



### Seeing Forbidden Sights “for Parnassah”

**20.** It is important to remember that the *heter* of “*ba’avidteih tarid*” (i.e., one who is busy doing work will not focus on things which distract him from his work) does not allow one to look at forbidden sights for *parnassah*. As such, if in order to do one’s job he must look at, or work with, immodest pictures,

he should not assume that it is permitted. In each situation, one must seek guidance from a *rav* who is familiar with the circumstances and technicalities.

*(Shu”t Meishiv Nevonim, Inyanei Shidduchim V’Nesuin 53:6; Be’er Moshe vol. 4, 147:21; Chut Shani EH p. 70; as well as many other teshuvos from the leading contemporary poskim on this topic)*



***A Letter From A Reader:***

Hi,

Thank you so much for the emails you send every day. It is a big chizuk and keeps me strong at work. I want to share a recent challenge I had, and how I was able to resolve it.

I have a good filter on my computer, which includes a skin blocker, so I don't have to worry about seeing inappropriate pictures.

Recently, I started to have some medical issues with my eyes, and I was trying to think of something I could do as a zechus for my recovery. I realized that, even though the filter I use does a very good job with skin blocking, Slack profile pictures do not get blocked. Over the past few months, a few women in my company had updated their profile pictures to images I didn't want to see. I reached out to the filter company, but they were unable to help since the profile pictures were too small to filter.

I did a bit of research, and I discovered that there is a setting in Slack

to prevent the profile pictures from being displayed. I included the instructions below, for anyone interested. I did these steps, and I no longer see the Slack profile pictures.

B'chasdei Hashem, the issues I was having with my eyes did get much better!

*See below how I did it:*

*To remove or hide user profile pictures in your Slack desktop sidebar, click your profile picture > Preferences > Sidebar, then uncheck "Show profile photos next to DMs". For the message pane, set your theme to "Compact" under "Messages & Media" to minimize visual clutter.*

Thank you again for all the chizuk.