



SHABBOS MENU

PART OF THE CCHF SHABBOS TABLE MACHSOM L'FI PROGRAM • SHABBOS PARSHAS EMOR 5784 • ISSUE 390

HERE'S SOMETHING YOU MAY NOT KNOW

What if you hear about a shidduch in the making and you know that one of the parties is hiding a major shortcoming — may you offer your information unsolicited?

DILEMMA

Your friend reveals to you that he is dating a young woman and will probably soon become engaged. When he tells you her name, you recognize it as the name of a girl who was a classmate of your sister. You remember that the girl had to leave school for several months because of a serious disorder. Does your friend know of this severe health challenge? Should you find a way to make sure he knows?

T H E

HALACHAH

Someone who knows important negative information should make sure that it is revealed because of the mitzvah of “Do not stand aside while your brother’s blood is shed” (*Vayikra* 19:16), which refers to any situation in which we are able to prevent someone from being harmed. However, many factors need to be considered in order to determine whether a person should speak up, how much should be said, and to whom it should be said. A *rav* must be consulted to avoid the many stumbling blocks inherent in this situation.

Sefer Chofetz Chaim, Tziyurim #4



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

I stopped myself from telling a friend that I didn't like her skirt when I knew she couldn't return it. Instead, I told her I was glad she finally found something she liked to wear.

Thank you CCHF for Positive Word Power for Teens!

FOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS, EMAIL

Shabbosmenu@cchfglobal.org

“One who
refrains
from speaking loshon hora
receives
an extraordinary blessing.”

– *Sefer Shmiras Haloshon, chelek beis, perek 23*

SPONSORED L'ILUI NISHMAS

MALKA BREINDEL A" H BAS SHMUEL FISHEL YLCH" T

KNOW THAT YOU CAN NEVER KNOW

The Davidsons* little boy was very sick and required a risky operation. The child's father, Baruch, found the best surgeon in Israel for the job and raised the necessary money.

On the day of the surgery, Baruch, his wife, and his son arrived at the hospital as directed, at 7:30 a.m. They passed one anxious hour after another waiting for the surgeon to appear, but he was nowhere to be found. They continued to wait because the surgery could not be postponed.

After eight hours, the surgeon appeared. Without any explanation, he announced that he was ready to begin. The parents sat waiting and davening.

At last, the surgeon emerged from the operating room. "I succeeded," he said. And that was it. No details. No reassurances. It was as if he had fixed the brakes on the Davidsons' car.

"Doctor," said Baruch, "You kept us waiting for eight hours! Now you come out of surgery and communicate absolutely nothing about what happened, nothing about our son's condition. You might be a great surgeon, but you have no idea how to treat people!"

The doctor silently turned and walked away.

Later, Baruch found out that this doctor's son had been killed in a terrorist attack early that morning. The doctor had gone to the funeral, sat *shivah* for an hour, and then, with the utmost *mesiras nefesh*, pulled himself together to operate on the Davidsons' child, saving their son on the day he had lost his own.

Baruch was horrified at what he had done. He went to Rabbi Zilberstein to ask how he could make amends. "The doctor is obviously a very good person," the Rabbi told him. "After all, he was willing to come and do the surgery. Go tell him you're sorry. He'll forgive you."



sage advice



PART 2 OF A SERIES
ON SAVLANUS

CAN YOU CARRY IT?

A very wealthy man came to speak to Rabbi Sytner. He wanted some advice on handling a painful situation he was experiencing. As he described his problem, his face became red and he clenched his fists in anger.

Seeing his pain, the rabbi asked, "How are you managing?"

The man replied, "I'm so angry! I don't deserve this! I've dedicated my whole life to giving charity. I've built schools and shuls and yeshivos and hospitals. Something like this is not supposed to happen to someone like me."

"You're so angry because you don't deserve this?" the rabbi asked.

"Yes!" the man answered.

"And you're frustrated because there's nothing you can do to stop it?"

"Yes!"

"There's absolutely nothing you can do?"

"No! Nothing!"

"But you're fighting it anyway," Rabbi Sytner said. "And you're suffering because you're fighting it. What is missing is acceptance. Pain is inevitable, but suffering is optional. Stop fighting it." he advised the man.

The key to a peaceful life, says Rabbi Sytner, is the trait of *savlanus*. Although it is translated as patience, it comes from the word *sovel*, which means a porter—someone who carries things. Someone with *savlanus* doesn't fight the burdens he bears in life. Rather, he carries them and becomes stronger as he does so.

When life doesn't turn out as we want, we have only two choices—to fight with reality or grow our capacity to deal with it. **Patience doesn't mean willingness to wait until the situation changes; it means willingness to accept the situation as it is.** We can still work and hope for improvement, but with *savlanus*, we benefit no matter how things turn out.

From a CCHF Live Life Better video

TALK ABOUT IT

What happens when you tell yourself, "I can't stand (whatever it is)"? What is a more productive response?

Baruch could never have imagined what was behind the doctor's odd behavior. But with the mitzvah of dan l'chaf zechus, we learn to assume that most people want to do good, and if they are not living up to that standard, something is amiss. We don't have to know what it is. We just have to know that we may not know.

*Names have been changed.

TALK ABOUT IT

What can you tell yourself so that instead of responding negatively to someone, you give him the benefit of the doubt?



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.

More than 52,000 students
use our curriculums each week.

THE NEW BULLYING PREVENTION ADVICE HELPLINE FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

HIS TEACHER SPOKE TO THE BULLY.

IT DIDN'T WORK.

You're watching your child or student suffer. And you don't know what to do. Just email Protect the Child.

Get expert advice from experienced therapists. One on one. For free.

TERAPISTS INCLUDE:
DR. JONATHAN FEINER | DR. CHAIM NEUHOFF
DR. RONA NOVICK | DR. DAVID PELCOWITZ
DR. MITCHELL SHINDLER
MORDECHAI WEINBERGER LCSW

PROTECT THE CHILD HELPLINE

email protectthechild@cchfglobal.org
to schedule your FREE phone consultation

Free Inspiration 24/6

Lakewood 732.806.8599 Monsey 845.356.6665
New York 718.258.2008 Toronto 416.800.0656
Eretz Yisrael 072.258.7797 England 44.203.375.1580

Children's Line

212.444.1119
718.305.6960, 845.738.1066

As a *zechus* for all the singles of Klal Yisrael to find their *bashert*
Dedicated by the Katz Family of Flatbush

לע"נ חיים יחיאל מיכל בן פאל פיוועל שניאור ז"ל
גלב"ע ערב שבת קודש י אלול תשע"ז
ת.נ.צ.ב.ה.