

Text Message Q&A #144Ask Rav Aviner: toratravaviner@yahoo.comPrepared by Rabbi Mordechai TzionVisit our blog: www.ravaviner.com

Ha-Rav answers hundreds of text message questions a day! Here's a sample:

Diapers with Color Change

Q: Is it permissible on Shabbat to use a baby diaper with an indicator which changes color to let the parents know when the baby's diaper is wet?

A: Yes. It is an unintentional act. And it is performed by a baby (see Shemirat Shabbat Ke-Hilchata 18:18 note #70).

Text Message with Girls

Q: Is it permissible for boys to text with girls?

A: Certainly not. Kitzur Shulchan Aruch 152:8-10.

Two Rabbis

Q: Is it permissible for me to have two Rabbis, one which I turn to for certain issues and another which I ask about other issues?

A: Yes. In the Gemara, Abaye always followed the opinion of Rav except for three issues in which he followed the opinion of Shmuel.

Women kissing the Sefer Torah

Q: Is it permissible for the Shaliach Tzibur to carry the Torah close to the Ezrat Nashim in order for the women to kiss the Torah?

A: No. 1. It is immodest (Kitzur Shulchan Aruch 152:8). 2. We do not change the accepted order of Davening (Shut Ha-Rashba 1:323. See Shut Orach Mishpat #35).

Daughter Inheriting

Q: Does the Halachah still apply that a daughter does not inherit?

A: Yes. Obviously, the sons may waive their portion, which is certainly praiseworthy. But, nonetheless, the daughter must be provided with sustenance which is occasionally more money than the inheritance would be (See Rama, Even Ha-Ezer 113:2. Choshen Mishpat 281:7. And the sons of Ha-Rav Ovadiah Yosef ztz"l signed a document which would provide their sisters with equal inheritance from their father).

Yahrtzeit

Q: Is there any significance when a person dies on the Yahrtzeit of a great Tzadik?A: No. This always occurs, since there were hundreds of thousands of Tzadikim, and many have died on each day of the year.

Carpet for Cohanim

Q: Is there a source for the custom to place a carpet under the feet of the Cohanim during the Birkat Cohanim?

A: No. See Piskei Teshuvot 128 note #144.

Woman leading Kabbalat Shabbat

Q: Is it permissible for a woman to lead Kabbalat Shabbat?

A: G-d forbid! And it is a double transgression since it is done in the name of the community. See the article "Le-Mikdash Me'at" of Maran Ha-Rav Kook in Ma'amrei Ha-Re'eiyah.

Sefarim

Q: Is it permissible to place objects on top of Sefarim?

A: Certainly not, not even a pen (Shut Igrot Moshe, Orach Chaim 4:72).

Office Supplies at Work

Q: Is it permissible to use office supplies at work, such as paper, tape, pen, etc. for personal use?

A: It is forgiven if it is a little.