



בס"ד

Joint Statement!

As the primary organizations in the *Kehillah Hacharedit* dedicated to the rights of Orthodox Jewish women in general, and specifically to those in quest of receiving a *Get* from recalcitrant husbands, we proudly unite to express tremendous gratitude to *Hashem* and his emissaries, the venerable *Roshei Yeshivah* of the great Philadelphia *Yeshivah*, Rabbis Shmuel and Shalom Kamenetzky and Rav Nota Greenblatt of Memphis, Tennessee for having granted Tamar Epstein a release from the bondage of a failed and abusive marriage, and enabled and oversaw her remarriage to Mr. Adam Fleischer, despite the resistance of her ex-husband to grant her a *Get*. They courageously chose to disregard the repeated proclamations of the Baltimore Bais Din, under whose jurisdiction these divorce proceedings were by virtue of both husband and wife signing binding arbitration by them, maintaining that Tamar remains an *אשת איש* until a *Get* is given.

The tremendous *Kiddush Hashem* generated by the bold, courageous stand of these Rabbis shows the world that our Holy *Torah* and its values are in no way inferior ח"ו to that of any other religion, and even in a case where a husband wields disproportionate power and withholds a *Get* from his shackled wife, the *Torah* and its Rabbis are equal to the challenge and will find the means to permit the wife to remarry even without receiving a *Get* from her husband.

To all those naysayers in the Rabbinic world who are deploring the act of annulment of a marriage as a means to permit a woman to remarry even in the absence of a *Get*, we respond, is it possible that the Jewish people, the light unto the nations of the world, can be so cruel and so recessive as to chain a woman into a dead marriage with no means of escape? Is there any greater transgression of the *Mitzva* of *וואהבת לרעך כמוך*?

Up until today, only the Open Orthodox movement, assisted in part by the Modern Orthodox movement, have had the bravery and courage to break from some of the darkness of past generations and redevelop the fundamental beliefs of our Religion, in tandem with today's modernized world. Now, however, with the Yeshivish, Orthodox world led by the great *Roshei Yeshiva* of Philadelphia joining the fray and uniting all the different brands of Orthodoxy under one umbrella, *א סוכת שלם*, we will usher in a new dawn that will be the precursor of our long anticipated national dream, the coming of *Moshiach* בימינו.

Signed on this 30th day of Tishrei 5776, October 13th 2015,

Rabbi Avi Tzion
Executive Director
Orthodox Jewish
Union of Feminists

Rabbi Yitzchok Frankfurter
Editor in Chief
Ami Magazine

Rabbi Jeremy Stern
Chairman
ORA