A Modern Approach to the Purim Shpiel

Modern Purim shpiels are often musical parodies that turn the original song or play into something quite new. The practice of parodying on Purim, i.e. flipping things upside-down, can be traced back to the Megillah itself: Megilat Esther, chapter 9, uses the phrase "וְנִהֲפָכוּ הָאָדָם" – it was reversed – to describe the fortunes of the Jews and the Persians.

1. **Choose** a video in the V’nahafokh Hu playlist on the RA Youtube channel:

2. **Discuss** the following questions:
   
a. What do we learn about Purim from this video?

   b. Would you describe this video as a Purim shpiel? Why or why not?

   c. Are there examples of “וְנִהֲפָכוּ הָאָדָם” in this video? If so, what are they?

3. (Optional) **Split** into groups and write and perform your own shpiels

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