



## LinkedIn

### **Facts:**

It has become very common in the business world to use the LinkedIn platform to network with the goal of fostering connections, attracting new clients, arranging meetings, etc. Below are a few important points about this platform:

1. Much of what was mentioned regarding groups and chats applies to LinkedIn as well. As much as they present themselves as being a strict business platform, the reality is that LinkedIn often contains an element of frivolity and lightheadedness, as well as informality between men and women. Usage of LinkedIn very often borders on the prohibition of *s'chok* and *kalus rosh*.

2. When people try to create connections with new clients, it is common to use very friendly, informal terminology, which is the complete opposite of formality. This can border on the transgression of *s'chok* and *kalos rosh*, and also creates a feeling of closeness between members of the opposite gender, which is one of the severe prohibitions of *k'reivah l'arayos*. It can also often lead to having improper thoughts.
  
3. It is also common for LinkedIn users to receive videos of women giving lectures, reports, etc. This could border on the prohibition against seeing forbidden sights.
  
4. When a man listens to a woman deliver a lecture or report, he may be transgressing the prohibition of "*kol b'ishah ervah*." As we explained previously, *poskim* say that the prohibition of *kol ishah* could apply to a woman giving a lecture, since one who delivers a speech usually does so in a way that is aimed at captivating the audience. This is especially relevant on a platform like LinkedIn, which is specifically geared to promoting businesses and attracting new clients and customers. Since this is the purpose of the platform, companies specifically post videos of lectures delivered in an attractive way, which can often border on the prohibition of *kol ishah*.



Dear Doeihu,

The Doeihu emails have a very strong impact on me, and it's in your zechus that this story happened.

Unfortunately, I didn't have a filter on the computer in my office, and though I had mentioned it a few times to my boss, he kept saying it was very complicated to set up...

One night, I was out with some friends, and I was lamenting to them that I get the Doeihu emails, but I don't have a filter! The emails are full of stories about people who left their jobs because of internet problems, and I didn't know what to do. By the end of our conversation, I was close to tears. I finished by saying that I was davening to Hashem that I should have a filter and do what's right!

The next morning, I got to my office to find that my computer was completely filtered. I am so grateful! I know that Hishtadlus is needed, especially in ensuring a good filter is in place; however, between one hishtadlus and the other, I learned that one thing is clear- if you really want something and ask Hashem to help you, He will!

Thank you, Doeihu! You are giving so many people the strength to stand up for what is right! May Hashem give you continued hatzlacha!

And to all readers in this situation: Take the courage, do what's right, ask, and ensure you have a good filter in place, while at the same time, pray to Hashem for Hatzlacha and Siyata Dishmaya.