



“Vehaya Machanecha Kadosh”

1. It is forbidden to say *devarim sheb'kedushah* — such as words of Torah, *tefillah*, or *Krias Shema* — when a woman who is in one's field of vision is not dressed completely modestly, and has exposed a *tefach* of an area of her body that is usually covered according to the common practice. (Even if this part of the body is not technically an “*ervah*,” if it is a part of the body that is normally covered, *Chazal* decreed that it has the status of *ervah*, as we shall explain in a future *halachah*.) (*Shulchan Aruch OC 75:1*)

2. This prohibition applies even when in the presence of one's own wife and other family members, such as one's sister or daughter. (Regarding the age of the girl to which this *issur* applies, one should consult his *Rav*.) (*ibid.*)