



A Boss's Responsibility

21. In order not to transgress the prohibition of “*Lifnei iver lo sitein michshol*, do not place a stumbling block in front of a blind person” (i.e., do not cause another person to sin), as well as the prohibition of “*Mesayeia l’dvar aveirah*, helping another person sin,” and, if many people work for the company, the prohibition of “*machshil es harabbim*, causing many people to sin,” it is the responsibility of a business owner or company manager to make sure that every device used by his employees is equipped with a good filter. He must install the filter even it costs him money. He should not give the workers unfiltered devices with the assumption that they will install filters on their own.

It is worthwhile to note that this does not only apply to computers. It is

equally applicable to other devices that are internet-capable, such as tablets, phones, etc.



From A Doeihu Reader:

I wanted to share a story that happened around 20 years ago. At the time, filters were only beginning to be considered a must in the frum world, in order to prevent all the shmutz available on the internet. My husband was working in an office that still had unfiltered internet, and I was very unhappy that he was working with a ticking time-bomb. My husband asked his boss to install a filter, but no action was taken. I knew the boss's wife, so I called her, asking her to make sure a filter would be installed.

Eventually, it was taken care of. But just a few weeks later, my husband noticed that, once again, there was unfiltered internet access. When he investigated the matter, he was told that people were getting irritated by the fact that certain sites were blocked, and asking the filter company to unblock them was very inconvenient.

Despite repeated requests from my husband to reinstall the filter, nothing happened. We decided that, to guard my husband's ruchniyus, he would not stay at that job. He handed in his resignation and started to look for another job.

Shortly before he left his job there, he came back to the office after hours to check something on his computer. At that time, you could see which sites had been accessed recently. My husband noticed that a very immoral site had been accessed earlier that week for a few minutes. The next day, he checked again, and saw that the site had been accessed for half an hour. The following night, he checked again, and saw that it had been accessed for many, many hours! Rachmana litzlan!

My husband passed this information to his boss, and then left his job there without looking back. Baruch Hashem, his next job had a strong filter, and he was very matzliach there!