## Ketuvot 6b1 – Initial relations on Shabbat, and Mitzvah Stress

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## (6a) Psak

- Rav and Shemuel Their constitutents said each one was the permissive one 1...
- Challenge 4, to anyone who prohibits first relations on Shabbat, by Rav Yosef: A stam mishnah permits!
  - o Mishnah Berachot 2:6 A chasan is exempt from Shema until Motzaei Shabbat,<sup>2</sup> pre-consummation<sup>3</sup>
  - o Q: Doesn't this mean he is exempt Friday night, because he could have relations then?
  - A by Abbaye: No; there is stress over the lack of relations yet.
    - Rava asks: But even if stress for a mitzvah exempts, this is just general angst!
      - Then what about if his ship capsizes?
      - And then why does Rav say a mourner is obligated to say Shema?<sup>4</sup>
  - o Rava concludes that the law regarding relations on first night/Shabbat is debated among tannaim
    - Rava cites two actual braitot taking the different sides re Shema
    - Abbaye: Everyone prohibits on Friday night; the debate re Shema is about how far to exempt for stress<sup>5</sup>
  - With Rava's view that initial relations are debated, this could be the debate in another braita
    - Braita: Tanna Kama prohibits Friday night and Chachamim permit.
      - Rava says the permitting view is Rabbi Shimon, who permits unintended melachah
      - Abbaye challenges: Even for Rabbi Shimon, it's psik reisheih!
      - Rava responds: This is for people who know how to avoid wounding<sup>6</sup>
  - Q: If one can avoid breaking the hymen, why is he worried that he may not find her to be a betulah?
    - A: He may not know how
    - Q: Then why not permit only those who know how on Shabbat?
    - A: Most know how<sup>8</sup>

## א. פירוש המשנה לרמב"ם מסכת ברכות פרק ב משנה ה

אין האדם נפטר מקרית שמע אלא אם היה לבו טרוד בדבר מצוה, לפי שהעוסק במצוה פטור מן המצוה, ולפיכך הנושא בתולה פטור מקרית שמע כל זמן שלא בא עליה, מפני שלבו טרוד שמא לא ימצאנה בתולה, והרי הוא גם עוסק במצוה כלומר מצות פריה ורביה.

## ב. יחזקאל כד. טו-יז

(טו) וַיְהִי דְבַר ד' אַלֵי לֵאמֹר: (טז) בֶּן אָדָם הִנְנִי לֹקַחַ מִמְּךּ אֶת מַחְמַד עֵינֶיךּ בְּמַגַּפָה וְלֹא תִסְפֹּד וְלֹא תִבְכֶּה וְלוֹא תָבוֹא דִּמְעָתֶדּ: (יז) הַאָּבֵק דֹם מַתִּים אָבֵיך דָבוֹשׁ עַלִיךּ וּנְעַלֵיךּ תַּשִׁים בִּרָגִלִיךּ וָלֹא תַעָשֵׁה עַל שַׂפַם וְלָחָם אָנַשִׁים לֹא תֹאכֵל:

Abbaye and Rava regarding the Stress exemption from mitzvot			
	Example	Rava	Abbaye
In pursuit of a mitzvah which involves stress	Non-Shabbat initial relations	Exempt	Exempt
Prevented from performing a mitzvah which involves stress	Shabbat, if initial relations are prohibited	Obligated	Exempt
A mitzvah which is stress	Mourning	Obligated	Obligated
General stress	Capsized ship	Obligated	Obligated

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Note Chatam Sofer re Rashi's language

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Again, mentioning Shabbat suggests that is also teaching Hilchot Shabbat, not just Hilchot Keriat Shema

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This is about not stress, not about אוסק במצוה פטור מן (Rambam to the Mishnah)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Interestingly, an avel doesn't learn Torah, like Yechezkel, but also doesn't wear tefillin, unlike Yechezkel. See Tosafot.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See table below, second case

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> This is certainly possible; see Journal of Reproductive Health (2019), https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC6547601/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Note: Ramban/Rashba have an edition which changes this discussion substantively

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Why not prohibit for the minority? (Rashi, Tosafot, Ritva)