Dr. Shlomo Black
Expert Educational Psychologist

Lecture Catalog

Each lecture follows the same template: 90 minutes, anonymous written Q&A, and a printed summary handout for every participant.

1. **Knowing Your Child's World**
   Parental communication, curiosity, and patience in the school and cheder years.

2. **Angry Without Destroying**
   A program for teaching children emotional-regulation skills — and the parents who guide them.

3. **I'll Want to Remember My Parents As…?**
   Parental communication during the yeshiva years — inspired by R. S. R. Hirsch.

4. **The Deeds of the Fathers, a Sign for the Sons**
   Torah-anchored metaphors in parent counseling. Given as a single lecture or a five-part series.

5. **The Place on Which You Stand**
   The inner world of the yeshiva bochur. Psychological tools for the educational staff.

6. **Restorative Justice in the Beit Midrash**
   Restorative justice and 'protected dialogue' — an alternative to suspension for discipline and conflict.

7. **A Young Man in His World**
   A meeting with yeshiva bochurim on identity, search, and adolescence.

8. **From 'Kosher' to 'Mehadrin'**
   Cultural sensitivity and training for working with clients from the Haredi community. A professional lecture.

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Lecture 1

Knowing Your Child's World

Parental communication, curiosity, and patience in the school and cheder years.

> **When did your child last surprise you with something they said?**

The parent is usually the foremost expert on their child. Yet the load of daily life can make it hard to see the child afresh at each developmental stage. This talk offers focused tools for listening, for conversation, and for opening healthy emotional dialogue — grounded in a psychological understanding of the child's inner world across different ages.

Guiding questions

- What does it really mean to know my child?
- How does my curiosity as a parent open my child's curiosity toward the world?
- When does patience become an essential psychological foundation for healthy development?

Lecture details

Audience
Parents of children

Duration
90 minutes (60 talk + 30 discussion)

Format
Single lecture, mechitza-friendly

Ideal for
Parents' evenings, PTA highlight events, workplace forums

Lecture 2

Angry Without Destroying

A program for teaching children emotional-regulation skills — and the parents who guide them.

> **Anger itself isn't the problem — what we do with it is everything. So how do we teach a child to be angry without breaking things?**

Anger is a natural, healthy emotion; the goal is not to suppress it but to learn to regulate it. The program gives the child — with the parent as a co-regulator — practical tools to notice the first bodily signs, name the feeling, pause before reacting, and channel the intensity into a safe outlet. The approach is strengths-based: not a 'problem child' but a child still learning a skill, like any other.

What participants take away

- Reading the 'thermometer' of anger before it boils over.
- A shared emotional language between parent and child.
- A simple 'pause' technique for the heat of the moment.
- Ways to release and repair after an outburst — without shame.

Lecture details

Audience
Parents of early-childhood and school-age children; also for kindergarten and early-grade staff

Duration
90-minute lecture, or an ongoing workshop program

Format
Single lecture or a practical multi-session series

Ideal for
Parents' evenings, parent workshops, and early-childhood education teams

Lecture 3

I'll Want to Remember My Parents As…?

Parental communication during the yeshiva years — inspired by R. S. R. Hirsch.

> **Your son has gone off to yeshiva — and suddenly you find you must relearn how to talk with him.**

A son's move to yeshiva is a moment of transition. Some responsibility passes from home to institution, and at the same time the nature of his relationships — with himself and with others — shifts. The talk invites parents to ask: how will our son want to remember us years from now? — and offers a language and framework for the yeshiva years as a time of identity formation that asks the parent to take on a slightly different role.

Anchored in Torah sources, the lecture provides practical tools for conversation with a yeshiva-age son.

Lecture details

Audience
Parents of yeshiva-age boys (with mechitza)

Duration
90 minutes

Format
Single lecture; separate anonymous Q&A per side

Ideal for
Yeshivas, end- and start-of-term parents' evenings

Lecture 4

The Deeds of the Fathers, a Sign for the Sons

Torah-anchored metaphors in parent counseling. Given as a single lecture or a five-part series.

> **What if we read the stories of the patriarchs also as a guide to parenting?**

The narratives of the patriarchs, read with Torah grounding and psychological sensitivity, can serve as a rich reservoir of images and questions that help a parent rethink their children. The lecture is rooted in professional articles and in many years of clinical work with parents in Torah communities.

The five axes of the series

- Abraham standing alone against the world — parenting a defiant child.
- Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, and Ishmael — a united parental front when one child threatens another's wellbeing.
- Isaac and Rebecca — the danger of an inconsistent parental front.
- Jacob and his sons — complex relationships within the family.
- Jacob and Joseph — the internalized secure base.

