

Interactive
Questions
for Your
Shabbos
Table

לזכות רפואה שלמה
בת שבע רחל
בת הינדא גיטל בשח"י

ISSUE 42

SHABBOS PARSHAS CHUKAS 5785

Please treat this newsletter
with proper respect.Please do not read during
davening or Krias HaTorah.

Sort-Of Kind-Of Kosher

Isaac is a great guy who moved into our neighborhood a few weeks ago. He came from a non-religious background, but he's got that amazing passion for *Yiddishkeit* that so many *baalei teshuvah* have. His 14-year-old son Levi has become friends with my 14-year-old son Menachem, and Levi invited Menachem for the Shabbos *seudah*. I'm worried that since Isaac is newly



To'eles
Condition
#3 of 7

observant he is less knowledgeable about *kashrus* and *hilchos* Shabbos. Can I tell Menachem my concerns about Isaac's halachic standards?

—Hillel

What's the Psak?

Do you know the halachah?

A Yes,
it's a *to'eles* to help Menachem avoid unintentional sins.

B No,
not if Hillel can discuss his concerns directly with Isaac.

C No,
it's *loshon hora* about Isaac.

The halachah is B. If Hillel can discuss the matter directly with Isaac, he should do so.

Why Didn't You Tell Me About It?

Preventing someone from stumbling into a sin is a great *to'eles*. If Hillel has good reason to think that Isaac's Shabbos meal might not meet the standards of *halachah*, he has a responsibility to alert Menachem to the situation.¹

However, the third condition of *to'eles* tells us that warning Menachem should not be the first course of action. Rather, Hillel must **try to avoid involving others and go directly to Isaac to discuss the matter, if possible.**²

Sometimes this is not possible. Maybe Isaac won't change despite hearing about the problem, or perhaps he won't be able to correct the issues. In that case, Hillel should tell Menachem about the issues.

Note: For the **seven rules of *to'eles***, see the Aderaba table card or visit cchf.global/toeles.

What to Do If It Happens to You

When discussing sensitive halachic issues with those who are coming closer to *Yiddishkeit*, we must do so in a warm and pleasant way.

Even better would be to suggest ways to make the transition as easy as possible. If Isaac would be open to speaking with Hillel, Hillel should suggest that he buy food from a specific store or with a specific *hechsher*, and Hillel should show him how to keep it hot and serve it on Shabbos.



WHEN WE GET TO'ELES WRONG

MISTAKE #3: Speaking About Instead of To

Not trying to solve the problem with the person directly; instead jumping to get others involved.



Reviewed by Rabbi Moshe Mordechai Lowy

Rav Pam, zt"l, advised great caution when presenting halachic scenarios to the public, as each situation is unique. This *shailah* is for discussion only; actual halachic decisions should be made by a *rav* or halachic expert on a case-by-case basis.

The Shmiras Haloshon Shailah Hotline:
718-951-3696 2-3PM / 9-10:30 PM



Tzvi arrived in the city a day early for a big job interview. He stood on the crowded sidewalk and wondered, "Where should I go?"

Well, first things first...he was hungry! He went to the Jewish neighborhood to find a restaurant. As he passed in front of an expensive kosher steak house, a stranger stopped him.

"Remember me? I'm Yankel!" said the man. "I was in yeshivah with you for one year. You were the only guy who made me feel welcome!"

He Stuck Me with the Bill!

"Oh, sure," Tzvi answered, although he didn't remember Yankel. "Good to see you. Maybe you can suggest a place to eat?"

"I'll do better!" Yankel said. "Let me take you here for dinner. It'll be a

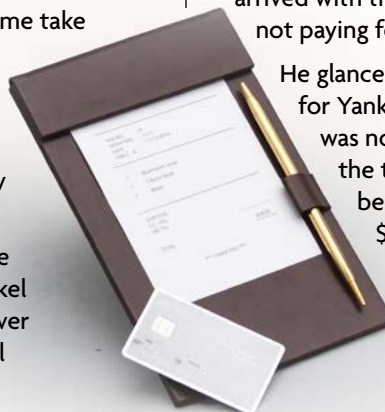
chance for me to repay your kindness."

Tzvi was shocked at the menu's prices, but Yankel insisted, "Order whatever you like. It's no big deal

for me." Tzvi ordered a feast.

When Yankel finished his last bite, he told Tzvi, "I'm going outside to make a quick call." That's when the waiter arrived with the bill. "Good thing I'm not paying for this!" Tzvi thought.

He glanced at the door, waiting for Yankel to return. But there was no Yankel. Suddenly, the truth hit him. He had been duped. The bill, all \$375, was his to pay.



What's the Message?

Do you feel honored when a friend singles you out to give you the inside scoop about someone? Now you're in the know—part of the inner circle. You eat up the loshon hora like a free lunch; it's so satisfying. But the friend won't be anywhere to be found when the bill arrives in *Shamayim*. To avoid getting stuck with the bill, just say "No thanks" to the offer.

See the good in the heart of a Yid



The fundraising event looked like it was going to be a huge success. Every seat was filled with men from the community who had come out to support this important *tzedakah*.

The rumble of conversation faded as the speaker approached the podium and the attendees rose to from their seats to greet him.

He Gave a Lot More Than Money

come to hear Rav Elya Ber's uplifting words, and they were getting just what they had come for.

But from the podium, the view was

not quite so perfect. As Rav Elya Ber cast his glance around the room, he saw that every seat

was occupied by a Kollel man. There wasn't a businessman or professional

among them. That meant that the donations to the *tzedakah* would be in line with a Kollel family's budget—a small amount of money given with a large amount of *mesiras nefesh*.

When Rav Elya Ber finished speaking, he quietly approached his *talmid*, Rav Menachem Savitz, and whispered to him, "Please write out a check for \$1,000 and I'll pay you back later."

That was the price Rav Elya Ber was willing to pay to protect the heads of the organization from the embarrassment they would feel when they realized that they had troubled the Rosh Yeshivah to come and speak at an unsuccessful event. A thousand dollars was nothing compared to the value of a fellow Jew's dignity.

Soon, Rav Elya Ber Wachtfogel, the Rosh Yeshivah of South Fallsburg, was launching into his speech, a warm, inspiring message saturated with his vast wealth of Torah wisdom. The audience took it all in. They had



Adapted with permission from Gedolei Yisroel 2: Portraits of Majesty, by Rabbi Mattis Goldberg, Feldheim Publishers

BRING ADERABA TO YOUR BUNGALOW COLONY OR SUMMER COMMUNITY THIS SUMMER!

To sponsor or distribute this newsletter in your bungalow colony or summer community:

CALL 845-352-3505 EXTENSION 105 | EMAIL ADERABA@CCHFGLOBAL.ORG



DEDICATIONS

L'ilui nishmas Naftula ben Yeshua Mordechai z"l and Rivka bas Moshe Zalmen a"n • As a *zechus* for *parnassah* for *mishpachas* Scheller

L'ilui nishmas Yaakov Machul ben Hachaver Yisroel z"l • As a *zechus* for a *refuah sheleimah*. Dedicated by the Spreiregen family

In honor of our son, Yonatan Asher Lannom, who inspired our family to join Aderaba.

Dedicated anonymously as a *zechus* for *shalom* in the family • לע"נ חיים יחיאל מיכל בן רפאל פייוועל שניאור ז"ל

