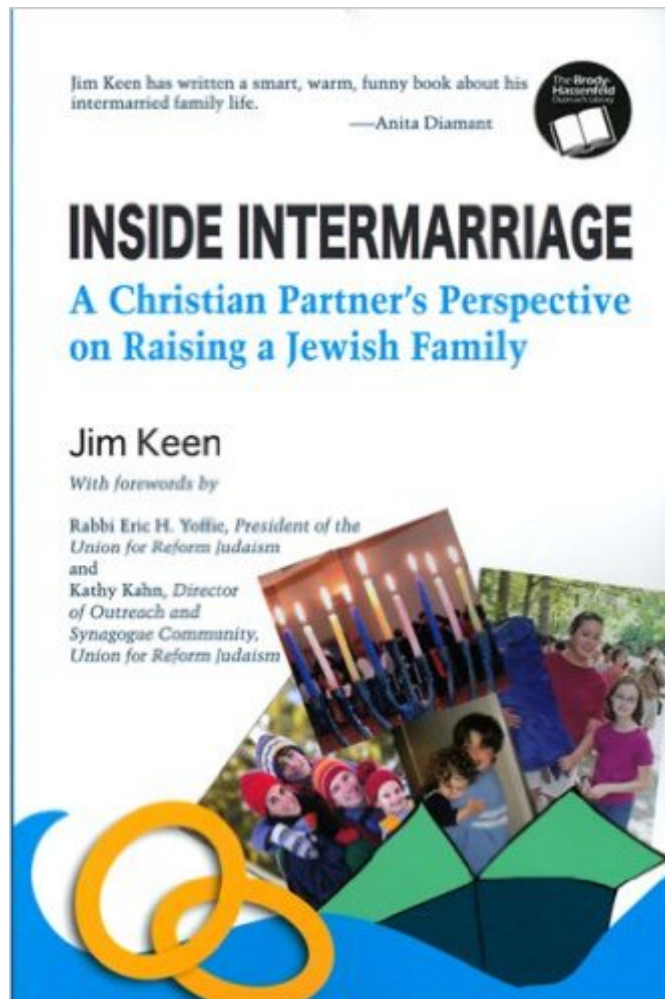


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Inside Intermarriage: A Christian Partner's Perspective On Raising A Jewish Family



Synopsis

The author of *Inside Intermarriage* is a Christian father helping his Jewish wife raise Jewish children. Together, they have made many tough decisions. It's no secret that interfaith marriages are complicated, especially when both partners are connected to their own religious faiths and communities. Using humor and insights gleaned from his own experience, Keen provides couples with practical advice and solutions for how to give children a clear Jewish identity while maintaining a comfort level for both parents. Any family, no matter what the faiths of its individual members, can find his approach relevant. Interfaith homes come in all shapes and sizes; no two are alike. However, the foundations that will help them thrive are the same, and Keen's straightforward ideas are sure to help. This book also includes perspectives from professionals who work with interfaith families.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (7 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,664,191 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Movements > Reform](#) #1351 in [Books > Religion & Spirituality > Judaism > Jewish Life](#) #6213 in [Books > Parenting & Relationships > Marriage & Adult Relationships](#)

Customer Reviews

Jewish Integrity, Continuity
Reviewed by Rabbi Dennis S. Ross
Special to the Jewish News
Inside Intermarriage: A Christian Partner's Perspective on Raising a Jewish Family, by Jim Keen, URJ Press, New York, 2006. 146 pp., \$15.95
When an interfaith relationship gets serious, a call to clergy may follow. "I'm Jewish. She's not. We're in love. And we're not sure what to do." I hear it often. As a rabbi, I recognize the delicacy of the situation: It's a balance of Jewish communal integrity, Jewish continuity, romantic ties and family bonds. My counsel can be a multi relationship-breaker. Of course, some couples figure things out on their own - conversation with clergy not required. Others need professional assistance to reach an accommodation. For many, Detroit Jewish News

columnist, Jim Keen's *Inside Intermarriage: A Christian Partner's Perspective on Raising a Jewish Family* will be a valuable resource as it is for anyone concerned about Jewish peoplehood, intermarriage and outreach. Writes Keen, an Ann Arbor resident: "It's purely frightening to be in love with someone so much, yet also to have this nagging feeling that your union will implode because of your religious differences. Don't lose hope, though. It is possible for the situation to be successfully resolved." Keen well recognizes the potential complexity of an interfaith marriage, especially one like his - Jim, a Protestant, and Bonnie, a Jew, each kept their birth faith. *Inside Intermarriage* is a gently told story of one couple's journey, uniquely written from the perspective of a Christian father living in a Jewish home: "I am a Christian dad helping to raise a Jewish family." And he adds, "Interfaith homes come in all shapes and sizes. No two are alike."

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