

It's Not Even Lit

by Rabbi Zev-Hayyim Feyer

I got into a cab the other day. "Do you mind not smoking?" I asked the driver.

"No, I don't mind," he said. But he made no move to extinguish the cigarette which dangled from his lips.

"Well then," I said, "is it possible for you to put out your cigarette?"

"It's possible," he said, but again he took no action.

"Look," I said, "I can't ride with you if you're smoking."

"Okay," he said.

"Fine!" I said. "I'm taking another cab!" I opened the door and got out in a huff.

"Look," said the driver, holding up his unstarted cigarette. "It wasn't even lit!"

Sheepishly, I got back into the cab.