

Understanding Law Through Literature: An Annotated Bibliography
Originally compiled by the American Bar Association,
expanded by the Illinois State Bar Association
2000

NOVELS:

THE CAVES OF STEEL by Isaac Asimov

Core Concept: Righting the balance, Judgment

An interplanetary murder investigation is the backdrop for an exposure of societal differences between a futuristic Earth and her colonized planets. One of the main characters, a robot programmed to be "perfectly just," raises fascinating questions about the nature of justice and the relationship between a sense of justice and "humanness."

TEN LITTLE INDIANS by Agatha Christy

Core Concept: Whodunit?

A classic mystery appropriately set in an English country home with all the gothic trimmings. Readers are provided, if somewhat subtly, all the clues necessary to establish "whodunit." An excellent entree into investigative reading for the middle school student.

THE OXBOW INCIDENT by W.V.T. Clark

Core Concept: Righting the Balance, Judgment

A posse, lacking official sanction, decides to seek vengeance for an alleged case of murder and cattle rustling. The result is the death of three innocent men and two subsequent suicides. A novel that reads quickly raises questions of due process and jurisdiction.

GREAT EXPECTATIONS by Charles Dickens

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

This oft-dreaded classic can be revived and enjoyed when read in light of notions of fairness and reciprocity. A jilted lover's calculated attempts to get even with the whole male sex, a lawyer's effort to foster social justice by saving the child of a criminal, a convict's seeking of redemption in repaying a favor are among many of the legal situations that raise fascinating questions of individual and social fairness.

BLEAK HOUSE by Charles Dickens

Core Concept: Justice and Society

A satire on the methods of an English equity court, *Bleak House* is based upon an actual case in Chancery. Unlike many of Dickens' novels, the mesh of interrelationships is not neatly resolved. Instead lives and fortunes are sacrificed to a meaningless judicial system. The novel invites critique of the waste within our current judicial system.

THE COUNT OF MONTE-CRISTO by Alexandre Dumas

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

Amid a story of Napoleonic intrigue, a political prisoner decides to ruin the man responsible for his imprisonment. His use of extra-legal, morally questionable means to achieve his end raises important considerations of justice--who should pursue it and in what ways? At what point has the balance been righted?

THE LORD OF THE FLIES by William Golding

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance

The rejection of authority and with it the legal and moral principles on which "civilized" society rests leads to anarchy among a group of British school boys marooned on a desert island during an unnamed war (this backdrop pulls the supposedly civilized adult society into question).

SUMMER OF MY GERMAN SOLDIER by Bette Greene

Core Concept: Guilty or Not Guilty?

Like Antigone, the protagonist Patty Bergen, a teenage girl, is faced with a legal/moral dilemma. Laws of conscience bid her protect an injured German soldier while laws of state demand that she turn him in.

DARKNESS AT NOON by Arthur Koestler

Core Concept: On Being Convicted, Judgment

Rubashov, an ex-commisar of the People Under Stalin, is in prison, accused of treason. Under relentless questioning, lack of sleep and food, and the promise of life, he confesses to crimes he has not committed. At the end of his inquisition, his inquisitor is denounced and Rubashov is sent to his death.

THE STARS WILL JUDGE by Irving a. Greenfield

Core Concept: Judgement, Guilty or Not Guilty?

A protagonist, a prisoner on a distant planet, has been transported from Earth to stand trial for having caused an intergalactic war. During the trial, in which the defendant serves as his own lawyer, the nature of the crime, the personality of the defendant and the alien culture of his judges are revealed. The novel is interesting for its treatment of due process, evidence and social responsibility.

THE SCARLET LETTER by Nathaniel Hawthorne

Core Concept: On Being Convicted, Justice and Society

The contrast between Hester's (the convicted adulterer) and Dimsdale's (the unconfessed adulterer), experiences reveals much of the connection believed to exist between punishment and redemption--both legally and morally--by Puritan society.

THE DOSADI EXPERIMENT by Frank Herbert

Core Concept: Justice and Society

The hero's mission is to investigate the planet Dosadi that possesses a uniquely flexible legal system. His investigation uncovers a society in chaos born of anarchy. The practical and moral questions involved in

reforming the entire legal structure make for compelling discussion.

