Saving a Life (Pikuach Nefesh)

Human life is valued in Judaism, unlike in some other religions. The *Talmud* says that if someone saves one human life (*pikuach nefesh*), it is as if he or she saved an entire universe. Almost all *halachot* may be overridden in order to save a life; the main exceptions are for Adultery, Murder, and Idol Worship—see Adultery, Murder, Idol Worship .

EXAMPLE

You may drive a car on *Shabbat* or even *Yom Kippur* in order to take a seriously injured or ill person to the hospital. This includes pregnant women who are about to give birth.

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