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"Please reference a specific column" error

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Question:

I'm getting an error message like this: "Failed to compile DPQL. tickets.messages cannot be referenced directly. Please reference a specific column." What does this mean?

Answer:

This happens when your query is referring to a table, instead of a particular column of values within that table.

In this case, you are doing a "FROM tickets" query. You can see in the <u>tickets table</u> that you can reference tickets.messages; this is not a reference to a column in the tickets table (like, say, tickets.id), but a cross-reference to a table that stores columns of data about ticket messages. This is indicated in the documentation by the table name "Ticket Message" being shown in italics.

me	essages	Ticket Message

For the report to work, you need to look at the <u>Messages</u> table and pick a column to reference: for example, tickets.messages.date created