LES MISERABLES by Victor Hugo

Core Concept: On Being Convicted, Justice and Society

A convict escapes and starts a new life but is hounded by his past. When is restitution complete? Insights into rehabilitation.

THE TRIAL by Franz Kafka

Core Concept: Judgment, Justice and Society, On Being Convicted

Against a backdrop of fantasy and burlesque, *The Trial* raises serious questions of authority, due process and the structure of law as it presents the subjective experience of one who has been convicted of a crime he not only has not committed, but the details of which he is not even told.

TO KILL A MOCKINGBIRD by Harper Lee

Core Concept: Who's to Blame, Righting the Balance

Because the novel is told from the point of view of a young girl, the events surrounding the trial of a black man accused of raping a white girl are understandable to readers as young as eleven or twelve. Small town southern society is presented in a fair and complex light so that questions of blame are less easy to resolve. AN excellent novel for trial enactments.

BILLY BUDD by Herman Melville

Core Concept: Judgment, Righting the Balance

A false accusation leads a sailor accidentally to slay his accuser. The trial that follows forces readers to consider the nature of justice and the claims of a narrow versus a liberal interpretation of law.

MUTINY ON THE BOUNTY by Nordhoff and Hall

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance

Authoritarian Captain Bligh, in a series of arbitrary displays of power, leads his crew to mutiny. The crew's subsequent attempts to establish a new order, to treat the ousted Bligh justly and lay the basis for continued justice form the basis of a novel that is full of excitement and romance. Based on actual historical events, the novel could profitably inspire historical research.

ANIMAL FARM by George Orwell

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance

Like the crew of the Bounty, the animals of Manor Farm "mutiny," overthrowing besotted Farmer Jones. Their attempts to establish a just society, in this case based on a socialist model, are amusingly unsuccessful. The tyranny that results has been likened to authoritarian regimes like Stalinist Russia and Napoleonic France.

NINETEEN EIGHTY FOUR by George Orwell

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance, Judgment, Justice and Society

The vain attempts of two people to challenge a paternalistic, authoritarian society in the name of human

freedom and justice raise vital questions about government involvement in human lives, the connection between legal practice and moral principle and the psychological needs of individuals.

CRY THE BELOVED COUNTRY by Alan Patton

Core Concept: Guilty or Not Guilty, On Being Convicted

Set in South Africa, the novel centers on the investigation, arrest and trial of a young black man who, in collusion with friends who turn against him, accidentally kills a white man during an attempted robbery. The fact that the slain man is a civil rights activist and that the slayer's father is a village priest adds needed complexity to the novel as it focuses attention on an entire society's responsibility for crime.

TO PROVE YOURSELF A HERO by K. M. Peyton

Core Concept: Who's to Blame?

A fourteen year-old boy is kidnapped and under the stress of the situation agrees to take a sedative and thus misses a chance to escape. His subsequent guilt is intense and causes him to take complete responsibility for the crime. Readers faced with this case become his jurors. An extremely well written book, especially suitable for young adults.

WITCH OF BLACKBIRD POND by Elizabeth Spears

Core Concept: Who's to Blame?

The trial of a young woman for witchcraft in 17th Century Wethersfield, Connecticut clearly presents a society whose legal and moral tenets are askew. Not quite as grim as many witchcraft accounts, this book is a good introduction to a historical study of the Salem witch trials.

OF MICE AND MEN by John Steinbeck

Core Concept: Righting the Balance, Guilty or Not Guilty?

This well-known, easy-to-read novel portrays a retarded man unable to control his strength and a responsible man's efforts to teach him control. The tragic failure of this teaching raises the crucial question, how can and should a society deal with those who cannot comprehend its most basic laws?

A CHANCE CHILD, by Jill Paton Walsh

Core Concept: Who's to Blame?

Child labor in England is examined through the eyes of a contemporary child in a novel that clearly introduces notions of social justice in terms of simple (but not simplistic) enough for a ten to twelve year old to follow.

THE ONION FIELD by Joseph Wambaugh

Core Concept: On Being Convicted, Justice and Society

A graphic narrative about death row inmates in San Quentin. The novel examines the trauma sustained both by the convicted and the convicts. Raises important questions about the justice of capital punishment.

NIGHT JOURNEYS by Avi Wortis

Core Concept: Guilty or Not Guilty?

