



# Being Watched

The concern of מראית העין means we are not allowed to do anything that may have the appearance of wrongdoing.

For example, a ברייתא teaches that if someone's clothing becomes soaked on the Sabbath, one may hang them up to dry in the sun but not in an area where people can see. We are concerned that onlookers might think that he washed the clothing on the Sabbath which is not allowed.

רבי אלקעזר and רבי שמעון say that one may not hang up clothing even in a private place. This is because whenever the Sages said you cannot do an activity because it might give the appearance of wrongdoing, the activity is not allowed even in the most private room.

Some explain that even in one's most private room we are afraid there will be a snoop onlooker. Others explain that if we allow him to do the act in private, he may come to do it in public.

## A מְדוּת Moment

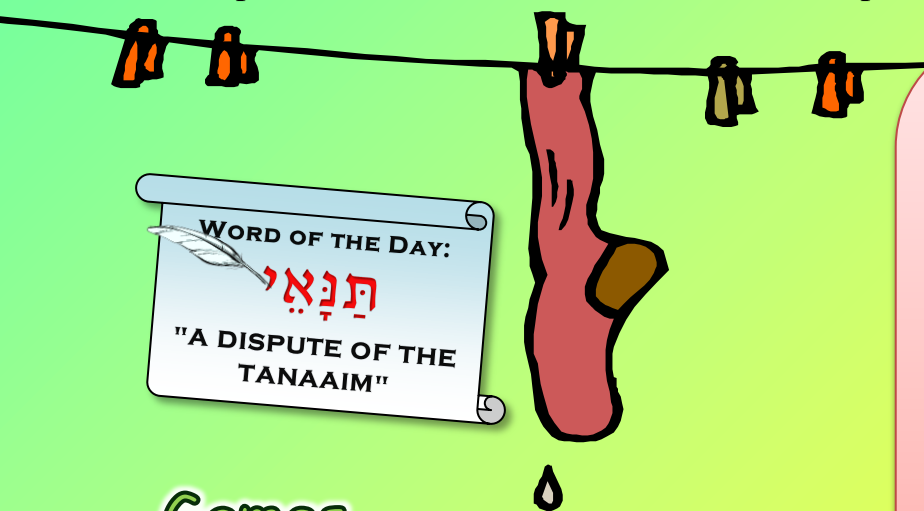
Yoni and Steven had been standing in line all morning. Finally the queue picked up speed and they headed further up the line closer to the Terror Mountain ride. Steven had to make a dash to the washroom. Yoni said he'd hold his place in line.

When Steven returned he went to the front of the line where Yoni was. Steven noticed that the other people in line looked very mad.

"Why are all these people so mad?" Steven asked.

"Probably because they think you're cutting to the front of the line!" Yoni said. "We're not allowed to do things that even *look* like we're doing something wrong even if we *aren't*."

"You're right," said Steven. Then turning to the crowd of onlookers he said, "It's okay! I'm coming back to my spot in the line; I just had to go to the bathroom!"



## Games

Start at the arrow. Follow the directions. Keep track of the letters where you land. What does it spell?

1. Go one egg SOUTH  
 2. Go 3 eggs WEST  
 3. Go 1 egg NORTHWEST  
 4. Go 2 eggs WEST  
 5. Go 3 eggs SOUTH  
 6. Go 3 eggs WEST  
 7. Go 1 egg WEST  
 8. Go 1 egg SOUTH

## Review Questions - ביצה דף ט'

1. What does מראית העין mean?  
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2. According to רבי אלקעזר and רבי שמעון may one hang up laundry on the Sabbath even in a private place?  
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3. Who had to take back what they said?  
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