

Education and Support:

- When Caring Counts Most – Book
- Comfort Courage and Clarity – Book
- Comfort Courage and Clarity Support-Group Handbook
- Personal Perspectives from R' Aharon Margalit – CD
- Reaching Beyond Ourselves Rabbi Nachman Seltzer – CD
- Kibbud Av V'Eim Magnet
- Yizkor Card
- Don't Waste the Wait Card
- Hakofos Companion
- The Rosh Hashanah Companion – Book

End-of-Life through Shivah:

- Laws that Apply from the Moment of Passing **New!**
- End-of-Life Halachic Guidance **New!**
- Final Prayers
- Basic Laws of Aninus
- The Concise Laws of Shivah
- Condolence Cards
- Cremation or Burial – A Jewish View – Book
- The Complete Burial Service
- Mishnah Charts
- The Shivah Visit – A Practical Guide
- HaMakom Poster

From Shloshim through Yahrtzeit:

- The Yahrtzeit Companion – Book
- Kaddish Companion
- Prayers When Visiting a Grave

Kids & Teens:

- I Wish Someone Would Have Told My Friends – Book
- I Wish Someone Would Have Told Me – Book
- May the Neshamah have an Aliyah – Teachers Manual
- I Lost Someone Special – Book
- Mishnayos Review Charts

Learning:

- MiMishnas Lomdei HaChevrah – book
- Mishnas Chayim I, II – Book
- Shishah Sidrei Mishnah Poster

Nichum Aveilim:

- The Neshamah Should Have an Aliyah – Book
- To Comfort and be Comforted: A Guide to the Mitzvah of Nichum Aveilim – MP3
- To Comfort and be Comforted: A Guide to the Mitzvah of Nichum Aveilim – DVD
- To Comfort and be Comforted: A Guide to the Mitzvah of Nichum Aveilim – Book
- Shik Mir Pekelach – CD



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CHEVRAH CONNECTIONS CHEVRAH LOMDEI MISHNAH NEWS

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An Ambitious Young Rabbi Discovered a Need and Set Out to Fill it

Rabbi Shaya Winiarz shares the story behind our newest pamphlet, *Laws that Apply from the Moment of Passing*.



Rabbi Winiarz, please share a little bit about yourself.

I grew up in Staten Island, NY. I'm a second-generation *talmid* of Yeshivas Chofetz Chaim and received *semichah* from there as well. Presently, I'm the Rav of Congregation Beis Hillel in Elizabeth, NJ.



The halachos in *Laws that Apply from the Moment of Passing* are fundamental, but not commonly known.

What motivated you to explore this topic?

When I was training to become a *rav*, I spoke to many *rabbanim* about which areas of *halachah* to focus on most. While not everyone gave me the same answers, **the first item on every *rav*'s list was the same: *hilchos aveilus***. I was told that every type of *rav* in every community will be faced with circumstances that require knowledge of these *halachos*. The situations in which *aveilus*-related questions come up are

usually time-sensitive and the people involved are highly emotional. If a *rav* is not confident and comfortable with the *halachos*, he won't be able to do his job well.

So I decided to spend several months learning *hilchos aveilus* in depth. While there are various areas of *hilchos aveilus*, I realized that there is a significant body of *halachah* that applies around the time of death – immediately before, during and after the *petirah*.



But if someone knows which *sefarim* to use, can't he just check the *halachos* himself?

I found that there is no place in which all the *halachos* are delineated in the correct order. Even someone who knows where to look and how to learn would have to collect the relevant *halachos* from different places. These include *halachos* that apply to the one who passes and to those who are present when it happens. There are *halachos* about what to do and say and what not to do. There is so much one has to know on the spot.

Halachah is not meant to

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be overwhelming; rather *halachah*, from the *shoresh* of *holeich* – to go – is our guide for how we should “go” about our lives. Having spent the time immersed in this topic, I wanted to make a pamphlet that would clearly delineate what I had learned for the benefit of others – *rabbanim*, chaplains and laypeople.



