

Interviewed: Aubrey and Lucille Groll
Oral History Clip Title: Not Marrying Jewish
Theme: Jewish Identity
Interviewer: Jessica Parker
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(Interviewer)

So, considering your two different backgrounds and considering the Kingston context, how did you choose to raise your kids Jewishly? Kind of what happened with that?

(Lucille)

Well basically, there was, the Orthodox synagogue was the synagogue here.

(Aubrey)

There was only one synagogue.

(Lucille)

So we joined. In the middle 70s the Reform, you know the history of Reform, we don't need to go into that.

(Interviewer)

I don't know the history of the Reform synagogue here.

(Lucille)

Well the Reform synagogue, broke, some people left Orthodox, because of some intermarriages and they started the reform.

(Aubrey)

In the late 70s.

(Lucille)

We never joined the reform as a couple because Aubrey was just raised very traditionally and Orthodox, so our kids are raised in the Orthodox synagogue with Talmud Torah, with regular shul attendance, bat mitzvahs and bar mitzvahs. At one point after the kids were grown up I actually started, I joined the



Reform shul just thinking it would make me go to shul more and I would find it more interesting. I did find it more interesting, but I didn't go to Shul more often and so I did not continue my membership there, although we as a couple have a lot of connections.

(Aubrey)

Well, you only joined them because of the women's study group.

(Lucille)

The women's study and I have a lot of friends in the Reform. Our kids were all raised in the Orthodox community but none of our kids have married Jewish. One married Jewish, to an Israeli person and lived in Israel for a while and that marriage ended, and she's not married Jewish now. So in fact, we have a zero percent Jewish marriage in our family.

(Aubrey)

So, what did we do wrong is the question. Or what did we do right?

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