



**Stories with a Yiddish Twist**

## **YIDDISH GUIDE TO MICHAEL COHEN**

*by  
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**Syosset, New York**

Michael Cohen is the EVP and Special Counsel to Donald Trump (The Trump Organization). Here's a Yiddish Guide to the man who Reid Drescher described as follows: "Michael Cohen is a brilliant ("brilyant") attorney ("advokat") who is able to fuse the Legal, Business, Human and the Practical side of any complex conundrum. He is perceptive and persistent; he plays to win."

Cohen has been described as a "juggler of people and projects."

"kindhayt" (childhood)

Cohen grew up on Long Island. His mother was a nurse and his father was a surgeon ("khirurg") who escaped a Nazi concentration camp with his family during W. W. II.

"mitlshul" (high school)

Cohen said, "I've been admiring Donald Trump since I was in high school." (He said that when he was a young ("yung") man he read Trump's 1987 book, "The Art of the Deal" cover--twice.)

"balebos"/"balhabos" (boss)

Michael Cohen claims his boss is the Godfather of Politics and the second coming of Christ."

“khasene gehat” (married)

Cohen is married and has two children.

“byuro” (office)

Cohen joined the Trump Organization in 2006. He has an office on the same floor as Trump in 725 Fifth Avenue, the headquarters of the Trump organization.

“tsunemenish” (nickname)

Cohen has been called Trump’s “pitbull” and has been given the nickname “Tom” in reference to the Godfather character.

“mentsh” (human being)

“Mr. Trump ‘is the most in-demand human being right now on the planet.’”  
(Michael Cohen quote, The Washington Times, 7/16/15)

“budzhet” (budget)

“I handle very important matters for Mr. Trump,” Cohen told City Hall, “which involves budgets and contracts--everything the state is lacking right now.”

“grunteygns” (real estate)

Michael Cohen dabbles in real estate. He picked up an 80,000-square-foot Upper East Side rental building from Ofer Yardeni’s Stonehenge Management for \$58 million, and plans to convert it into condominiums. Cohen also owns buildings on the Lower East Side and in Kips Bay, and a home at Trump World Tower at United Nations Plaza. His parents and in-laws (“mechutonim”) have also invested in Trump properties in New York and Florida.

“klayder” (clothing)

Cohen only wears Dolce & Gabbana suits and Hermes ties.

Is there any truth to the Yiddish proverb, “Klaider machen dem mentshen”?  
(Clothes make the man)

“”der tsis” (the goal)

“Trump is completely focused on one goal: All Donald Trump wants to do is make this country great again (“vider”).” (Cohen quote)

“interesant” (interesting)

“der khevre-man” (guy)

“Donald Trump is an interesting guy and a lot of things don’t happen in Presidential races. Donald Trump is changing the face of Presidential politics.” (Cohen quote)

“shoklen” (to shake)

:gevinen” (to gain/to win)

“Trump has been able to shake up the 2016 Presidential race and gain the edge among other candidates through his unique approach to politics as a CEO.” (Cohen quote)

It’s not a “kochalain”--a summer boarding house with cooking privileges Cohen rented an \$8 million Hamptons home from NYU Dr. Ali Guy for the month of August, 2015, for \$150,000. When he arrived, Cohen found the air conditioning (“di luftkilung”) wasn’t working, the house was in disrepair, and that most of the beds were toddler-sized, too small for his family. In addition, the sauna was broken and the toilets were busted.

He is now suing Guy for double--\$250,000--saying he ‘ruined his summer.’ The home on Parsonage Lane sits on 1.2 acres and comes with a formal living room and dining room, a great room, screening room, gym, SPA, wine cellar (“keler”), two laundry rooms, three-story elevator (“lift”), and 11.5 bathrooms.

(Source: Ashley Collman for Mailonline)

ShouldTrumpRun.Com

In 2011, Donald Trump allowed Michael Cohen to found ShouldTrumpRun.Com and gauge the public’s interest in a potential presidential run, as well as to carry out other politically-related activities. Eyebrows (di bemen”) were raised when Cohen flew to Des Moines, Iowa, to test-the-waters effort and to meet with State operatives and officials about a Trump candidacy. He flew in a Trump 727.

“baytn” (to change)

When a National Journal reporter asked Cohen about Trump’s recent switch from pro-choice to pro-life, he answered: “People change their positions all the time, the way they change their wives.” Then he added, “What you stood for 11 years ago you may not be standing for today (“haynt”). Maybe it was the birth of his five children (“kinder”) or his grandchild (“ainikel”) that changed his mind.” (Note: Trump has been married three times.)