This project dovetails nicely with some of Chevrah Lomdei Mishnah’s other publications. How did you come to collaborate with them?

When I was part of NCYT’s rabbinic training program, Rabbi Moshe Haikins shared the *Final Prayers* and *Aninus* pamphlets with us. I had also heard about some of their projects from my father, Rabbi Dovid Winiarz, *zt”l*. When I approached Rabbi Haikins about typesetting my material to make it usable for the public, he offered to produce it as a Chevrah Lomdei Mishnah pamphlet.

The end result exceeded my expectations. Besides the pamphlet’s user-friendly, beautiful presentation, another bonus of working with Rabbi Haikins was that he had all the material looked over and approved by Rabbi Yaakov Forchheimer, a well-known *posek*, which means it will hopefully be accepted by the broader public.

THERE IS SO
MUCH ONE
HAS TO KNOW
ON THE SPOT



Can you share any feedback you’ve gotten since compiling the *halachos*?

I actually personally benefited from what I compiled. I brought the printout of this material to the hospital shortly before my mother’s *petirah* to give to my sister, who would be on call there for the next shift. I told her, “I hope you won’t need this, but I want you to have it should the need arise.”

Her response was something I think everyone should hear: “We are Torah Jews, and we want to live every single moment of life *al pi halachah*.”

That was a *kiddush Hashem*. Even though like most people, she didn’t want to think about it – she didn’t want to need it – she *did* want to have the information necessary to do Hashem’s will.



Is there anything in particular that you think people should be aware of?

I’ve found that people have a visceral fear of learning the *halachos* related to death and even of taking these pamphlets – almost as if there’s a club of people who die – and they are not members of that club!

As my sister said, the point is that we want to be able to do the right thing. And that’s what making these pamphlets available is all about.

The End of Regular: The Shoening Sibs Share Their Story

Once we were five, now we are three. Siblings that is. Our brother and sister died. So did our parents. You want to know how we carried on? Come listen as Rabbi Elimelech Goldberg, Founder and Global Director of Kids Kicking Cancer and Clinical Assistant Professor at Wayne State University School of Medicine, moderates a session with me and my two sisters, Mrs. Penina Flagler (Lakewood) and Mrs. Naomi Engel (Far Rockaway). The topic may be heavy, but Rabbi Goldberg’s humorous perspective adds light and laughter.

– As heard from Mrs. Miriam Ribiat

It was just about one year ago that Mrs. Miriam Ribiat began hosting the Relief from Grief podcast. With guests such as Mrs. Risa



I remember my mother saying, “I’m not scared of dying. I’m sad for my children. How will they go through loss again?”

Penina Flagler



After my sister Esti died, I learned to cope by staying in trauma mode. My father had died [not long before], my mother was sick... I feel like I didn’t experience a lot of emotions during that time period, even during my *simchahs*. I was just shut down.

Miriam Ribiat



the Shoening house in Detroit

Rotman, author of *Terror and Emunah in Har Nof*; Rabbi Y.Y. Rubinstein, noted author and lecturer; Mrs. Shani (Stefansky) Waldman, Founder of Samcheinu; Dr. Norman Blumenthal, Director of Trauma Services at OHEL; Mr.

Glen Holman, Founder of Mayrim Retreats; and so many others, she has encouraged and sustained countless listeners.

But with “The Shoening Sibs,” Mrs. Ribiat takes listeners along on a special journey, as she and her sisters share their own painful, but ultimately inspiring story.

Meet Miriam, second to oldest of the Shoening Sibs, who still mourns the chance she never had to develop an adult relationship with her little brother Chesky.

Meet Penina, third sibling, who was once a twelfth grader busy with seminary applications – and in denial about what was happening at home.

Meet Naomi, Chesky’s twin sister, who until today feels a need to let people know that twins run in her family.

Listen in, and you’ll see why we received an overwhelming response to this podcast: <https://www chevrahlomdeimishnah.org/blog/relief-from-grief-podcast/>.



