



# THE OBSERVER

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WOMEN, SY SYMS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS, AND YESHIVA  
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## Coming out as Homophobic

Ahava Weiner

Last semester, I was appalled to see that the YU Democrats hosted an event titled: “Dancing At Two Weddings: Tales From the Front Lines of Israeli Religious LGBT Dialogue.” This horrid event featured some random homosexual who spewed ludicrous nonsense about accepting gays. Obviously, I did not attend the event, but I assume that is what happened.

In addition to this, I recently received an email about some Jewish Activism Club that featured LGBTQ inclusion. Disgusting! I can’t believe that there is a club on the YU campus that condones such abominable behavior. What’s next, a chilul shabbos club?

I find it ridiculous that our prized and open minded university did not consider the feelings of all of its students. By allowing these events and clubs to exist, Yeshiva University is neglecting it’s homophobic student population. Many students take pride in the fact that they extraneously follow halacha to the point of hating gay people. It almost feels as if we’ve been erased by the administration.

Homophobia has been around for thousands of years. My fear is justified by a rich history of

hatred and genocide. On the other hand, the gay rights movement has barely been around for 50 years. Can we really call ourselves an institution that values tradition if we subscribe to queer modern day ideas? The answer obviously is no.

I know that my opinion is a little more radical than that of most people. However, if we allow our campus to have these despicable LGBTQXYZ events, the slippery slope will carry our university to new lows. What do I mean by this? Today, we will have a gay speaker, tomorrow we will have a speaker who is attracted to giraffes! I mean, who would be attracted to a giraffe? It’s not even a kosher animal!

In all honesty though, I have to give the school some credit. I heard a rumor that it took two months to give speaker approval to the homosexual who spoke for the Democrats. At least the school was able to delay a gay from entering our premises. At the end of the day, unfortunately, they were not able to keep him out. On the bright side, at least we don’t have any gay students who attend our university. That would be insane!

Additionally, the school was successful in preventing a transgender speaker from giving a presentation to the Wurzweiler graduate school. The commentator reported that according to the speaker, the event will happen in January or early February of this year. Luckily, the commentator was wrong! It’s already March and the speaker has still not arrived! The school was able to slowly transition everyone’s attention away from the event. That’s what I call a legitimate transition!

As a point of clarification: my homophobic identity doesn’t define me, it’s just another part of me. I’m Ahava Weiner. That’s the real me. Being homophobic is just something I was born with. I know that many students in YU will praise me for having the bravery to write this article, however, that is not my motive for writing this piece. I hope that this article will grant a much needed voice to the homophobic community and empower my fellow homophobic students.

## Katz School Begins Taking Extreme Measures To Recruit Students

Kyra Palley

Students in Yeshiva University’s undergraduate schools were in for a surprise when they entered the lobby of 245 Lexington and Furst Hall on Monday morning. Representatives from the Office of Admissions at YU’s Katz School of Science and Health had set up shop at tables to recruit potential students as usual, but it was clear their strategy had become extreme.

Banners displayed at the tables read alarming slogans like, “Please Just At Least Apply. We’re Desperate And Will Soon Have To Start Accepting Syms Students” and “Go to our school or we will \*\*\*\*ing kill your family.”

Admissions officers also reportedly became violent, throwing pens and PopSockets at students who did not stop by the table for more information. One Stern student reports that a Katz employee began throwing cash at her, yelling “we will pay you to come here”.

“It was frightening,” said Jack Goldberg (YC ‘21). “I’m a sophomore, so I’m not even eligible to apply, but now I’m part of the Katz Quantitative Economics program because I was afraid for my life.”



Yeshiva University  
KATZ SCHOOL

The Katz School, which only recently opened, has programs in Biotechnology, Economics, Speech Pathology, Math, and other subjects. Located on the Beren Campus, classes take place in the evenings. Certain application requirements are waived for YU undergraduate students, but the Office of Admissions recently announced that YU undergrads could forgo the application all together and simply email “ok” to katz@yu.edu in order to enroll for Fall 2019. The GPA requirement for YU students was also

lowered to a 0.5.

So far, Katz’s last-ditch efforts have been successful. The application rate among undergraduate students at YU has increased 250% since Monday’s new strategy.

