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SHABBOS MENU

PART OF THE CCHF SHABBOS TABLE MACHSOM L'FI PROGRAM • SHABBOS PARSHAS KORACH 5780 • ISSUE 196

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?

T H E

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 seizure 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, there are many conditions that must be met before one can decide whether to speak up, how much to say, and to whom one should say it. One must consult a *rav* to avoid the many stumbling blocks inherent in this situation.

*Sefer Chofetz Chaim,
Tziyurim [at the end] #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

We print out the Shabbos Menu every week to use at our Shabbos seudah. We enjoy it very much. We put the newsletter in a special place every week so that we remember to read it. I especially enjoy the halachah; it's a good reminder of things you once knew but forgot.

Boro Park

BORO PARK

FOR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS, EMAIL

Shabbosmenu@cchfglobal.org

“Hashem loves only those who love the Jewish people. And the more one *increases* his *ahavas Yisrael*, the more [love] Hashem *shows* upon him.”

– Mesillas Yesharim 19

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MALKA BREINDEL A"H BAS SHMUEL FISHEL YLCH"Y

THE ONLY MEDICINE THAT WORKED

As a young girl, pretty, outgoing Suri had one noticeable flaw – her chapped, swollen lips. This initiated a habit of licking them, which caused more chapping. No medication seemed to help.

The problem became a crisis as her oldest brother's bar mitzvah approached. She dreaded the occasion, imagining the shame she would feel as she posed for family pictures and saw the looks on the guests' faces.

One night, Suri's mother asked her to fetch the *Family Lesson a Day* from the shelf so she could learn the daily lesson she had undertaken as a merit for a friend. "Why don't you learn with me?" Suri's mother suggested. "Maybe learning Shmiras Haloshon every day will be a merit to help your lips heal." Suri was happy to try.

Amazingly, within days the chapping had visibly subsided, and before long it was gone. A few weeks later, Suri skipped a night of learning. In the morning, she noticed some redness returning. Quickly she got back on track. She proudly wore a glowing, healthy smile at her family's *simchah*, and ever since, Shmiras Haloshon Yomi has been a daily essential.



TALK ABOUT IT

Would you like Hashem to give you so direct a message about Shmiras Haloshon? Why or why not?

Children's Line



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TALK ABOUT IT

How would you judge how much money is an amount worth pursuing?

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י' אלול תשע"ז
ת.נ.צ.ב.ה.

sage advice



1 Shalom Strategies What Is Shalom Worth to You?

Your neighbor borrows your lovely silver *Kiddush* cup and brings it back three weeks later, deeply dented. It looks like someone has dropped an axe on it. When you ask how the cup acquired the dent, your neighbor tells you that it was there when he borrowed it.

"Oh, I think you're mistaken," you say calmly. "We don't even use it. It just sits in the silver closet. I don't think it could have been dented."

"Maybe you just didn't notice," says the neighbor.

You are 100 percent positive that your neighbor ought to pay for this repair. You're equally positive that you won't be able to uphold your rights without getting into a debate, perhaps an argument, maybe a *beis din* or even a long-running family feud.

Now you have a choice. You can let the tiny, weak flame of discord die out, or you can fan it. You can turn a \$100 repair into an issue that will take over your life, as well as your neighbor's. The question to ask yourself in such a case is, how much am I willing to pay for serenity? Is your inner peace worth the \$100 price of the repair? How much

aggravation are you willing to endure in order to retrieve the money? Is it worth the loss of friendship? Is it worth the discomfort every time you run into each other in shul or at a *simchah*? Will your conflict become a neighborhood feud in which people will take sides and spread the rancor?

Many of our aggravations in life result from relatively small expenses caused by someone else's irresponsible or misguided action. In such a case, the Chofetz Chaim tells us to treat *shalom* as the mitzvah that it is. We spend money on an *esrog*, matzah, wine, challah, *kitzis*, etc.; we can expect to spend money on this mitzvah as well. If money will solve the problem, says the Chofetz Chaim, then spend it.

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