You stand out as survivors. You stand out in a way that’s amazing. The word *same’ach* (happy) can be split into two words: *sam mo’ach* – literally, place your brain. Happiness is about where you put your brain. You have the ability to go to the top even when there’s so much pushing you down. You were surrounded by greatness and integrated it in so many ways.

Rabbi Elimelech Goldberg



I genuinely felt – several days before my mother’s death – that Hashem wouldn’t do it. How could a fourth death happen within such a short span of time in one family?



Naomi Engel

Listeners Speak:



I truly appreciate you and your sister’s openness and vulnerability throughout the podcast. While I can’t relate to your specific trauma and loss, there are many universal themes in the different types of grief, trauma, and loss. And while what I am going through is a very different circumstance, there was a lot about your experiences and processes that you shared here that was very healing and inspiring to me.



As someone going through a loss right now, hearing it’s okay to feel guilt is comforting. I’m sharing this with my family.



What’s unique, I think, is hearing different perspectives from three very different personalities about how they reacted. And Rabbi Goldberg’s insights, humor and calm voice add a lot.



This was so incredibly moving! I’m still processing what I just listened to. So many raw emotions. It must have taken real strength and bravery to be so open and vulnerable... but how beneficial, normalizing, and inspiring for all of the listeners! Truly incredible!

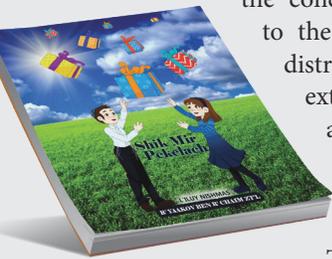


Shik Mir Pekelach – More Ripple Effects

In a dream at night the Alter did appear,
To his son from a world where all is clear.
"Shik mir pekelach," implored Reb Nosson Tzvi.
"Send packages from your world to me."
"Shik mir pekelach," the neshamah cries.
It's the best way I can hope to further rise.
Higher and higher, passing through the Heavenly gates,
With the zechus that only limud haTorah creates.

(Excerpt from the song *Shik Mir Pekelach*, sung by Simcha Leiner)

Last year, in these pages we related how one family was inspired by Chevrah Lomdei Mishnah's moving musical composition, *Shik Mir Pekelach*. The family created notepads depicting children throwing gift boxes heavenward, to illustrate the concept of sending *zechusim* to the *nifar* in *Shamayim*, and distributed them to their extended family, encouraging all the children to record *mitzvos* performed *l'iluy nishmas* their recently deceased grandfather.



They also designed charts with the same graphics to keep track of *mitzvos* done in their grandfather's *zechus*, to be completed and sent to their grandmother, the wife of the deceased.

Since then, other families have reached out to us to be connected to the creators of the abovementioned materials so that they too can implement this project *l'iluy nishmas* their loved ones. And so the ripple effects of one powerful and inspirational song continue outward.

Will you be inspired to follow suit?

Listen to *Shik Mir Pekech*, available as a free CD from www.ChevrahLomdeiMishnah.org.

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End-of-Life Halachic Guidance and Tefillos

We started with *Final Prayers*, added *Laws of Aninus* several years later and recently filled in with *Laws that Apply from the Moment of Passing*. Each has been welcomed as so helpful during the most difficult moments of life.

Now these three important pamphlets are available in one neat, compact package, covering the entire gamut of the experience.

Ideal for *rabbanim*, chaplains, *bikur cholim* volunteers and laypeople. When there's little time to determine what to do, the newly available 3-in-1 packet offers clear, concise *halachic* guidance so that everyone present will know just what to do and what to avoid.

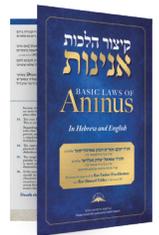
Visit www.ChevrahLomdeiMishnah.org to receive your FREE copies of End-of-Life Halachic Guidance and Tefillos Packet.



FINAL PRAYERS



LAWS THAT APPLY FROM THE MOMENT OF PASSING



LAWS OF ANINUS

