



The Obligation to Guard Oneself from Spiritual Danger

11. We find numerous instances where the Torah obligates us to avoid physical dangers. For example, one is required to build a railing on a roof or porch to ensure that no one falls off. Similarly, the Torah requires a person to ensure that no one is physically harmed by him or his property.

We should learn a *kal v'chomer* from this. If the Torah requires us to be so careful regarding physical danger, which is only relevant in this transient world, how much more careful must we be regarding spiritual dangers, which are relevant to the eternal world! (*Shu"t Maharam Shick OC 207 and YD 335; see also Bais Yosef 590; Pele*

Yoetz, erech Arayos)