create a legally-binding Halachic Living Will and request your free EMES card at nasck.org/1-2-3. Still not convinced you need one? You can find out more at the same address.

Wills in Accordance with Halachah will avoid unnecessary strife and halachic issues. Resources to ensure that your Last Will and Testament is halachically valid are available at nasck.org/wills-in-accordance-with-halachah. It is always best to consult with your rabbi before finalizing your will.

Cremation has become a huge issue in the Jewish community, with rates at 40% and rising. It is our obligation as Jews to take care of the *meis mitzvah* (person without anyone to bury them) of today by talking to them about the imperative of traditional Jewish burial. NASCK's PeacefulReturn.org website is dedicated to this task. We also offer the book, [Cremation or Burial? A Jewish View](#), by best-selling author Doron Kornbluth, on our website.

We have also established the non-profit [South Florida Jewish Cemetery](#) to encourage burial in the area with the largest population of elderly Jews in North America, and a cremation rate greater than 50% among Jews.

NASCK (The National Association of Chevra Kadisha) was founded in 1996 to assist chevros kadisha in defining, establishing, and achieving the highest degree of kavod hameis (respect for the deceased) as defined by Jewish law. NASCK also creates and advances programs and initiatives to promote traditional Jewish end-of-life values.

Over the past 20 years, NASCK has used workshops, legislative initiatives, and educational programming to help people navigate the trying time of losing a loved one. NASCK teaches best practices for dealing with complex taharos, and influences funeral homes and cemeteries to accommodate traditional Jewish funeral practices. Our annual [TEAMShabbos](#) program opens the conversation about Jewish end-of-life issues in over 500 shuls across North America.

In addition, NASCK has prevented countless cremations through direct intervention, education, and guidance. Through its innovative ideas, programs, and practices, NASCK leads the fight against the growing trend of cremation among Jews.