BaRaGaNewz

Web Filters and the First Amendment
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JEWISH VALUES AND CONCEPTS

Here is a list of some of the Jewish values and concepts that may play a part in understanding the issue of Internet censorship.

אַהֲבַת הַבְּרִיּוֹת *Ahavat Habriot* Love of all of God's created beings Implication: All people must be treated with dignity and love. This is a foundation of Jewish ethics.	**הַלְבָּנַת פָּנִים** *Halbanat panim* Humiliation Implication: The loss of personal dignity at the hands of others is considered one of the gravest wrongs in Judaism and, when done in public, is equated with murder.
עֲרֵבוּת *Arevut* Mutual responsibility, especially for other Jews Implication: Because of the special bond that Jews have for one another, each of us is responsible for "looking out" for the welfare of others.	**הוֹכֵחַ תּוֹכִיחַ** *Hokheah Tokhiah* You shall rebuke Implication: It is an obligation to be a social critic if one sees that government or individuals are making terrible mistakes. Social criticism, when given properly, is an expression of care for others.
בְּחִירָה חָפְשִׁית *Behirah hofshit* Free will/free choice Implication: People have the ability to freely choose actions and are responsible for the result of those choices. Personal responsibility is very important in Jewish legal tradition.	**לִפְנֵי עִוֵּר לֹא תִתֵּן מִכְשֹׁל** *Lifnei iver lo titen mikhshol* Do not put a stumbling block before a blind person Implication: Any speech that encourages others to behave in a way that diminishes the image of God within them is prohibited. Such communication is an obstacle to holy living.
חִלּוּל הַשֵּׁם *Hillul haShem* Desecration of God's Name Implication: Interpersonal behavior should be guided by the Torah. Morally questionable behavior, even if not expressly forbidden by the law is to be avoided.	**צֶדֶק צֶדֶק תִּרְדּוֹף \ דִּין** *Din / Tzedek tzedek tirdof* Justice based on law Implication: Our government and legal system must be just and fair and we have an obligation to promote justice. The rule of law is also a spiritual goal.

Note: These definitions are based on the Jewish Values Matrix developed by Panim: The Institute for Jewish Leadership and Values and published in *Jewish Civics: A Tikkun Olam/World Repair Manual*. www.panim.org