

90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great ChallengePosted by Rising Up - 23 Jan 2011 04:31

I am a yeshiva guy who is extremely smart and comes from a very prestigious family. When I was 11 years old I discovered through the touching of my body, what masturbation is. After about two years of strictly masturbation, I discovered what pornography is. I started to look at it on almost a weekly basis. I had to sneak a great deal more than the average person in order to be able access this type of material, yet at that age I never thought about the negative consequences of my actions. Throughout the years I progressed to understand more and more about how to access this type of material. At one point my father found out what I had been doing through someone else who chose to never reveal himself to me and instead told my father about it so he could speak to me about it. When my father told me that he knew that I had been doing these actions he told me how he understood what sort of temptations I was having and told me that I must stop doing these things for the sake of my neshamah. As one could imagine this did not stop me from continuing to access this material and I resorted to staying up entire nights for the opportunity to access this stuff. I even started to be mechalel Shabbos to access pornography without the fear of being caught by anyone.

At this point I am going to hold off on the rest of my story and interject with why I am posting my story. At this point (many thousands of so far unwritten words later) I am trying to break free. I have discovered this site and am committing myself to break free. I would like to set my goal for 90 days (as I write these words I can literally feel energy surging through my fingers and onto the screen before me) which would set the mark for the fifth day of Pesach. The Bnei Yisroel crossed the Yam Suf on the seventh day, I would love to do the same this year!!

I know that I need an incentive of sorts to help me through this and as such I have decide to continually add more to my story as I progress through these 90 days. I ask that you comment and give encouragement to me as each day passes, so that I can know that I am opening up and have someone whom is empathizing with my struggles. The story will only get worse as will the difficulty of progressing through the 90 days. I will also post daily or update for each day if I will be unable to access this site for any period of time. [Post Day 1 18-Shvat/Jan-23]

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great ChallengePosted by Rising Up - 09 Mar 2011 04:05

I would counter and say that their (the girls) current definition of what "good-looking" is, is defined by what men enjoy seeing in a woman. Therefore, by choosing to look good not for us oglers, but rather for their friends, they are still dressing to look good for us oglers even though their surface intention may be to look good to feel important amongst their friends.

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge

Posted by Yosef Hatzadik - 09 Mar 2011 15:45

"Dressing up for my husband" can be used as a free pass to dress.....??

Many women dress for 'society' they do not want to look 'nebbly' or out-of-style. They aren't always trying to impress everyone around or consciously trying to attract men's attention. (The frum women, I mean!) But what does 'dressing in style' mean? Dressing in the fashions designed by those who live their entire lives centered around lust??

Even in frum circles, who are the trend-setters? Not the Rebbetzins!!

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge

Posted by Rising Up - 09 Mar 2011 20:01

[Yosef Hatzadik wrote on 09 Mar 2011 15:45:](#)

Even in frum circles, who are the trend-setters? Not the Rebbetzins!!

Well maybe it is the Rebbetzins in our communities responsibility to teach these young women how to dress tzniusly?!?

I will bring a halacha to try and make my point. It states in the Mishna Breruah, Siman 328 Se'if

2 (I forgot which Se'if Katan, I'm reading this from my notes which don't say which Se'if Katan) that the Rav in each town is held responsible in educating the people of his locale that: If one would have a situation where one is unsure whether or not Shabbos can be broken for the sake of a very sick person, it is considered *Shofech Damim* if one were to waste time by asking a sheila. If someone were to die because the person went to ask the Rav a shaila, the Rav is held responsible. The reason is because he was supposed to have taught that person that he should not consult the Rav in a case where a life is on the line.

I am well aware that this is a different halacha in a different situation. But the point I am making is not the halacha itself but the reasoning behind it. It is clear from here that there is such a thing as requiring the Rav/Rebbetzin to educate the community in the halachos that *affect* one persons *effect* on another person.

I am well aware the problem of lust is my problem and that the women in shul are *not* my problem. But I am just saying that there is an issue to be dealt with over here and it can be a smaller equivalent to what computers are. By computers we put up filter, by shul we put up mechitzas. But by either one of the two there are ways around it. In addition both of these are irrelevant once one leaves the confines of our Shul/Home. We don't have any control over the billboards that are put up on the highway and for that reason we are considered an onais when one sees something inappropriate, so long as he turns away as fast as he physically can. But why should we be considered an onais in the confines of our own community, where we can control to a great extent what goes on?

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge
Posted by Yosef Hatzadik - 09 Mar 2011 20:25

[RisingUp wrote on 09 Mar 2011 20:01:](#)

We don't have any control over the billboards that are put up on the highway and for that reason we are considered an onais when one sees something inappropriate, so long as he turns away as fast as he physically can.

Is this 100% accurate?

Are we complete *Onsim*?