## YP Student Attends his First Heights Party; Beats JSS Student at Beer Pong

Jennifer Lindenberg

Avi Cohen, a sophomore in the YP program never thought he would step foot in a heights party. “The Beit Midrash is my home,” Cohen assures his Rav. “It keeps me safe from all the evils of the world like drugs, alcohol, women, and pants that aren’t two sizes too big on me,” says Avi. Recently, however, Avi has been having trouble getting inspired to pray. “Everything is perfect. I learn all day, I learn all night, I go home for dinner so I don’t have to figure out how to use my caf card, and my shadchan says the girl he wants to set me up with has a great personality,” Avi told us. “I wanted to find something to inspire me to pray to Hashem. Something that no one else was praying for”.

Avi first went to Golan on his trek to find inspiration to pray to Hashem. He chose Golan because of the amount of times he overheard his peers in Morg complaining about how Golan is ruining their insides. After getting a meal from Golan, however, Avi found with great disappointment that his colon was functioning properly. Avi then went to the infamous YU library, where he had heard tales and legends of sinful conduct. “I was so sure that I’d find something wrong with the library because women are allowed to go there.” Avi couldn’t find anything wrong with the library, however. All he saw were students anxiously working on their assignments or procrastinating. “

I did find someone from 3a crying about losing something. He was babbling about some sort of bank and failing an intro to marketing class” Avi told us. Avi assured the Syms 2020 student, Justin Cheat, who wished to be remained anonymous, that Avi would pray for him to find his banks again. Avi was just about to leave the library when Justin called for Avi and invited him to go to a Heights party. Avi explained that he had to see if anyone in the study rooms needed him to pray for them, but Justin told him that he wouldn’t find anyone in the library since it is a thursday night. “Justin promised that the students at this party would need my help so I accepted his invitation”. Avi told us. Justin

brought Avi to the apartment where the party was taking place at approximately 11:00PM.

When Avi first entered the apartment, he started smelling something unusual so he made a besamim on the scent. Avi then ran to another room because he heard someone crying for help. “Someone was crying for a partner and even though I didn’t know what they needed a partner for, I knew I still needed to help them, like my Rabbi taught me.” When Avi found the boy who needed his help, he found himself in a strange room with a white table and red solo cups everywhere. The room smelled like one of the bathrooms in the Morg dormitory, Avi noted. “He muttered about a celebrity shot but I had no idea what that meant. He mumbled a few words and then put a ping pong ball in my hand,” Avi told us. Justin then found Avi in the beer pong room and started yelling at him to throw the ball into the red solo cup on the opposite side of the table. Avi understood this and after whispering a quick shema to himself, Avi threw the ball and it landed inside the last red solo cup. “They all went crazy” Avi recalls. “They were jumping up and down and screaming like monkeys.” Justin then informed Avi that Avi had “won” to which Avi then said a Mizmor LiToda to Hashem. However, soon after, a girl approached Avi and asked to be her partner for the next game of beer pong. “As soon as a girl started talking to me, I knew I had to get out of there. She wasn’t even wearing a skirt! She was wearing pants!” Avi told us. Avi then rushed out of the apartment and headed back to his room where he could say his own private tehillim for himself and the others at the party. “I’ve never seen so many people who needed me to pray for them in my life! I also still pray that Justin finds his banks.”

The Yeshiva University

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Write for us!



## Next YAF at YU Free Speech Event To Feature David Duke

Lauren Ingram

YAF, or Young America's Foundation, a right-wing political club at YU, recently announced that their next big event, taking place in May, will feature David Duke. In the past, the club has brought in speakers like Ben Shapiro and Dennis Prager; club presidents are anticipating that the Duke event will be their biggest one yet.

Duke is known for his extremist views, but YAF board member Anna Colter believes his rhetoric is important for YU students to hear. "Snowflakes on this campus are obsessed with political correctness," she said. "It would do them some good to hear from a speaker who believes their religion controls the media and federal government."

Though there was backlash against Shapiro's and Prager's speeches on campus, Colter does not anticipate any disagreement with what Duke will speak about in May. "If you're a conservative, like many people on this campus are, everything he says is pretty much mainstream and commonplace."

