

**Edward Gelles – DNA matches  
with Horowitz, Hillman, Wertheimer, and Loewenstein**

**Edward Gelles**

My paternal ancestors included rabbis in Galicia in the 18<sup>th</sup> and later centuries. I am a sixth generation descendant of Shmuel Helman (Hillman), whose family lived in the Silesian town of Glogau. He became the Chief Rabbi of Mannheim and later of Metz in Lorraine. I am also a seventh generation descendant of Isaac Horowitz, the Chief Rabbi of Brody, Glogau and Hamburg. Descendants of these two forebears married Gelles in Galicia and elsewhere, as shown on *Migrations of rabbinic families in central and eastern Europe in the past few centuries* ( see my web page, “Edward Gelles Collection : Balliol College Archives and Manuscripts”).

Samson Wertheimer, the famous Court Jew of Habsburg Vienna at the beginning of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, was at one time Rabbi of Eisenstadt in the Austrian Burgenland and became Chief Rabbi of Hungary and Moravia. My links with a group of Wertheimer cousins include their close kin, Eva Agnes Kenan and her son Ron Kenan, whose published family connections indicate genetic distances from Samson Wertheimer. Noteworthy connections are also seen between these Wertheimer and some Loewenstein.

The lineage of Naftali Halevi Horowitz of Brooklyn, studied by Meir G. Gover, shows common ancestry with my connection to the Horowitz line of Rabbi Isaac Horowitz of Hamburg, who was a grandson of Meir Horowitz, the *Maharam of Tiktin*.

Leiba Yisrael Hillman is a close cousin of Harold Rhode, whose web site sets out in full his descent from Rabbi Shmuel Helman of Metz via the latter’s younger son Rabbi Uri Feivush of Hanau, Lissa, Bonn, and Cologne. My own descent from Shmuel Helman is via the latter’s eldest son, Rabbi Moshe of Glogau.

Tests for Naftali Horowitz, Leiba Hillman, some Wertheimer and Loewenstein indicate autosomal DNA matches with me and several of my close cousins. The appended table shows one-to-one matches for myself and Tad Taube.

**“ Connections of Tad Taube and Edward Gelles” are shown on my web site’s earlier chart - these two close cousins have one-to-one autosomal DNA matches with Horowitz, Hillman, Wertheimer , and Loewenstein (GEDmatch)**  
total of DNA matches and length of longest shared segment in cM - minimum threshold 500 SNP and segment length over 7 cM  
MRCA – most recent common ancestor - in number of generations (rough estimates)

|  | total shared DNA | longest shared segment | MRCA | on chromosomes   |
|--|------------------|------------------------|------|------------------|
| Edward Gelles with Naftali Horowitz    | 24.8             | 9.8                    | 4.8  | 4, 16, 22        |
| <i>Tad Taube with Naftali Horowitz</i> | 7.5              | 7.5                    | 7.4  | 10               |
| Edward Gelles with Larry Horowitz      | 16.6             | 8.8                    | 6.1  | 1, 6             |
| <i>Tad Taube with Larry Horowitz</i>   | 34.5             | 14.9                   | 4.4  | 1, 12, 13        |
| Edward Gelles with Leiba Y Hillman     | 10.3             | 10.3                   | 5.2  | 1                |
| <i>Tad Taube with Leiba Y Hillman</i>  | 19.1             | 9.7                    | 5.0  | 1, 5             |
| <i>Tad Taube with Harold Rhode</i>     | 30.3             | 14.0                   | 4.4  | 2,12, 20         |
| Edward Gelles with W.R. Wertheimer     | 22.9             | 12.0                   | 4.6  | 2 , 3            |
| <i>Tad Taube with W.R. Wertheimer</i>  | 43.3             | 12.4                   | 4.2  | 3, 3, 5, 6, 7    |
| Edward Gelles with J. Loewenstein      | 33.6             | 12.7                   | 4.4  | 3, 7 , 14        |
| <i>Tad Taube with J. Loewenstein</i>   | 36.7             | 12.0                   | 4.3  | 1, 3, 12, 16     |
| Edward Gelles with R.S. Loewenstein    | 9.0              | 9.0                    | 6.3  | 5                |
| <i>Tad Taube with R.S. Loewenstein</i> | 28.0             | 18.6                   | 4.5  | 2, 5             |
| Naftali Horowitz with Leiba Y Hillman  | 20.7             | 13.5                   | 4.7  | 5, 7             |
| Naftali Horowitz with W.R. Wertheimer  | 22.0             | 8.3                    | 6.4  | 11, 14, 17       |
| Naftali Horowitz with J Loewenstein    | 41.0             | 11.7                   | 4.2  | 1, 6, 9, 10, 11  |
| Leiba Y Hillman with W.R. Wertheimer   | 27.7             | 10.5                   | 4.5  | 4, 13, 18        |
| Leiba Y Hillman with J. Loewenstein    | 40.0             | 15.0                   | 4.2  | 2, 3, 14, 19     |
| W.R. Wertheimer with J. Loewenstein    | 56.4             | 18.6                   | 4.0  | 3, 6, 12, 15, 22 |
| W.R. Wertheimer with R.S. Loewenstein  | 42.0             | 14.6                   | 4.2  | 7, 8, 15, 22     |