

A wig is "a complete prohibition"



During his daily Shiur on Masechet Shabat, Maran Rav Elyashiv stated: "The wigs that the women wear today are a complete and total prohibition just like not covering the hair at all is prohibited". When one of the students asked if a women who wears a wig is breaking the laws of the Jewish religion and therefore can be divorced without fulfilling her Ketubah? The Rav answered positively. The first public reference towards the issue of wearing wigs was heard by the Rav Elyashiv on Monday evening (28 of Tishrei 5769) in the midst of his daily Shiur on Masechet Shabat (in Beis Midrash "Tiferet Bachurim")

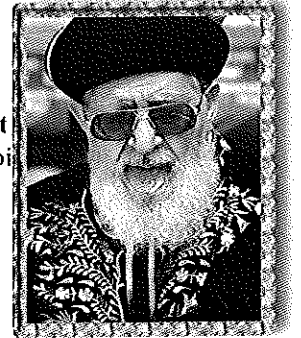
Among other things, Harav Elyashiv said: "When it comes to wigs, some allow and some forbid, but the wigs that are worn by women in our days are completely forbidden, just like not going with the hair uncovered is forbidden. There is no difference" the Rav clarified his words even more by emphasizing: "It is just like nudity and is definitely forbidden". One of the listeners asked the Rav how is it that during the time of the Gemara women wore wigs made of real hair which were even prettier than their real hair, since those wigs worn during the time of the Gemara are just like the worst wigs of our times and are forbidden to wear. The Rav responded that there is a big difference between this generation and the generation of the Gemara and "then the wig had a terrible look. What we have today is shameful. It looks like the real hair and there is no option to allow wearing wigs", so the Rav ruled decisively. The listener didn't let it go and kept asking if a women who wears a wig is considered betraying the Jewish religion and is therefore divorced without fulfilling her Ketuba and the Rav answered a decisive "Yes". The student dared and asked again "Yes?" and the Rav said: "Of course, as long as the husband behaves appropriately, but if the husband is just like her then..." and he added: "why divorce? It is possible to explain to the woman how serious this prohibition is". During the rest of the Shiur the listeners kept discussing the issue with Rav Elyashiv and he kept harshly attacking the wig wearing women and their husbands. The Rav repeated again and again how severe this *Issur* is and did not find any option to allow it.

The Rav's complete Shiur can be heard on "Kol Halashon" 03-6171111, in the menu options: Yiddish, Gemara and Halocho, Shiur by Rav Elyashiv, Masechet Shabbat, Shiur number 174. his things about wigs start about 25 minutes from the beginning"

"A wig is absolutely forbidden"

"Uneducated, ignorant, wicked people!! They are the people who demand such things"

From a speech over the satellite by the Rishon Le'Tsion, Maran Harav Ovadya Yosef Shalita: A wig – there are over twenty Poskim who say it is absolutely forbidden, absolutely forbidden... to wear a wig and go out doors to the public. It is just like she goes out with her hair uncovered. Just like it is not allowed for a married woman to go out with her hair uncovered, it is not allowed for her to go out wearing a wig. There was a great genius man. His name was Rabbi Pinchas Horowitz, author of the "Hafla'ah", Rabbi Pinchas Leibish Horowitz, was a great huge genius, he and his Beis Din... He took his Beis Din with him and took along a Sefer Torah and banned any woman who wears a wig. Who dares to ignore a ban made by such a great person? He was huge, huge in the Torah... to ignore his ban... Who can do that? And that is besides a few other big Rabbis who explicitly wrote that it is forbidden.



Hagaon Mivilna wrote in his book on the Mishnayot, he has a book on the Mishnayot, he writes explicitly that it is forbidden. Hagaon Yaavets extended in the book Mor u-Ketsiah as well as in the book "Tshuvot of Yaavets" and wrote explicitly that this thing is absolutely forbidden! The Hatam Sofer writes: "After the Gaon Yaavets said this, of course we need to forbid this". Maharats Hayot in his book "Ish Hayot" he has answers... he writes there: "This has already been prohibited by the Gedoley Olam, only heretics" so he says, "heretics are the ones who allow it. Everyone is careful about this". Rabbi Chaim mi-Tsanz in his book "Shu't Divrey Chaim" he says: "It's only those actresses, wild and promiscuous are the ones who started all of this and some people learned from their doing "and they mixed with the Goyim and learned from their doing..."

