



DIVORCE FIRST RESPONDER TRAINING

FOR JEWISH CLERGY & COMMUNITY LEADERS

**SHEVA GANZ, LMHC
RABBI EZRA WEINBERG**

About



Divorce First Responder Training offers specified training for community leaders positioned to help couples and families navigate divorce.

What is a Divorce First Responder?

A divorce first responder is an individual in a position to provide initial and/or immediate support and assistance to individuals going through the process of divorce. This role involves offering emotional guidance, practical advice, and resources to help individuals navigate the complexities and challenges of separating from their spouse. They act as a crucial first point of contact for those seeking guidance, offering a compassionate and non-judgmental approach to help individuals regain control of their lives during this difficult period.

Fulfilling the need

Marriage and divorce are central aspects of Jewish life, and rabbis often play a critical role in supporting individuals and families navigating these significant life events. As our society continues to evolve, divorces have become more prevalent and complex, necessitating a deeper understanding of both legal and emotional aspects. Often, when a couple is struggling or considering divorce, they turn to their clergy for support and guidance. However, the lack of pastoral education in the area of divorce has led to many community leaders being ill-prepared to effectively help couples through divorce. The dynamics around divorce are unique and nuanced and require specific skill sets, knowledge and awareness.

The goal of this training is to improve awareness, increase sensitivity and encourage the practice of well-informed and properly trained guidance.

The training is centered around:



01

Normalizing conversation around this often taboo topic, specifically highlighting areas for improvement in community leadership.

02

Providing education on the emotional and mental impacts of divorce for everyone involved.

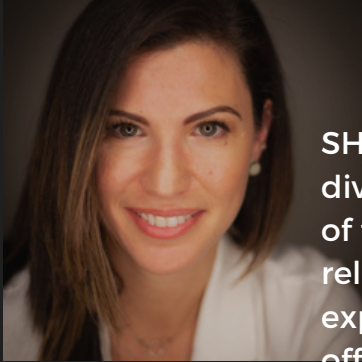
03

Providing resources for helping, supporting and guiding families through a healthy divorce process.

04

Collaborating on ways to improve divorce community support.

Who we are

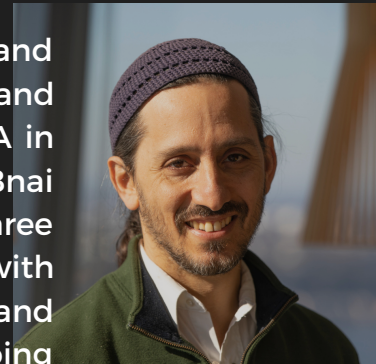


SHEVA GANZ, LMHC is a licensed psychotherapist, certified divorce specialist and certified mediator. She is the co-founder of the Jewish Divorce Project, a podcast aimed at exploring the relevant issues that Jewish divorced individuals encounter and experience. Sheva has a private practice in Boca Raton, FL and offers counseling and workshops for individuals, couples and families.



Roughly ten years ago, I went through my own divorce, which was the catalyst that inspired me to specialize in divorce professionally. My own divorce, as well as hearing the stories of the people I work with and in my community, gave me a lot of insight into some of the challenges that come up for people who are divorcing or divorced within the Jewish community. My work is motivated by the desire to not only provide essential mental health resources, but to help change the way we view, experience and navigate divorce,

RABBI EZRA WEINBERG is a shaliach tzibur, officiant and Jewish educator dedicated to creating connection and community. He is a native Philadelphian and holds an MA in Conflict Transformation. Reb Ezra officiates weddings and Bnai Mitzvot, teaches a University course called, "One G-d, Three Paths", alongside a priest and Imam. He currently works with individuals and families within the Jewish community and founded ReVoice, a network of resources for Jewish going through divorce.



The work that I do is inspired by my own divorce as well as my experience as a child of high conflict divorce. A big part of my mission is to offer support in Jewish contexts when divorce radically changes a family's path. However, I also want to change the conversation around divorce within the Jewish community today so that it is no longer taboo to get divorced or talk about divorce.