Despite Duke's ties to the Ku Klux Klan, many students do not feel his presence would be threatening, even on a Jewish campus. "One of YAF's core beliefs is free speech, and everyone has a right to share their opinion," said Colter's co-board member Carlson Tucker. "But if any libtards try to complain, I'm going to shut them down immediately."



## Shifra Lindenberg to leave Stern; Fate of YU's Facebook Presence in Limbo

Shifra Please Marry Me

Most of you have heard of Shifra Lindenberg whether it was from one of the many social media platforms she manages like YU and Stern Confessions, YU and Stern Crushes, The Official YU Meme Group, Jewish Shifposting or maybe the hit article "To All The Boys Who Are Emotionally 16." What you have not heard until now, however, is that Shifra will be transferring to a different university in the coming fall. "Stern is getting too expensive," Lindenberg, Syms '20, told *The Observer*. "Besides," Lindenberg added, "I promised my friends that if they got 100 signatures on their petition for me to switch into Binghamton University, I'd make the switch, and I forgot to include a b'lee neder."

Shifra has been involved with the YC social media groups and pages since she first started Stern in the fall of 2017. Since then, she has made countless memes for the YU meme group

and even began the wildly popular YU and Stern Confessions and YU and Stern Crushes. "Besides, everyone keeps bothering me about the Confessions page" Shifra said. "Everyone keeps asking me why I didn't post their confessions, and I keep telling them that I don't know which confessions they posted!" "Yeah Shifra never posts any of the important confessions," says Rachel Cohen '20. "I keep sending in confessions about how girls can go to the YU library without wanting to find a bashert, but Shifra doesn't post MY confession about the YU library. Instead, she posts some other wannabee's confession about how girls can go to the uptown library."

"I keep sending in confessions about how I'm single and want a girlfriend but because Shifra has it out to get me, she's intentionally not posting them," echo several YC students who have never had a conversation with Shifra

2019.

We asked Shifra what will happen to the Official YU meme group, YU and Stern Confessions page, and YU and Stern Crushes page in regards to her absence.

"I'm going to step down as admin of the meme group since I'm no longer going to be in this school. There's other admins so I think the group will be fine without me. I might delete the confessions page and crush page because I'm afraid that a new admin of those pages might go mad with power." Lindenberg said. She declined to comment about whether she herself has gone mad with power. The interviewer notes, however, an evil gleam in her eyes as she thought about it.

"Is there anything that would make you want to stay in Stern?" *The Observer* asked Lindenberg.

"Maybe, if tuition wasn't expensive then

## Why I'm Denouncing Feminism and Why I'm Speaking About It Now

The Queen of Flowers

*Do you burn your bras? Do you hate men? Are you a lesbian?* These are some of the incredibly forward questions I received when branding myself a "Feminist." Men mocked me, women feared I'd steal their makeup, and my parents believed that I'd never get married. A young man admitted that before meeting me he assumed I was akin to Medusa – a terrifying creature who would reprimand him if he stared at women's legs.

After he poured out his sexist heart to me, I decided that I'd be leaving the Feminist community. I'm exhausted. Feminism is expensive, stressful, and ruins all my dating prospects. I am drained from attempting to pay half for all dates, only to have the men on the other side of the table glare at me like I destroyed their nights. I am tired of trying to explain to my dates that it is only fair for a woman to pay half, since why should the burden fall on one sex alone in heterosexual relationships? Silly me. My life could be so

much simpler.

Instead of spending \$35 on dates with men I barely like, from now on, my ex-Feminist self will keep all her money. I will allow chivalry to consume me. I will now laugh as men spend \$70 on dates which will be their last. I left Feminism a month ago, and can already afford a trip to Europe.

Instead of trying to hold doors open for men as a courtesy, I will just stand in front of each door like royalty, waiting for my male saviors to arrive. Obviously, it is only natural for men to hold open doors for women. I now believe that is what Hashem intended by creating women with smaller hands. I cannot possibly exert my strength on opening all the doors I reach, since I need to save my strength for the babies I will bear.

I have noticed that Feminism is detrimental for my future as a mother. How can I possibly have a career and children all at once? My fragile body and mind cannot take it. No,

instead, I will follow p'ru i'rivu (go forth and multiple) and have as many children as my body can handle. My political career is a pipe dream anyway. Everyone knows that a woman cannot actually lead constituencies, seeing as our periods make us too unpredictable and emotional to do so.

