

# Points to Discuss

There are many issues which are important to discuss before standing under the *huppah*. Strive to discuss and understand your partner's views on these issues to create a better understanding of your partner's life views - and to help prevent misunderstandings later.

## •Values•

We all live by values, beliefs or principles that we think are important. What are yours? What are your partner's? Are they similar?

## •Work•

Will one or both of you work? How do you intend to further your job or career plans?

## •Household tasks•

How will cooking, cleaning and other household chores be divided?

## •In-laws•

What are your attitudes and feelings about your future in-laws? Can you talk to your partner, freely, about these feelings?

## •Sex•

What are your attitudes about sex? What place does it have in your emotional and spiritual growth? Can you express sexual needs and desires openly and without embarrassment?

## •Religion•

Are you comfortable with your level of religious knowledge and practice? Are you comfortable discussing religious observance with your partner? What place do Shabbat and Holy Days have in your life? What kind of place do you want them to have in your future home? What do you feel about God?

## •Children•

Do you like children? Do you see children as part of your future? If so, how many and when? If you don't share this view, will this become a problem? How do you believe children should be raised?

## •Money•

Many marriage problems can be traced back to money. Who earns it, who spends it and on what, how to manage it - all these are issues you need to agree on.

After you have discussed the points on the previous page with your partner, think about these points. Then, spend a few minutes discussing your answers to each point.

***Know yourself***

1. I am a good listener.
2. I am worthy of being loved.
3. I am usually sensitive to others' needs.
4. I know and understand my family's attitudes and background.
5. I can accept honest criticism.
6. I make a real effort to understand my partner's feelings and point of view.
7. I can tell my partner what I really think and feel.
8. I believe marriage should allow freedom for personal growth.
9. I know the kinds of people I get along well with.
10. I know how to be a friend to my partner.

***Know your partner***

1. My partner understands me.
2. I know what my partner wants out of life.
3. I know his or her spiritual beliefs.
4. My partner communicates his or her needs clearly.
5. I know my partner's views on having children.
6. We, as a couple, know how to manage money wisely.
7. My partner lets me be the person I really am.
8. I know my partner's views on sexuality and sex.
9. My partner trusts me.
10. I know about my partner's feelings about his or her family and friends.

# Getting Ready for Getting Married



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