

Chabad of Greater Monsey

Happenings of the Chabad Lubavitch חב"ד community of Rockland County, New York

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2013

Statement From Rabbi Lesches

The following is the complete statement from Rabbi Boruch D. Lesches in response to recent media reports about him.

I would like to inform the public that statements I made in a private telephone conversation have been spliced and twisted to present opinions that are not my own and are offensive to members of the greater public.

I would like to make my position absolutely clear: Without any reservation, I endorse the rabbinical rulings encouraging victims of abuse to report to the police.

I was saddened to see an edited audio clip released by the Australian media regarding the personal phone conversation I had with an alleged victim of child abuse. I am troubled by the unprofessional conduct of the reporter who did not call me to verify the facts. Had he called me, I'm sure the information I would have provided would have produced a dramatically different article.

As I clearly told the caller in a subsequent phone conversation: I had no knowledge of the alleged assault claimed to have occurred some twenty-five years ago and discussed in the news report.

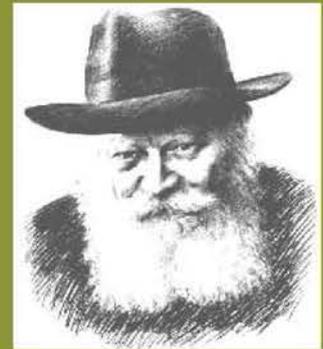
In the conversation, I was discussing a separate incident concerning inappropriate sexual conversations where I was under the impression that both alleged parties were similar in age, twenty-one years old. I was never informed of any allegations involving minors prior to this call.

In retrospect I am shocked to hear of these allegations, because I often entrusted my own young children to the care of the alleged perpetrator, without hesitation. I would never have done so had I known of these allegations.

I am firmly committed to doing everything necessary to eradicate child abuse in all communities. If the caller had mentioned present abuse, I would have advised him to contact the proper legal authorities.

In my present community, where I am the Rabbi, there is no reticence to contact the police. We do not hide from or cover up criminal behavior. In our schools this is a known fact, and one of the reasons we, may G-d protect us, have to date not been afflicted with the evil disease of child sexual abuse.

Baruch Dov Lesches
June 23, 2013



THE SOFER CENTER



RAMAPOST



To post, please email:
news at monseychabad.com

[Home](#)

[Community Calendar](#)

[Chabad News](#)

[Chabad.org](#)

[Chabad.org](#)

[Chabad.org](#)

[Chabad.org](#)

[Chabad.org](#)

[Chabad.org](#)