

Unintentional Violation; Receive No Benefit (Psik Reisha...)

Psik reisha d'la nicha lei (halacha whose violation you don't intend and from which you receive no benefit) is not permitted.

EXAMPLE

You open the refrigerator door on Shabbat and the light comes on. This is forbidden on Shabbat and Jewish festivals, even if you don't want or need the light.

However, you may ask a non-Jew to do an action for you that will be psik reisha d'la nicha lei.

EXAMPLE

You may ask a non-Jew to get your jacket from the car on Shabbat or a Jewish festival, even though a light will go on, but only during the daytime; if it is night and the light would be needed to find the jacket, you may not ask.