

THE GOLDEN PROPORTION: A FASCINATING ADVENTURE INTO THE BEAUTY OF STRAIGHT TEETH

BY DR. ELI GHERMAN

The central purpose for undergoing orthodontic treatment is for functional reasons; to keep your teeth healthy and balanced. However, the powerful effects of a beautiful straight smile go way beyond what many might think.

If I would tell you that a straight smile has the same components as DNA to vast galaxies, and even the Aron Hakodesh's dimensions, you would quite possibly say: "Has Dr. G flipped his lid?" The answer is "No, this has been known and studied for centuries." You see, in a straight smile, one reveals the golden or often known as the divine proportion."

The golden proportion is only revealed once your teeth are straight and thus the full tooth is shown, allowing the mathematical proportion in your new smile to exude its effects that are known to be extremely pleasing to the human eye, organic, balanced and harmonious. A beautiful smile can lower the observer's blood pres-



sure and boost his immune system by releasing endorphins and serotonin. This helps with relaxation and creates a natural high.

SO WHAT IS THE GOLDEN PROPORTION IN DENTISTRY?

Simply put, the golden dental proportion is based on a mathematical ratio of 1.618:1. This ratio represents the relation of the larger to the smaller teeth;

namely, it means that the smaller tooth must be 62% of the larger tooth's size. If you look at the adjacent picture, if the lateral incisor has the factor of 1, the central incisor must then be 1.6. The visible part of that canine, usually the mesial part of the canine, in that front view, would be 0.6. This is evaluated bilaterally, so that we can ensure that there's symmetry from the right to left side, as well as creating the aforementioned pleasing proportion.

The Golden/Divine Ratio (ϕ = φ) is often called: The most beautiful number in the universe. The reason ϕ is so extraordinary is because it can be seen in so many places, both in HaShem's beautiful nature, as well as pleasing man-made creations.

THE GOLDEN PROPORTION IS ONLY REVEALED ONCE YOUR TEETH ARE STRAIGHT AND THUS THE FULL TOOTH IS SHOWN.

It has been found in the human body, flowers, pinecones, animal bodies, DNA, fruits and vegetables, trees, shells, the swirl of a hurricane and even in black holes. It has been seen in the Pyramids of Giza, the Parthenon, the Acropolis, The Taj Mahal and, "Iehavdil", the Beit Hamikdash, *tzizit*, the Aron Hakodesh's dimensions, the Mizbeach, and even the colors used for the *Mishkan* and the clothes of the *kohen*. The Golden Proportion was also used by many artists such as Michelangelo, Raphael, and Leonardo da Vinci, who employed it to draw the "ideal man" and the Mona Lisa. Evidence suggests that it was also used in classical music by Bach and Mozart. With its clear link to esthetics balance and harmony, it follows that one should straighten their teeth and unleash the wonderful power contained in a beautiful smile.

So consult with your orthodontist today and see how they can help you.

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