

## Law 12 - Famous Trials Project - Guidelines

There have been many trials in the western world that have captured the world's attention. The reason for this is because they are often precedent setting, or because they represent a turning point in human history. Laws reflect the societies that people live in. As societies evolve, so too must their laws.

Whether it was the trial of Galileo in 1633, which challenged the church's authority over knowledge and science, or the Lenny Bruce trial of 1964 which challenged free speech and obscenity laws in the USA, famous trials mark significant turning points in human history.

**Your assignment:** Either on your own, or with a partner, prepare a poster board project based on information that you have collected on a famous trial. Your poster board must outline the relevant facts including why it is an important trial, provide an analysis of the case and the trial, and include relevant pictures, images or diagrams. You will be marked on the following criteria:

1. **Overview** - Include an outline of the facts of the case including why it was brought to court in the first place.
2. **Analysis** - Include a written reflection of what you believe is important about this case and whether or not you agree or disagree with the outcome.
3. **Impact Statement** - Include a statement that describes how this case has impacted society today.
4. **Images / Appearance** - Include relevant images or diagrams to help explain your important trial. Your overall project must indicate thought and effort.
5. **Presentation** - You will present your poster board and your trial to the class. Presentations will be no shorter than 3 minutes and no longer than 10 minutes. You will walk the class through the case against and for, as well as inform the class about the outcome and its' importance for society.

NOTE: 1) It is important that the whole class does not study the same trial. Therefore you must inform your teacher of your choice to avoid repetition. This will operate on a first-come-first-serve basis.

2) Your thoughts and opinions must be your own. Do not copy and paste to ensure that you do not accidentally plagiarize.

*Cite your sources using APA format! Use 3 – 4 sources.*

**This webpage is a good place to begin your search:**

***University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law - Famous Trials***

<http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/ftrials.htm>