



On the Road and In a Field

9. If a woman is on the road or in a field, she may not be alone with two men. It is only permitted if there are three or more (kosher) men. (*Rema* EH 22:5)

- The reason a woman may not be secluded with two men on the road or in a field is because there is a concern that one of them may need to walk a distance away to relieve himself, leaving the woman alone with the other man. In a remote place, this is a violation of the *issur* of *yichud*. If three men are present, however, we are not concerned that two of them will need to relieve themselves at the same time. (*Kiddushin* 81a)

(For those who follow the rulings of the *Bais Yosef* (Sefardim/Edut Hamizrach), there is also a prohibition of *yichud* for one woman to be alone with more than two men in such a place.) (*Shulchan Aruch* EH 22:5)