



**RABBI GIDEON**

**Machon Puah for Fertility and  
Gynecology in Accordance with Halacha**

**WEITZMAN**

# Tubal Ligation and Danger

Last week we saw the verse (Vayikra 22:24): “you shall not offer to God any animal with crushed, torn or cut testicles, and in your land you should not do so.” This is the basis of the prohibition against castration that includes both animals and human beings. The Midrash (Sifra ad loc.) brings the opinion of Rabbi Yehudah that only men are included in the Torah prohibition against castration, and the contrary opinion of the Rabbis that both men and women are included.

The Rambam (Issurei Biyah 16:11) writes that there is no Torah prohibition on castrating women but there is a Rabbinic prohibition. The Shulchan Aruch (Even HaEzer 5:14) follows the opinion of the Rambam. However, the

Gaon of Vilna (Even HaEzer 5:25 and 28) writes that women are included in the Torah prohibition. While the verse regarding animals limits itself to male animals, and thus, presumably male humans, the very next verse states “for they are maimed” from which we derive a prohibition on maiming animals and humans and this regards men and women.

Since there is a rabbinic prohibition against female castration, the discussion seems to be unnecessary; but there is a practical application as to whether this is a Torah or a rabbinic injunction. If it is forbidden by the Torah, then the only case where it would be allowed would be in the case of danger to life. In the case in which a woman’s life is in danger and in order to save her life she needed tubal ligation, then it would be permitted. But if the prohibition is rabbinic in nature, then there may be cases other than *pikuach nefesh* in which tubal ligation may be permitted.

This leads us to the question presented



**Having a Brit?  
KISEI SHEL ELIAHU**

**Available to borrow  
from the OU Israel Center**

**For details, call  
Marion Silman 052-240-7078**

**Jonathan Rosenblum, DPM**

**050-595-5161**

**Pediatric and Geriatric Foot Care, Bunions,  
Hammertoes, and Diabetic Wound Care**

in Puah's collection of responsa. A woman turned to PUAH requesting permission to undergo tubal ligation. Her life was not in danger but she had a number of children and she was over 40 years old. Since there is a greater chance of having children with congenital genetic abnormalities at this age, she and her husband were not interested in having any more children and so they sought a permanent solution. She had tried other forms of birth control but they had not been successful and she was very anxious about the possibility of getting pregnant. Hormonal methods of contraception can have adverse effects on a woman's psychological wellbeing. And so she and her doctor suggested that, in her case, tubal ligation was the only relevant method.

The question was sent to many *poskim* and we will see their responses over the next few weeks. ■

*The Puah Institute is based in Jerusalem and helps couples from all over the world who are experiencing fertility problems.*

*Offices in Jerusalem, New York, Los Angeles & Paris. Contact (Isr) 02-651-5050 (US) 718-336-0603 [www.puahonline.org](http://www.puahonline.org)*

## CASH 4 GOLD

### We buy your Gold & Silver For Refining

Personal home service | 30 years experience

We also buy Silverware, Gold & Silver coins!  
Please send me a picture to for free Appraisals

972-54-2192428 Follow us on Facebook

mail: [absaffran@gmail.com](mailto:absaffran@gmail.com)

I pay cash!  
I will meet you where you want!  
Customer service!

GabaiRealEstate.com Jerusalem

### PRICE REDUCTION

On a truly unique private house on a lot of 750sqm!  
Preserved building of 300 sqm in the heart of Beit Hakerem. This beautiful preserved home is a one of a kind and priced to sell!

### Gorgeous Penthouse, Rechavia

410 sqm of captivating beauty with a 308 sqm terrace featuring 360° view of Jerusalem. Parking, Sh. elevator & included is a 2 bdrm apt.

### Arnona, Primo Levi

100 sqm in a 55 & older building, well maintained apt, spacious 2 bdrm, in excellent condition & a lovely balcony. Asking NIS 2,490,000 Efrat

### Halamed Hey St., Dekel

Near the shopping center, schools, shuls and parks. Over 350 Sqm, private freestanding house! 6 Beds, 4 full baths, spacious living & dining areas, & lower level can be used for rental unit. Great price!

### Y. Hachashmonai St., Zayit

Close to 220 sqm, 4 bdrms (option for a 5th), 3.5 baths, front & back yard, in excellent condition. No steps to the private entrance. Asking NIS 2.980.000

### Hagoel, Lev Efrat

Spacious semi-attached home of 240 sqm with large backyard, front Sukah porch and private entrance, a 7 bedroom home for **NIS 2,450,000**

### Pitom Haketoret St., Zayit

400 sqm semi attached house, 7 bdrms, American-style kitchen w/ add. 2 bdrm rental. Beautiful view & excellent Zayit location for under 10K NIS/ meter!

### Mishol Hacramim St., Rimón

360 sqm on a 500 sqm lot. The 7 bdrms are spacious & bright. Option for separate unit with private entrance. Asking only NIS 3.280.000

Yaniv: 052.614.1442  
[Yaniv@gabairealestate.com](mailto:Yaniv@gabairealestate.com)

Elia: 052.862.9208  
[EliaGabai@gmail.com](mailto:EliaGabai@gmail.com)