The worst part of Feminism is that it restricts me from what I love most – food. I love kitchens. As a Feminist, I was starving myself because I couldn't go near a kitchen, lest someone see me in my traditional gender role. Now, I can eat whatever I'd like, whenever I'd like. If any of you would like a sandwich, please reach out, I make great ones.

Unfortunately, my past Feminist connections have left me with a lingering hatred of men. I have tried shaking this off, but I cannot. I realized that I do not need Feminism to hate men. It is quite liberating.

## “THE ELEVATOR SHUTDOWN”: STERN LAUNCHES NEW INITIATIVE TO GET STUDENTS TO LOSE WEIGHT

**Stern College has shut down their elevators forcing students to take several flights of stairs to class and skip their snack breaks.**

Menuchah Schuman

For the past 3 weeks, if Stern student Sarah Katz\* wanted to have any hope of getting to her classes on time, she has had to leave her dorm half an hour before classes start. Why? The Elevator Shut Down. The Elevator Shutdown is a policy that Stern College enacted several times off and on throughout the fall semester, and after what they deemed as several successful run throughs, they have fully implemented for the past 3 weeks. The policy is to shut down as many elevators as possible for as long as they possibly can. The administration said that in 245 Lexington, the implementation entails leaving one elevator working for “liability purposes”, but mostly for they themselves to use of course.

What is the motivation behind this? What is the goal?

Well there are several aims for this policy. The first is for the student body to “get in shape”. This is accomplished in two ways through the Elevator Shut Down plan. If a student is unlucky enough to NOT get a spot to squish like a sardine in can with 30 other Stern Girls and the occasional male professor in one elevator, and doesn’t have the time to wait for the elevator to stop at every floor on the way up and then on the way down again and then on the way up again on her way to class, she will have no choice but to run up 9 flights of stairs (which would get her to the 3rd floor).

Additionally, having only one elevator for all 2,000+ undergrad and faculty to use essentially eliminates the possibility of buying lunch or a snack in-between classes. Students

are simply forced to decide whether to go the lowest level for food or to run up the stairs in hopes of making it in time for class.

Eliana, a second year on campus, says this policy is so effective she has lost at least 10 pounds in the past 3 weeks, explaining that “back in the good old days, when all elevators worked, I had the luxury of being able to satiate my body. But now, I only have 10 minutes to get from the 8th floor in 215 to the 6th floor in 245, and I just barely make it without even getting a snack.”

Some students welcome the Elevator Shut Down. Chana, a Shana Bet student who just arrived at Stern this Spring remarked excitedly “elevator shut down is great! Aside from missing the first 5 minutes of all my classes and arriving to class all sweaty and gross, I ALREADY LOST 5 POUNDS OF MY SEM 70!”

“I was able to cancel my gym membership because getting to class is such a work out!” Shira, sophomore, exclaimed excitedly. “I’m saving \$50 a month!”

Other students say they have found a way to work the system to their benefit. Atara, Junior, says “It’s actually really working out well for me. Now I can just show up late to all my classes and the professors can’t mark me down when I say “elevator shut down.”

When the observer asked the Dean’s office how they felt about this, they replied “no comment.”

Most recently in elevator news, Stern students walked in to 245 on Monday morning

to find every elevator door in the building plastered with huge photos of themselves and obscure famous people who mention YU or Judaism.

When asked why they decided to put YU promotional posters on the elevators precisely at the time they have decided to shut them down, they Administration responded that they noticed that students were complaining about the Elevator Shut Down and hope that the new posters of the happy stern students will inspire them to appreciate what a great university they attend.

“We hope that with enough exposure to each closed, shut down, elevator over the span of the entirety of the Spring semester, overtime the images that students see of their peers being happy at Stern will brainwash them enough to stop emailing us to put an end to the policy” explained the Dean.

What do you think? Has the Elevator Shut Down Policy inspired you? Are you hungry and clueless in class, or toning your glutes on the stair cases?

Leave your comments below!

Editor’s Note: As this article was going to print, Stern upgraded the policy to shut down all 3 elevators on Monday night in order preempt all the candy and Hamentash consumption their students will be participating in.

HAVE SOMETHING YOU WANT TO WRITE ABOUT?



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