



DO JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES SHUN (REJECT) FAMILY MEMBERS?

EVERY JW AND EX-JW KNOWS FOR A FACT THAT JWS REJECT/SHUN NON-JW FAMILY MEMBERS

The following quotes come from the Watchtower's own publications/website (bold added by editor):

"Those who formally say they do not want to be part of the organization any more are also avoided...As for disfellowshipped relatives not living in the same household, Jehovah's Witnesses apply the Bible's counsel: "**quit mixing with them.**" (Taken from the Official Jehovah's Witnesses Media Website at <http://www.jw-media.org/beliefs/beliefsfaq.htm>)

"Former friends and relatives might hope that a disfellowshipped one would return; yet out of respect for the command...they **do not associate** with an expelled person." (The Watchtower April 15th 1991 Issue)

"After hearing a talk at a [Jehovah's Witnesses] circuit assembly, a brother and his fleshly sister realized that they needed to make adjustments in the way they treated their mother, who lived elsewhere and who had been disfellowshipped for six years. Immediately after the assembly, the man called his mother, and after assuring her of their love, **he explained that they could no longer talk to her unless there were important family matters requiring contact...**" (Our Kingdom Ministry August 2002 Issue [Monthly Internal Publication of the Jehovah's Witnesses])

SO WHY DOES THE WATCHTOWER CLAIM THAT THEY *DON'T* REQUIRE MEMBERS TO SHUN/REJECT FAMILY?

The *Watchtower*, December 1, 1998, Page 17: "At times, Jehovah's Witnesses have been the target of distorted information in the media. For example, on August 1, 1997, a Russian newspaper published a slanderous article claiming, among other things, that Witnesses categorically require members to 'reject their wives, husbands, and parents **if these do not understand** and do not share their faith.' Anyone who is truly acquainted with Jehovah's Witnesses knows that the charge is false. The Bible indicates that Christians are to treat unbelieving family members with love and respect, and Witnesses endeavor to follow that direction. Even so, the article was printed, and many readers were thus misinformed. How can we defend our faith when we are falsely accused?"

Editor's Note: The key phrase that allows the Watchtower to pull the wool over the public's eyes (including their own members) is the text bolded above.

True, they don't shun family who do **not** "understand their faith." [i.e., those who have never been exposed to it and therefore have no knowledge to understand or not understand it].

Here, the WTBS is playing with semantics and being cleverly deceptive rather than answering the question honestly and directly. They know that they shun/reject family members who **do understand** the religion's teachings but have rejected it (millions of people aren't lying!).

They're using a manipulative technique that young children will often use on their parents in order to cover their tracks:

"Mommy, I swear I didn't eat that milkshake (quietly thinking instead, "I drank it").

Semantics.