



In the upcoming emails, we will discuss the cases where there is no problem of *yichud*, as well as in which places and for which people *yichud* does not apply.

Important Introduction to the Upcoming Halachos

In the upcoming *halachos*, we will see that the rules of *yichud* may vary depending on the following factors: when there is a factor of “*libo gas bah*,” when a man is “*isko im hanashim*,” and when the people involved are “*perutzim*.” We will first define these terms in brief and then discuss the *halachos* in greater detail.

The Definition of “Libo Gas Bah”

1. “*Libo gas bah*” is the term used when a man has **a particular level of comfort and familiarity with the woman**, similar to the feeling shared by close relatives who grew up together (such as an aunt and a nephew, or close cousins). (*Shulchan*

Aruch EH 29:9)

2. In some cases of *libo gas bah*, the *halachos* are more stringent. The reason for this is not because we distrust people and suspect them of indecency. Rather, it is because people who feel close to each other will generally tend to be more comfortable in each other’s presence. This camaraderie compromises the natural feeling of distance that exists between members of the opposite genders.

Therefore, in some scenarios, certain leniencies of *yichud* which generally apply with other women — from whom one maintains a natural distance — will not apply, as will be discussed further. (*See Dvar Halachah siman 9 note 7; Yesod Hataharah – Yichud,*

note to 5:18 and sources to siman 20 and 24)