

The President of Israel

(Translation from Hebrew)

To
Amit Shalev

Dear Amit Shalev,

I watched your film “**Look about you**” with great interest, a creative endeavor that is a journey into the complex innards of the Israeli society. Your richly crafted film is the perfect stage for the complexity of our lives here but alongside it the film offers, with great talent, a vision of connection and partnership. Your wonderful personality and charming family conquer the heart with their allure and are a living example for the kind of citizenship based on listening, empathy, love, and compassion. Citizenship that focuses not only on rights and privileges but also on a moral obligation to contribute to, and to improve the face of Israeli society.

Your work of art is undoubtedly raising some deep conflicts and complex difficulties. However, the fortitude and intense love that are apparent in it teach us that our commitment to one another, our human connection, and deep listening are necessary stages on the way to the long awaited social correction.

You and your family, and many others who share your doing, are shaping our future daily. I find great hope and inspiration in the optimism, caring, and sense of mission, which you radiate into our country and into our Israeli society.

I believe with all my heart that in order to guard our freedom we are obligated to work mainly in the social and human front. I see in you partners on the path to finding a common language and a shared vision in the country of Israel as a Jewish and democratic state.

With deep appreciation,

Reuben (Rubi) Rivlin
Jerusalem