

MICHTAV BRACHA

One of the greatest challenges we face in raising our children is how to teach them about sexuality and kedusha. The intimate relationship of husband and wife within the confines of kiddushin is sacred, holy, elevated, and beautiful; but in the coarseness of a generation barraged with television, movies, internet, and indecent ads and dress, the holy and beautiful have become degraded and cheapened. Precious Yiddishe neshamos have been tainted and lost, carried away by the flood-currents of peritzus that are virtually impossible to escape.

Historically, due to their sensitive and private nature, these matters were not openly discussed. Today, however, Gedolei Yisrael have recognized that parents and mechanchim must address these issues, for if they do not, our youth will pick up ideas and philosophies that are not only beyond halacha but beyond the most basic standards of human decency.

Rabbi Yehoshua Berman, a young dynamic talmid chacham, has compiled a book outlining a Torah approach to sexuality that we can share with our children. His teachings are straightforward, clear, honest, open, real---and based exclusively on the yesodos of our mesorah.

Some might feel a bit uncomfortable in having these delicate matters addressed in such an open, explicit way, but this is truly a tzorech hash'a'ah (the need of a generation). All of us owe Rabbi Berman a debt of gratitude for having the courage and foresight to address this crisis head-on. May his teachings enable parents and educators to inspire their children and students to live lives of kedusha, to experience the fullness of joy that a life of Torah can bring, and to have the tools to eventually build Jewish homes which will be true Sanctuaries for the Divine.

B'yedidus v'haaratza,

Yitzchak A. Breitowitz

Rav, Kehillas Ohr Somayach