

making the silent battle...not.

Posted by silentbattle - 04 Dec 2009 04:12

Because isn't that why I'm here? And silent battles are always more difficult to fight. There are very few people in the "real world" (you know, the one where people lie, cheat, steal, and are) that I can talk to about this - so this is my chance, I guess.

I'm in my late 20s, single. I learned in Eretz Yisroel for a bunch of years, and had tremendous success, both in learning, in middos, and general personal growth.

When I came back to america, though, things were different. I didn't have the same social framework of the yeshiva that I'd gotten used to. Most of my friends were married, in a different country/state, or both. And the few friends who were still around were crazy busy with their own things. So there I was, lonely, without any support system to speak of, having trouble with dating, and full of the standard drives that guys have. And no real outlet for any of my emotional and physical needs.

Speaking to Uri and reading his posts, yes, I suppose I have a deeper neediness, and to me, "loneliness" includes that - the feeling of not having people to rely on, not feeling wanted, needed, etc.

So I started going to various websites - I started by using them as fuel for fantasies, but eventually ended up meeting women in real life. And while I was honest with them, and made sure they were aware that it could never become something truly serious (how ironic, that my being frum influenced me even while I was doing these terrible aveiros!), I got involved in one unhealthy relationship after another. They provided a fleeting comfort, and even some support, but nothing lasting, and in retrospect, it's no surprise that my dating wasn't very successful (even though I wasn't in any other relationships at the time of dating, I just wasn't in a very healthy place overall).

And then...Hashem helped me. I'm very close with my rebbe, but I could never bring myself to tell him about this, even though I wished he would somehow find out. Well, he did - and I was horrified, but amazingly relieved at the same time. He directed me to a therapist, and the therapist mentioned this website - so here I am.

So, the major issue I'm dealing with is not meeting people in real life - but while I'm at it, my therapist recommended trying for complete abstinence - and I thought, "why not?" After all, if I'm looking to improve myself on a ruchniyos level, then I should try to stop mz"l too, right? And, so far, so good. Clearly, Hashem has been helping me. I've been clean over a month from unhealthy relationships, and something like 11 days on the WOH.

Thank you, everyone, for being part of this group.

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Re: making the silent battle...not.

Posted by Gevura Shebyesod - 15 Mar 2017 16:10

See the Rambam in Sefer Hamitzvot (Aseh 189)

The time to erase them has not yet come. Meanwhile we need to keep reminding ourselves of what they did so our hatred of them and the evil they represent will not be dulled by the passage of time.

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Re: making the silent battle...not.

Posted by Singularity - 16 Mar 2017 08:37

They chopped our boys in the desert. So some died. We still exist.

The Nazis, now, *yemach sh'mam*. Remember that evil, that horror. But maybe in hundreds of years people will have it dulled down through the passage of time as well.

I saw my neighbour had some toy/game based on the disaster of the Titanic. I wondered if in a

hundred years time there will be a board game / toy entitled "9/11".

And now (to those who are unsure of my linkage here), what if my brain dulls down the scourge and horror of my addiction so in ten years I don't even remember why it was so bad in the first place?

It's scary, what time can do.

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Re: making the silent battle...not.

Posted by MayanHamisgaber - 16 Mar 2017 09:31

Why would that be scary (referring to your last line)

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Re: making the silent battle...not.

Posted by Singularity - 16 Mar 2017 10:17

well if I know something's bad for me, I should *a/ways* know.

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Re: making the silent battle...not.

Posted by MayanHamisgaber - 16 Mar 2017 11:59

You can also look at it that recovery is working/helping

But maybe for an addict that is a bad mindset

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Re: making the silent battle...not.

Posted by silentbattle - 22 Mar 2017 04:07

[Singularity wrote on 16 Mar 2017 08:37:](#)

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It's scary, what time can do.

Ten years? How about 2 weeks? Our disease constantly tries to remind us of the fleeting, good sensations, while making us forget the consequences, the way we felt afterwards

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Re: making the silent battle...not.

Posted by Singularity - 22 Mar 2017 07:39

True.

This is why a Step 1 as a refresher is always potent.

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Re: making the silent battle...not.

Posted by cordnoy - 22 Mar 2017 11:55

[silentbattle wrote on 22 Mar 2017 04:07:](#)

[Singularity wrote on 16 Mar 2017 08:37:](#)

And now (to those who are unsure of my linkage here), what if my brain dulls down the scourge and horror of my addiction so in ten years I don't even remember why it was so bad in the first place?

It's scary, what time can do.

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How true that is.

My second sponsor drilled that into me. Our disease (or whatever you call it) makes us forget everythin'. Which is why logic is not a prerequisite for recovery, and it, in fact, can be a detriment as well.

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Re: making the silent battle...not.

Posted by silentbattle - 11 Sep 2017 23:00

Just checking in...actually still working on my first step, but loving recovery. It's a scary fact that the damage I caused by acting out lives on even as I work on my recovery. but I can't change that. What I can change is myself, and I continue to work on that, one day at a time, with a lot of help from God.

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Re: making the silent battle...not.

Posted by Sturggle - 18 Sep 2017 11:52

Hope you are well. Shana tova!!

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Re: making the silent battle...not.
Posted by Dov - 07 Jun 2018 03:52

Hi sturggle and silentbattle! Two of my favorite guys and their fake names that bring back lots of memories from Years Gone by, here on this great forum!!

Stay in touch

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Re: making the silent battle...not.
Posted by silentbattle - 09 May 2021 21:08

Hi all, just wanted to drop by and say hello. With a lot of help from God, I've been sober for about 4.5 years. And I'm sober today, thank god, which makes my life so much better. I'm enjoying life so much more than I ever did while acting out.

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Re: making the silent battle...not.
Posted by cordnoy - 09 May 2021 22:17

[silentbattle wrote on 14 Dec 2009 14:20:](#)

Thank you, Noorah...more and more, I'm starting to realize what an honor it is to be part of this brigade of holy warriors...and truth be told, we're ALL fighting a silent battle, in a way, but that doesn't make it any less vital.

B"H Hashem is still helping me be strong, I'm moving forward, going back and saying final

goodbyes, even to people that I haven't spoken to in a while, so I know that it's over and done with. Deleting emails by the hundreds (sometimes, by the thousands), as I clear out this part of my life.

Can you imagine if all those emails would still be there, plus from 2009? Thanks for stoppin' in with your latest count!

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Re: making the silent battle...not.

Posted by the.guard - 10 May 2021 17:39

[silentbattle wrote on 09 May 2021 21:08:](#)

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Hi. Great to hear from you, and so happy to hear about your living in recovery.

If I understand correctly, you're working the steps? I seem to remember you had a "Torah Approach" back in the day... Can you share with us your story? I'm sure it could be very interesting and helpful to a lot of our members...

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