Set in Colonial Pennsylvania, the novel focuses on the capture of two runaway indentured servants. In many ways the dilemma here resembles that of *Summer of My German Soldier* and the books are of comparable reading levels.

DRAMA:

THE DEVIL AND DANIEL WEBSTER, by Stephen Vincent Benet

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance, Guilty or Not Guilty

A clever lawyer does "legal" battle with the Devil for a human soul in an entertaining "relative" to Goethe's *Faust*.

A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS by Robert Bolt

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance

A historical play based on the trial of Sir Thomas More who put loyalty and principle above personal safety and friendship with King Henry VIII.

WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION by Agatha Christie

Core Concept: Guilty or Not Guilty

More than just a typical mystery story, this play takes a reader into a courtroom, exposing him or her to legal tactics and issues.

THE VISIT by Friedrich Durrenmatt

Core Concept: Righting the Balance, Judgment

This play depicts the grotesque revenge of a woman who offers her hometown enough money to buy themselves out of depression in exchange for the conviction and death of the man who, years before, fathered her illegitimate child. The second trial exposes the sham civic ideals of the society.

TRIAL BY JURY by Gilbert and Sullivan

Core Concept: Guilty or Not Guilty

A whimsical operetta set in a courtroom. A suit brought by a jilted lover brings up questions of equity and just deserts. A short and "presentable" piece of younger students.

AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE by Henrik Ibsen

Core Concept: Justice and Society

This play raises many issues central to modern life and governance, including the individual's responsibility for the social good.

INHERIT THE WIND by Lawrence and Lee

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance, Guilty or Not Guilty

Based on the Scopes Trial, this play presents an individual who deliberately sets out to challenge a law by breaking it. A fast-paced, witty play that is easily accessible to younger students, but sophisticated enough to

hold anyone's interest.

WEST SIDE STORY, by Laurents and Bernstein

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

Two fifties gangs attempt to achieve social equilibrium by taking the law into their own hands and tragedy ensues. The message is simple and perhaps a bit too moralistic for a modern audience.

THE CRUCIBLE by Arthur Miller

Core Concept: Righting the Balance, Justice and Society

Written during the McCarthy "witch hunts," *The Crucible* is based on the Salem Witch Trials and focuses on a single man who refused to take the easy course and confess. The attempts of a society to achieve social order at any cost make this play a central work.

TWELVE ANGRY MEN by Reginald Rose

Core Concept: Guilty or Not Guilty, Judgment

This play, focusing on the role of a juror, is reminiscent of medieval miracle plays. Vices and virtues, such as Gluttony and Humility, appear as real people. This is an excellent play to use as an introduction to the workings of a jury and the processes of judgment.

MEASURE FOR MEASURE by William Shakespeare

Core Concept: Judgment

In a variety of relationships, the question of justice arises, as does the question of the proper use of legal authority. The play centers on the misuse of power by one in whom it has been entrusted, his unjust judgments and a final reestablishment of order and justice by a true authority.

THE MERCHANT OF VENICE by William Shakespeare

Core Concept: Judgment

An excellent introduction to contracts, the play presents the interpretation of a contract. Shylock, a moneylender, demands in lieu of an un-returned loan, "a pound of flesh." Portia, a friend to his debtor, disguises herself as a lawyer and after examining the contract declares that Shylock can have no blood with his flesh.

ROMEO AND JULIET by William Shakespeare

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

In a variety of attempts to restore justice, people violate the law and ultimately fail in their pursuits, causing greater injustices. The play raises important questions of civic versus family responsibility.

TIMON OF ATHENS by William Shakespeare

Core Concept: Righting the Balance, Judgment

A generous man expects his munificent gifts to friends to have earned him credit upon which he can draw in his time of need. His unsuccessful attempts to collect and subsequent alienation from society could serve as the basis for good discussion of the nature of agreement and the necessity of laws to protect those agreements.

SAINT JOAN by George Bernard Shaw

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance, Judgment

Shaw fills out what is known about the campaign, trial and execution of Joan of Arc in a play that takes a skeptical view of her judgment and society's tolerance of dissidents.

ANTIGONE by Sophocles

Core Concept: Righting the Balance, Judgment

Like many other literary figures to follow her, Antigone is faced with two laws, the upholding of one resulting in the breaking of the other. An excellent way of introducing contradictions between laws.

