

COURTS
AND THE
MEANING OF
JUSTICE

ESSAYS
1973

R-OCDOC
JK
1759
.035
1973

Youth Legal Education Project

Oakland Schools

sponsors: The Oakland County Bar Association
The Oakland County Legal News

and assisted by the
Department of Social Studies Oakland Schools

REFERENCE BOOK

For Room Use Only

OAKLAND COUNTY RESEARCH LIBRARY
1200 N. TELEGRAPH ROAD DEPT 438
PONTIAC, MICHIGAN 48341-0453

LAW DAY PROGRAM

LAW DAY U. S. A. TUESDAY, MAY 1, 1973 11:00 A. M. Commissioner's
Auditorium

The following organizations welcome you to our LAW DAY U. S. A. Program:

- The Oakland County Bar Association
- The Oakland Schools
- The Pontiac-Oakland County Legal News
- The Oakland County Legal Secretaries Association
- The Oakland County Bar Association Lawyers' Wives Auxiliary

- PROGRAM -

Pledge of Allegiance - Honorable Frederick C. Ziem

Musical Selection "I May Never Pass This Way Again" by the Lamplighters choral group from Lamphere High School, Madison Heights, under the direction of Del Towers.

Introduction of Guests - Edgar Pugh, Jr., Esquire

Introduction and Presentation of Awards to First Runner-Up Students in Third Annual Essay Contest - Joseph Zeleznik, Esquire

Recipients:	Starlet Jones	Bethune Elementary
	Karen Bauer	Bond Elementary
	Katherine Schwartz	Clear Lake Elementary
	Mike Kron	Albert Einstein Elementary
	Lillian Lorenzi	Hiller Elementary
	Dave Devlin	McGregor Elementary
	Scott Underwood	Parker Elementary
	Roxanne Vasquez	Whittier Elementary
	David Sohn	Walled Lake Elementary

Introduction and Presentation of Awards to First Place Students in Third Annual Law Day Essay Contest - Robert McKenney, Esquire

Recipients: Tamar Mautoux	Bethune Elementary
Judy De Maria	Bond Elementary
Steve Trottier	Clear Lake Elementary
Lisa Taylor	Albert Einstein Elementary
Robert Smith	Hiller Elementary
Milford Bennett	McGregor Elementary
Bridget Wheeler	Parker Elementary
Madonna Oates	Roosevelt Elementary (Tie for First)
Julie Randolph	Roosevelt Elementary (Tie for First)
Glen Bromm	Walled Lake Elementary
Bruce Scott, Jr.	Whittier Elementary

Presentation of Trophy to Participating Elementary School whose First Place Essay Contest Winner had over-all finest presentation - Gene Schnelz, Esquire, President of Oakland County Bar Association

LISA TAYLOR - ALBERT EINSTEIN ELEMENTARY

Presentation of Certificates by Mrs. William Locke, Chairman of Oakland County Bar Association Lawyers' Wives Auxiliary

Presentation of two Liberty Bell Awards from the Oakland County Bar Association to be presented by Terrance J. Odom, Esquire

Musical Selections by Lamplighters

Solo by Mary K. Lalla

"South Rampart"

Introduction of Honorable James S. Thorburn - Larry A. Girard, Esquire

Introduction of Guest Speaker Justice Mary Coleman by Honorable James S. Thorburn

Finale by the Lamplighters: "Fifty Nifty United States"

Following the program, a reception awaits you by the Lawyers' Wives Auxiliary, Oakland County Bar Association, immediately outside the auditorium in Committee Room A

CONTENTS

	Page
Oakland County Law Day U. S. A. Committee	2
Those Who Participated	3
Organizational Flow Chart	
School Districts	
The Participants	4
The Teachers	5
The Judges	6
The Essay Winners	7
Honorable Mention Winners	8
The School Trophy Essay	13
"What Justice Means To Me" Lisa Taylor	14
The First Place Essays	15
"What Justice Means To You" Tamar Mautoux	16
"What Justice Means To Me" Judy De Maria	18
"The Law Today" Steve Trottier	19
"What Justice Means To Me" Robert Smith	20
"What Law Means To Me" Milford Bennett	22
"Changes Needed in Our Court System" Bridget Wheeler	23
"What Does Justice Mean To Me" Modonna Oates	24

"What Justice Means To Me"	Julie Randolph	26
"Laws - Help Our Courts To Assure Justice"	Glen Bromm	28
"What Justice Means To Me"	Bruce Scott, Jr.	29
The Runner-Up Essays		30
"What Justice Means To Me"	Starlet Jones	31
"Justice"	Karen Bauer	32
"Law and Justice"	Katherine Schwartz	33
"What Law Means To Me"	Mike Kron	34
"What Does Justice Mean To You? "	Lillian Lorenzi	36
"What Justice Means To Me"	Dave Devlin	38
"What Does Justice Mean To You? "	Scott Underwood	39
"What Justice Means To Me"	Roxanne Vasquez	40
"What Does Justice Mean To Me? "	David Sohn	42

