

Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!

Posted by serenity - 14 Dec 2014 13:22

I was just thinking today, how fortunate we are to have the internet. Reading about the struggles of yungerleit with SSA and thinking that before the internet, they had no place to turn. Thinking of people like myself who are sexaholics and would never have a chance at a peaceful life without the internet. Some people who are dealing with internet porn addictions may not be as enthusiastic about the internet. They may think that but for the internet, they would not have developed a porn addiction - and they may be correct. Where they would be mistaken, one may argue, is that they would still have some deep character defects that would cause them pain and turmoil in some other manner. Maybe some such people would think they would be better off sitting and learning in a cave for many years, as I once thought might me good for me. In that cave though, could they ever hope to fix innate character defects or would they just hope to let them lay dormant. We are here on this earth to struggle chevra. Now obviously we don't throw ourselves into a makom sakana, and we for example install internet filters on our computers and use all the tools of recovery etc., but if we think that the scantily clad woman at school or work, or the internet is the source of our problems, we haven't begun to understand how to help ourselves. Our addictions aren't our problems. Our addictions are our savior. I'm a grateful recovering sex addict and without my addiction, I could have never hoped to have reached even the meager level of understanding about myself and about my relationship with Hashem that I have now.

I would like to hear the views of others on this, if anyone is so inclined. And thanks for reading

Warning: Spoiler!

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by serenity - 30 Apr 2015 01:59

Forget it, It won't let me type the codes without activating them. Argh!

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by serenity - 30 Apr 2015 02:08

Didn't work. I messaged it to you.

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by stillgoing - 30 Apr 2015 02:16

Thank you! that's a lot of effort. I don't think I got the message, but I sent you an email.

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by Gevura Shebyesod - 30 Apr 2015 02:35

I think that's what the "insert code" button is for, it looks like a paper with on it.

put code in here

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by shlomo613 - 30 Apr 2015 23:17

Thanks serenity and Gevura. I will try to set it up in Friday or Sunday when I've got a bit more time.

Shlomo

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by stillgoing - 02 Jun 2015 20:36

cordnoy

cordnoy wrote:

Lo mei'uktzeich v'lo mei'duvsheich!

This is not entirely accurate....

maskana of Rebbe Cordnoy was? maybe you can tell us what the hava amina and the

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by stillgoing - 02 Jun 2015 22:58

cordnoy

cordnoy wrote:

Lo mei'uktzeich v'lo mei'duvsheich!

This is not entirely accurate....

maskana of Rebbe Cordnoy was? maybe you can tell us what the hava amina and the

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by cordnoy - 14 Jun 2015 21:40

[stillgoing wrote:](#)

cordnoy

cordnoy wrote:

Lo mei'uktzeich v'lo mei'duvsheich!
Well since you were arguing with yourself,

This is not entirely accurate....

maybe you can tell us what the hava amina and the

maskana of Rebbe Cordnoy was?

I don't remember the thought process then but here is what I'm thinking.initially I write we would be better off without it at all. ...now that with regards to lust is probably true for it would seem that the Internet escalates the addiction into unmanageable states. ...not to say that this could not happen without it as I can attest to.

However at the end of the day it is here and God wants it here and it has many positive usages including recovery.

That being said purely with regards to the lust issue I will stick with the hava amina.

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by stillgoing - 18 Jun 2015 22:26

R' Cordnoy

However at the end of the day it is here and God wants it here and it has many positive usages including recovery.

That's really the bottom line. If Hashem put it into the world, and put us in the same world next to it, then it's good that it's here. Now we can't know what purpose it is supposed to accomplish down here, maybe it's here so that we can avoid it and come closer to Hashem through that!

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by Moshe271 - 01 Nov 2015 11:29

Serenity,

You make a very important point: the real issues begin inside of us.

As you

Where they would be mistaken, one may argue, is that they would still have some deep character defects that would cause them pain and turmoil in some other manner. Maybe some such people would think they would be better off sitting and learning in a cave for many years, as I once thought might me good for me. In that cave though, could they ever hope to fix innate character defects or would they just hope to let them lay dormant.

Since entering recovery, I have found that I can sit in front of a computer and not act out. Filters help me in that they give me a buffer so that when I have an urge to act out, I have enough time to choose to surrender to Hashem, make a phone call, or other act of recovery, and not just go headlong into porn. But the internet is not the problem. The problem is in me, and that is where the work needs to be done. Thanks for the thought-provoking post.

