

File

July 27, 1970

Rabbi Emanuel Rackman
5 East 62 Street
New York, New York 10021

Dear Rabbi Rackman:

As you may be aware, a rather comprehensive article on rabbinical courts, written by Joseph Kaplan, a Columbia student, was reprinted in the New York Law Journal during the summer. Certain of the information was based on interviews with you and I assume that you must have previously seen a copy of the original article. If not, I would commend it to your attention.

The appearance of the article suggests one or two points which I would share with you.

The presentation of the activities of the RCA Beth Din is a rather favorable one. It occurs to me that it might be appropriate to arrange for some kind of reprinting and distribution of the article for publicity purposes. As a matter of fact, if the reprints could be made available in quantity, this is the kind of material that we might consider including in the "kit" normally distributed to UOJCA convention delegates.

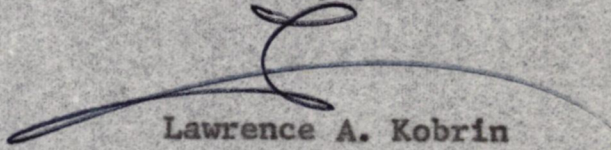
The conclusion of the article touches on a matter which has been the subject of correspondence between us in the past - the possible expanded use of the RCA Beth Din in areas other than matrimonial problems and situations. You may recall, for instance, that I had once suggested the recommendation that contracts with synagogue employees include compulsory arbitration provisions so that the embarrassing public display of a litigated dispute with a cantor, rabbi, or school principal could be avoided. While I know that the

RCA has an excellent leaflet describing their procedures in matrimonial matters, a parallel publication for non-matrimonial activities might also be appropriate.

The article contains an assertion that the Conservative ketubah clause has not been widely used. The only support for that assertion, however, which is given in the footnote appears to be a statement in the article originally written by Rabbi Lamm when the clause was first promulgated. In the light of our conversation and correspondence before the summer, I would be curious as to whether any better information is available on this point.

I trust that the summer has been a good one for you and your family and I am looking forward to the opportunity of discussing some of these matters with you in person when you return to the City.

Sincerely yours,



Lawrence A. Kobrin

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