OAKLAND COUNTY LAW DAY U. S. A. COMMITTEE

Oakland County Bar Association

Thomas Raguso, Chairman
Larry A. Girard, Esquire
Hanley M. Gurwin, Esquire
Robert McKenney, Esquire
Edgar Pugh, Jr., Esquire
Joseph Zeleznik, Esquire
J. Rick Schmidt, Esquire
Richard T. Condit, Esquire, Liaison
Terrance J. Odom, Esquire

Oakland Schools

Ms. Sadie Ward, Youth Legal Education Project Director

Oakland County Legal Secretaries Association

Dore' Winnie, Law Day Liaison
Total Membership

Oakland County Bar Association Lawyers' Wives Auxiliary

Mrs. Tricia Locke, Chairman

Pontiac-Oakland County Legal News

Sheila R. Ashcraft, Vice President and Managing Editor

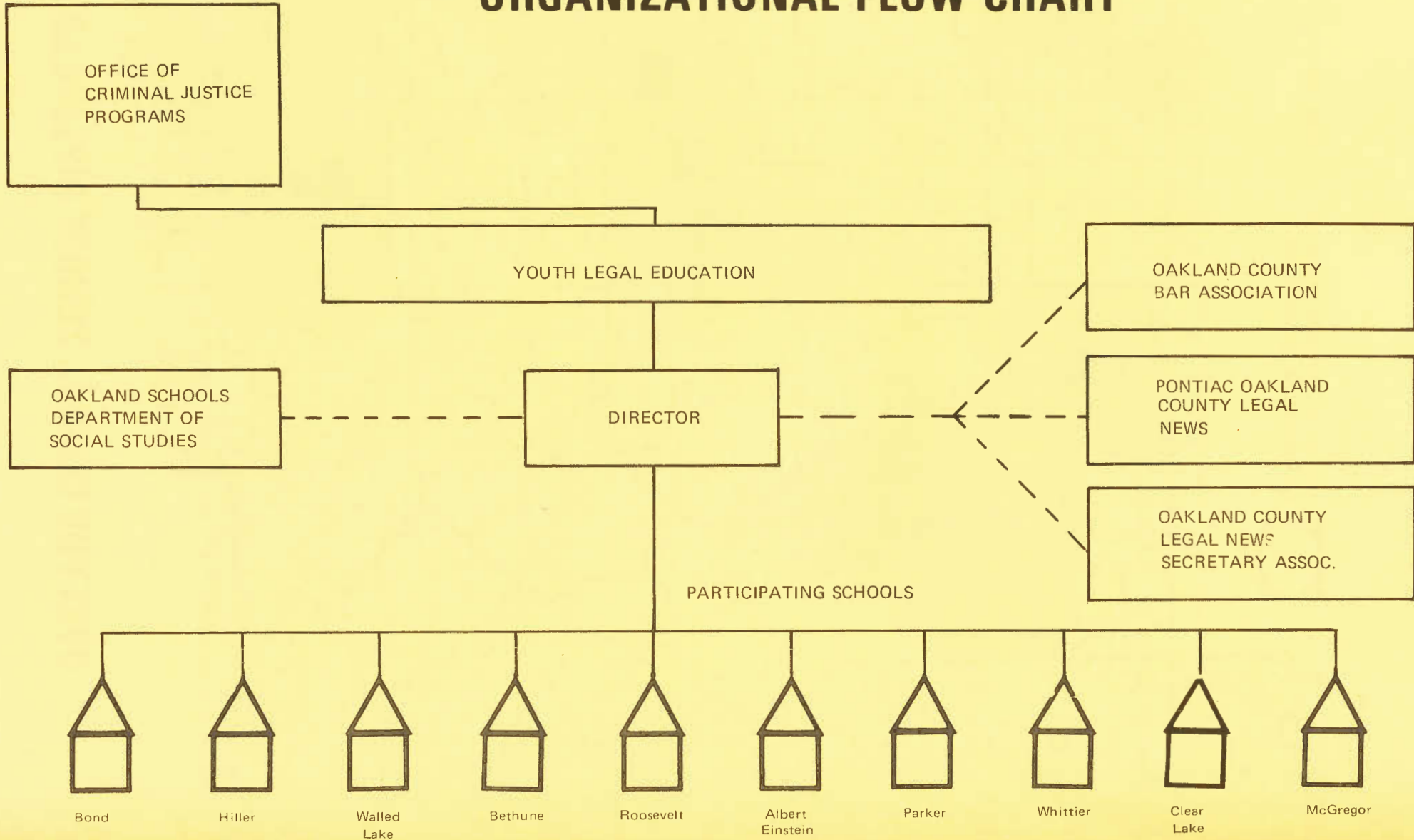
Oakland Schools

Dr. Myles Platt, Director of Social Studies

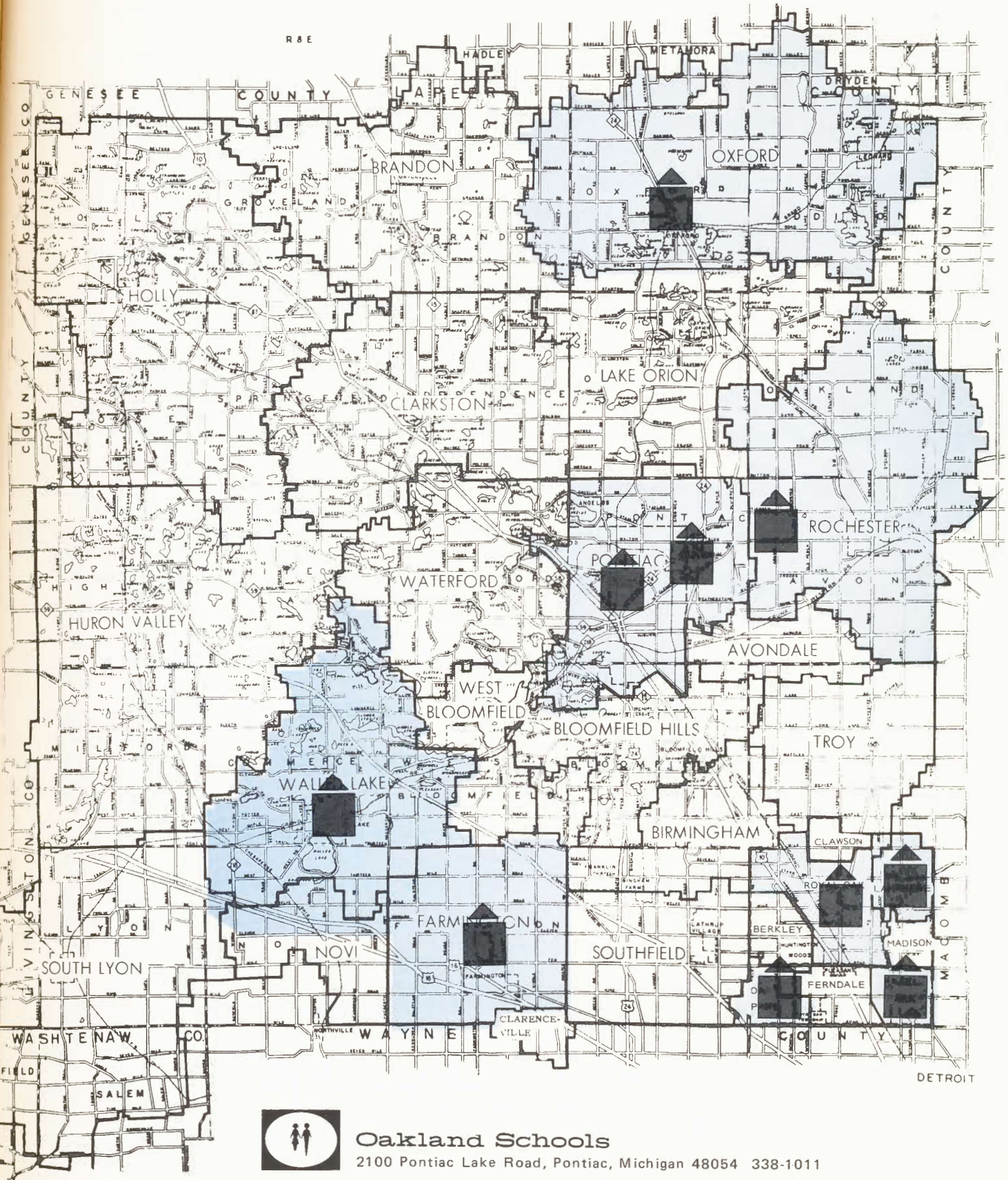
A special thanks to all those members of our District, Municipal, Probate and Circuit Judiciary, government officials, school personnel, families and friends who are with us today in this commemorative program.

THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED

ORGANIZATIONAL FLOW CHART



OAKLAND COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS



Oakland Schools
 2100 Pontiac Lake Road, Pontiac, Michigan 48054 338-1011

THE PARTICIPANTS

Farmington Public School District

BOND ELEMENTARY

Principal: Mel Blackman

Hazel Park School District

ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY

Principal: Larry C. Park

Lamphere Public Schools

HILLER ELEMENTARY

Principal: Jack Adams

Oak Park School District

ALBERT EINSTEIN ELEMENTARY

Principal: Arden H. Detert

Oxford Area Community
School District

CLEAR LAKE ELEMENTARY

Principal: Thomas Sura

Pontiac School District

BETHUNE ELEMENTARY

Principal: Dr. James Hawkins

WHITTIER ELEMENTARY

Principal: James Keel

Rochester Community Schools

MCGREGOR ELEMENTARY

Principal: Phyllis Hill

Royal Oak School District

PARKER ELEMENTARY

Principal: Robert White

Walled Lake School District

WALLED LAKE ELEMENTARY

Principal: Spencer T. Rush

THE TEACHERS

Bethune Elementary

Ruben Johnson

Bond ElementaryBarbara Elsenheimer
Rita KainzClear Lake Elementary

Rita James

Albert Einstein Elementary

Joyce Schulman

Hiller ElementaryPatricia Sadowski
John AndersonMcGregor ElementaryJames Kerscher
Karen Vratanina
Michael RobinsonParker Elementary

Edward Podgorny

Roosevelt Elementary

Margaret Canine

Walled Lake ElementaryCarolann Godfrey
Carol GoldenWhittier ElementaryRichard Rohe
Charles Miles
Martin Petersen
Virginia Walker
Herman Brinson

THE JUDGES

The Judges for ten essays from each school

Oakland County Legal Secretaries Association
Dore' Winnie, Legal Secretary, Law Day Liaison

The Judge for the Traveling School Trophy Winner

Gene Schnelz, Esquire
President, Oakland County Bar Association
Oakland County, Michigan

The Judges for the Student Trophy and Student Medal Winners

The Honorable Frederick C. Ziem
Circuit Court
Oakland County, Michigan

The Honorable Robert L. Templin
Circuit Court
Oakland County, Michigan

The Honorable Christopher C. Brown
50th District Court
Pontiac, Michigan

The Honorable Arthur E. Moore
Circuit Court
Oakland County, Michigan

The Honorable John N. O'Brien
Circuit Court
Oakland County, Michigan

The Honorable William P. Hampton
Circuit Court
Oakland County

The Honorable Alice Gilbert
48th District Court
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

The Honorable Farrell E. Roberts
Circuit Court
Oakland County, Michigan

The Honorable R. Beasley
Circuit Court
Oakland County, Michigan

School Trophy Winner

LISA TAYLOR

First Place Trophy Winners

TAMAR MAUTOUX

JUDY DE MARIA

STEVE TROTTIER

LISA TAYLOR

ROBERT SMITH

MILFORD BENNETT

BRIDGET WHEELER

MODONNA OATES

JULIE RANDOLPH

GLEN BROMM

BRUCE SCOTT, JR.

Runner-Up Medal Winners

STARLET JONES

KAREN BAUER

KATHERINE SCHWARTZ

MIKE KRON

LILLIAN LORENZI

DAVE DEVLIN

SCOTT UNDERWOOD

ROXANNE VASQUEZ

DAVID SOHN

HONORABLE MENTION WINNERS

BETHUNE ELEMENTARY

Diane Mabry

Sonya Pryl

Rhona Pursell

Donna Rutha

Gilbert Streit

Karen Washington

BOND ELEMENTARY

Dave Hagemeyer

Tom Herrington

Lorrie Meyers

Cathy Monfette

Joyce Rummler

Bill Taylor

Ann Togasaki

Carol Vickland

CLEAR LAKE ELEMENTARY

Blaine D. Beauchamp

Jim Bemis

Lee Bremer

David Hale

Gary Keefer

Theresa Lucas

Rhonda Sholtz

Spencer Halliday

ALBERT EINSTEIN ELEMENTARY

Jeffrey Schweig

Jeff Shanlom

HILLER ELEMENTARY

Danny L. Busler

Mike Clancy

Laura Earl

Sue Gabens

Shawn Joyce

Denise Kotila

Andrew Miller

Debbie Pfund

Robin Postoian

Lori Stennett

MCGREGOR ELEMENTARY

Scott Bishop

Diane Boufford

Jill Downey

Suzanne Hope

Beth Jacobson

Phil Jensen

Rachelle Rice

Kelly Smythe

PARKER ELEMENTARY

Claudia Patrica Carney

Bob Dery

Len Erickson

Kathryn Hartrick

Tracey Hoffman

ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY

Lori Barringer

Dennis Bowen

Janet Hoepfner

Vicky Ray

WALLED LAKE ELEMENTARY

Sheri Austin

Pamela Bryant

Jackie Coley

Philip Kenyan

Charlene Machacek

Kathy Machesky

Paula Schweier

Tami Steinbrick

WHITTIER ELEMENTARY

Betty Abner

Clarissa Cayton

Teresa Cayton

Frank Gjonaj

Vanessa Gonzales

Annette Prothero

Belva Wolfenbarger

Sheila Woods

THE SCHOOL TROPHY ESSAY

Albert Einstein School
Oak Park, Michigan

WHAT JUSTICE MEANS TO ME

Lisa Taylor
Age:12, Grade 6

In my opinion there are two kinds of justice. The justice that represents fairness and the justice that represents laws.

