**From:** Rabbi Michelle Werner <rabbi@bnaiisraelmn.org>

**Date:** February 25, 2015 at 9:27:19 AM CST

**To:** Regina Mustafa <cidi@cidimn.org>

**Subject:** **RE: thoughts on Faith Talk Show**

A few words about the Faith talk show:

Nothing does more to neutralize hatred and promote understanding than does dialogue. According to Jewish tradition when we gather to speak of Torah, the teachings of our tradition, the divine presence joins us. We have a sacred mission as members of humanity to seek out the Divine spark within each person. There is no better place to do this than in the context of respectful exchange learning about one another's traditions and connection to God. While the purpose of the Faith talk show is ostensibly about giving us the opportunity to learn about one another's traditions and beliefs in a safe and respectful ambiance where questions can be asked, it also serves as a model as well for ways in which we can be together honoring our understanding of and our relationship with God and seeking out the divine reflection in one another. This is one of the greatest gifts that interfaith dialogue brings to our world.