

Day 23: He'll Never be Honest If I Tell Him

Someone suggested Shragi Miller as a *shidduch* for my daughter. Shragi was at one time my 18-year-old nephew's dormitory supervisor, and I'd love to ask my nephew about him.

The thing is, my nephew will clam up if he knows it's for a *shidduch*, and I want a real, honest assessment. May I discuss his dormitory supervisor with him without saying why I'm asking?

Halacha:

No. You *must* state that you are asking this information for *to'eles/shidduch* purposes. Make sure your nephew knows that he is halachically allowed to give information, and that whatever he says will not get back to the original party. It is required that both the questioner and the one being asked be aware that the talk is for a constructive purpose, because if the intent of the conversation is not clear, it would constitute loshon hora and you would transgress the *lo saaseh* of *lifnei iveir lo sitein michshol*, causing another person to sin.