


NEED TO KNOW

Jews believe that human life is uniquely special and valuable and should be protected at all costs. **Pikuach nefesh** is the principle that preservation of human life takes precedent over all else.

UNDERSTAND AND EXPLAIN

- To understand Jewish teaching on **the sanctity of human life**
- To understand and apply the concept of **pikuach nefesh**



SANCTITY OF LIFE		Judaism Beliefs and Teachings
Sanctity of life	Talmud	Pikuach nefesh
	Transplant surgery	Pikuach nefesh & the Sabbath
The Mitzvot explained	Free will	'So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.' Genesis 1:27

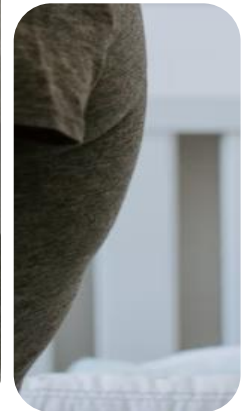
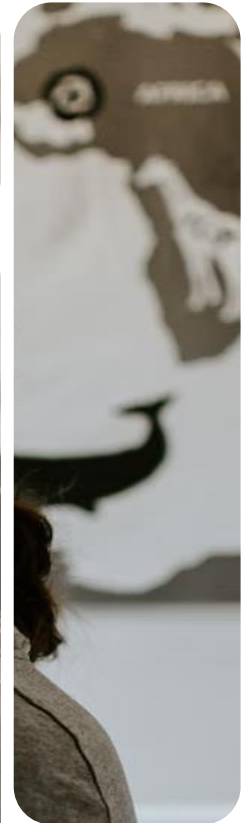
Sanctity of life

Judaism
Beliefs and Teachings

Sanctity of human life: Belief that human life is a sacred/special because it is a precious gift from God.

‘So God created man in his own image, in **the image of God** he created them; male and female he created them’

Genesis 1:27



Sanctity of life

Judaism
Beliefs and Teachings

Made in the image of God



Sacred

Not made in the image of God



Not sacred

Previously

Mitzvot: Mitzvot (singular is 'mitzvah') are the 613 Jewish commandments or rules found in the Tenakh

A **promise** made by humankind to God
Humankind would **obey the Mitzvot**

Keep my laws which if a man do, he shall live by them..." *Leviticus 18:5*

Can you ever break the Mitzvot?

A promise made by humankind to God
Humankind would **obey the Mitzvot**

Keep my laws which if a man do, he
shall live by them..." *Leviticus 18:5*

Sanctity of life

Judaism
Beliefs and Teachings

'Saving a life' (Pikuach Nefesh): This principle **overrides all other religious laws** because saving a **human life** should be of upmost importance in any situation.



Sanctity of life

Judaism
Beliefs and Teachings



Today, many Jews believe that organ transplants are a way to save a life. However, others believe that the body should be buried complete and are opposed to the idea.

