

Ultimate Parsha continued...

We have seen an example of this recently during the terrible tragedy of Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath. The leaders of the community are responsible for and are expected to influence the largest number of people. Adult and teen volunteers are absolutely critical and also have a significant impact throughout the flooding and recovery periods. Even the smallest child can make a difference in cleaning up behind himself or herself.

Similarly on sports teams, coaches obviously have overall responsibility for the team. Captains and the strongest players can influence a great deal of the team as well, and are expected to do so. The players coming off the bench have a more limited sphere of influence, though they may inspire the rest of the team with hard work and dedication.

Many years before Spiderman made the phrase popular, Jews were clearly instructed that "with great power comes great responsibility."

Shabbat Shalom, and may we strive together to ensure that we are all responsible for our Jewish teammates in the "game" of life.

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