



A Woman's Voice – Introduction

The Gemara (*Berachos 24a*) teaches us that *kol b'ishah ervah*, a woman's voice is considered an *ervah*. This means that a man is not allowed to hear the voice of an unrelated woman, nor may he learn Torah or daven while hearing it. The *pasuk* says (*Shir Hashirim 2:14*), “*Ki kolech arev*, your voice is sweet” – referring to Klal Yisrael, who are likened to a *kallah*. We see from here that the voice of a woman is sweet, enticing, and can lead to *hirhurim* (inappropriate thoughts).

(The specific guidelines as to when one may or may not hear an unrelated woman's voice will be explained in detail in the upcoming emails.)