



Zoom Part 2

Practical Guidelines:

1. When a man has to use Zoom to communicate with a woman, he should keep the Zoom window hidden behind another window while he is speaking with her. Alternatively, he can minimize the Zoom tab (by clicking on the minimize button at the top right corner of the screen). In this way, he will avoid the inclination to look at her. (See *Shu"t Radvaz* regarding walking behind a female)
2. When a woman must communicate with a man through Zoom, she should try to position the camera in a way that it is not directly showing the front of her face; rather, it should only show the side. If possible, she should turn off the camera on her Zoom and participate only through audio. This way, she will not be seen on the conference.
3. One should keep in mind that the *halachos* of maintaining appropriate boundaries between men and women also apply when communicating via phone, email, or any other communication platform, including Zoom. Therefore, one must remember to be very careful to adhere to the *halachos* of interactions between men and women. The conversations should be kept formal and businesslike.



From a Doeihu Reader:

Thank you for the daily inspiration. I would like to share my story:

I work for a company owned by frum Jews from a more modern community than mine. This means, practically speaking, that our boundaries in the area of technology differ greatly. At the beginning of my career with this company, I was very strong with my boundaries and only used my computer for work purposes. But I soon noticed that I was becoming more lax with my boundaries. I wasn't doing anything bad or wrong, but I had started doing things I'd never done previously, like checking the news. I was uncomfortable with the direction I was heading in.

There were several times during my time at the company that I had requested for a filter to be installed, but it wasn't a priority for my bosses and it never actually happened. But when I saw that I was giving in to the lures of technology, that pushed me to install a filter myself. That's exactly what I did, and I downloaded a very strict filter myself, and at my own cost.

I was nervous about how people would react, since I did it myself without notifying. Not only were my bosses okay with it, but they were actually very accepting and kind. They would give me subtle comments that gave me chizuk, like "Heads up, you won't be able to see that video on your computer."

I thank Hashem every day for giving me the courage I needed, and for allowing my work environment to be so accepting. Be strong and take a stand for what is right! Wishing everyone much hatzlacha.