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by serenity - 02 Nov 2015 03:00

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by peloni almoni - 04 Nov 2015 03:56

i was having a discussion with a group of my talmidim today, and it reminded me of this thread that was started here some time ago. i realize these threads often have an understood, unofficial "expiration date" when they have been "argued out" enough and the interest is over. but, as i have some ideas regarding this topic crystallized in my mind, i would like to share them here, at the risk of being labeled as the one who beats the dead horse. i will organize the ideas the best way i know how, in order to make it as clear and concise as i can.

question - would we have been better off without the internet

1. although this is obviously primarily a theoretical question as we are infact, in a world with internet, and the question is merely; if you could wish it away, would you do so, it does shed some light on how the internet should be viewed hashkafikly.

2. this question must be approached from two angles; the personal view, and the universal view.

3. from the personal view, the internet may be the cause of my salvation and success. it may have caused my sobriety, my financial prosperity, given me access to millions of shiurim and thousands of sefarim, and given my the ability to keep in touch with relatives and friends worldwide. sure it has aided and abetted my acting out, but that would have manifested itself somehow anyway; at this point we all know that the addiction comes from within. hence, the internet, personally speaking, may be great.

4. but universally? although we know ?????, here, in a matter not ??? to immediate life and death, the ??? has to look past himself. the questions have to be: is humanity as a whole (or ??? as a whole) benefiting from the existence and availability of the internet? how many young kids, couples, and parents are suffering in one way or another due to the internet? think back to before it was around. children would come home from school, have a snack, and go outside to play. in the winter the family would sit down and play a board-game. what has that been replace with? what has conversation between husband and wife been replaced with? is that an ????? or a ??????

man's world has become so big due to the internet, that man has become too small to cope. and i think that any of the benefits that you weigh against it will not suffice.

because before the internet, ?????. it was simpler, but man was significant, and he was in charge of his world. and ???, he was able to cope. the family was a family, and relationships were relationships. no amount of money, convenience of ordering cheap stuff from china, availability of shiurim, etc. can outweigh this.

??? ??? ??? ????

we are all familiar with maslow's hierarchy of needs. this picture is meant to be a parody of that. it is not based on scientific research. i am NOT posting it here for comic effect; please see past the humor, straight to the point - when looking UNIVERSALLY, how much of the internet is really being used for productivity? is it worth it?

5. but what about the addict who has no chance of recovery without the resources on the internet. this is tough because ????? it touches close to home.

so first of all, as hard as it is to swallow, and before even attempting to explain, let me just say this: i think that if the ??? ????? would have to choose between universal betterment and personal betterment, universal would come first. period. the show must go on.

but even without idealistic notions, as jews, we believe that ?? ??? ??? ?????. if (big if) someone was an tested with addiction without the possibility a cure, and if (big if) there actually was no recovery possible without the internet, it would be a different ball game altogether. the same way hashem guided you to GYE now, he could have guided you elsewhere to do whatever tikkun was necessary for that particular ????? of addiction.

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by Shlomo24 - 04 Nov 2015 18:49

not maskim at all. if god made the internet available then it must be a good thing. this convo is a moot point. (or a moo point according to joey tribbiani)

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by markz - 04 Nov 2015 19:04

[Shlomo24 wrote:](#)

not maskim at all. if god made the internet available then it must be a good thing. this convo is a moot point. (or a moo point according to joey tribbiani)

Gd made Las Vegas available - All Trucks ready set go!!!

Im not repeating the old discussion on this forum of [Internet Ban](#), that wasn't my point

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Re: Lions, tigers and internet, Oh My!
Posted by peloni almoni - 05 Nov 2015 00:50

[Shlomo24 wrote:](#)

not maskim at all. if god made the internet available then it must be a good thing. this convo is a moot point. (or a moo point according to joey tribbiani)

god made porn available, is it a good thing? masturbation? and he also made movies, and prostitutes available. and homosexual relationships and marriages. and pork, so that must be good for you too? the list goes on.

(and if you tell me that some of those things man made available, ??? ???? the internet.)

the truth is that some things he made for us to stay away from. the goodness comes from realizing it for what it is and limiting/avoiding it.

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??? ????? internet.

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