Lecture details

Audience
Professionals and parents

Duration
Lecture 90 min; series of 5 × 90 min

Format
Series of 5 narrative axes, or a single lecture. Includes practical coping tools.

Ideal for
Professional groups, synagogues, parent study evenings, beit-midrash communities

Lecture 5

The Place on Which You Stand

The inner world of the yeshiva bochur. Psychological tools for the educational staff.

> **Sometimes the teacher is the first to sense something is wrong with a student — and the last to know.**

Today's yeshiva bochur carries a reality different from that of the previous generation. The educational staff are the first to encounter this inner world — and sometimes the last to know about it. This talk offers research-based psychological tools, phrased in Torah language, to strengthen the meeting between the staff and the student.

What the staff will take away

- Recognizing signs of distress in a student.
- Knowing when, and to whom, to turn.
- How to establish a personal conversation with a student.

Lecture details

Audience
Roshei yeshiva, mashgichim, teachers, and tutors

Duration
90 minutes + written Q&A

Format
Single lecture or a study day

Ideal for
Staff study days, annual training, start and end of term

Lecture 6

Restorative Justice in the Beit Midrash

Restorative justice and 'protected dialogue' — an alternative to suspension for discipline and conflict.

> **When we suspend a student — did we solve the problem, or just move it to his parents' home?**

A lecture-workshop on an alternative way to handle discipline breaches and conflicts between students. Instead of 'zero tolerance' and suspension — which often merely move the problem home — this approach offers 'protected dialogue' and restorative justice: returning the student to the community while taking responsibility, repairing the harm, and rebuilding the social bond rather than isolating the child.

The five stages of protected dialogue

- Pause and contain — lowering the intensity before any inquiry.
- Hearing the story from all sides, without premature judgment.
- Understanding the harm and taking personal responsibility.
- Repair and restitution — a corrective act, not only a punishment.
- Return to the community, with ongoing support.

Lecture details

Audience
Teachers, mashgichim, principals, and discipline committees

Duration
90 minutes, or a hands-on study day

Format
Lecture or workshop with scenario practice and a practical protocol

Ideal for
Staff study days, training, and building a restorative discipline policy

Lecture 7

A Young Man in His World

A meeting with yeshiva bochurim on identity, search, and adolescence.

> **What is a seventeen-year-old really going through — and why doesn't he always tell?**

A meeting that invites the young men to hear psychological-and-Torah framings of their experiences in adolescence — a period familiar both to our Sages and, separately, to psychology, as a time of identity search. They leave with a language to think about what they experience.

The meeting is coordinated in advance with the rosh yeshiva or his representative: which topics are in scope and which are not, who is present during the Q&A, and an agreed referral path for any question that signals personal distress.

Lecture details

Audience
Students by year and above, per the rosh yeshiva's decision

Duration
75–90 minutes

Format
Interactive meeting with anonymous Q&A

Ideal for
Student study days, end of term, bein hazmanim, and period highlights

Lecture 8

From 'Kosher' to 'Mehadrin'

Cultural sensitivity and training for working with clients from the Haredi community. A professional lecture.

> **Can you truly treat someone without understanding the world they come from?**

Based on research, clinical, and consulting experience in the field. The lecture addresses the foundational questions facing a counselor to members of the Haredi population, and suits both the professional from within the community and the external professional seeking to work in it.

The core questions

- What does 'cultural sensitivity' actually mean in the clinic?
- How, when, and whether to integrate the rabbi into the process?
- Which professional concepts are perceived as 'foreign winds'?
- How do we make psychology accessible to a community member without giving up professional precision?

Lecture details

Audience
Psychologists, school counselors, social workers, mental-health clinicians

Duration
90–120 minutes, or an extended half-day

Format
Single lecture or a multi-stage workshop

Ideal for
Internship hours, professional study days, training courses

The booking process

1. **Intro call**
   No-commitment, up to 45 min. I call you back personally.

2. **Planning call**
   Understanding the setting, audience, and content boundaries.

3. **The lecture**
   Delivered on site, with anonymous written questions.

4. **Debrief**
   Takeaways and recommendations with your contact.

> Research-based lectures on request. For institutional, academic, and philanthropic audiences — community resilience and post-traumatic growth, acculturation expectation discrepancies, and integration and life satisfaction. Tailored to each audience, not delivered in a fixed format.

To book a lecture

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