



# His Family Doesn't Like Her

לעילוי נשמת  
 מאיר יצחק בן יוסף אליהו הכהן ז"ל

**Akiva asks:** I set up a candidate and all is going well with them, except that the family doesn't like who he is dating. They don't think she fits in with the family and they are not supporting him. Meantime the couple is very aligned and happy. How should I advise him? Should he break up or keep dating?

**Aleeza answers:**

One of the hardest situations in dating is when the couple is happy, aligned, and moving forward - but the family is not on board.

When a member comes to you and says, "Everything is going well, but my family doesn't like the person I'm dating," my advice is usually not to rush toward a break-up. Instead, slow down and gather more information.

Families often see things that a person in

the relationship may miss. Sometimes their concerns are valid. Other times, their concerns have more to do with their own expectations, preferences, or fears than with the actual compatibility of the couple.

The first step is to encourage your member to keep talking with their family. Not arguing. Not defending. Listening.

Ask questions like:

"What specifically concerns you?"

"What do you see that worries you?"

"Is there something about her character, values, or behavior that concerns you, or is it more about how you imagined my future spouse would be?"

The more specific the concerns become, the easier they are to evaluate.

Next, help your member examine an important question: "Am I actually more similar to my family, or am I different from them?"

Many people assume they need a spouse who fits perfectly into their family system. But that isn't always true. Sometimes a person has different goals, interests, personality traits, or life aspirations than the family they grew up in. In those cases, the partner may fit them beautifully even if the partner doesn't naturally fit the family.

The goal is not to find someone who matches the family, although that would be ideal. However the true goal is to find

someone who matches the person building the marriage.

That said, there is one area where family concerns should be taken very seriously: values.

If the family is identifying a genuine conflict in core values, life goals, religious outlook, character, integrity, family building, or other foundational areas, those concerns deserve careful attention. A healthy relationship requires alignment on the things that matter most.

But if the couple is aligned in their values, enjoys being together, treats each other well, and is building a healthy connection, family discomfort alone is not usually a reason to end a promising relationship.

May you be blessed with the wisdom to hear the concerns of others without losing sight of the truth in front of you, and may

every member you guide be led toward a relationship built on clarity, alignment, respect, and lasting love.

Blessings, Aleeza ■

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