

Hi. I'm Smith.

Posted by Mr. Smith - 02 Sep 2009 10:56

Hello. I'm Mr. Smith. I thought I'd take a moment to say hi to the community here. I've been watching the pages here for about a month and felt ready to jump in a little bit. (I posted a bit from Shaarei Teshuvah on one of the boards yesterday too.)

My problem is not so much with the internet, though I've slipped up there a couple of times too. My problem is with actual people. It's pretty terrifying to me, actually. I get a tremendous surge of lust-excitement when it comes to seeing things I shouldn't. I routinely walk by windows with my neck craned in case I might see anything exciting (even though chances are basically nil). When I walk in crowded areas, I am bombarded with thoughts of touching the girls I see. (I am extremely thankful that my lust does not extend to actual children. That is a nisayon I have B"H been spared.) A few times I have succumbed to touching them "by accident." (I am further grateful that fear of consequences is still something which inhibits me.)

So basically I am terrified of myself and of where this will go if left unchecked. I have found this supportive community to be helpful. I am working hard on myself this Elul and doing a lot of davening. I have been to an SA group but didn't find it very helpful. I am hoping I can learn to manage this problem so that it does not ruin my life, which is certainly not hard to imagine. Looking forward to the continued support of everyone here. (If anyone has a similar situation to me, I'd love to hear from you. I identify with internet addiction too, but I still feel kind of lonely in my own problem...)

I'd like to share one final thing that I saw today that impacted me (and I am trying to dwell on it more and really have it sink in.) I recently read a news story of a man who on more than one occasion hid in the pit of an outhouse in order to get a glimpse of a woman sitting down on. I thought to myself, "Thus far does a person go for taavah, eh?" Isn't that all of us? Are we not willing to jump into a pit of excrement for a fleeting look at something that we will not attain, and that we know that *even if we did attain it, it would not satisfy us?* Truly this is an apt metaphor, I think. Maybe someone else here will get something out of it as well.

~Smith

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Re: Hi. I'm Smith.

Posted by the.guard - 16 Dec 2009 11:34

[Kollel Guy wrote on 16 Dec 2009 08:54:](#)

So when will we be zocheh to see the payis one make it to your icon?

Although I like it better, I was afraid it would alienate some types of people from the site if the admin looked Chassidish... GYE is for every type of Yid, from the most modern to the most ultra-orthodox. We're all in the same boat.

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Re: Hi. I'm Smith.

Posted by imtrying25 - 16 Dec 2009 12:17

[guardureyes wrote on 16 Dec 2009 11:34:](#)

[Kollel Guy wrote on 16 Dec 2009 08:54:](#)

So when will we be zocheh to see the payis one make it to your icon?

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Couldnt of been more truer words.

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Re: Hi. I'm Smith.

Posted by Kolliel Guy - 16 Dec 2009 14:25

Good point, didn't think of that...

Y'know you could just give him a little pin which says "I love Israel" and that would take care of all problems. :D

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