



One Woman with Three Men at Night

5. **One** woman may be secluded alone with **three** (kosher) men at night (two, however, is forbidden, unlike during the day). (*Rema* EH 22:5)

- The reason that two men are not enough at night is because during the day each man acts as a “*shomer*” to watch the other and ensure he does not sin. By night, however, one of them may fall asleep, leaving the other man alone with the woman with no *shomer*. When there are three men present, however, each of them will be afraid to commit a sin, even if the other two are asleep, as he will be worried that one of them will wake up. (See *Ezer M’Kodesh* 22:5; *Shu”t Bais Shlomo* 1:48)

(For those who follow the Bais Yosef (Sefardim/Edut Hamizrach), there is a prohibition of *yichud* even when one woman is alone with three men or more.

(*Shulchan Aruch* EH 22:5)