

Step #18 - Not sure I agree with it

Posted by Gabe - 15 Apr 2010 22:21

Would you really recommend this as a last resort?

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Re: Step #18 - Not sure I agree with it

Posted by DovInIsrael - 15 Apr 2010 22:25

not sure which RESORT you are speaking about.

but the next time I book an addiction I am not staying at the Gates of Gehinom!!

forget it!

what exactly is step 18?

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Re: Step #18 - Not sure I agree with it

Posted by Gabe - 17 Apr 2010 14:58

chemical castration

I think it should be removed from the booklet

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Re: Step #18 - Not sure I agree with it

Posted by DovInIsrael - 17 Apr 2010 21:15

ouch!

i only did the beginners 12-step program.

steps 13+ much be for the more serious minded.

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Re: Step #18 - Not sure I agree with it
Posted by the.guard - 18 Apr 2010 21:01

[Halevi wrote on 15 Apr 2010 22:21:](#)

Would you really recommend this as a last resort?

I happen to know some psychiatrists and doctors in Israel who recommend this as a first resort, not as a last resort. They say, "if you are plagued by sexual fantasy and obsessive behavior, why not get the shots and feel free?" There are almost no side effects (besides for intimacy issues with the wife, and even that can be adjusted to come to a balance), so why not?

I know one guy who was so happy to hear about these shots and was ready to get them, but his wife made a fuss and threatened to divorce him, which forced him to work on himself instead.

Obviously working on yourself through the first 17 tools of the handbook is the best, but if

a) a person still can't break free even after he's tried EVERYTHING (12 Steps, therapy, REHAB!!)

or

b) a person is in danger of harming others, such as pedophilic behavior, or SSA, or rape, etc..

then yes, this is a very important tool. What would you suggest dear Halevi in the cases of 'a' and 'b' above?

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Re: Step #18 - Not sure I agree with it

Posted by Gabe - 19 Apr 2010 10:06

In the case of (b), sure, chemical castration is absolutely fine.

By (a) my concern was mainly about disrupting home-life (but you intimated that that's not necessarily an issue). I would imagine that there could be a halachic issue as well but I doubt you would have written any of this without consulting with the appropriate authorities first.

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Re: Step #18 - Not sure I agree with it

Posted by Dov - 20 Jun 2010 03:09

The only guy who I know personally who has taken these shots (he was definitely harming others), *kept acting out horribly anyway*...just in a slightly different way than before.

Don't worry though, Halevi, these shots are only available through doctors and the fellow would have to go through a thorough medical and psych work-up of the person first - I assume. This means that his problem in all its inglorious details will be known by his doc and probably others by then...not the same situation at all of the nice frummy sitting in his yeshivah office and compulsively looking at schmutz hour after hour and doing whatever else all in secret still. These heavy-duty guys are already out of the closet....

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Re: Step #18 - Not sure I agree with it

Posted by the.guard - 21 Jun 2010 21:27

Harvey (one of the founders of SA) mentioned in a talk I heard from him, how the shots sometimes can help someone who is a compulsive addict. For example, for someone who - when he gets a thought, he must act on it right away. The shots help that he now has a **MOMENT** before acting out to use the tools of the 12-Steps, or call someone, before he acts out. Used to be: Thought > Act out. Now it's: Thought > Moment > Tools.

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