

The Rebbetzin Speaks

To our hearts

In reference to "The Rebbetzin Speaks,"
Issue 303

Dear Editor:

Thank you for a publication that we enjoy very much.

In the natural progress of life, our situations change as we grow older, both on the home front and in the workplace.

An example of this in my own life are Shabbos mornings. Years ago, I'd either be at home with my babies or off to *shul* with my daughters before returning home for the *seudah*.

At this stage, I'm up at the crack of dawn to attend to my elderly mother, who does not hear well and has lost her ability to speak.

It's a long, beautiful Shabbos morning, if somewhat lonely.

Before I leave my home on Shabbos morning, I allow myself a treat, which gives me *chizzuk* and "petrol to drive on." I take out *AmiLiving* and turn to "The Rebbetzin Speaks." The *rebbetzin* certainly speaks to me and to all my contemporaries, who are far past the stage of raising babies, children

and teens. Every week there is a precious lesson we can savor for life.

The story of Sarah, the blind woman, was breathtaking. It cried out the core answer to all our vulnerabilities as we age.

Thank you, Rebbetzin Feige, for speaking to all our hearts.

L.A.

Manchester, UK

Helping Vilna

If we don't help, we collaborate

In reference to "Guardian of the Cemetery,"
Issue 302

Dear Editor:

This is simply a note of deep appreciation to Riva Pomerantz for her splendid essay on Ruta Bloshtein and the Old Jewish Cemetery in Vilna. I'm equally appreciative to the senior editor, Rechy Frankfurter, for her supportive letter.

On the simplest level, we are obligated to help fellow Jews in distress. On a deeper level, we treasure our past and must not stand by idly while others attempt to destroy it. It is not simply a Vilna problem; it is a Jewish problem that affects all Jews wherever they may be.

Indeed, there is a very practical concern. If we don't stand up against what is happening in Vilna, we will place in jeopardy every Jewish cemetery in Europe, and ultimately in the world. The world will say: "Jews don't care, so why should we care?" We have no choice but to protest. If we are silent, we become collaborators.

This is the basic Jewish teaching of "*Hayah b'yado limchos v'lo michah*." It doesn't matter what happens in the end. We have to be able to say that we did our best. And if we lose in Vilna, we will learn to be more vigilant in the future; hopefully we will learn what needs to be done in order to prevent such a tragedy from repeating itself.

Professor Shnayer Leiman

Build Kids Up

By focusing on accomplishments

In reference to "Communicated," Issue 304

Dear Editor:

I've always been very impressed with the work that MASK does and was pleased to see it receive publicity. In the 20 years since it was founded, the need for such an organization has unfortunately increased,