

Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families



Rabbi Kerry M. Olitzky
Executive Director



Thursday, October 17, 2013



Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families

- 1. Interfaith relationships generally take longer before marriage** (the engagement period is longer, as well). We call this the “interrupted relationship.”



Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families

2. Interfaith couples (usually more one partner than the other) are anxious and **open to learn basic education about Judaism** (particularly as it impacts on the family and the home).



Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families

3. Intermarriage often jumpstarts people on their spiritual journeys and **causes an honest and engaging religious dialogue.**



Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families

- 4. Intermarriage often creates a Jewish family** where there might not have been one.



Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families

5. Interfaith families usually access Judaism on the **holidays through their children.**



Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families

6. Intermarried couples take the Jewish decisions that they make for themselves and their children very seriously.



Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families

7. Intermarried parents take a more active role in the Jewish education of their children.



Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families

8. A successful intermarriage often leads to **a stronger commitment to Jewish continuity.**



Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families

9. Intermarriage is an opportunity,
neither a challenge nor a
problem.



Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families

10. More than anything else, we have learned that **outreach to the intermarried works.**

Ten Things We Have Learned from Intermarried Couples and Their Families

We have learned many things.
The intermarried have much to teach us,
if we are willing to learn from them.

For more information

Please contact JOI Executive Director
Rabbi Kerry M. Olitzky at
KOlitzky@JOI.org or 212-760-1440.



BIG TENT
JUDAISM!



Shevet Webinar Series: October 17, 2013

www.JOI.org

14