**A Moment with Rabbi Avigdor Miller Zt"l #342 (Giving kavod, Isn't it Chanufa (flattery)**

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| **ParshasEikev 5776** |

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| This email is transcribed from questions that were posed to Harav Miller by the audience at the Thursday night lectures.To listen to the audio of this Q & A please dial: 201-676-3210 |
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| **QUESTION:** |

 When does giving *Kavod* turn into *chanufah*, flattery? |
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| **ANSWER:** |

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| https://gallery.mailchimp.com/51050d25b69193df91b43c6e8/images/b945c647-6393-4ebf-940d-a7a258b5f4f3.png |

**When** you are giving *kavod* to a person who doesn't deserve it because he's a*choteh*, and by giving him *kavod* you're giving him **prestige** in the eyes of other people, or you're encouraging him to continue in his wicked ways, that's *chanufa*. Or, if you're doing it just because you want from him some benefit.     But suppose you're giving *kavod* because you love your people, like *Hashem* loves the people, you want to make people**happy**; that's not *chanufa*.     ***Keitzadmerakdimlifneiha'kallah***, how do you dance in front of the *kallah*? So *Rashi* says *ma omrim*, what do you **say** when you dance? So the *gemara* says, *kallah****noeh****v'chasuda*, on every *kallah* you say she is a beautiful *kallah*. That's how you have to dance and sing.     Asks the *gemara*, *BaisShamai* asks, maybe it's not true? So *Bais Hillel* says, it's always true, because to say kindly things that's the **truth**. To say the *kallah* is cross eyed is **not** true, even if she is cross eyed, it's not true, because to say things that hurt people's feelings, that's *sheker*. ***Emes*** is to say things that make people feel good, that's *emes*. The **truth**, is to make somebody happy, that's the truth that *Hashem* wants of you.     Therefore, **all** our lives our job should be to make people **happy** with our words, and that is the *kavod* that *Hakadosh Baruch Hu* says, you're giving *kavod* to your fellow man, I'm going to give you *kavod* too. *Good Shabbos To All* |