

Your business is the Fed's business!

Josh Samuels

The Federation of Synagogues has launched an exciting new education programme based on the halochos of Choshen Mishpot. Entitled Mishpot Votzedek, it has the goal of raising *kehillah* awareness of these laws and their practical application in today's ever-evolving world of business, finance and commerce.

The programme launch was spearheaded by the organisation's Director of Education, Rabbi Dovid Roberts, who is responding

to an increased public interest in the practical application of *choshen mishpot* to the contemporary marketplace. Drawing on the Federation's considerable in-house expertise, Mishpot Votzedek launched this week with a series of *shiurim* delivered by Dayan Y Y Lichtenstein, the Federation's Rosh Beis Din, Dayan Y D Hool and Dayan Y Y Posen. Between them, the *dayonim* have many years' experience in responding to *shailos* on these subjects, both national and international, as well as delivering *shiurim* on the topic.

In addition to the *shiurim*, which are being hosted by Beis Hamedrash Nishmas Yisroel in Hendon, Mishpot Votzedek is also joining forces with the firm Dewhurst Consult for a seminar on the halachic, legal and practical considerations of 'cost plus', in early December. Mishpot Votzedek's *kehillah* events will be complemented by a regular journal publication of the same name, outlining case studies and shorter Q and A's in *choshen mishpot*. The first edition will be available after Chanukah.

Dayan Lichtenstein said:

"We are very excited about the Mishpot Votzedek programme, which we hope will be at the forefront of community education in *choshen mishpot*."



Dayan Lichtenstein



Dayan Posen

New group brings Jewish clarity to a world of confusion

Dina Rosell

When Rabbi Asher Resnick's daughter Ruchama Rivka was niftar at the age of fourteen following twelve years of suffering from leukaemia, his response to this extraordinarily challenging ordeal was to set up an organisation that would help others to withstand the afflictions that life sometimes brings.

As a talmid and follower of the late Rabbi Noach Weinberg z"l, the revered and beloved founder of *Aish Hatorah*, Rabbi Resnick's life circumstances, his experience of trauma and loss together with his wide knowledge of Torah sources, have led him to investigate the topic of personal suffering in ways that may bring consolation to others. The teachings of Gedolim help to illuminate some of the many questions that we cannot answer ourselves, especially with regard to emunah and bitochon. Rabbi

Resnick lights on some of these difficult philosophical concepts in the expectation they may help to heal and console those who have suffered bereavement.

In the section on *honouring our deceased relatives and bringing merit to our loved ones*, he cites the words of the Chofetz Chaim in the sefer *Ahavas Chessed*, "Through any *mitzvos* and good deeds that one's offspring fulfil after their passing, the parent's soul gets atonement. Through the power of their deeds, children have the ability not only to spare their departed parents from suffering for their *aveiros*; they can also affect their entry into *Gan Eden* and continual elevation there."

Rabbi Resnick describes how greatly he was affected by the sefer *Aish Kodesh*, a collection of talks that the last Rebbe of the Warsaw ghetto gave to his chassidim in the final years before the ghetto's destruction. Before the Rebbe

himself was killed, he managed to bury notes of many of these talks, which were discovered after the war.

"Moshe Rabbeinu asked Hashem "After I die, will it also be possible for me to be remembered in the present?" - to exist within every single Jew and continue to be engaged in Torah and mitzvos together with them.

Hashem reassured Moshe that "Just as you are standing here today and commanding the Jewish people to do the mitzvah of the shekalim, it will be as if you will be standing together with the Jewish people as they carry out the mitzvah of the shekalim every single year and participating alongside them."

This is interpreted in the most positive terms: "The beautiful message from the *Aish Kodesh* is that not only are the deceased right now in an incredible place of elevation and closeness to Hashem, but we actually have the ability to

continue our relationship with them, specifically with our Torah and avodas Hashem. Although they no longer have a physical body to carry out their elevated aspirations in this present world of action, that is exactly what we can give them."

Other aspects of Rabbi Resnick's work aimed at relieving the suffering of the bereaved include *Understanding Messages within our Difficulties and Challenges, Lessons In Dealing With Every Parent's Worst Nightmare* and *How Are the Bereaved Able To Continue Living Their Lives?* Taking a look at *Jewish Clarity* could represent a significant first step in finding out that there are steps we could take that might help alleviate the situation while at the same time bringing us closer to Hashem.

To find out more, visit jewishclarity.com

£3.2 million raised at Norwood dinner

More than 1,200 guests gathered at Norwood's annual fundraising dinner at London's Grosvenor House Hotel this week to celebrate and support the charity's life transforming work with vulnerable children and

individuals with learning disabilities and all of their families.

Focusing on how Norwood enables families to thrive, this event, which was sponsored by The Lord Leonard and Lady Estelle Wolfson

Foundation, raised over £3.2 million.

Through three short films dinner guests were drawn into the lives of different families each facing a significant challenge. These included loss, bringing up a

child with special needs and moving a young adult with severe autism into a home of his own. Through Norwood's support each family reflected on how they had come through their strife stronger and filled with hope for a

brighter future.

Wayne Chodosh is one of the fathers featured in the films. He spoke about the support Norwood gives his son, 24-year-old son Jake who is autistic and non-verbal, to live independently.