

Rabbi Sidney Silberg, M.A.
Hendon Synagogue

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The Inspector
The Eruv Public Inquiry
The Town Hall NW4

10th Dec. 1993

Dear Mr. Bushby,

I understand that the Kalms report has been quoted as a means of calculating the number of people who would benefit from the Eruv. As Rabbi of the largest Constituent Synagogue in the area, may I make the following observations.

The membership figures and percentage of orthodox members of the United Synagogue cover the whole London and periphery areas, but without doubt the vast majority of observant orthodox Jews, within the United Synagogue family reside in North West London, within the ambit of the Eruv.

For my own Synagogue I would estimate that 50% of my members would feel a direct benefit from the Eruv. On Sabbath morning we hold no less than 6 Services, involving all age groups, some 700-800 worshippers. For those with young children, the Eruv will enable them to move much more freely, whilst for those whose infirmity has up until now kept them confined indoors, the Eruv will provide them with a freedom of mobility until now denied. A ghetto confines people behind walls, an Eruv provides freedom to emerge, only blind prejudice would suggest otherwise.

Will you Sir grant that freedom to those who ask for it ?
It will be a welcome mark of tolerance and balanced judgement
should you do so.

With respect,

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Sidney Silberg', written in dark ink.

Sidney Silberg