

THE Kibbitzer



Why was the activity not exciting last Shabbat? They were board games.

You get it? Board. Bored. Not fun. Board games are a great Shabbat activity. Make them fun. Puns are better said. Not written. Look away and say 'board games'. Now, it's funny.

RABBI ANSWERS HIS PUPILS

Dear Rabbi. I find that the kids take everything I say offensively. I like to give Divrei Torah, but anytime I share a Torah thought they're offended. What Torah should I not be sharing with these Millennials and Generation Zs?

My Dear Pupil. I have stopped giving Divrei Torah. Every sermon I give, kids are offended. Here is Torah that I know you can't share nowadays, and the thoughts of the kids who are offended.

•*Man has to Provide Food, Clothing and Marital Relations To His Wife* Millennial Thought: Offensive. Women don't need men for families. Men should provide nothing. They shouldn't have wives. Torah is offensive. Families are offensive. Can't believe they had families back then.

•*Be Fruitful and Multiply* Millennial Thoughts: Offensive. We're killing the environment. How do you breed fruit? Nobody births an apple... Now you're saying women need kids. Offensive.

•*Slave* Millennial Thoughts: You're not allowed to say 'slave.' 'Servant' is offensive too. You say 'butler.' They're butlers that didn't get paid, and were not allowed to leave their masters

•*Slavery* They hear the word 'slavery' and conversation is over. They skip that part of the Torah. Forget about the whys and hows of a Jewish slave. Skip Shemot.

•*Yitzchak Was Forty, Rivka Was Three* The kids can't accept times have changed. They still don't know people used to drive station wagons. They think Crusaders flew first class and went through security check. TSA confiscated their pocket knives. Then, they killed Jews.

•*Yaakov Had Four Wives* Millennial Thoughts: No he didn't... Well. That is disgusting... In Jordan, that's their society. You have to be open minded. What bothers me is that they did it three thousand years ago. Torah offends me and wives are offensive.

•*Men and Women Have Different Roles* Oh! No! *Men Don't Give Birth* They should. *Men Should Pay for Dates* Chauvinistic. *Men Shouldn't Pay for Dates* How dare you say that.

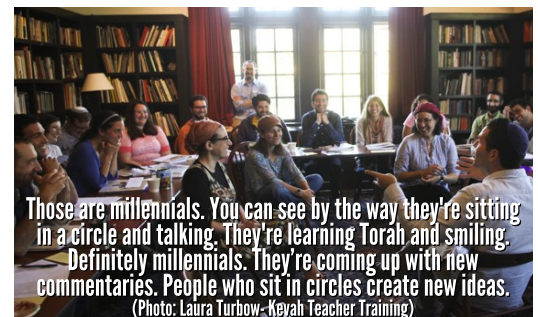
CONCLUSION: Teach Torah without Torah. Otherwise, you will offend the kids. At least take out the forefathers. Take out all characters and relationships. Skip Bereishit and Shemot. That will make Torah less offensive. Better yet, just read *The Giving Tree*. The kids like that.

SERMON OF REBUKE- VAYAKHEL

Shabbat Shalom My Drove. Congregants who don't care about your rabbi's health or well-being, as the board has decided to not give a raise this year, due to finances that the rabbi has 'used'... A gym membership is very important to my role. Gym. Exercise. Health. I have to perform funeral... I deal with death all the time. I need to be healthy to deal with death... Try dealing with Bernie... B"H it's not a double Parsha this year... Two portions are not read. Just VaYakhel. As I care about you all, I will not review the Parsha of Pikudei; so, don't worry... I could still go over Pikudei. It's usually a double Parsha. We commemorate, so I give a double sermon. But I am not... I believe we are all tired enough. Last year, we were all, also very disappointed when we thought we were going to end the Parsha, at which point the Chazan kept on going. I remember this, as I'm still having flashbacks. We saw Rishon (first ending segment) end, and then it didn't. It went into Sheini (second ending segment), with no stop. We all knew it was going to be long, as that process continued with Shelishi (third segment), which only ended at Shishi (sixth segment). I am not down on the Chazan, nor should any of us be... I had a talk with the Chazan about raising people's hopes. I told him it's wrong to raise their hopes and think that an Aliyah (segment) is ending, and then to not have it end. So, we are happy it's a leap year and we don't need to read Sheini with Rishon... It was confusing. 'Stop. No. Don't.' I have never seen a Chazan or Torah Reader corrected so many times... Everybody thought he didn't end right. 'It's an

ender!' They called it 'an ender'... need to be in shape for dealing with double Parshas. That will get the heart rate going... (*Shemot 35:1-3*) *Shabbat... Can't make a fire...* That means work, Bernie. Fire is work... You're making me work right now to explain. Just stop driving to shul. Let's start with not planning a road trip for Friday night... *VaYakhel, 'Moshe gathered all the nation of Israel.'* We can't even get a softball game going... You can't play with five people. You need a Minyan... The first thing he speaks about is Shabbat. Then he talks about the Tabernacle... He gave sermons too. Moshe's Drashas were longer than mine... Shabbat is what makes us a people. When else do you see Hymie?... We don't want to hear his jokes. You don't see him when you're tanning leather, You don't see Helen when you're stitching... You never look up. You're focused on the crochet... Shabbat is the first thing mentioned when we're brought together... *Rashi notes that Moshe begins with Shabbat, to teach us that the work done for the Mishkan (the Tabernacle, Melachot) is not done on the Shabbat...* Hammering was done on the Mishkan. You can't do renovations on Shabbat... How can your neighbors sleep when you're banging away?... A double Parsha is work. I don't know if they did it in the Mishkan... It is not one of the thirty-nine Melachot... Good point Michael. I'll bring that up at the next rabbi conference... We work the other six days. A requirement... I need to be in shape to do work. To work with the back left of the shul...

Rivka's Notes on Rabbi Mendelchem's Drasha: The rabbi started going to the gym daily, playing pickleball. He was spending three hours a day there as part of his job. He said something about Pikuch Nefesh. He had to work up his cardiovascular system, to deal with the membership.



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