

Anat Israeli

## Massekhet Qiddushin Chapter 4

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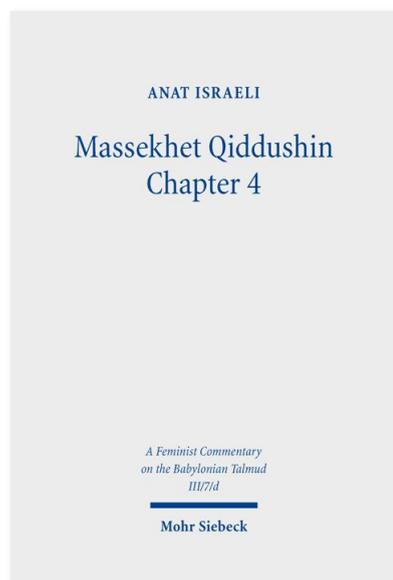
Anat Israeli presents the first feminist commentary in the series on a chapter from the "Order of Women." She discusses the last chapter of Tractate Qiddushin, devoted to "betrothals." Chapter 4 deals in general with two major topics: the first is Jewish genealogies (what parts the mother and father play in deciding who is a Jew and who can marry whom). The second topic is about forbidden seclusions between members of the opposite sex (since they can bring about promiscuity, adultery and other unwanted sexual contacts). In this study, Anat Israeli and her collaborators first analyze the Mishnah and show what its authors had considered important about these two topics, and then they show how the emphases had shifted on the way between the land of the Mishnah (Israel) and the land of the Talmud (Babylonia).

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