

# THE ETHICS OF THE GREEN PASS

By mid February 2021, four million Israelis had received the first shot of the vaccine and 2.6 million got both doses. That accounts for two-thirds of those eligible to get vaccinated.

In a TV interview with Yonit Levy, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu praised all those who were vaccinated, and enthusiastically encouraged those not yet immunised to climb aboard the vaccination train.

"I call on all of those 570,000 people over the age of 50 who have not yet been vaccinated: Go and get vaccinated! Not just for your health but for all of our health," Netanyahu said in a rare Channel 12 interview. "If those 570,000 people over 50 get vaccinated, it'll not only be the last lockdown, but we'll be done with COVID, period."

Despite some health experts rebuking this assessment, Netanyahu went on to call the cabinet decision earlier that week to start reopening Israel "wonderful news." He said the "Green Pass" framework that was approved will allow vaccinated Israelis to go to the movies, attend sports matches, and eventually restaurants and flights abroad.



## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. A [survey](#) of Israelis who have not vaccinated found that 41% said they fear possible side effects, 30% are not sure the vaccine is effective, 27% will vaccinate soon, 10% cited information on social media and 4% said the incentives are insufficient. Respondents were allowed to give more than one answer. What steps should the government take to address these concerns?

2. The Transportation Ministry is pushing a proposal to restrict international travel for Israelis who haven't been vaccinated against COVID-19, as part of plans to reopen Ben Gurion Airport. Anyone who hasn't received a vaccine will be denied permission to fly for "unessential" reasons unless granted special permission by a government committee. The Transportation Ministry was also examining the possibility of setting up separate entry terminals for the vaccinated and unvaccinated and has reportedly held talks with national carrier El Al on separate flights for those who have received a vaccine and those who haven't. How do you feel about Israel's national carrier holding separate flights to the Jewish State for those who are and are not vaccinated?



3. One of the proposals suggested by media personalities in Israel to encourage vaccinations includes holding a free Shlomo Artzi concert in Caesarea for anyone with a Green Pass. From what you know about Israelis, what do you think would be an offer that would excite them to get vaccinated in large numbers?



## ACTIVITY

In order to incentivize and make an event from getting a vaccination, the municipality of Bnei Brak offered free cholent, coke and bread rolls to all who received their shots.

This was followed by Jaffa offering Knafe, Givatayim offering Sabich, Gefilte Fish and Chopped Liver and Tel Aviv offering Pizza and Beer. Research the cities below and list what you think would be a good idea for each based on its largest demographic representation in order to encourage vaccination for their residents. Choose three from:

- Nazareth
- Raanana
- Modiin
- Jerusalem
- Efrat
- Baka El Garbiyeh
- Eilat



 WATCH

News Story on i24 explaining how the Green Pass works  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PuAmCHbIBXQ>

 INTERVIEW

Call up a friend or family member who lives in Israel and ask them the following questions:

1. How do you feel about the way Israel has managed both the health and economic aspects of the pandemic?
2. Are you comfortable with the idea of places opening up based on the Green Pass?
3. Once there are no more restrictions, what's the first thing you will want to do with your new found freedom?