



Israel  
Religious  
Action  
Center



Israel Movement for Reform  
and Progressive Judaism  
התנועה הרפורמית והתנועה הפרוגרסיבית

Gender Equality in Action

# The Right to Bare Arms

## Modesty Signs in Bet Shemesh

Israeli law prohibits gender segregation and the exclusion of women in the public domain. However, due to pressure by certain extreme elements in the Haredi (Jewish ultra-Orthodox) community, it has become common to encounter such coercive practices.

The increasingly Orthodox town of Bet Shemesh has become a battleground in combating the most extreme of these elements, particularly over the installation of signs in public spaces that dictate whom may pass and what apparel is deemed permissible.

IRAC successfully petitioned the Supreme Court to rule these signs as illegal, and continues to monitor Bet Shemesh and other locales to ensure the ruling is enforced with the help of partnering Orthodox and ultra-Orthodox women.

Ensuring that Israel remains a democratic and pluralistic society, as enshrined by law and Jewish tradition, is thanks to our work and your support. Join us in guaranteeing Israel to be a Jewish and democratic state for all.

