

Yechaveh Da'as Comments on Whether a Single Girl Must Cover Her Hair

Yechaveh Da'as, chelek 5, siman 61, page 279: No authority holds a single girl needs to cover her hair. Everyone holds a n'sua (fully married woman) must cover her hair. Many poskim hold this requirement is mid'oraisa. Half the poskim hold (and Yechaveh Da'as concludes this as halacha) that an arusa does NOT have to cover her hair. A girl becomes an arusa under the chupa, and becomes a n'sua only by yichud. So a girl does not have to start covering her hair until AFTER the yichud. Yichud occurs by ashkenazim between the chupa and the banquet, and occurs by sfardim when the couple goes home for the night AFTER the banquet. Unlike today, the term "chupa" in early times meant when the groom would take the girl under his talis or into his home, and would thus achieve n'suin, which is unrelated to what it means now-a-days.