

Q: After we got engaged, my mother went to a Kabbalist who said that we should break it off since the Gematria of the man's name must be higher than that of the woman's in order for a Shidduch to work out (which is not the case with us). Is this true?

A: No. It is a new invention. What one requires for a successful Shidduch is respect and love. And by the way, it is good that our Avot and Imahot didn't listen to such advice since Avraham=248 and Sarah=505, Yitzchak=208 and Rivkah=307 and Yaakov=182 and Rachel=238. If they had listened, none of them would have gotten married and there would not have been Am Yisrael! Only Leah (=36) is less than Yaakov, but she was not originally supposed to marry him. You should get married. Mazal Tov!

Curses on the Sidewalk

Q: There are curses sprayed on our sidewalk. Is it permissible to spray paint over them?

A: Turn to the local municipality or the local Rabbi. If this is not possible, then it is a Mitzvah to scribble them out.

Techelet on Tzitzit

Q: Should I put Techelet on my Talit? Others who learn in my Yeshiva wear Techelet...

Q: Gedolei Yisrael do not wear Techelet and the Minhag of Gedolei Yisrael is more important than the Minhag of your Yeshiva (Ha-Rav Yosef Shalom Elyashiv was once asked about a child who learned in a Yeshiva and asked if he should wear Techelet like all the other children there. He answered: Tell him that I do not go with

Techelet. They asked further: Even though the Minhag there is to go with Techelet?

He answered: Even though. From the book 'Mi-Pi Ha-Ish' p. 329).

Cohain's Wife who is Pregnant in Cemetery

Q: Is it permissible for the wife of a Cohain who is pregnant to enter a cemetery?

A: Yes. Even if they know it is a boy, since he is not yet born. Mishnah Berurah 343:3. And see Kaf Ha-Chaim ibid. #74).

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