## KARIN SPORN

Author • Philanthropist • Speaker



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## ABOUT KARIN

Karin Sporn's life is an amazing voyage from the old-world town of Gronau in Germany to the lights of Las Vegas in the American Southwest. Growing up in post-WWII Germany, Karin had always wondered about what happened during the war. Her father was a soldier in the German Army and a follower of Hitler. Despite her curiosity, her questions about the war years (especially the plight of the Jewish people and the Holocaust) had never been answered. In her 20s, Karin began her study of Judaism with a rabbi, She officially converted in 1978. Today, Karin has committed herself to help her community. Advocating with AIPAC has allowed Karin to join with others to address the plight of Jewish people in need around the world. And her work with the Jewish Federation on the local level as a chairperson and as a board member of the National Women's Philanthropy Board has given her the chance to give back to the Jewish community of faith that changed her life so many years ago. Karin's journey has been chronicled in her book "Just Peek Over the Fence." The title summarizes Karin's journey and comes from advice she imparted to a close friend: "If you can just peek over the fence and see what's on the other side, your fears will go away and you will get moving again."



In honor of her leadership and exemplary commitment to being a Lion of Judah, Karin is the recipient of the Kipnis Wilson Friedland Award, a nationally recognized award.

#### ABOUT THE BOOK

### JUST PEEK OVER THE FENCE

Just Peek Over the Fence is a tale of reflection on the events that shaped Karin's journey in life. Many of those events were shattering to the soul, while others brought immense joy and bliss. This book is about the path she took to make her life wholesome and complete. She did this by embracing the wonderful truths of Judaism and reconciling it with her German heritage in a way that promotes healing from the wrongs of the past and paves a new path toward a brighter future.



"I have had the privilege of knowing Karin and working alongside her in the Jewish community for over 10 years. She is a motivated and committed leader with an incredible life story to tell.'Just Peek Over the Fence' is a wonderful book about this extraordinary woman's life. I hear Karin's voice through every page of the book as she tells her story through humor, love, and a great deal of passion. I am so proud to be a small part of Karin's life and her Jewish journey."

Stefanie Tuzman
President & CEO of Jewish Nevada



"Karin is a great example of what it means to be a smart, independent, and take-charge woman. Her unbridled spirit is all the more amplified through the love she has for her family and her devotion to her faith through her philanthropy."

Jack Sheehan New York Times Best Selling Author



"When I met Karin Sporn, she impressed me with her passion for the Jewish faith, especially being born and raised in Germany. I found it fascinating to hear her story, how she was drawn to the damaged violin she discovered, and how it opened her eyes to the suffering of the Jewish people. I admire all she is doing for the Jewish people."

Lena Walther Consul Emerita of Sweden to Nevada





"Karin's book is an honest, in depth look into an inspirational life and a spiritual journey. The ups and downs of her life are interspersed with vibrant anecdotes from friends. A pleasure to read!"

Alina Gerlovin Spaulding | International Speaker



"Karin Sporn spoke at a recent event for women philanthropists. The event featured a window into a conversation between Karin, the daughter of Nazi sympathizers, and a local woman who is the daughter of Holocaust Survivors. The conversation between the two women was meaningful and enjoyed by all attendees. We're so grateful to Karin for sharing her story with us."

TO MONTH

Jaime Fox | Jewish Federation of San Diego



# From being born the daughter of a Nazi Soldier to converting to Judaism.

Throughout the adventures of her early life, there was always something that piqued Karin's curiosity. Growing up in post-WWII Germany, she had always wondered about what happened during the war. Her father had been a soldier in the German Army and a follower of Hitler, but her family and educational upbringing never delved into the tragedy of the war years, especially the plight of the Jewish people and the Holocaust.

## SPEAKING TOPICS



#### CHILDHOOD AND UPBRINGING:

Bucking the expectations of who she was supposed to be from her youth and shaping her own destiny as an independent woman



#### FAITH:

Conversion and raising a Jewish family



#### **BUSINESS:**

How to break through the glass ceiling even in uncertain times



# **FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**————— DURING INTERVIEWS

- You were born and raised in post-war Germany, what was it like to live at that time, under those conditions, as a child?
- What persons do you cite as those who had the most impact on your life?
- You were raised as a Lutheran, but your family was not very religious how would you describe your overwhelming desire to bring religion into your life?
- While you were in Tel Aviv, you had a chance encounter with a hotel housekeeper that changed the course of your life. Can you describe that experience and the impact it had on you?
- What did you learn about yourself in the process of writing your memoir?
- What advice do you have to say to women in business (and young women in particular) to find success in today's world?
- How would you suggest someone find their purpose in life as you found yours in Judaism?
- Do you have any failures in life that you learned from that helped you achieve success in business or in life?





## **JUST PEEK OVER THE FENCE**

WWW.KARINSPORN.COM