“He’s [Trump] the only candidate out there that can actually make this country great again. They [voters] will change. They will become Trump supporters.” (Cohen quote)

“kritikir” (to criticize)

Cohen came to Trump’s defense in the face of recent criticism that he was using the shooting death of Kate Steinle, who was gunned down in San Francisco on July 1 by an illegal immigrant (“imigrant”) who had snuck into the U. S. on multiple occasions, as a political ploy to discuss immigration. (RadarOnline, 7/18/15)

“bazorgt” (worried)

“He’s [Trump] worried about the veterans. He’s worried about national security. He’s worried about Social Security, Medicare/Medicaid. He’s worried about many different things. One thing he is not worried about is the small (“kleyn”) dollars coming in as a result of these relationships.” (Cohen quote)

Cohen [on Senator Lindsey Graham calling Trump a “wrecking ball”]  
“I’m not really sure what Lindsey Graham is saying. I don’t really think anybody (“abi ver”) cares what he’s saying...Donald Trump from even yesterday (“nekhtn”) in Arizona, what was supposed to be a thousand-person event (“pasirung”) turned out to be a 20,000. The silent (“shtil”) majority has been awoken...He [Trump] is not going to have individuals telling him what to say. He is not going to poll individuals before releasing what he believes is necessary (“neytik”) in order to make the country great again.”

(Cohen quote)

“broygez (angry)

“What you see is a movement. You see a movement of people that are angry (“broygez”). They’re angry with the all-talk-no-action policy of our career politicians. Donald Trump is not beholding to anyone. He is not asking anyone like lobbyists or the big financial institutions for money (gelt). He is doing this from his own pocket (“eygn keshene”).”

(Cohen quote)

“raykh” (wealthy)

“...Donald Trump is a mega-billionaire. And when he releases his financials, you’re going to see just how wealthy he actually is.”

(Cohen quote)

“dos valn” (the election)

“Donald Trump is going to win this election, because his message (“yedie”) is resonating with the people. Donald Trump is adamant that he sees the United States of America as the land of opportunity, and, if elected, he’s going to bring that opportunity to their doorstep, and that’s not something that any other candidate (“kandidat”) can do.”

(Cohen quote)

“di rede” (the speech)

“He [Donald] doesn’t have pre-scripted speeches that people spend two, three weeks on polling in order to find out - well, if you say this, then it’s going to resonate well in your poll numbers.”

(Source: Michael Cohen, Interview with Brian Stelter, 7/12/15)

[Re: Trump’s speech about Mexico]: “They’re sending people that have a lot of problems. They’re bringing drugs, they’re bringing crime, they’re rapists, and some I assume are good people, but I speak to border guards and they tell us what we are getting.”

Cohen defended the infamous lines: “Trump was not wrong to make these comments. Mr. Trump never made any derogatory (“umkovedik”) or disparaging comments about Mexican immigrants...He was talking about Mexico. They’re allowing people to pour through our borders and that’s a problem to our national security.” [Cohen dismissed the notion (“der aynfal”) that Trump is a demagogue, feeding into angry voters.”]

“der pas” (the passport)

[re: Donald Trump’s refusal to release his long-form birth certificate and passport records, 2012]

“Mr. Trump’s not the president of the United States and he’s not running for the presidency..And pretty much all you need to do is go to one of the thousand (“toyznt”) different books that Mr. Trump has been featured in or has written and so on, and you can learn more about him than you know about pretty much anyone on the planet.”

(Cohen quote)

“di geltshetrof” (fine/penalty)

Presidential candidate, Donald Trump, has made a firm date to report for jury duty on Aug. 17, 2015. The bombastic billionaire was fined \$250 for ignoring five jury summonses in nine years. The fine will be erased as soon as he shows up for service, according to Trump’s attorney, Michael Cohen. Cohen said Trump didn’t show up for jury service because notices

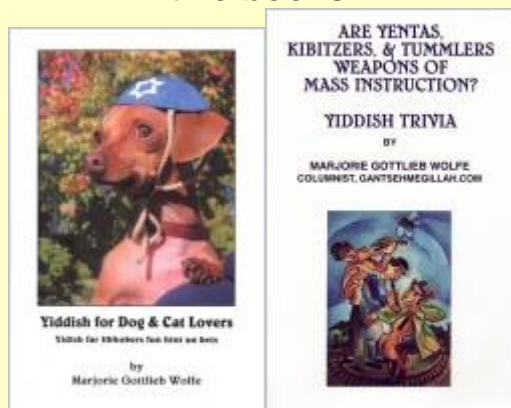
were mailed to the wrong place--a Central Park South condominium building that Trump manages. [He lives and works in Trump Tower on Fifth Avenue.] Cohen said, "Is this a Democratic plot to keep Mr. Trump off the campaign trail?"

(New York Daily News, article by Barbara Ross, 6/26/15)

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**Marjorie Gottlieb Wolfe is the author of  
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