Chapter 9

Question

A man age 63 has a living in companion age 25. One day she tells him she is pregnant with his child. She wants him to marry her. Should she marry her?

Response

Does he love her? Does she love him? More important is the fact that there exists the tremendous disparity in age. In a few years there exists the possibility that his libido will weaken in not disappear.

In that case the woman may seek to be satisfied outside of marriage. Orech Hashulchon Even Hoazer Chapter 2:6 Talmud Sanehdrin 76 b. Certainly we never recommend such a union. Only in cases where the woman insists that she loves this old man we will approve and bless such a union.

However in this case there exists a child that will be born. We throw all caution to the wind. A child must have both birth parents

Paternity

We trust the woman that she was loyal and did not have sex with other men. Even when one is married one must trust his/her mate that they are loyal. They are not prostitutes. What the Talmud states that one knows the paternity of a child because most times that a woman has sex is with her husband. However why would the woman be permitted to remain with her husband. All it takes is one affair one instance of infidelity? Then the woman is prohibited to remain with her husband and can never marry her lover.

The answer is because the Torah trusts the woman. She is not a prostitute. The same is true here.