The justice that represents laws are of course just laws. But laws are not always fair. There are laws pertaining to almost every situation. Unfortunately, these laws are made pertaining to a what's right and what's wrong bases. But sometimes what's right in some peoples mind is wrong in other's.

Sometimes there is prejudice when judgement is made on a person. This might be because he is of a different race, or he has different beliefs, or mainly just because he's different in some manner.

In my opinion, the justice that stands for fairness is the only kind of justice our society (world) should have.

For the justice that stands for fairness means justice for all. It means equality for every human being. Whether he is black, white, yellow, red or even green.

Whether his beliefs are the same or different he is treated equal.

THE FIRST PLACE ESSAYS

Bethune Elementary
Pontiac, Michigan

WHAT JUSTICE MEANS TO YOU

Tamar Mautoux
Age: 12, Grade 6

I think justice means when someone is in trouble with the law and is taken to court and tried fairly.

When someone does something like risking their life and is rewarded for doing so that is justice.

Another thing is that no matter what color you are, what kind of language you speak we all are equal.

When someone new comes to school and the members of the class treat him or her nicely that also is justice.

When two people of different colors are friends and show other people they are friends, not because they are different color but because they trust and like each other that also is justice.

If I help someone in math, or help them with anything that they are doing that is justice.

Having the right to go to any church and worship as you want that is justice.

As I grow older and when I'm on my own I could do justice to my father or mother by helping them out when they need it.

Many people do their share by helping people as voluntary workers in the hospitals by writing letters for them and many other things this is justice.

We can do justice to our country by never degrading the flag or the rulers.

We can always do justice by doing what we think is right instead of upholding someone whom we like but know they are doing wrong.

The girl scouts and boy scouts are taught justice by always saying the pledge to the flag at each meeting and the raising of the flag at each meeting.

We have to learn to do justice. It is not something that just comes to us such as some of our subjects in school do. Also we have to learn the meaning of justice and that is the reasons we go to school.

Bond Elementary
Farmington, Michigan

WHAT JUSTICE MEANS TO ME

Judy De Maria
Age: 11, Grade 6

Justice means to me that everybody can do right if they try.

Such as people can stop pollution, one of our biggest problems and if everybody stops killing each other, maybe this world would straighten up. If everybody would be loyal, honest, fair, and friendly, this world would become a lot different and better. That's what the people need to do. Also the law has equal rights for everyone. If everybody would obey the laws there wouldn't be any crimes committed and everybody would get along beautifully.

I know me for instance, I try to help. I know I try to do the best I can. If everybody did so, it would be a lot nicer. Also, everyone should have respect for the law, and justice.

That's what justice means to me.

Clear Lake Elementary
Oxford, Michigan

THE LAW TODAY

Steve Trottier
Age: 11, Grade 6

The country or state we live in all have laws that help protect the people in the society they live in. It is our duty as citizens to respect this law. Many times the law is broken and the person who breaks it is taken into court to have a trial. If he or she is found guilty then the judge or jury decides on the penalty. People called policemen risk their lives to protect other peoples' lives. The law, though not perfect is the most important thing in our life today. The courts help to keep justice in the town or city it is in. Many people think that the law could be made better and the people that make them should keep them up-to-date. I agree and disagree. I think that the laws should be changed but only some of them. Most of the time the courts let up to easy on the criminals. If the courts didn't let up on the criminals the crime rate would probably drop. If we didn't have any laws a person would not be able to live without being afraid. Yes, the law is very important to everyone in every part of the world.

Hiller Elementary
Madison Heights, Michigan

WHAT JUSTICE MEANS TO ME

Robert Smith
Age: 12, Grade 6

Justice is a good thing as long as you are on the right side. If you are right the law is on your side.

I read a book that said:

"When we seek to trace the origins of our American ideals of justice, we find that like our common law they are rooted in English tradition. With the British we follow these roots back to Magna Carta, the Great Charter which the barons forced King John to sign in 1215. Actually the Magna Carta had little to say about human rights. The barons were no more interested in the rights of the common people than was the king. They were interested only in preserving their own privileges and power."

And now we have the Bill of Rights that give the people about the same rights.

Many of us live our whole lives without ever coming in contact with the law. We are never arrested, we are never sued and yet law is guiding and protecting us. Life is something like a game. Before you can play you have

to have rules and agree to play by them and you must have a referee or umpire to make the rules stick. This is what law is - the rules of the game of which people are able to live together peacefully. Without law we would have no security. Maybe someone stronger could come and take something from you.

Absolute justice is like any other kind of Perfection. You can approach it. But never quite reach the goal.

McGregor Elementary
Rochester, Michigan

WHAT LAW MEANS TO ME

Milford Bennett
Age: 12, Grade 6

Law means to me keeping control and order, to me this means keeping things under control. It's like rules in a game, if you disobey them you are penalized. It's about the same thing in law. You break one and you probably go to jail, go on probation or be fined for something you have done.

