

Peace above All Else

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ברוקלין, נ.י.

By the Grace of G-d
20th of Elul, 5733
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Blessing and Greeting:

I am in receipt pf your letter of 13th of Elul and previous correspondence.

No doubt you also realize, as well as your husband, that the disagreements between - however important they may appear, including matters of fundamental Hashkofo, etc. - in reality do not concern, and therefore must not affect at all, the harmony and certainly, Sholom Bayis. To link the things together has no place even in common sense, and certainly according to our Torah, Toras Chayim, the true guide in life.

It sometimes happens that one feels the need for an outlet of discontent in a certain area, and gives vent to it in an unrelated direction. However, there is surely no need to emphasize to you the importance of Sholom Bayis, which every Jew reaffirms every morning even before the davening, by reciting the Mishnah Eilu dvorim, where peace between husband and wife is one of the Mitzvoth the fruits of which are enjoyed in this world, while the "capital" remains for the world to come. It is even more important where the way of life of a married couple has an influence on others. Consequently, every effort should be made to overcome the difficulties, certainly to avoid exaggerating them out of proportion.

Experience shows that quite often a situation is considerably eased by unburdening oneself, as you have done in your letters. In this way you would both find it helpful in seeing the difficulties in their true reality and how trivial they are in relation to your Sholom Bayis.

The above provides an answer to what you write at the conclusion of your letter, namely, whether it is advisable to come here to discuss the situation with me. This is surely not the decisive factor. Besides, the Torah tries to save a Jew's money. Also, the matter of leaving Eretz Yisroel even for a short time, requires weighty reasons, and in the present case is not warranted, for this is not the way to preserve the Sholom Bayis between you.

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At this time, with the approach of Rosh Hashanah, I wish you a kesivo vachasimo toivo for a shono toivo umsuko.

Needless to say, you may show the letter to your husband while at the same time convey to him my good wishes for the new year, as above.

With blessing,