



Introduction:

In the upcoming emails we will discuss a number of aspects of the internet and their practical implications so people will know what must be taken into consideration before using them.

We remind our readers that the fact that we will be discussing specific platforms is not an endorsement, nor should it be taken as permission to use them. We are merely addressing the facts of the matter and everyone should speak with their *Rav* for their own personal guidance before using of any of these platforms.

Zoom

Facts:

Zoom and other videoconferencing platforms have become very popular in the past few years. It is worthwhile to note the following points about these platforms:

1. A person tends to dress less formally at home than in public or at work. This can often lead to non-Jewish or non-religious women dressing less formally, which can often be less modest on a Zoom call than they would in a place of business. This could potentially lead to problems of seeing forbidden sights.
2. In regular circumstances, when a man and woman meet in person for a business meeting, it is natural to feel uncomfortable to look each other directly in the eye. People generally tend to glance to the side rather than make direct eye contact. During Zoom meetings, however, when the camera is focused directly on one's face and no one can tell what the other participants are looking at, there is a bigger challenge to avoid looking directly at the other person.
3. Furthermore, when people are not speaking face-to-face, the natural shyness they would usually feel is decreased and they tend to be less guarded and more casual.



Dear Doeihu,

I just wanted to say a huge thank you for the emails on technology and filters.

I work in a frum office, and when I first started working there, I assumed the computers were filtered. But as time went on, I began to realize that they most certainly were not! I finally plucked up the courage to ask my boss if I could have a filter installed. She sent me to someone else who told me they'd get back to me. I was too embarrassed to follow up on it.

Many months later, I was speaking to another colleague about filters and she told me she'd successfully had one installed.

That very week, an email came through from Doeihu explaining the importance of filters. The timing was uncanny. I felt like this was a message to give me a push to finally set up my filter.

With trepidation I approached my boss again and wonder of wonders, the very next day a technician came to install my filter. Baruch Hashem! The first time I saw a block page, I felt uplifted and secure in the knowledge that I am doing the right thing.

Thank you, Doeihu, for the push that enabled me to have a kosher computer at work as well as at home.

Mrs. F