

BSD
WORLD ORGANIZATION FOR
THE KEDDUSHA OF THE BEARD
ANNOUNCEMENT 1

FROM THE GAON RABBI ELAZAR
MENACHEM M. SCHACH ZTK'L

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Kiryat Yeshiva (Ponovez) B'nei Brak, Israel

To the questioner, may he be well: Concerning shaving the beard with electric shaving machines - See the Sefer "Likutei Halachos" on tractate "Makos" (by the "CHOFETZ CHAIM"), page 14b ("Eyn Mishpat" loc. cit.) where he writes that it is prohibited, and one may not be lenient in this matter. It is also well known that the "CHOZON ISH" o.b.m. ruled that the use of all shaving machines is forbidden. This is my response

(Signed) Elozor Menachem M. Shach

The Chazon Ish, obm, writes on this subject in a letter: "Depilatory powder used to remove the beard is not the powder of life. It disturbs me greatly and is hard for me to bear the sight of a Jew who removes his beard. It is immodest, not Jewish, and a deed which was learned from the Gentiles. Removal of the beard lessens the holiness of the Jew (Igerot Chazon Ish 1:197)

WOE TO THE ONE WHO DARES DISTURB HIS BEARD
IN ANY MANNER (ZOHAR HA KADDOSH III, 130B)