If we did not have laws it would be almost like every man for himself, but with the law you are protected physically and verbally.

Law protects everything we own like our car, home and us. Laws are also made to protect the wildlife in the United States so that it is not all killed off. Laws are made to keep parks clean and for public use. If we did not have laws that say to stop dumping polluted water into a river of rivers before purifying it the rivers in the United States would be in a very sad shape which they are in a way.

In the United States you have certain rights as a citizen. Here are a few: (1) You have a choice of religion you want. (2) You have the freedom of speech which enables us to have a voice in the government also you can criticize if you think something is not right. (3) To live where you want to live. (4) You have the right to Equal Education.

This essay is what I think of law.

Parker Elementary
Royal Oak, Michigan

CHANGES NEEDED IN OUR COURT SYSTEM

Bridget Wheeler
Age: 12, Grade 6

From my experience in visiting a courtroom I think the courts are pretty good except for three ways.

First I think the hearings should have more privacy because if one of the defendents has something to say that would embarrass him in front of spectators he might not say what he truthfully means and one of the defendents might get a sentence for something he never did.

Second I think people who get court appointed lawyers should get lawyers as good the non-court appointed lawyers, because a clever lawyer can often win a case for a guilty client, and a bad lawyer can lose a case for an innocent client.

The third thing I don't think is fair happened to my grandmother. She was found innocent on a traffic violation by a Bloomfield Hills judge. However my Grandmother had to pay a four dollar fee which goes to the retirement fund of either the state legislature or the judges - I'm not sure which one. It seems all wrong to me that an innocent person has to pay a four dollar fee.

These three things which I have written are things I think should be improved in the courts.

Roosevelt Elementary
Hazel Park, Michigan

WHAT DOES JUSTICE MEAN TO ME

Madonna Oates
Age: 12, Grade 6

I think that justice is, law and obeying the law.

I believe that the law is one way of life. You cannot live safely without the law of your state.

For example, if there was no law that said you cannot kill a person without a very, very reasonable cause, more and more people would be murdered just because somebody did not like them.

So we have laws for are own safety. People should not complain because they are the ones who help make the laws. They can try to change them if they do not like a law.

We have officers who enforce the law. They have to stop burglars, arrest people for drunken driving, and abusing drugs. Teenagers who get into trouble quite often do not like the police. They call them all kinds of rotten names as you well know.

I think the policemen deserve a lot of credit because, everytime a policeman takes a call he is risking his life for us.

Juvenile officers, probation officers, and judges also protect us from criminals.

The judge is important. He is the person who fines or punishes people who commit crimes. He does this because they deserve it, and hopefully they will not do it again.

If we did not have the law it would just be another great big war. So I hope you see that you cannot live safely without the law.

If more people would obey the laws of their state, there would be more justice. Even though we have laws, not everyone obeys them.

People awlways think they will never get caught. But they most always do.

If people would respect others always there would be more justice. If all people would treat others they way they wish to be treated, we would have justice.

Roosevelt Elementary
Hazel Park, Michigan

WHAT JUSTICE MEANS TO ME

Julie Randolph
Age: 11, Grade 6

We should try to improve our society in many ways. I think one way in improving society is that instead of fighting we should make an effort to live together in peace. Because if we don't improve our way of life today, our future is likely to be worse than right now.

We have laws for a purpose. We have laws to protect people. If we didn't have laws you couldn't go anywhere without being in danger of getting hurt. All people need justice, and to have justice we need honest people. In a court we need a clean, honest judge. Without an honest judge people coming before him would not be treated equally and fairly. Maybe if all people were clean and honest, we might not even need courts.

Everyone should have the privilege to say and do whatever he wants, but without breaking the laws. We are assured of freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of the press and a right to a speedy trial. United States Constitution gives us these rights.

However ones freedom stops where another's freedom begins. For example: When one person strikes another person without his consent, the first person has overstepped his freedom and has performed a misdemeanor which is battery.

The law also protects a person's reputation from slander or defamation.

A person's property and his life is protected by the law of torts. His right to pursue those things in life that make him happy are also protected by the Constitution, as long as he doesn't infringe upon another's right, and he can expect justice as he pursues those things which interest him--that's really what justice in America is all about.

Maybe this would make people better citizens.

All people should stop fighting and learn to live together.

Think About It.

Walled Lake Elementary
Walled Lake, Michigan

LAWS

HELP OUR COURTS TO ASSURE JUSTICE

Glen Bromm
Age: 11, Grade 6

In primitive times there weren't laws as we know them today. For instance, if you had a strong body and a big club you usually made your own laws and got your own way and the weaker people had to obey or else.

