

To tell or not to tell?

Posted by beamer - 22 Nov 2009 14:21

I am thinking of discussing these issue with my Rabbi. Hopefully, he won't pass out from the shock.

My question is?

Has anyone had good or bad experiences with this?

I don't need the riot act read to me because I read it to myself every day and I know it by heart. Can a Rabbi really be sympathetic and continue to maintain a relationship with you without you feeling like rubbish? In a way, you want him (or her, I guess) to know the 'real' you in the hope that they can help you but on the other hand...

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Re: To tell or not to tell?

Posted by the.guard - 27 Nov 2009 11:03

Wow. What a story! Thank you for sharing it!

I will try and post it on our site and also send it in a chizuk e-mail one of these days. It is a great example of the power of accountability to get a person started on his journey.

A few questions:

- 1) You say I copied your story from the forum on a different site. Where is your story now? Did I paste it on our site?
- 2) Did your Rebbe have no Eitzos for you on how to stop? Did he offer any Hadracha? Did you still keep the strong keshet with him after that?
- 3) The big question is: Where are you holding TODAY? After all, we take it one day at a time, for the rest of our lives.

Yasher Koach!

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Re: To tell or not to tell?
Posted by Kedusha - 27 Nov 2009 14:29

What an amazing story!

I still think it's a personal decision, and not everyone will want to go that route, nor will it always be necessary. But whatever route you take, the key is to make a very significant investment in your recovery. Spend time, money, and effort (and, if you choose, embarrassment), towards your recovery. At some point, you'll realize that you'd be a fool to squander your investment, and you'll do everything you can to protect it.

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Re: To tell or not to tell?
Posted by Eye.nonymous - 28 Nov 2009 16:58

Shemirateinayim, that's quite a story!

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Re: To tell or not to tell?
Posted by shemirateinayim - 03 Dec 2009 17:48

my story is on the site it starts with hodu lashem ki tov.....i was always a goodd bachur

i am still very close with my rebbe, and i am under the impression that he thinks better of me now that he knows i can go 7 months without any michsholim in tayvaas nashim. even he couldnt do that !!!

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Re: To tell or not to tell?

Posted by imtrying25 - 03 Dec 2009 18:21

Wow what a story SE. Im really happy for you. But i have to say that my expierence in opening up to my rabbeim was not at all productive. I opened up to one. His response was opening up a Ramabam and showing me the last Rambam in issurei biah which says that a heart empty of wisdom will be full of lust. So learn real good and it will help. Why thanks rabbi im doing great now. Then many years later i fessed up again to another rebbi and he asked me how often i fall. So i tld him every three weeks in my good times. So hes says ok get married and youll get past it. Thanks again Rabbi. It was only when i found this site that i realized im an **ADDICT**. I have addiction just like the rest of them and ive gotta work with it.

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Re: To tell or not to tell?

Posted by silentbattle - 04 Dec 2009 00:12

Incredible, Reb SE - truly.

As for me, I think I mentioned this elsewhere, but my problem was actually meeting women. And I wanted my rebbe to know - I trust him enough to know that he'd help me, and support me, and understand. But I was ashamed, I couldn't bring myself to do it. I wished that he would somehow know, but I couldn't even bring myself to daven for him to find out.

Hashem helped me, and my rebbe found out anyway, B"H. He brought it up, and helped me realize that it was time time to stop, and get my life back. I wish I had gathered the strength to tell him earlier. And yes, I still have a close connection with my rebbe.

No matter what, it's a hard step to take. But you probably have a decent idea of whether or not your rebbe will be supportive of you.

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Re: To tell or not to tell?

Posted by shemirateinayim - 15 Dec 2009 22:34

funny thing is that my last reply to my story, was typed on a cellphone in a nextel store. And when i typed in my password for the gorum.....a system message came-up asking if I wanted to change it from the one already recorded on the phones memory! i wasn't the only one checking-in while waiting on line!

for the next guy who may ot have set a passwrod on the forum...yet.

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Re: To tell or not to tell?

Posted by Kollel Guy - 15 Dec 2009 22:47

Very cool story, I hope you secure your investment.

I hope that among all the bletter and midrashim you learn, the GUE handbook will be shagur bi'ficha more than anything else.
I left this site in the favorites list

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Re: To tell or not to tell?

Posted by UTS - 15 Dec 2009 22:58

The following is not addressed to any individual, just a general observation.

The brutal truth is that:

IF YOU CAN'T TELL YOUR RABBI, HE AIN'T YOUR RABBI.

Right?

.....If you can't, it may be your fault or it may be the fault or the inability of your "rabbi" to handle these issues.

So... le'ma'aseh, I guess you either 1) Work on your rabbi. 2) Work on yourself. 3) Find another rebbi.

(I find this all to be very difficult personally.)

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Re: To tell or not to tell?

Posted by silentbattle - 15 Dec 2009 23:04

Like i said, I was lucky enough to have a rebbe that I could have/should have told, though I was embarrassed to. Hashem helped me out.

it might be a good idea, if you think that the rebbe you're closest to won't understand, maybe speak to a different rebbe about this issue. It's OK to have more than one rebbe...although then issues come up if their opinions clash.

Sigh.

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Re: To tell or not to tell?

Posted by imtrying25 - 15 Dec 2009 23:11

You should know SB i think your really lucky. I actually spoke to 2 of my Rabbeim and neither helped me out too much. Or anything really. I think Rabbeim nowadays have to be trained to help people in this area.

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Re: To tell or not to tell?
Posted by Kollel Guy - 15 Dec 2009 23:23

A rebbe is not necessarily your guide in life. He very well COULD be, but then again he could just be a talmid chacham who explains torah well. That makes him your rebbe.

If you need to discuss things which do not pertain to any lomdes, you have to make the judgement as to whether or not he is that type of rebbe. If he doesn't claim to be knowledgeable at guidance, then why would you ask him?

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Re: To tell or not to tell?
Posted by imtrying25 - 15 Dec 2009 23:25

Im sorry to say it, but im talking about Rabbeim who officially know how to deal with bachurim. Some mat even be "experts". I feel bad saying it but its the truth.

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Re: To tell or not to tell?
Posted by BruceWayne - 17 Dec 2009 06:20

[Rage ATM wrote on 03 Dec 2009 20:41:](#)

these stories have reinforced my belief that it is good to tell someone, not necessarily your rabbi...

But dearest Rage, whatever happened to the lofty, always-correct-for-every-situation, one size fits all idea of *Das Torah*?

You're not....some kind of *kofer* are you?

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