Unfortunately, I hear some righteous girls who actually enjoy covering their hair with a head kerchief or a hat. And the men, they are yeshiva men, woe to them and what they shatter! Desecrating name of Hashem! They are demanding from these women, these girls, threatening not to marry them unless they promise to wear a wig. What kind of Yeshiva Bochur are they?! Uneducated, ignorant, wicked people!! They are the people who demand such things. They learn in a yeshiva?! They are the ones learning Torah? Their Torah is like Doeg HaEdomi, from the lips only... they shall be judged by din for that. The author of the book "Atzei Arazim" in "Even HaEzer" says: "I am sure that any Rav who allows wearing a wig will also be judged for this!"

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Besiyata Dishmaya

"There are religious women who look like one of the actresses from the streets" Painful burning words said by Maran Shmul Halevi Vazner Shalita

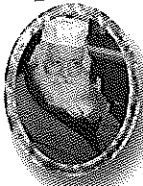
What good is a kosher mezuzah guarding the Jewish homes when the impurity enters even a closed home? Whether it is the promiscuous way of dressing copied from the lowest of the gentiles, and any fashion, as is known, is originated from the lowest level of hell, or whether it is the wigs... In our days we witness a painful phenomenon: people who want to both Benei Torah and live a modern life. The husband wants a home of Torah and the wife, maybe does too. When she married him she said, like they all say "I want a Ben Torah", but unfortunately to our great disappointment, **this woman chooses, with the husband's approval, to be modern and wear a short outfit**, which is originated and copied from an impure source. Parisian fashion. A way of dressing like the worst of all nations, **and so is the hair covering and the wigs which are no different than uncovering the hair completely**. The hair covering of a woman should be in the most modest way, and due to our many sins, in many homes and for many women has become a modern show in its' style and length. **And this woman does not at all look like a wife of a Ben Torah and not like a religious woman, but like one of the actresses from the streets, not one of our holy nation but one of Paris.** It is impossible for a mother of Israel to raise generations if she doesn't do what is related to the sacred nature of a Bat Israel, which is modesty, like Sages said **"A woman's hair is like nakedness"**. But how fake is it to cover the hair, if there is any hair, with such a wig, that stimulates the inclination more than the real hair. **How fake is that?!** And these people, whether they know it or not, are **sinners and cause others to sin...**

Hababa Sally Zt"l - "Any women wearing even a piece of a wig prepares for herself lighting material which will burn her in hell. You can not fool Hashem According to the rules of the Torah you are not fulfilling the requirement of covering your hair, period". (*hasaba Kadisha part b*)



Rabbi Shlomo Zalman Auerbach Zt"l "I can not distinguish between real hair and a wig, in my opinion it is very repulsive. I think all the disasters arrive from wigs and I mean even the short ones. I never allowed any woman to wear a wig." (*"Haketer Ve Hakavod Lechai Olamim" page 144*)

The Hazon Ish - "The wig smells like a prohibition from the Torah and anything that is not definitely permitted is forbidden and we are very strict when it comes to doubts. Laziness fogs so there won't be additional power to declare war" (*Kovetz Igrot Hazon Ish*)



Rabbi Mordechai Sharabi Zt"l - "I say that a woman who wears a wig is herself a gentile. Wigs belong to gentiles" (*Derech Tzadikim Part B pg. 319*)

The Holy Steipler "Of course it may be a prohibition from the Torah to go out with a wig... one must be a kosher Jew and not go with a wig!" (*"Haketer Ve Hakavod Lechai Olamim" page 125*)



Hatam Sofer - "I forbid to wear a wig, a total Issur and Hashem may find in you grace and kindness and you shall raise your children and descendants based on the Torah and Avodas Hashem" (*from his holy last will*)

The Gur Rebbe, Ba'al Beis Yisroel - Once in his life he saw a woman with a wig and said "The Heavens showed me this so that I would wake up to correct this thing that women go with a wig which has hair just like unmarried girls'. It is forbidden" (*Worlds of Purity "Part A, Page 227*)



Rabbi Yaakov Yosef Weiss of Spinka - "This sin brings a plague and brings the woman to seven levels of hell. It is forbidden from the Torah due to promiscuity just like uncovered hair, even short wigs. The woman who wears a wig may be divorced and does not get her Ketubah" (*"Haketer Ve Hakavod Lechai Olamim" page 561-563*)

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