“YOU SHALL NOT COMMIT A PERVERSION OF JUSTICE” Vayikra 19:15

The Rebbe Reb Simcha Bunim of P'Shis'che explains this verse homiletically to mean do not pass unjust and perverted laws. Rav Simcha Bunim's interpretation is so apropos for our generation. Our society is in danger of approaching the degeneracy of Sodom and Gomorrah. Had these cities merely been sinful, then G-d, Who is forever patient, would have given them the opportunity to mend their ways. What sealed the fate of Sodom was that they had a corrupt standard of justice. They had legalized every crime and every perversion. Once you legalize immoral and corrupt behavior there is no possibility of repentance. So, if you can't stop people from gambling, just legalize gambling. If you can't stop people from using drugs, then just have them legalized.
If people are living an immoral lifestyle, just pass laws to say it's ok. If something is ethically and morally wrong, it cannot become right by an act of legislation. In prohibiting a judge from taking a bribe, the Torah says, "A bribe will blind the eyes of the wise." Rashi comments that if a judge accepts a bribe, it is impossible for him to remain objective. This is as true of society as a whole as it is for a judge. We may be bribed by the desires that we have. It is very seductive to say that times have changed, that we must be more progressive. Call it a different name and pass a law and, presto! Immoral perverted behavior is now called an alternative life style. Pornography is art. Murder is free choice, and so on. When Nazi Germany decided that the elimination of Jews was to its advantage, killing Jews became acceptable and was legalized. Morality and ethics became obsolete. But they do not change with time, place or condition. Rav Simcha Bunim was so right – we have to be vigilant not to rationalize the perversion of justice.

(Sefer Twerski on Chumash- Rabbi. Dr. Abraham Twerski)

Wishing you an inspiring Shabbos!

Rabbi Moshe Gruenstein

E-mail communication

When you e-mail the office please make sure your e-mail is to yakira@yicbh.org

NOT yibh.org

The e-mail for Florence, our new receptionist/secretary, is florence@yicbh.org

WE ARE LOOKING FOR SHABBOS KIDDUSH SPONSORS

With winter over and summer almost here, we are in the “slow season” for getting Kiddush sponsors. We are therefore asking our members and friends to sponsor a Kiddush over the coming months in commemoration of special family occasions (anniversaries, birthdays, yahrzeits, etc.) or just as a gesture of support to our shul. As a special bonus, Kiddush sponsorship cost now is at “summer rates”, so that the basic Shabbos Kiddush is an extremely affordable $700. Of course, more elaborate Kiddushim can still be sponsored. We thank all for your support of this wonderful Young Israel tradition that so greatly benefits us all by allowing us to socialize in our beautiful shul building – a place of Kedusha, holiness.
Classes and Upcoming Events

- Mondays at 10:30AM – Ladies Tehillim Group in the Beis Midrash.
- Thursdays at 6:45PM – Beis Midrash Night.

Congregational Family and Shul News

- Kiddush this Shabbos is sponsored by Mali & Steve Schwartz in honor of their new granddaughter Madison Brielle (Amalya Batya). Mazal Tov to the proud parents Debbie & Brian Schames of Los Angeles.
- Mazal Tov to Stanley & Ellen Wasserman on the birth of great grandson Yaakov Yosef. Mazal Tov to the proud parents Rebecca & Moshe Friedman, and to the proud grandparents Marc & Ann Wasserman.
- We wish Refuah Shleimah (speedy recovery) to Allen Packer (Alexander ben Esther Raizel).

Youth Program - rabbifried@yicbh.org

- Father & Child learning will take place upstairs during Seudah Shlishis with treats & prizes!
- High School teens are invited to Learning and Frozen Yogurt every Wednesday night. Please contact Rabbi Fried for timing and location details.
- End of the school year High School Shabbaton May 12-13. Please see flyer for details.

ATTENTION ALL MEN!

Please do not walk behind the 2 ladies’ sections during services. Please use side doors to enter and exit Sanctuary after 10:00 AM. Thank you for your cooperation.
From our Gallery

If you are interested in sponsoring Kiddush or Seuda Shlishis, please contact Stuart Harris or Yakira at (305) 866-0203.

Please submit all insertions for the Shmooze News to yakira@yicbh.org by noon on Thursday.