

# KASHRUT BULLETIN # 38

WHOEVER GUARD HIS MOUTH AND HIS TONGUE, GUARDS  
HIS SOUL FROM SUFFERING (Mishle 21:23)

**There is no sin so severe as forbidden foods, since entire Jewish communities were lost and turned to evil ways because of eating treifos and neveilos.**

(Divrei Chayim-Yoreh Deah)

## WATCH THE CONDUCT OF THE SHOCHET

Likewise, if he takes things lightly, that he ridicules the mitzvos and mocks the words of the Sages, we may not eat of his slaughtering. And if you are invited to eat at someone's house, and you know that your host buys meat from this inferior shochet, you must avoid eating meat there. Concerning such matters, King Solomon said, "And you shall put a knife in your throat if you have an appetite." Now, because of our many sins, I hear that it is very common in distant countries [America] that there are shoachim who are not well-versed in the laws of shechitah or shoachim disqualified because of other reasons, from whose shechitah we may not eat. Therefore, every community that has G-d-fearing men among them, must see to it that they do not accept shoachim unless they are G-d fearing and pious, and have certificates from qualified rabbis, and also it is a mitzvah for whomever has the ability, to appoint mashgichim in the slaughterhouse or where they sell meat, so that everything is conducted in the proper manner, for this matter is very neglected due to our many sins. It is advisable for every observant Jew to learn the laws of shechitah in the Yoreh Deah or in the Chochmas Adam to know how to conduct himself in these matters.

***We are all considered unwilfull sinners, and Hashem has mercy on His children so what's our responsibility?***

SOMETHING THAT CAN BE DETERMINED BY A PERSON (WHETHER THE SHECHITA NOWADAYS IS GOOD OR NOT) AND HE DOESN'T DETERMINE IT, THEN THAT THING DOESN'T FALL IN THE CATEGORY OF A DOUBTFUL THING ANYMORE (SHULCHAN ARUCH, YOREH DEAH I, SIMAN 39) AND THE ONE WHO

**TRANSGRESSES IS CONSIDERED A WILLFUL SINNER (MEZID) AND NOT A DOUBTFUL ONE (SHOGEG).**

This means, you have in your power to find out if the slaughterhouses really observe all the laws as they should, but instead you choose to rely on the big kosher sign on the package surrounding the meat, then you will be considered guilty of transgressing the prohibition of eating forbidden foods on purpose, because it was in your power to find out and you didn't. And of course you will make the effort to find out something for which a transgression potentially warrants the punishment of Karet (Excision, early death).

***Well I may think about not eating meat but don't tell me that I have to go and warn other people as well, I am not responsible for them anyway***

**WARNING OF THE CHAFETZ CHAYIM ZT'L**

How much will an individual regret, when with a mere admonition, he could have extricated himself from all these punishments. Let him not be misled by the fact that others will share the punishment with him considering that he is not the only one in the city to have transgressed thereby finding false comfort. As an analogy: In the event a person is a co-signer on a note encumbering a debt of millions of dollars, regardless the number of additional co-signers, when the debt becomes due, even if required to reimburse only a small fraction thereof, it could amount to a sizable sum, which will be quite painful to pay. Similarly, since today the ingestion and partaking of prohibited foods has become unfortunately widespread when the time for reckoning arrives, it will amount to many thousands of olive sized pieces of prohibited foods. Consequently, those capable of arousing the populace in their vicinity to observe kashrus strictly and thereby prevent untold thousands of Jews who were lax from eating non kosher, will surely be considered the most guilty. Our sages admonish (Tana D'vei Eliyahu): Anyone able to protest and refrains to do so; Anyone able to elicit repentance and does not do so, all blood spilled will be credited to his negligence and held against him...

And the holy Rabbi Shlomo Kluger ZTK'L writes in his book Tuv Taam Va Daat that after he vanquished one evil Shochet in one of the many fights he fought against the evil people who fed Jews with Nevelot and Terefot, he asked Hashem to let other people learn from his example to uphold the

Mitzvot of the Torah, and he asked Hashem as well to give him his reward for having vanquished the evil from the earth.

Imagine what a great Mitzvah it is to watch that the Jews don't eat forbidden foods that Rabbi Kluger asked for his reward in regards to this Mitzvah. And Mordechai was called Mordechai the Jew for he was watchful that Jews would not eat forbidden foods. So fortunate those who are able to awaken others to be careful about what they eat, and to separate them from eating Nevelot and Terefot.

### ***So is it so bad to eat Neveilos and Trefos? Is it more serious than profaning the Shabbat?***

The saintly Chofetz Chaim writes in his book, Machaneh Israel, that a Jewish soldier once asked him what he should choose. He was given the choice to be in a division under a fine commander, who allows the soldiers to slaughter and eat kosher meat, but there he would have to work on the Shabbat, or to be in another division where he would not be able to eat kosher food, but he would not be coerced to work on the Shabbat. He asked what he should do. The Chofetz Chaim told him to go to the division where he would be forced to work on the Shabbat and added the following reason: Even though Shabbat is a capital offense, when he comes home, he would be able to observe many Shabbosim. If he eats neveilos and trefos, however, "the damage to his soul will remain permanently," [..And he will end up not eating Kosher and not observing Shabbat]

**ARE YOU REALLY WILLING TO RISK YOUR LIFE BY CONSUMING FOODS THAT ARE NOT KOSHER ACCORDING TO ALL OPINIONS, AND ARE BASED ON ALL POSSIBLE LENIENCIES IN KASHRUT LAWS USED BY THOSE WHO MANUFACTURE THEM? DID YOU KNOW THAT THE RABBIS OF THE EREV RAV ARE IMMERSSED IN THE BUSINESS OF ISSUING KASHRUT CERTIFICATES TO ALL KINDS OF FOODS? DO YOU KNOW THAT A LOT OF MONEY AND CORRUPTION EXISTS IN THE FIELD OF KASHRUT? PURE AND SIMPLE JEWS HAVE FALLEN PREY TOO MANY TIMES TO THE WRONGDOINGS OF THE EREV RAV! SAVE YOUR SOULS AND WATCH WHAT YOU EAT SO THAT YOUR EMUNA IN HASHEM WILL BE LEFT PURE AND NOT BE CONFUSED BY FOOLISH NOTIONS THAT ARE TOO PREVALENT IN OUR TIMES. MAY HASHEM GIVE US THE STRENGTH TO AVOID ALL THE DAMAGE THAT THE RABBANIM OF THE EREV RAV TRY TO INFLICT ON THE JEWISH PEOPLE, AMEN**