Now we've changed and so have our ways and laws. Now if you are wrong you have the right to do something legally unless you are under 18 then you will need an adult to state a claim. Though modern our laws aren't perfect that's why we all should help our courts to assure justice. It seems that people are sometimes reluctant to use our courts because they don't know much about the courts. It seems now when we watch T.V. they make the prosecuting attorney look like a villain but really in some cases I think he's the hero because he is trying to find out if you are guilty therefore, he helps to protect us from law breakers. "How can we help our courts?" By obeying all laws and showing respect for policemen and all adults also by reporting crimes instead of trying to solve them ourselves and by obeying all safety rules and by respecting the rights of others. So by helping our courts to assure justice we will be setting an example for ourselves and others.

Whittier Elementary
Pontiac, Michigan

WHAT JUSTICE MEANS TO ME

Bruce Scott, Jr.
Age: 11, Grade 6

Justice to me means fairness. It means to be equal. If there wasn't any justice there would be thousands of people in the streets because of their race, lack of knowlage and other problems. The people with more strenght would take from the poor, also.

The reason of the Civil War was their wasn't any justice and the North got tired of the South treating the slaves like animals. The way we could have avoided this is to treat everyone equal. The people in "the getto" are their because they didn't have the best education.

If there wasn't any justice a villian would be guilty before he reaches the court. Because the police, witnesses and other athorities most likely would not let him (the villian) tell is side of the story.

And that is what justice mean to me, equal rights.

THE RUNNER-UP ESSAYS

Bethune Elementary
Pontiac School District

WHAT JUSTICE MEANS TO ME

Starlet Jones
Age: 12, Grade 6

Justice to me it means freedom for all people regardless of race
Creed or color.

A few years ago a great man had a dream. A dream of Freedom
and Justice. I feel it is up to us to make that dream come true we
must search our hearts. Learn to love one another rid ourselves of
all Hatred. For we cannot love God of whom we have not seen, and
hate our Brothers of whom we see ever day. Justice should apply to
other Countries too. Who are we to tell another Country how to live
if we are guilty of the same things. Justice should apply to every
individual to have a choice to live as one chooses. I look for Justice
for the americran Indian I look for Justice for the mexican americans
Puerto Ricans and Blacks like me. I look for the day when the white's
will no longer look upon us as inferior to me, the word doesn't exist.
It will be Justice when the whites will no longer fear the black man as
his enemy, but as a friend. Capable of being as intelligent as he.
When this to me will be true Justice I believe that Justice will avail
over all. A Goal to ward Peace love and Harmony.

Bond Elementary
Farmington Public School District

JUSTICE

Karen Bauer
Age: 12, Grade 6

Justice means to me equal rights for all and fair punishment to those who deserve it. We all don't agree with the laws so some people try to change them by protest marches and they usually don't succeed. Some people who feel strong enough and want to prove their points use force to get their views noticed. If you don't agree with the laws you can prove your point peacefully and without being destructive. If you do start being destructive you're only getting yourself into trouble if your caught.

Through the years laws have been changed and added in order to fit modern mans mind and changing ideas. We should respect the laws because they protect us and our property.

Clear Lake Elementary
Oxford Area Community School District

LAW AND JUSTICE

Katherine Schwartz
Age: 12, Grade 6

In america law and Justice means alot to people. Even thoe there are crimes threout the U. S. there are still many people who are just lawful citizens. I think Justice is a good system of letting the people know the laws and to protect the people. In america we have The Declaration of Independence which tells us our rights as an american citizen. In other countries people aren't free like we are they have to do whatever the ruler of that country said (and I dont think its fair.) Some people have disrespect for our law system. They go around calling our policemen (The fuzz.) To me Justice means not doing wrong. Obeying the law and having the law same for everyone. And knowing which is right and which is wrong. If we didn't have law and Justice there would so many people just running around committing crimes. And also it would be as wrong as two plus four equils seven. The U.S. would be a total disaster. If there were no laws people would be stealing for a living. There would be no farmer. And no other workers. We would soon run ot of food we would grow to be such a poor country and maybe die. So I'm just glad that we have laws. Now if people just realized this they would stop and think befour the went around breaking laws. You would think so, but thats just the way the world is.

Albert Einstein Elementary
Oak Park School District

WHAT LAW MEANS TO ME

Mike Kron
Age: 12, Grade 6

Law means to me preservation for all on the earth. What I mean is that without laws a person couldn't walk out of his without the chance that someone would 1) kill or wound him 2) kidnap him. If this did happen you couldn't trust any one. The world would be complete chaos. Imagine people walking into stores. They see something they like and they take it. Since nothing can be done because there are no laws he can't be arrested.

As a lot of people think laws are made by the men in blue or the policemen. There wrong. Believe it or not laws are made by the people. It is voted on in congress. There is a need for new laws all the time.

But as we all know, laws mean absolutly nothing if there is no one to inforce the laws. That's why the policemen play such a big part in the laws. Many men each year risk there lives trying to prevent crimes and to catch the people who are committing the crimes.