MISCELLANEOUS:

THE CATTONSVILLE NINE by Daniel Berrigan

Core Concept: Justice and Society

The play centers on an act of civil disobedience during the Vietnamese conflict. In 1968, Father Daniel Berrigan with his brother and fellow activists burned over five hundred draft files and were charged with and convicted of destroying government property. The play is slanted in their favor.

PORTIONS OF CANTERBURY TALES by Geoffrey Chaucer

Friars Tale

Core Concept: Judgment

The Friar, one who had judicial as well as spiritual authority in the Middle Ages, tells the tale of a summoner who misuses his power to extort money from those under his jurisdiction. The conduct of his "summons" and the judgement he is subject to at the hands of his judge, Satan, suggest several legal themes.

Wife of Bath's Tale

Core Concept: Judgment

A young man convicted of rape is saved from the gallows and given a punishment intended to serve as redemption and to restore a more perfect justice than his death could establish.

NJAL'S SAGA by Magnus Magnuson

Core Concept: Judgment, Righting the Balance, Justice and Society

This saga recounts the conflicts over property and authority among Icelandic families and relays how the society is ultimately unable to resolve the conflict peaceably.

MERRY ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD by Howard Pyle

or

ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD by Roger L. Green

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

A young Englishman returns from the Crusades to find he is an outlaw. He works to right the situation and

takes actions that include "robbing the rich to give to the poor."

SHORT STORIES:

THE STONE BOY by Gina Berrault

Core Concept: Guilty or Not Guilty

When a young boy accidentally shoots and kills his older brother, instead of returning to report the accident, he numbly proceeds to pick peas as he had originally intended. This apparent indifference convinces his family that he is a cold-hearted boy, a criminal-to-be.

MY FATHER GOES TO COURT by Carlos Bulosan

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

Set in the Phillipines, the story recounts a suit brought by a wealthy family against a poor one. Accused of taking him from the wealthy family "the spirit of health," the father of the poor family offers to make reparation with "the spirit of money," and shows this by jingling a handful of silver. The case is dismissed.

MY SIDE OF THE MATTER by Truman Capote

Core Concept: Guilty or Not Guilty

A contemptible, but amusing narrator seeks to defend before his readers his honor in the face of charges of theft and marital negligence. The story is told from behind the door of his wife's aunt's house that he has barricaded to keep his accusers away.

THE TRIAL OF THE KNAVE OF HEARTS by Lewis Carroll

Core Concept: Who's to Blame, Judgment

The climax of *Alice in Wonderland*, this humorous account of a totally anarchic trial amusingly brings up questions of due process and other aspects of procedure and evidence. A good introduction to what goes on in a courtroom for readers of any age.

PAUL'S CASE by Willa Cather

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance

A young adolescent's inability to respect the authority of teachers, parents, and, ultimately, legal authorities, prompts a rash escape and self-destruction.

THE EVILDOER by Anton Chekhov

Core Concept: Guilty or Not Guilty, Upsetting the Balance

Hostility between classes in 19th Century Russia sets the tone for the trial of a peasant accused of deliberately attempting to sabotage the railroad he works on. Presented with evidence both vindicating and condemning, the reader is called upon to decide the verdict.

THE WHITE CIRCLE by John Bell Clayton

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

Again tensions between the "haves" and the have-nots" inform this story set in the South. A younger, weaker boy attempts to kill an older boy who has invaded his territory and exercised physical superiority. The attempt is unsuccessful and leads to amends, which are likewise vain.

THUS I REFUTE BEELZY, by John Collier

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance

A fantasy about a child's reaction against an authoritarian father for whom the laws of logic are sacred.

BARDWELL V. PICKWICK by Charles Dickens

Core Concept: Who's to Blame, Judgment

A misunderstood conversation in which Mrs. Bardwell assumes that her boarder Mr. Pickwick has proposed to her leads her to sue him for "breach of promise."

TOMORROW by William Faulkner

Core Concept: Judgment

An account of a defense attorney's search into the background of a man, who by holding out has "hung" the jury he is a member of. The difficulty of impartiality is broached by Faulkner.

WASH by William Faulkner

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

Originally part of his longer novel, *Absalom, Absalom*, this story centers on the punishment of a white landowner by the black father of the young woman who has just born his child.

