7. A smoking article according to any preceding claim in which the removable cap comprises a filter positioned such that, when the removable cap is coupled to the first end of the rod in the first configuration, air may be withdrawn from the rod through the filter.

8. A removable cap for a smoking article, wherein the cap is removably couplable to both a first end and a second end of a rod comprising an aerosol-forming substrate to form the smoking article, in which the cap is configured such that when coupled to the first end of the rod air may be drawn from the rod through the cap, and when coupled to the second end of the rod the cap facilitates disposal of the smoking article after use of the smoking article.

9. A removable cap according to claim 8 comprising a tubular sheath, the tubular sheath being dimensioned to receive both the first end and the second end of the rod to enable the removable cap to be coupled to either the first end or the second end of the rod.

10. A removable cap according to claim 8 or 9, comprising one or more materials selected from the group consisting of non-combustible materials, flame-retardant materials, thermally conductive materials and thermally insulating materials.

11. A removable cap according to claim 9 or 10, in which the tubular sheath is formed from, or lined with, one or more materials selected from the group consisting of aluminium foil, graphite, phase-changing materials, and foams.

12. Use of a removable cap according to any of claims 8 to 11 as a mouthpiece when coupled to a first end of a rod comprising an aerosol-forming substrate, and as a means to facilitate disposal of the rod when coupled to a second end of the rod after use.

13. A removable cap according to any of claims 8 to ~~12~~ 11 comprising a thermochromatic material or pigment.

14. A method of using a smoking article comprising a rod having a first end and a second end, and a removable cap coupled to the first end of the rod, the method comprising the steps of:

applying a source of heat to the second end of the rod;

drawing air from the rod through the removable cap;

removing the removable cap from the first end of the rod; and

coupling the removable cap to the second end of the rod such that the second end of the rod is at least substantially covered by the removable cap.