

Exhibition Questions

1. How has racial prejudice affected the outcomes of criminal trials over the course of the last century?
2. How does the location of a trial affect the verdict?
3. Does a defendant's economic class affect the likelihood that he or she will receive a fair trial, and if so, has this always been the case?
4. How does a defendant's race affect the likelihood that he or she will be convicted for a violent crime?
5. Does the United States have a history of sending people to jail for violent crimes they did not commit?
6. Does the American judicial system differ from that of other countries with regard to the likelihood an innocent person will be convicted?
7. What is the per capita rate of incarceration among racial and/or ethnic lines in the United States, is this the same in other countries, and how has this rate changed over the years?
8. Are men or women more likely to receive a fair trial?
9. What constitutes a fair trial?
10. What is the Adversarial System and how has it historically affected various and particular segments of the population (people of color, women, LGBT's, immigrants, etc)?
11. What is the history of juries in America – why do they exist, how are they selected and how do they help or hinder the enactment of justice?
12. What is bias and how has it manifested in the American justice system over the years?
13. What are agencies and institutions doing currently to limit and/or prevent bias?
14. How does the evolution of culture – the changing of cultural norms – impact the judicial process, including trial outcomes?
15. What are the role and function of each of the various criminal courts in the country, from the County Superior court all the way to the United States Supreme Court?
16. How do criminal and civil courts compare?
17. What is the history of corrections in the United States?
18. What is the future of corrections in the United States?
19. What role has scientific and technical progress played in the judicial process over the past century?
20. What role does education play in the likelihood a person will or will not one day become incarcerated?