

## Seforim Shelf

### *Between Man and His Fellow Man*

Volume one: "Do not Hate your Brother in your Heart."

Written and compiled by Rabbi Zvi H. Weinberger and Rabbi Baruch A. Chefetz.

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*Reviewed by Rav Zev Leff*

I had planned for quite a while to write this review of the *sefer*, *Bein Adam L'chaveiro*. However, it is especially befitting before the *yomim noraim* to awaken the community to this treasure of a *sefer*. Rabbis Boruch Chofetz and Tzvi Weinberger, two *talmidei chachamim* whose personal lifestyles reflect their work, have undertaken a difficult but very worthy mission through their Institute for the Study of the Laws between Man and Man. They have begun by publishing volume one of a series of works that present the laws, their background and intricacies, philosophy, anecdotes, and practi-

cal advice regarding the many areas of Torah that govern the interpersonal relationships between Jews specifically and between all people in general.

The first volume deals exclusively with the prohibition of "*lo tisneh es ochicha bilvavecha*" — do not hate your brother in your heart. It begins by presenting an extensive survey of the sources and background of this prohibition as found in the Torah and its commentaries, continuing through the various places that the Talmud discusses this issue and the various commentaries of the Rishonim and Acharonim and finally to the Shulchan Oruch and its commentaries and the responsa through the ages until our times.

The second part of the *sefer* deals with specific *halachic* issues raised by this prohibition. Amongst these issues are: 1. overt and hidden hatred, 2. rebuke as a means to deter hatred, 3. repentance for this sin, 4. hatred of sinners and evildoers. This is followed by a comprehensive discussion as to what exactly hatred is which is extremely insightful, philosophical and physiological.

The third part of the *sefer* is eighteen stories that illustrate in real life situations the points made in the *halachic* part of the *sefer*. In addition charts and summaries make the material easier to understand, digest and remember. This work is truly monumental and it is a must for anyone wanting to delve into the breadth and depth of these *mitzvos* that have been somewhat

neglected in learning and observance.

May *Hashem Yisborach* give the authors the ability to publish all of the volumes and all of the subjects to be able to continue their holy and vital work to bring these topics to the attention of the world of *bnei Torah*.

Amongst the topics that will be dealt with in future works are the following: judging people favorably, loving your neighbor, respecting elders, not cheating or defrauding, not engaging in fights and arguments, not taking revenge, and helping one in danger, amongst many other topics.

The *bnei Torah* who study these *seforim* will be able to disseminate these concepts and principles to the general populace. I still may suggest that an English translation if not of all the *sefer*, but at least of the less intricate sections and perhaps summaries of the more intricate sections be made so that everyone can benefit from this excellent work. The *sefer* has approbations from *gedolei Yisroel* and the leading *poskim* of our generation. Amongst them are HaRav Wozner, HaRav Sheinberg, HaRav Ben Zion Abba Shaul and the Vishnitzer Rebbe.

Learning and practicing what this *sefer* promotes will definitely be a merit towards the *yomin noraim* as sins between man and man even Yom Kippur cannot atone for without first correcting the injustice to the one who is wronged.

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