



### The Reason for the Prohibition

4. The *Rishonim* and *poskim* relate two reasons for this prohibition:

- A. So that the woman doesn't become accustomed to spending time around men. (Rashi, *Kiddushin* 70a; *Ran* ad loc.)
- B. So that the man doesn't come to have improper thoughts. (Rambam, *Hilchos Issurei Biah* 21:5; *Shulchan Aruch* EH 21:5)

### The Scope of the Prohibition

5. The prohibition includes any services a woman would do for her husband as a display of closeness. For example:

- Pouring a drink of some value, such as wine or coffee, into a man's cup, in his presence.
- Preparing a plate of food for a man. For example, taking food from a serving plate in the middle of the table and setting it down on the man's plate, in his presence.
- Making a bed in order to prepare it for a man to sleep in, while in his presence.

(*Beis Shmuel* EH ibid:8)