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NRP Protests Justice Cohn's 'Dialogue' Views

Jerusalem Post Reporter

The National Religious Party Knesset faction yesterday met with Minister of Justice Dov Joseph to convey to him the gravity with which they regard the statement made by Justice Haim Cohn at the Israel-American Dialogue in Jerusalem on June 17.

The M.K.s expressed to Dr. Joseph their view that Justice Cohn's statement constitutes a serious insult to the nation's honour and tradition.

In the course of his speech, Justice Cohn said: "It is, I think, one of the bitterest ironies of fate that the same biological or racist approach which was propagated by the Nazis and characterized the infamous Nuremberg laws, should, because of an allegedly sacrosanct Jewish tradition, become the basis for the official determination or rejection of Jewishness in the State of Israel.

"I consider it one of the most deplorable failures of the State that it has hitherto been unable to absorb and assimilate... originally non-Jewish women, and other non-Jewish or half-Jewish survivors of Nazi persecution, as full-fledged Jews for all intents and purposes."

(Justice Cohn's statement is also the subject of a parliamentary question submitted to Dr. Joseph last week by Rabbi Shlomo Lorincz (Agudat Yisrael).
