

Enjoying the newsletter?  
**WHY NOT ENJOY THE  
 ENTIRE PROGRAM?**



Join the Shabbos  
 Table Machsom L'fi.  
 Get your free tools.

Visit: [powerofspeech.org/shabbos](http://powerofspeech.org/shabbos)

FOOD FOR  
 THOUGHT  
 TO SPARK  
 CONVERSATION

# SHABBOS MENU

PART OF THE CCHF SHABBOS TABLE MACHSOM L'FI PROGRAM • SHABBOS PARSHAS KI SAVO 5780 • ISSUE 206

## LET'S FACE REALITY

*There is someone whose issues are as obvious as the nose on his face. When you mention this person's flaw and the trouble it causes, you feel as though you're doing nothing more than stating a fact, like "It's raining outside today." Does stating the obvious truth amount to loshon hora?*

T H E

### DILEMMA

**Y**our family prides itself on its hospitality. Every Shabbos, there's a variety of guests around the table. Some are sent by a *kiruv* organization, some are lonely people in the neighborhood, and some are friends of the family. All types are welcome and you make a point of never speaking about them when they leave.

Mrs. Davis, a middle-aged widow who comes to your shul from time to time, needed a place for lunch and you graciously invited her. You soon discovered that she had an unusually loud voice and she loved to speak. The others at the table barely got in a word.

When she left, one of your children turned to you and said, "That lady ruined the whole meal." Was your child's comment loshon hora?

T H E

### HALACHAH

**S**uch a comment would fall into the exact definition of loshon hora – a true statement that casts a shadow on another person's reputation.

*Sefer Chofetz Chaim,  
 Hilchos Loshon Hora,  
 Klal 2:1*



Reviewed by Rabbi Moshe Mordechai Lowy. For discussion only; actual halachic decisions should be made by a rav or halachic expert on a case-by-case basis.

## PARTICIPANTS SPEAK

*Thank you so much for signing me up! Very appreciated! Have a wonderful Shabbos and keep those beautiful "menus" coming!!*

Rene  
 Chicago, IL

CHICAGO

### FOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS, EMAIL

[Shabbosmenu@cchfglobal.org](mailto:Shabbosmenu@cchfglobal.org)

"Even if

*peace*  
 eludes you, pursue it;  
 [that is,] if your fellow Jew  
 refuses to make  
 peace with you,

*chase*  
 after him to appease him."

– Midrash Shmuel,  
 Avos 1:12

SPONSORED L'ILUI NISHMAS

MALKA BREINDEL A"H BAS SHMUEL FISHEL YLCH"T

# TRUE GRIT

**A**s the youngest in the family, Peshie put up with her share of demeaning comments. Everyone seemed to think of her as the spoiled baby, even though she had grown into a hard-working wife and mother of three small children. Most irritating and hurtful of all was Peshie's sister-in-law Simi, the wife of her oldest brother. Simi had pegged Peshie as a spoiled brat long ago, when she first married into the family and Peshie was just a high-school girl.

Avi, Peshie's husband, urged her to see the situation for what it really was. Simi and her husband struggled financially, and Simi couldn't bear seeing her little sister-in-law married, thriving and *baruch Hashem* able to afford a few extras to make family life a bit easier. Every cutting comment Simi made – all with a nonchalant air that made Peshie wonder if she had really heard right – came from that pool of envy.

One day, Simi called Peshie to ask for a \$700 loan with which to buy a new *sheitel* for her son's bar mitzvah. Peshie didn't want to do it. Why should she lend a hefty sum of money to someone who was consistently cruel toward her, and moreover, would probably not be able to repay the loan?

But Avi saw the situation differently. "We go out of our comfort zone for family," he said. "You don't have to lend the money, but you would be doing something great if you did."

Peshie decided to be great.

At the bar mitzvah, Simi soaked up compliments on her new look. But when Peshie complimented her, she accepted it with a back-handed insult about how her \$700 *sheitel* was nice, but it wasn't as glamorous as Peshie's name-brand piece. For the first time ever, instead of shrinking in the heat of Simi's comment, Peshie stood tall. What was this strange feeling? It was strength. It was courage. It was true grit! And with it, Simi's



sad, ego-driven insult just bounced off Peshie and dissipated into thin air.

Adapted with permission from an article by CB Weinfeld in Yated Ne'eman

## TALK ABOUT IT

Would you have given a loan or done a favor for someone who often hurt your feelings? What did Peshie gain from giving the loan?

## sage advice

# HOW TO MAKE A TOP-QUALITY PRODUCT



A man named Stuart Hughes was commissioned to build a yacht for an anonymous Malaysian billionaire. He was given free rein to make it the most opulent yacht in the world. The result, the History Supreme, sold for \$4.8 billion in 2011, a price that has yet to be topped. Its astronomical price tag was the result of the pounds of platinum and gold with which it was crafted, as well as the 500-carat-diamond-encrusted iPhone with which it was equipped.

Let's imagine for a moment what tools might have been used to build this vessel. What equipment might have been used to shape the precious metals and to ensure that the boat was not only opulent, but well engineered? What if someone told you that the entire project was carried out with a rusty hammer, a handsaw and some glue?

You'd know that couldn't be true. A fine product cannot be created with crude tools. And what could be finer, what could be more precious, than our words of prayer and Torah? No amount of platinum and gold can come close to the value of a few words of Gemara uttered by a sincere Jew sitting in a *beis medrash* with his learning partner.

The tool that creates this exquisite product is our mouth. A Jew's mouth is designed for the job of transmitting Hashem's holiness to the world. But the Chofetz Chaim warns us that *loshon hora* ruins the tool.

When we make our mouth blunt and crude with gossip, we find that it can no longer produce pure words of Torah. We might be learning for hours a day, but our efforts won't produce the results we are seeking.

The good news is that this tool can be repaired. The day we banish *loshon hora* from our lives, we begin acquiring the merit and seeing the blessing that our Torah and *tefillah* can bring.

**SOMETHING BIG IS HAPPENING  
ON SEPTEMBER 13**

*The yahrtzeit  
of the Chofetz Chaim*

**Go to  
CCHF.global**

*Don't miss it!*

CHOFETZ CHAIM HERITAGE FOUNDATION



## OUR MISSION

at the Chofetz Chaim Heritage Foundation is to inspire Jews around the world to grasp the life-enhancing gift of Shmiras Haloshon, Ahavas Yisrael and Shalom, and to provide easy access to a wide array of options designed to spark personal growth.

**4,000 Tiferes  
members**

Free  
Inspiration  
24/6



Lakewood 732.806.8599 Monsey 845.356.6665  
New York 718.258.2008 Toronto 416.800.0656  
Eretz Yisrael 03.929.0707 England 44.203.375.1580

*To Join*  
**THE SHABBOS TABLE  
MACHSOM L'FI**

Visit: [powerofspeech.org/shabbos](http://powerofspeech.org/shabbos)  
or in the USA, text: **shabbos to 313131**

לע"נ חיים יחיאל מיכל בן  
רפאל פייוועל שניאור ז"ל  
נלב"ע ערב שבת קודש  
י' אלול תשע"ז  
ת.נ.צ.ב.ה.