



**Lesson Plan: Jury Trial**

**Student Handouts:**

<p>Description of Source: What I see..... Evidence of.....</p>	<p>Meaning: What the objects, words, etc., mean</p>
<p>Message/Argument: The author is trying to tell me...</p>	<p>Questions: I wonder.... My reaction to the source is....</p>



## Scenario

You are accused of stealing from a local store. You are given the choice to go before a judge in juvenile court, or go before a jury of your peers in peer court.

What things do you need to consider when making this choice?

What is the benefit of going before a judge?

What is the risk in going before a judge?

What is the benefit of going before a jury of your peers?

What is the risk of going before a jury of your peers?

You must write a letter to the judge explaining to him/her what your decision is and why.



# CALIFORNIA ON MY HONOR

Curricula for K-12 Civics Education

Introduction: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Judge Trial Pro's	Judge Trial Cons
Jury Trial Pros	Jury Trial Cons

Conclusion: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



## Conclusion Questions

Why do you think it was important to our countries creators to make sure trial by jury was a given right?

Do you think this is an important civic responsibility (serving as a juror)? Why or why not?

What is civic responsibility?

Do you know anyone who has served on a jury? If so, what have they shared with you about their experience?

After discussing how important it was to have trial by jury as a part of our rights, what does it mean to you?