



# JEWISH LEARNING CENTRE

1845 Mathers Avenue, Winnipeg, MB R3N 0N2

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**Avrohom & Brocha Altein**  
*Oholei Torah Day School*  
*Senior Rabbi, Director*

**Shmuly & Adina Altein**  
*Jewish Learning Institute*  
*Torah Tots Preschool*

**Boruch & Chana Heidingsfeld**  
*Youth and Family Programs*  
*Camp Gan Israel*

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Tesla Motors, Pokémon Go, and Hair-Splitting Talmudic Arguments**

**Contact: Rabbi Shmuly Altein**

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**Winnipeg, MB**— Engage in a brain-twisting, mind-wrestling, hair-splitting experience as you explore modern situations and the complex dilemmas they give rise to while you seek solutions by examining original Talmudic texts.

Beginning Tuesday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 pm, Rabbi Shmuly Altein of the Jewish Learning Centre will offer a fascinating new six-session course from the Rohr Jewish Learning Institute (JLI) called *The Dilemma: Modern Conundrums. Talmudic Debates. Your Solutions.*

In an example of one such conundrum, Tesla Motors is currently programming self-driving cars for instances when death is inevitable. Should they program the cars to swerve and avoid killing more pedestrians, but kill one whose life was previously not endangered? Should it favor the lives of pedestrians over passengers? Should it favor the lives of younger people over those who are older? And should owners be given the ability to determine these settings?

In another example relating to the recently popularized Pokémon Go mobile app: Should the game’s creators be held liable in the hundreds of cases of trespassing and damages that were incurred because of Pokémon characters negligently programmed to be found on private properties?

“In *The Dilemma* we encounter fascinating, real-life conundrums; situations in which your gut instinctively responds one way, but your brain tells you quite the opposite,” explained Rabbi Zalman Abraham of JLI’s Brooklyn, New York headquarters. “To solve these dilemmas, participants are asked to break into study groups and explore hair-splitting Talmudic arguments that participants then debate and apply to solve the cases using new, interactive polling technology.”



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“The Dilemma is a mental expedition in which participants mind-wrestle with situations that force them to choose between two reasonable truths,” said Rabbi Shmuly Altein, the local JLI Instructor in Winnipeg. “Participants analyze, discuss, and debate original Talmudic texts to solve dilemmas and get an authentic taste of dynamic Talmud study.”

“I find people in Winnipeg love having the opportunity to engage in social discourse, particularly when it involves fascinating intellectual challenges and hot topics such as Pokémon Go and Tesla’s self-driving cars,” said Rabbi Shmuly Altein. “This is by far the most captivating course we’ve ever offered and I encourage everyone to attend.”

The Dilemma is accredited for continuing legal education credits for attorneys and others in the legal professions. Like all JLI programs, this course is designed to appeal to people at all levels of knowledge, including those without any prior experience or background in Jewish learning. All JLI courses are open to the public, and attendees need not be affiliated with a particular synagogue, temple, or other house of worship.

Interested students may call (204) 339-8737 or visit [www.ChabadWinnipeg.org/JLI](http://www.ChabadWinnipeg.org/JLI) for registration and for other course-related information.

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The Jewish Learning Institute is the adult education arm of Chabad-Lubavitch and a partner agency of the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg. As the preeminent provider of adult Jewish learning in Winnipeg, JLI's mission is to make Jewish learning accessible and personally meaningful to every Jew, regardless of background or affiliation.

Chabad-Lubavitch provides Jewish education, outreach and social service programming for families and individuals of all ages, backgrounds, and affiliations. Thousands are touched by Chabad each year through our school, day camps, early childcare centre, adult education institute, library, kosher kitchen, family workshops, youth groups, and holiday programming.

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“Inspiring Judaism with a smile!”