

## Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 21 Oct 2014 17:59

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i came to israel for y"t and i am staying here,  
im going to be going to yeshiva here also.

Why did i switch? well i came here and i was hooked up with a bunch of guys who also have ssa just like me. that is something that i never experienced in america, simply because of logistics and availability. i israel there is a whole support group of guys who are willing to reach out and connect with each other. its amazing.  
hey whats up yall? im in israel now, permanently

additionally, because the gay rights group has a much smaller contingent here, many therapists openly say that they can change ssa. something that i would say is close to nonexistent in america, b/c u could lose your job from saying that, especially if the media finds out. i started going to a therapist who specializes in ssa and so far it has been awesome.

another reason is that in israel the general atmosphere is an atmosphere that is dedicated to torah and growth in yiddishkeit (at least in yerushalayim). i personally see that the level of tznius is much higher here. in america it has become normal for women to wear skirts above the knee, i am not sure who made up that garbage halacha. in israel the percentage of women who are untznus is soooooo much lower.

also, i have started going to sa in israel. what is unique is that i would say 97% of the members are frum, not just that, in fact most of them are in yeshiva/kollel and look like yeshivish guys.

basically, the feeling i am getting is an overwhelmingly positive one. with a lot of seyata deshmaya i have arrived here. i actually have to thank gye, because i would have never gone to sa if not for gye. also i made contact with someone who has ssa through gye and he was the one who gave me the original numbers of other guys that i could talk to.

KOT! YTC!

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 22 Jul 2016 03:29

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[Aryeh821 wrote on 22 Jul 2016 03:23:](#)

Great to have you back

been missing your smiley face around

you gonna be giving us some ESH?

God willing that is my plan. To give and receive ESH. I'm in a really different place in life so I'm not sure how often I will post. I might sit in the background and pop up when I think that I should write something.

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Markz - 22 Jul 2016 04:20

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Shlomo you're a true inspiration

**Warning: Spoiler!**

Keep on King Trucking!!!

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by doingtshuva - 22 Jul 2016 08:24

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Markz wrote,

If Gd forbid you are ever confronted in future please give me a call 24/7

I'm not a ruv, and I sure don't have any experience with addiction.

Just wondering what would be the haluche for a **real addict** when he needs to call his sponser on shabbos?

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 22 Jul 2016 11:48

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I would suggest one asks their Rav, but in my experience, all whom have asked have been granted permission.

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Workingguy - 22 Jul 2016 13:04

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[Shlomo24 wrote on 22 Jul 2016 11:48:](#)

I would suggest one asks their Rav, but in my experience, all whom have asked have been granted permission.

Shlomo,

First, welcome back. Nice to see you around.

Second, are you saying that from real experience? From my understanding of the Jalapa and they weren't it probably for about eight years, it would really very much depends on how severe the addiction is, what sin the person is going to engage in, and what their history is, and I find it hard to believe that "all" are allowed.

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 22 Jul 2016 13:09

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[Workingguy wrote on 22 Jul 2016 13:04:](#)

[Shlomo24 wrote on 22 Jul 2016 11:48:](#)

I would suggest one asks their Rav, but in my experience, all whom have asked have been granted permission.

Shlomo,

First, welcome back. Nice to see you around.

Second, are you saying that from real experience? From my understanding of the Jalapa and they weren't it probably for about eight years, it would really very much depends on how severe the addiction is, what sin the person is going to engage in, and what their history is, and I find it hard to believe that "all" are allowed.

Thanks for the welcome! Yup, every addict I know who has asked has been granted permission.

One posek even challenged a friend of mine to tell him why it's ASUR.

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Markz - 22 Jul 2016 13:22

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[doingtshuva wrote:](#)

Markz wrote,

If Gd forbid you are ever confronted in future please give me a call 24/7

I'm not a ruv, and I sure don't have any experience with addiction.

Just wondering what would be the haluche for a **real addict** when he needs to call his sponser on shabbos?

This has been broadly discussed on a different thread, the link is available 24/6 on the Free Towing page [here](#)

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by cordnoy - 22 Jul 2016 17:07

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Desecrating Shabbos is forbidden.

Rulings from anonymous posters are not to be relied upon.

A person who received permission for his particular situation should rely on that.

B'hatzlachah

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by the.guard - 24 Jul 2016 21:18

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Regarding chilul Shabbos for addiction, please see pages 19 - 22 of this PDF file by Rabbi Kagenoff, from his Safer called "Addictions: Halacha & Hashkafa"

[guardyoureyes.com/ebooks/item/addictions-halocho-and-hashkofo?category\\_id=150](http://guardyoureyes.com/ebooks/item/addictions-halocho-and-hashkofo?category_id=150)

[Direct download](#)

If anyone needs to ask such a shailah, Rabbi Kagenoff is available at 973-614-8446

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by cordnoy - 24 Jul 2016 22:47

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And make sure he conducts himself accordingly the other six days of the week as well.

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 25 Jul 2016 02:56

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[cordnoy wrote on 24 Jul 2016 22:47:](#)

And make sure he conducts himself accordingly the other six days of the week as well.

Good point, Reb Cords.

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by cordnoy - 25 Jul 2016 06:06

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For the record, I understand someone who goes to meetings, has a sponsor, lives and breathes with the program, etc. and to him, a fall might be disastrous, perhaps there might be a heter, and of course one should ask, but to many over here, they are not at that stage, and there is a good chance that call won't make much of a difference. So, let's be clear who we are talking to.

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 26 Jul 2016 04:40

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[cordnoy wrote on 25 Jul 2016 06:06:](#)

For the record, I understand someone who goes to meetings, has a sponsor, lives and breathes with the program, etc. and to him, a fall might be disastrous, perhaps there might be a heter, and of course one should ask, but to many over here, they are not at that stage, and there is a good chance that call won't make much of a difference. So, let's be clear who we are talking to.

100% If I came off any differently than you just said it was not my intention.

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Re: Big Steps

Posted by Shlomo24 - 27 Jul 2016 05:51

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I would like to give over something that I recently came to. I had a really spiritual experience in which I came to be a grateful sex addict. As a result of a conversation I had with another member, who has since become my sponsor, I felt as if my heart broke into a thousand pieces, in a good way. I'm going through certain things in my life, which will not be discussed here, and I felt complete support and love and realization of growth from him. In turn, I was able to internalize it. Once I did, I realized how grateful I was to God, because without all the pain I went through my growth wouldn't have happened. So what I would like to give over is what I learnt about pain. My God loves me, he doesn't do anything harmful to me ever. Every single thing is for my benefit. Pain is no different. Pain isn't a negative situation that can be viewed positively. Pain is positive. Because from pain comes growth. I would have never came to SA if not for the pain of living a double life. And I'm am so much better because of the 12 steps. Without that pain I would never have the relationships I have today, with people whom are truly special. My relapse came out of nowhere. I was struggling with accepting God's will as to why it happened. But now I know. God needed me to reevaluate my life, to truly find who I am. And I'm happier than ever in my life. I'm still finding me, and it's going to take a while, but the rewards are tremendous. There is pain within that, already now, but it's healthy and good for me. If not for my relapse, I would be in a very different place right now. So I'm grateful God had me relapse and I'm grateful God made me who I am, sex addict and all.

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