

TOWARD A NEW DEFINITION OF COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP: A THREE-DIMENSIONAL APPROACH

by
Orna Shemer and Hillel Schmid
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

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Abstract

We propose a new definition of partnership, which emphasizes the role and meaning of power in creating partnership. Following a case study of change processes within a kibbutz community undergoing lifestyle changes, The proposed definition focuses on three dimensions of partnership: (a) the *overt* dimension, in which partnership is manifested through daily community life such as organizational structure, rules and norms; (b) the *covert* dimension, which focuses on symbolic rites of partnership and "non-events"; (c) the *latent* dimension, which expresses internalized partnership and influences participants' consciousness through socialization and world views.

Key words: partnership; community partnership; power; decision-making processes; kibbutz.