

Why Smoking Is Rude

There are many things that people do that are just plain rude. Elbows on the table, loud bodily noises, people with big heads at the movie theater, and so on. What really grinds my gears is cigarette smoking. Almost everything about smoking is rude. I hope by the end of these few paragraphs, you too, will understand that the way I do.

The number one irritant of smoking is the smell. Dead fish are nasty, and wet dog is unpleasant, but cigarette smoke is exceedingly rancid. It brings a tear to the eye, and causes an excruciating burning sensation in your nose. Very few things are worse than strolling through the zoo, enjoying the scenery, and then having some joker light up just as you're passing the lion exhibit. If someone enjoys basking in that acid-like stench, can't they just do it in their own dwelling? Or better yet, not do it at all.

What do you think of when you hear the word 'eyesore'? I think about cigarette butts sprinkled in a heavy layer all over the ground. Some cities are maintained very well and the streets are kept neat and clean. It can be very enjoyable to walk or drive through these cities. But oh no, I don't want our streets to look nice, I'm gonna take a couple minutes off of my life span real quick, then I'm going to throw the remnants of my lung-eroding device onto the ground, and then maybe even smother it into a black streak of ash and tobacco. Imagine if everyone that had some sort of eating or drinking habit decided that they were too good for the rules, like smokers, and began to throw their garbage wherever they pleased. The ground would be completely covered in empty Diet Coke cans and cheeseburger wrappers! That's really what it is, right? Most of us normal, non-smoking humans wait until we find a garbage or recycling can before we dispose of whatever it is we have, whether it be food, soda, anything. But heaven forbid that a smoker would actually look for an ash tray to throw their butts in. That would be absurd.

Some people have developed dainty ways of throwing out their old cigarettes. They lightly flick the heart attack-wrapped-in-paper out of their thumb and finger, and then gingerly smear it on the ground with the toe of their shoe. Even with such a degree of sophistication, it is still an

eyesore. It certainly is a good thing that everyone isn't as rude as smokers.

Litter and cigarette flicking aside, the most boorish of all smokers' offenses, is smoking in non-smoking areas. I was in kindergarten when I learned what the words “no, non, and don't” mean. Don't cross. No running. No diving. No Smoking. Have smokers' minds really been clouded with tobacco smoke so much that they can't remember those simple words? Whoever invented the no-smoking sign was considerate enough to give them an illustration. Yet even with colorful drawings and elementary phrases, more often than not, repulsive, reeking clouds of smoky poison plague no-smoking areas.

In addition to people smoking where they're not supposed to, we usually frown upon taking other people's money, and I find it very rude that people can smoke their entire lives, make everyone uncomfortable, cause an inconvenience for the public, and then when they have cardio and lung problems, everybody else has to pay for their Medicare. If you ask me, smokers should have their own federal health insurance, so that when they have their problems from smoking, they can pay for each other.

Out of all things in the world that are rude, smoking definitely takes first place. No one should have to suffocate on the fumes of cigarette smoke when they are out in public. Federal insurance programs are great for people who deserve it, not people who have voluntarily destroyed themselves for their whole lives. Furthermore we shouldn't have to see cigarette ends lying all about the place, especially in no-smoking areas. Most people are good, law abiding folks. How come smokers need to break the flow of goodness by smoking in places where smoking is not allowed? Smoking should not be illegal, but it's not too much to ask that smokers show a little respect, and simply follow some basic rules of common courtesy.