

Jews and the 'Gift of Life'

•A card allegedly found in Othniel Askew's pocket indicated that Jews don't donate organs, and The Post reported that "Orthodox Jews frown upon organ donation" ("The corneas of slain

councilman James Davis were harvested," July 25).

While some rabbis rule that organ donation is forbidden, many Orthodox rabbis and Orthodox organizations support organ dona-

tion. The Chief Rabbi of Israel supports organ donation, and the Rabbinical Council of America (RCA), the largest Orthodox umbrella organization in America, offers a living will to be downloaded from its Web site that allows one to indicate his desire to be an organ donor.

The Halachic Organ Donor Society was founded 18 months ago to educate Jews about Jewish law and organ donation, to encourage organ donation. It was founded with the support of Stephen Flatow, an Orthodox Jew who, together with his wife, donated the organs of his daughter, Alisa Flatow, who was killed in a terrorist attack in Israel.

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NEW YORK POST

America's oldest continuously published daily newspaper

Sunday, August 3, 2003