

Marred card

I AM A New York Orthodox Jew who carries a Halachic Organ Donor Society organ donor card. I have been following with great interest the JC's coverage of the censorship, for part of the London community, by Dayan Chanoch Ehrentreu, of the organ-donation issue.

While Orthodox institutions in the United States are similarly hesitant to take a stand on controversial topics such as organ donation, they never stifle legitimate, open dialogue about the varying halachic positions.

Does Dayan Ehrentreu think that preventing legitimate, minority halachic opinions from being heard is in the spirit of halachah? Is he planning on erasing two-thirds of the Talmud?

Why are the Jews of London tolerating this? The parent body of Immanuel College, an educational institution no less, is allowing someone else to decide what ideas they should be exposed to. Do they ask the dayan which newspaper to read? This lemming-like behaviour is not in the spirit of intellectual honesty or Torah.

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WE HAVE TWO kidneys so that, if one fails, the other can take over. There are members of the population in good health who have one failed kidney but manage perfectly well on the remaining one without even being aware that one kidney has failed.

Reduce a poor person to one kidney and, if anything happened later on, the individual would be in deep trouble. I am sure they would have Geoffrey Alderman's profound sympathy (JC, May 14) but I personally think it better for them to hang on to both kidneys. But then I do not have the advantage of Professor Alderman's religious beliefs and believe the poor should not have their health damaged by the rich.

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