

**Program:** Why Is That So Funny? – Insights into Aspects of Jewish Humor

**Speaker:** Dick Wolfsie, well-known Indianapolis television personality, humor columnist, and author

**Introduced by:** Gerald Keener

**Attendance:** 153

**Guests:** Jo Davis, Erin DeBrotta, Donna Holl, Stephen Jacob, Carol Miller, Jane Newcomb, Jake O'Neil, Linda Pendleton, Brett Wolfsie

**Scribe:** Russell Judd

**Editor:** Jim Willson

Mr. Wolfsie is well known in Indianapolis as a humorist, a TV interviewer and newspaper columnist. He grew up in New York but came to Indianapolis and Channel 13 in 1989. He then went to WISH TV and has been associated with them for 28 years. In addition to his TV work he does some teaching and he has written 12 books.

As a child Dick liked being funny and making people laugh. As a Jew, he was influenced by his family's rabbi to develop and use his talents with humor. As an adult, he believes that Jewish humor is different. Many Jewish jokes are based on stereotypes of Jewish characters and usually reflect something about Jewish culture, often finding humor in bad situations. To be funny and to be good, a joke needs to relate to real life situations. Dick also conducts workshops dealing with humor and how to make jokes funny

Dick went on regaling everyone with typical Jewish jokes and Jewish humor. Thanks to Mr. Wolfsie for an enjoyable and funny hour.



**Dick Wolfsie**

For some examples of Dick Wolfsie humor see: [https://www.tribstar.com/opinion/columns/dick-wolfsie-humor-enhancing-drugs/article\\_3d744e26-64fd-11e9-8dd3-7b124ef24ee3.html](https://www.tribstar.com/opinion/columns/dick-wolfsie-humor-enhancing-drugs/article_3d744e26-64fd-11e9-8dd3-7b124ef24ee3.html) and <https://thetimes24-7.com/Content/Columnists/Dick-Wolfsie/Article/FUNNY-BONE-Trashing-my-interviews/13/72/59395>