If feel very strongly at how many homocides there are each year. But before you say anything about, it's awful. But take a minute think what it would be like without laws.

Since our class studied law the subject has really made me think. I hope that any and everyone who reads this essay will think a minute just as I did. Think how the world would be without laws and then say to yourself I'm glad that we have laws.

THE END

Hiller Elementary
Lamphere Public Schools

WHAT DOES JUSTICE MEAN TO YOU?

Lillian Lorenzi
Age 12, Grade 6

Justice makes it fair for everybody. In the old days they did not have justice so it wasn't fair. The reason it wasn't fair was because the stronger would push around the weaker. They might make the weaker do more work and make them do anything they wanted them to do.

Laws are made to protect you. If we didn't have laws, you would not be safe. Because our laws were made to protect us, we should abide by them. If nobody abided by the law, then you couldn't go anywhere without being in grave danger.

When somebody does a wrong, they are taken to court and given a fair trial. We have justice in the courts. If there was no justice in courts, the jury and everybody would be out of order.

We need justice in everything we do. We need justice and rules in games too. When you play games you abide by rules.

When you break the law, you are taken to court and advised to your rights.

If there was no justice the world and everybody in it would be in great danger. People would be afraid to go anywhere or do anything.

If we didn't have law and justice and you went somewhere, you would be robbed or killed.

We should be thankful for our law and justice because they were made for our benefit.

McGregor Elementary
Rochester Community Schools

WHAT JUSTICE MEANS TO ME

Dave Devlin
Age: 11, Grade 6

To me justice means peace and equal rights for the whole world not just one area. Justice means keeping law and order for all people. Justice is reassuring people of their safety as they walk down the street and knowing that their homes will never be robbed. Justice is a good feeling of being safe.

Justice isn't just criminal law, its keeping peoples privacy and letting them have equal rights. Although criminal law is a lot of it. Criminal law isn't only for people themselves though it's also for what they people like to know that wherever their things are they're safe.

To me justice means peace and safety for not only people but for countries or maybe even continents. Justice stands for having no wars or cheatings between people, cities, states, countries, or even religions. Justice to me almost exactly means peace and equality for anything or anybody justice is a great thing that all people should stick to. Justice to me just means peace and equal rights, or even the feeling of being safe. For all people or places. Justice is a great thing, and if everyone stayed in the ways of justice we'd have a near perfect country.

Parker Elementary
Royal Oak School District

WHAT DOES JUSTICE MEAN TO YOU?

Scott Underwood
Age: 11, Grade 6

When I hear the word justice I quickly think of a court case that is taking hours to solve who is guilty and who is innocent. It usually turns out that the person is innocent. Earlier I think of the crime fighting police. But it always is the judge who makes the right decision.

Sometimes the jury may be in the case and makes the decision. Sometimes the witnesses are called. Lawyers are asking questions. Justice means to me to protect the public from, criminals, bandits and all the other things that are against the law. But if we could control these men who do these things it would be a more peaceful world. That's what justice means to me.

Whittier Elementary
Pontiac School District

"WHAT JUSTICE MEANS TO ME"

Roxanne Vasquez
Age: 12, Grade 6

Justice means to have equal rights. Like if a black or a white walked in a court room and the jury thought he was guilty well that isn't fair. The law also protects us by protecting our personal reputation and our personal property.

Laws are set for you to obey and not to abuse them. Laws are set so we can live easier. If we didn't have any laws this world would be in shambles.

If a crime is committed then the defendant will be taken to court and tried. If the jury finds him guilty then he must pay a fine. He serves according to the punishment.

Justice means peace to me. People shouldn't fight or kill one another. These could be taken care of by the court. Sometimes they catch the guilty ones and sometimes the guilty ones go jail.

When our class started this law subject I didn't realize how interesting it was. It is so important to know how the law works and your rights. There are different kinds of books on different things. But its really talking about "justice".

A long time ago laws were very unfair. But today the laws are far more advanced. And the jobs are much better for people of all colors and religion.

Justice means to me is that everyone should be treated fairly and no one should be treated unfairly and no exceptions for anyone. Everyone should know their rights and their regulations.

Walled Lake Elementary
Walled Lake School District

WHAT DOES JUSTICE MEAN TO ME?

David Sohn
Age: 12, Grade 6

When I hear the word justice I think of "law and order".

Where a person can walk down the street at night and not get mugged or kidnapped or beat up. Or when a person can leave his home and not worry about his house getting robbed. Or when the police can sleep in their easy chair and not get any calls. And where a parent won't have to worry about his/her child growing up and taking drugs.

When I hear the word Justice I think of people being "fair" to each other.

When some people come along and take someone's job, or cheat someone into buying something that's no good.

When I hear the word Justice I think of Peace.

Where people don't care if they're colored people or people are different. Or there are no wars or demonstrations or Riots and no homicides.