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Dear Editor,

Dear Editor,

I read the article from "Disappointed" in your August 10 issue. While I agree that bullying is out there, I will tell you that I have been teaching at Yeshiva Darchei Torah for the last few years and they have zero tolerance for bullying. There is an in-service given to all teachers at the beginning of the year and what the protocols in place are. So whether we, as teachers see it, or a student complains or a parent calls with concerns, it is addressed immediately. Whether the behavior is sourced at home or the child has issues that need to be addressed, it is not OK on any level in the yeshiva. Principals are brought into the discussion as well as our on-site behavior therapist and of course the parents of the children involved.

So please, take heart, lots of people have their eyes and ears open and care about the safety, both physical and emotional, of our children.

Rachel English

Dear Editor,

I cannot agree more with the letter writer who wrote in about the prevalence of bullying by children in our community. True, it is the exception. There are many wonderful children in our schools and camps. But just one or two bullies in a school or camp can wreak havoc and terror on tens of other kids.

The letter writer asks where these bullies' parents are. To a certain extent, the parents are to blame. But the culture in a school and in a camp has to be of zero tolerance for bullying. I have seen, firsthand, where adults have been present when children have made bullying comments

to others. And yet, I was the only adult to speak up. I can only think that perhaps the other parents were so shocked by this behavior that they didn't have the wherewithal to respond to the bully and to stop the bullying.

But we, the adults, need to stop bullying when we see it. In this way, we empower the victims and show them that we support them. We show the bully that their behavior is not acceptable. We foster an environment of acceptance and tolerance.

It's important to note that bullying takes on different forms in girls and boys. Boys are more "blatant" in their bullying. They'll throw balls at other kids or punch them in the face. But girls are more "subtle." They'll make catty remarks or roll their eyes or deliberately and obviously exclude someone. All of these behaviors are unacceptable.

We, as a community, can work together to make sure that all our children feel safe and accepted. If we keep our eyes open and stand up to bullying, we will make our schools and camps safe places for all children.

Sincerely,

Adina R.

Dear Editor,

I often wonder why anger is so common and why those with anger rarely change. G-d created a perfect world (though Rav Soloveitchik zt"l notes that G-d created and destroyed worlds before to create the notion of mistake). In a perfect world, only justice exists. Any error merits destruction. We are in G-d's image. Inherent in our personality is perfection and justice, and when someone makes

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Readers Poll

Do you generally carry around cash?

63%

No, plastic is fantastic

37%

Yes, cash is king

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what we consider to be an inappropriate comment, we berate them for their lack of perfection. However, G-d also added mercy into this world. And it is based on mercy that we must break our middot and overlook non-perfect comments.

Steven Genack

Dear Editor,

I hope all is well and you had an enjoyable summer.

I read your letter in this past week's issue and could not hold back from giving you my input.

In regard to encouraging people from staying here in the community with the ocean and the boardwalk and waves pounding on the sand: are you saying that it is safe for a family with children ages 5-17 to stay in the city and expose them to the culture that is out there?

The whole reason to go to the country is to not have the kids exposed to what's in the city, and you know very well that the dress code and language spoken, not to mention mixed swimming on the beach, is not a place for a frum family.

Ari

Dear Editor,

It was shortsighted on the part of MTA Chairman Janno Lieber and LIRR President Catherine Rinaldi to eliminate the LIRR 20-trip ticket discount. In post COVID-19, working part-time from home has become a common practice with more and more businesses. This will only grow as technology continues to evolve. Doing away with the LIRR 20 Trip Ticket is no way to attract new riders.

I remember a brief period in the 1980s when the LIRR offered a one-year ticket which arrived monthly. By pre-paying for your monthly pass one year in advance, you received a 4% discount. Sadly, there were only several hundred of us, including myself, who took advantage of this amazing bargain, so it was quickly discontinued. Fast forward today, and 14,000 riders will lose their discounted 20 Trip Ticket.

Sincerely,

Larry Penner
Great Neck, NY

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