

## Shemot: "Vayifen Ko v'Cho"

- Aharon Ziegler. Take responsibility for fellow Jews, even if you disagree ideologically

Parshat Shemot- 5766

To all my good friends and relatives,

In this parsha, we find Moshe at the scene of an Egyptian striking a Jew (2:11,12). Moshe looks and turns "this way and that " , sees that there was no man, so Moshe acts, kills the Mitzri and saves the Jew.

Rashi and many commentators explain the significance of "looking this way and that way". I would like to add my thought.

Moshe saw a Jew was in trouble, in danger. He looked to the right, to see if those more religious than he would come forth to help. He looked to the left, if someone less religious would take action.. But, his dismay, no one lifted a voice or a hand to help. Moshe realized that it is his responsibility, even if he is alone.

Many times we are in a situation where we hear another Jew berated, or insulted, or just spoken about in a derogatory manner. No one speaks up to verbally defend him or her. We can easily say to ourselves "why get involved?"

Moshe did get involved, even physically,. And, he got into lots of trouble because of it. He had to flee for his life.

Was it worthwhile? Was the Jew "my kind"?.

To Moshe it didn't make a difference. He thought it worthwhile. Can we learn something from this?

Shabbat shalom , u'vracha.

Aharon Ziegler