Do we have to drive down the expressway & notice the billboards?

Can we not walk in the streets with our eyes focused on the ground a couple of feet ahead of us? (The head can be kept straight, just the eyes shall be downcast!)

It is this *impossible*?

Does GuardYourEyes = GuardYourEyes--FromSecondLooks?

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge
Posted by Rising Up - 09 Mar 2011 20:29

I could agree with you. However, to have stated as such would be denying the possibility that one can be confronted with a billboard *unintentionally*. Therefore, I did not choose to state it the way you have put it even though it is very often the reality of the situation.

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge
Posted by Yosef Hatzadik - 09 Mar 2011 20:39

I was stating what we know when we think with 100% honesty into what we can ultimately be capable of attaining. It is NOT the work of one day, week, or even year!

And I agree with you too!

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge
Posted by Rising Up - 09 Mar 2011 20:45

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge
Posted by ben durdayah - 09 Mar 2011 21:57

[David/Rage wrote on 09 Mar 2011 20:20:](#)

Isn't it more fun to disagree? :

[RisingUp wrote on 09 Mar 2011 20:01:](#)

the problem of lust is my problem and that the women in shul are *not* my problem.

emes

[RisingUp wrote on 09 Mar 2011 20:01:](#)

why should we considered an onais in the confines of our own community, where we can control to a great extent what goes on?

also emes.

Slow down there...

The only ones we control in our community ***to any extent*** is ourselves... nobody else.

Not even our **wives**.

Happens to be mine is a **huge** tzadeikes... gets at least a 99% on G-d's tznius test -and that's without the natural partiality (*if you want to know why I think so you can PM me -but it's the truth*

anyways. Why 99% and not 100%? Because only G-d is perfect.).

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge
Posted by Rising Up - 10 Mar 2011 00:32

[ben durdayah wrote on 09 Mar 2011 21:57:](#)

Slow down there...

The only ones we control in our community ***to any extent*** is ourselves... nobody else.

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My question is on this very fact!

Why should what you said, albeit true at the moment, remain the case? Why shouldn't the situation in our communities be rectified? I can tell you one place where it won't be rectified. That is on the woman's GYE forum where, albeit I have no way of knowing what is discussed there, I would assume it revolves around something like, "fixing ourselves before fixing everyone else (the other women in town)." And yeah, I also don't see this problem being fixed amongst those that are not aware of the extent to which this problem exists, which unfortunately, is all the men out there not on GYE sans the Rabbanus and a few worthy individuals (in other words, to borrow a phrase: "there is no grassroots support"). Obviously the women that we are talking about don't seem to be interested in fixing the problem that is being caused (whomever problem it may be). That leaves us.

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge
Posted by Rising Up - 10 Mar 2011 02:41

To simplify my point. I think that inasmuch what is being accomplished in our homes by the computer-filter campaigns, there is also a problem in shuls that, albeit a much smaller problem, is still a problem. This is the problem that many women are not educated as to the proper levels of Tznius. I think that yes, it is not *my* problem, but the fact that the problem exists should not be ignored.

Who should rectify it? The Bais Yaakovs and Shul Rebbetzins all around the country.

And I reiterate. I don't care that in another community the Rebbetzin gets up and promotes a level of tznius beneath my standards, SO LONG AS she gets up and speaks about it. I won't be going into that shul, but at the very least, the attitude toward tznius is not one of ignorance *across* the spectrum.

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge
Posted by Rising Up - 11 Mar 2011 05:35

A tough day today. Today I had to deal with the internet pop-ups again as well as videos that didn't properly advertise themselves on youtube. The good thing is that I feel like I am being trained to treat any inappropriate sight of a women like touching a glowing coal.

Today I had an amazing thing happen. I went to my Rav to speak with him about what has been happening so far. We didn't end up talking about my situation at all. Instead he asked me about GYE and all the different details of how the website works. The entire time he kept telling me that he wanted to send another person from his shul to this website and he wants to know what that person needs to know about joining GYE. I found that for my Rav, it is unfortunately an unending cycle. I feel proud to be able to be the one that shows him how to introduce people to GYE. I was the first person that he sent to GYE that really took the use of the website as their guiding force. Since I have been the most successful from all the people that he has dealt with on this issue so far, he has begun to use GYE as his main tool for combating this problem.

Rising Up

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge
Posted by desperate_teddybear - 11 Mar 2011 06:16

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ps. what a zchus!

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge
Posted by Rising Up - 11 Mar 2011 21:00

Wishing Everybody a wonderful and meaningful Shabbos!!!!

Rising Up

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Re: 90 days and beyond-Rising Up To The Great Challenge
Posted by Rising Up - 13 Mar 2011 05:07

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Good Job d_teddybear!! Where did you find this one