AMERICA'S FIRST WOMAN LAWYER: THE BIOGRAPHY OF MYRA BRADWELL by Jane M. Friedman

Core Concept: Legal Profession

The story of Myra Bradwell (1831 to 1894) who passed the Illinois bar examination in 1869 but was barred from practicing law because of her sex. She established the "Chicago Legal News," through which she lobbied diligently for legal reform. Mary Todd Lincoln was a friend, and client, of Ms. Bradwell.

THANK YOU MA'AM by Langston Hughes

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

A boy attempts to steal a woman's purse and instead of reprimanding or reporting him, she brings him home, feeds him and gives him money to buy blue suede shoes. One of a very few works that suggest that rehabilitation is possible.

CHARLES by Shirley Jackson

Core Concept: Who's to Blame?

A child defies parental authority and seeks to defy teacher authority. When he cannot do the latter, he creates an imaginary friend who is ungovernable. His parents' inability to see through their child's deception, assuming his blamelessness, makes this an amusing story.

THE LOTTERY by Shirley Jackson

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

Gradually readers realize that what appears to be merely a game of chance, an ordinary lottery, is actually a ritualized system of social purification. The "winner" of the lottery is stoned by all other members of his or her village.

THE CATCHEE by Konigsburg

Core Concept: Who's to Blame?

The narrator is a "catchee," the type who, for example, gets nabbed by a store detective in the women's lingerie section and accused of stealing panties. The story is interesting in the calm, rational way in which the narrator responds to the false accusations and inquisitions to which he is subjected.

HAIRCUT by Ring Lardner

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

A retarded boy interprets a personal affront to a friend as a grave insult to dignity and kills the offender who has hitherto considered himself above the constraints of a small town society.

THE BAD SEED by William Maxwell

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance

Rhoda Penmark, apparently "little miss innocent," is actually an apparently ruthless murderess. Her mother's attempts to both protect her daughter and to protect others from one lacking wholly in moral sense make this a troubling but fascinating novella.

MATEO FALCONE by Prosper Marimee

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

A Corsican exacts justice for a high price--the life of his only, beloved son who must pay for the dishonor of accepting a bribe with his life.

DEATH OF THE KNIFE-THROWER'S WIFE by Shigo Macya

Core Concept: Guilty or Not Guilty?

Was the death of the wife of Han, a Chinese juggler and knife-thrower, accidentally or intentionally caused by Han? Han doesn't himself know the answer. The story portrays his trial and considers the psychological difficulty of distinguishing between accident and intent.

THE QUIET MAN by Liam O'Flaherty

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

The hero displays a quiet strength in challenging his wife's brother who has repeatedly refused to pay her dowry. His devotion to principle rather than money makes him especially appealing.

AFTER TWENTY YEARS by O'Henry

Core Concept: Who's to Blame?

When policemen Jimmy Wells sees the face of the friend with whom he had agreed to rendezvous twenty years before, he realizes it is the face of a wanted criminal. The question of whether his arrest of his "friend" violates a higher law makes for good discussion.

SICILIAN HONOR by Luigi Pirandello

Core Concept: Righting the Balance

The story recounts the trial of a Sicilian who, cuckolded by his wife, does not react until after the affair is made public. At this point, he picks up an ex and murders her, thus "righting the balance."

SREDNI VASHTAR by Saki

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance

A meddling guardian violates a young boy's rights to freedom of religion and the boy seeks to regain his freedom. An interesting story when read with "Thus I refute Beelzy."

TO SEE THE INVISIBLE MAN by Robert Silverberg

Core Concept: Judgment

The story presents a society that punishes its wrongdoers by imposing upon them a kind of invisibility. Wearing a sort of "mark of Cain," they do not actually become invisible, but are deliberately ignored by society. Interesting for its view of a society in which all citizens support and take part in maintaining the penal system.

ANATOMY OF A MURDER by Robert Traver

Core Concept: Justice and Society

Considered by some to be a courtroom classic, unmatched in authenticity and vivid portrayals of setting, events and characters.

ONE L by Scott Turow

Core Concept: Legal Profession

Turow presents an interesting look at the first year of law school...his own at Harvard Law School.

HARRISON BERGERON by Kurt Vonnegut Jr.

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance, Justice and Society

A depiction of a society in which "equality" is legislated. the society has determined a norm and anyone with greater gifts must wear a handicap to ensure absolute equality. Good basis for discussion of government intervention in human lives and since so much recent constitutional law has sought to increase equality; this story is profitably controversial.

