



Update . . .

August 2011

5771 Av



Four year-old Rose Pizem's body was found in September 2008.

Rose Pizem's Lesson to Us

by R. David Weisskopf

This year the months of Av and August coincide exactly. Since the 9th of Av commemorates the destructions of both Temples in Jerusalem, half the month is full of soul-searching about the cause of our expulsion from the Holy Land and how to prevent such divine punishment in the future. In this first week of Av/August, the worldwide Jewish community reads the answer in Isaiah 1:17 and 23. The Holy Land's blessings and curses rely on how we treat 'the fatherless'.

What's the connection with Rose Pizem?

Rose Pizem suffered a lifetime of serious abuse. Both European and Israeli welfare systems neglected Rose's basic social welfare rights. Israelis in the Month of Av should focus on our side of how social welfare failed to save Rose Pizem.

From the moment Rose moved to Israel from France in 2007, court and hospital records already showed a history of domestic violence and abuse which Rose had suffered. That should have been an immediate red flag for the Israeli social welfare officials to appoint a social worker to follow up on Rose's wellbeing. That did not happen.

Had a social worker done a preliminary intake evaluation, it would have come out that Rose's mother was involved in an incestuous relationship with Rose's grandfather – resulting in two additional love-children. Another red flag.

Rose's grandmother repeatedly pled for intervention – which fell on deaf ears. Had any social workers visited the Pizem home, they would have found that Rose only owned 1 shirt and 1 pair of pants. No bed, no toys – nothing.

There is no doubt that the social welfare office could have rescued Rose Pizem from murder had they implemented basic common-sense case management.

The Love for Israel Relief Fund was one of too few organizations that spoke up for Rose Pizem according to our [September 2008](#) newsletter. We warned how social injustice against orphans is the #1 reason for bringing down Israeli governments in our [November 2008](#) newsletter. Since then, over 75,000 additional kids like Rose Pizem have become at-risk in Israel.

The truth is children die when a social welfare system lacks proper accountability. Today over 100,000 Israelis are protesting social injustices in the streets. Like all Israeli governments throughout history, this government will rise or fall on whether it learns the lesson which Rose Pizem teaches us.

Our Holiest work is advocating on behalf of Israeli orphans. This not only saves lives, it also saves over 90% on taxes and donations. A growing number of our national leaders from across the social and political spectrum are responding positively to our exhortations on behalf of these little treasures from Heaven. Your support empowers us to give a voice to children who cannot speak out for themselves.

Our Family Treatment Center proposal is available online at:

<http://love4israel.org/admin/pdf/Proposal.pdf>

You can donate online at:

<http://love4israel.org/donate.html>

On behalf of the Israelis you help –
Todah Robah!

Send checks to:

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