

in the news

Posted by Lamplighter - 22 Dec 2009 19:15

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I don't if anyone has followed the news but it's now public knowledge that a prominent rav stepped down from his position in an organization due to a scandal involving his phone sex conversations with a woman he was guiding through geirus as he was also setting her up to be intimate with men. I am guilty of listening to the phone audio conversations on the internet and I am very much heartbroken and disgusted that such a thing could happen, that a rav who it seemed was trusted by gedolei-Yisrael, a rav who wielded such influence on others, could be struggling with arayos like this. But then I thought, how are we different. We each have our own struggles in these areas. The difference is our doesn't usually involve such a massive public chillul-Hashem. May it never come to that.

I was thinking that in shamayim there's a different kind of news report, announcing our daily victories.

If this entire posting is inappropriate/lashon hara then I apologize and please take it down.

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Re: in the news

Posted by silentbattle - 23 Dec 2009 01:58

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The point here is that an audio tape is not proof, and reading a blog, or newspaper article, and certainly *believing it* is lashon hora at the least, and possibly motzei sheim rah.

Is a Rav automatically innocent? No. But 1) he's not automatically, guilty, either 2) by making assumptions like that, we bring ourselves to a point where we don't trust any rabbanim, and then where are we? Especially since, when everyone is ready to pounce, it becomes even more difficult for rabbanim to take *any* action without causing all sorts of issues, including a witch-hunt-type situation.

As an aside - I have friends who've been abused in various situations, and it's horrible. I'm the type that feels an urge to take a baseball bat to people who do that. However, as a counselor in summer camps, I'm also aware of the flip side - there have been stories where campers have accused counselors of doing things, and it was later admitted that the claims were NOT true. It's

kinda scary when kids realize how much power they have over a counselor...

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Re: in the news

Posted by Kedusha - 23 Dec 2009 02:01

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going. ). Guard can decide in the morning whether to keep this thread

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Re: in the news

Posted by the.guard - 23 Dec 2009 12:20

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Thank you Kedusha, for locking this thread. I believe that whatever needs to be said about this issue has already been said.

Chill everyone (myself included

Whether this particular case is true or not, is really irrelevant. And the fact he is a Rabbi is **also** irrelevant, both for assuming guilt and for assuming innocence. **I think we are all in agreement that the biggest "Rabbanim" are not immune.** We on GYE know that better than anyone else.

Case closed.

(Hey, it's fun being Guard sometimes. I get the last word :D)

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