THE WINNER by Donald E. Westlake

Core Concept: Upsetting the Balance, Justice and Society

The protagonist is a dissident imprisoned by a "merciful" institution that controls its prisoners by installing in their brains a transmitter capable of sending pain messages throughout the nervous system. The hero makes a

break for freedom and endures the pain and accompanying brainwashing to gain that freedom, which he is permitted to keep.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE AND LAW BIBLIOGRAPHY

THEME 1. RULES AND LAWS ARE ESSENTIAL AND PLAY AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN OUR LIVES.

Primary:

Dogs Don't Belong on Beds by Enid Bloome. Illustrated by Rose Sommerschild.
New York: Doubleday, 1971.

The Bear's Bicycle by Emilie MacLeod. Illustrated by David MacPhail.
Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1975.

The Bears' Vacation by Stan and Jan Berenstain. New York: Random House. 1968.

Intermediate:

The Upstairs Room by Johanna Reiss. New York: Crowell, 1972.

Pippi Longstocking by Astrid Lindgren. Illustrated by Louis Glanzman.
New York: Viking. 1950.

Z is for Zachariah by Robert O'Brien. New York: Atheneum. 1973.

THEME 2: WORTHWHILE RULES AND LAWS HAVE SIMILAR CHARACTERISTICS

Primary:

Madeline's Rescue by Ludwig Bemelmans. New York: Viking. 1953.

Bedtime for Frances by Russell Hoban. Illustrated by Garth Williams.
New York: Harper & Row. 1960.

Curious George by H.A. Rey. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1941.

Intermediate:

The Good of It All by Geraldine Richelson. Illustrated by Claude Lapointe.
A Harlin Quist Book, 1975.

The Slave Dancer by Paula Fox. New York: Dell. 1973.

Mrs. Frisby and the Rats of NIMH by Robert O'Brien. Illustrated by Zena Bernstein.
New York: Atheneum. 1972.

THEME 3: RULES AND LAWS FREQUENTLY EVOLVE FROM CUSTOMS AND PRACTICES.

Primary:

Helga's Dowry by Tomie DePaola. New York: Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, 1977.

Visiting Pamela by Norma Klein. Illustrated by Kay Choro. New York: Dial Press, 1979.

Please and Thank You Book by Richard Scarry. New York: Random House, 1973.

Intermediate:

The Maude Reed Tale by Norah Lofts. Illustrated by Anne and Janet Grahame Johnstone.

New York: Thomas Nelson, 1971.

A Hunter Comes Home by Ann Turner. New York: Crown, 1980.

The Bronze Bow by Elizabeth George Speare. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1961.

THEME 4: DIFFERENT PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT SETTINGS CREATE LAWS AND RULES FOR DIFFERENT REASONS.

Primary:

The Troll Book by Michael Berenstain. New York: Random House, 1980.

The Elephant Who Couldn't Forget by Faith McNulty. Illustrated by Marc Simont.
New York: Harper & Row, 1980.

In My Mother's House by Ann Nolan Clark. Illustrated by Velino Herrera.
New York: Viking, 1941.

Intermediate:

Song for a Dark Queen by Rosemary Sutcliff. New York: Crowell, 1978.

The Gift of Sarah Barker by Jane Yolen. New York: Viking, 1981.

Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret by Judy Blume. New York: Bradbury, 1970.

THEME 5: DIFFERENT PEOPLE IN DIFFERENT SETTINGS ENFORCE LAWS AND RULES FOR DIFFERENT REASONS.

Primary:

Stega Nona by Tomie DePaola. New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, 1975.

The 500 Hats of Bartholomew Cubbins by Dr. Seuss. New York: Vanguard, 1938.

Mr. Mischief by Roger Hargreaves. Los Angeles: Price, Stern, Sloan, 1980.

Intermediate:

Pearl in the Egg by Dorothy Van Woerkom. Illustrated by Joe Lasker.
New York: Crowell, 1980.

The Perilous Gard by Elizabeth Marie Pope. Illustrated by Richard Cuffart.
Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1974.

In Summertime, It's Tuffy, by Judie Angell. New York: Bradbury, 1977.

THEME 6: RULES AND LAWS ARE USED TO JUDGE BEHAVIOR AND TO SETTLE DISPUTES.