VISION

Our vision is to help change the conversation, the approach and the process of divorce within Jewish communities. We strive to create a world where couples can end their marriages with dignity and respect, without resorting to harmful conflict or animosity. We hope to empower Jewish leaders with the skills and knowledge necessary to guide families through the divorce

process in a way that prioritizes their well-being and the well-being of their families. We envision communities proudly giving voice to new and evolving family constellations.



MISSION

Our mission is to affirm that the Jewish community has the ability to handle divorce better with the proper tools and leadership. Through our clergy training services and other resources, we aim to create a community of compassionate and knowledgeable rabbis, who are changing the isolation culture of divorce. By giving voice and support to those in this life stage, trained clergy will give families the chance to feel whole again and help realign, renew and rebuild themselves.

Services Offered

We offer a comprehensive range of services for divorce curriculum development, ranging from individual consultation to providing training with a fully developed curriculum.

CURRICULUM

A specialized training geared for educational institutions and organizations. The proposed divorce curriculum will encompass a comprehensive range of subjects, including but not limited to:

- **Spiritual Considerations:** Explore the relevant spiritual/halachic principles, procedures, and perspectives on divorce, ensuring rabbinic students have an understanding of the impact of these practices.
- **Emotional and Psychological Aspects:** Provide insights into the emotional and psychological challenges faced by individuals and families during divorce, enabling rabbis to offer empathetic and supportive guidance.
- **Pastoral Care and Counseling Skills:** Develop practical skills in offering pastoral care, counseling, and mediation to support divorcing couples and their families within the context of Jewish values.
- **Legal Considerations:** Introduce key legal aspects of divorce, such as prenuptial agreements, civil laws, and documentation, to help rabbis provide informed guidance and referrals.
- **Community Education and Outreach:** Train rabbis to provide educational seminars and workshops to help prevent divorce, strengthen marriages, and address related issues within the community.

WORKSHOPS

Workshops provide specialized training covering a specific topic.

1-3 hours

CONSULTATION

Both Reb Ezra and Sheva are available for individual consultation.



Please contact us to discuss the best option for you and review pricing and other information.

Past Projects

JEWISH DIVORCE SUMMIT

The Jewish Divorce Summit was an online summit spanning two days, providing much needed divorce resources to community leaders. Expert speakers covered the following topics:

- The effects of divorce on children
- Attachment Theory and its relevance in divorce
- Mediation
- Creative approaches to gett ceremonies
- Bringing a new voice to the public conversation on divorce
- Navigating family celebrations
- Taking a stand as community leaders
- Why gett refusal is a community issue
- Domestic violence

HOW CAN WE HELP?
A VIRTUAL SUMMIT ON DIVORCE FOR JEWISH COMMUNITY LEADERS

JAN 16 & 17 2023

12:30 pm - 3:30 pm EST

HOSTED BY:
RABBI EZRA WEINBERG
& SHEVA GANZ, LMHC

DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS

DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS:
Should we be talking about divorce before marriage?

A conversation for clergy and community leaders aimed at exploring how we can help couples be better prepared for the challenges of marriage.

March 30, 2023
1:00 pm - 2:15 pm EST
Virtual

FREE!

For more info: rebezamh@gmail.com

Difficult Conversations is an ongoing monthly online workshops that addresses one, specific idea each session.

DIFFICULT CONVERSATIONS:
The Mental Health Series

Conversations for clergy and community leaders aimed at increasing insight, gaining tools and learning how to offer more effective divorce support.

1. UNDERSTANDING DIAGNOSES
May 4th, 2023 | 1-2:15 pm EST
2. EXPLORING BORDERLINE PERSONALITY DISORDER
May 23rd, 2023 | 1-2:15 pm EST
3. EXPLORING NARCISSISM
June 7th, 2023 | 1-2:15 pm EST

FREE!

For more info: rebezamh@gmail.com or info@shevaganz.com