

"After deeds is the heart drawn" as a pedagogical principle in the Musar Movement

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The expression "After deeds is the heart drawn" originates in *Sefer Hahinuch*, and is used there by the author in two senses. Firstly, it designates the recognition that actions performed continually exert an internal, psychological effect on the individual; secondly, it suggests that repeated actions can potentially alter and even reverse the individual's general attitude, particularly regarding religious life and obligations. The pedagogical principle embodied in the notion that "one's heart is drawn after one's deeds" was adopted as a central idea in the Musar movement. This paper discusses the development and evolution the idea underwent in the thought of three major figures of the movement: that of its founder, R. Yisrael Lipkin Salater; one of his foremost disciples, R. Simcha Zissel Ziv (the "Saba") of Kelm; and one of his prime disciples, R. Yeruchom Halevi Levovitz of Mir.