Primary:

The Minstral and the Mountain by Jane Yolen. Illustrated by Anne Rockwell.
Cleveland: World, 1967.

The Lion's Tail by Douglas F. Davis. Illustrated by Ronald Himler. New York: Atheneum, 1980.

Onions, Onions by Toni Hormann. Illustrated by Diane Stanley. New York: Crowell, 1981.

Intermediate:

The Pushcart War by Jean Merrill. New York: Macmillan, 1964.

Justice Lion by Robert Newton Peck. Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1980.

Queenie Peavy by Robert Burch. Illustrated by Jerry Lazare. New York: Viking, 1966.

THEME 7: THE PURPOSE OF LAW IS TO MEET THE NEEDS OF PEOPLE AND THE COMMUNITY.

Primary:

The Little House by Virginia Lee Burton. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1942.

Grizzwold by Syd Hoff. New York: Harper & Row, 1963.

The Muffin Muncher by Stephen Cosgrove. Illustrated by Robin James.
Minnesota: Creative Education, 1974.

Intermediate:

After the Goat Man by Betsy Byars. New York: Avon Books, 1974.

The Witch of Blackbird Pond by Elizabeth George Speare. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1958.

The Man From Boston by Marion Starkey. Illustrated by Charles Mikolycak.
New York: Crown, 1975.

THEME 8: RULES AND LAWS ARE BOTH STABLE AND CHANGING: INDIVIDUALS CAN CAUSE CHANGE.

Primary:

Tig Sees Red by Robert Newton Peck. Illustrated by Pamela Johnson.
Boston: Little, Brown & Company, 1978.

The King's Fountain by Lloyd Alexander. Illustrated by Ezra Jack Keats.
New York: Dutton, 1971.

Yertle the Turtle and Other Stories by Dr. Seuss. New York: Random House, 1950.

Intermediate:

Save the Mustangs by Ann Weiss. New York: Simon and Schuster, 1974.

Maudie and Me and the Dirty Book by Betty Miles. New York: Knopf, 1980.

Can You Sue Your Parents for Malpractice? by Paula Danzinger. New York: Delacorte, 1979.

THEME 9: RULES AND LAWS PROTECT A PERSON'S INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS, PRIVACY, OPINION OR IDEAS, AND PROPERTY.

Primary:

"The Zax," *The Sneetches and Other Stories* by Dr. Seuss. New York: Random House, 1961.

Evan's Corner by Elizabeth Starr Hill. Illustrated by Nancy Grossman.
New York: Holt, Rinehart & Winston, 1967.

Mr. Nosey by Roger Hargreaves. Los Angeles: Price, Stern, Sloan, 1980.

Intermediate:

We Interrupt this Semester for an Important Bulletin by Ellen Conford.
Boston: Little, Brown & Co. 1979.

Harriet the Spy by Louise Fitzhugh. New York: Harper & Row. 1964.

After the First Death by Robert Cormier. New York: Pantheon, 1979.

THEME 10: THERE IS A RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE VALUES OF A SOCIETY AND

THE LAWS OF THAT SOCIETY.

Primary:

Noisy Nora by Rosemary Wells. New York: Dial Press, 1973.

Song of the Trees by Mildred D. Taylor. Illustrated by Jerry Pinkney.
New York: Dial Press, 1975.

Through Grandpa's Eyes by Patricia MacLachlan. Illustrated by Deborah Ray.
New York: Harper & Row, 1979.

Intermediate:

The Rocking Chair Rebellion by Eth Clifford. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. 1978.

A Wrinkle in Time by Madeline L'Engle. New York: Farrar, Strauss Giroux, Inc. 1962.

Bless the Beasts and Children by Glendon Swarthout. New York: Doubleday, 1970.

(Source: *Living Together Under the Law: An elementary Education Law Guide*. By Arlene F. Gallagher. Published by the Law, Youth and Citizenship Program of the New York State Bar Association and the New York State Department of Education. Available from the NY State Dept. of Education, Albany, NY 12234)

Bicentennial Bibliography of Children's And Young Adult Literature

This is a "selected" list of books that relate to the United States Constitution. The Children's Book Council developed the classification system. For additional information write to The Children's Book Council, 67 Irving Place, New York, NY 10003.

THE U.S. CONSTITUTION - Up to and Including Middle Grades

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