



# STREET LAW & World History

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# You!

# About

- ▶ Name tags
- ▶ Name and any nicknames
- ▶ One good thing that happened to you this week

# Current Events – Ukraine and Russia

- ▶ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GU\\_deXlraAE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GU_deXlraAE)
- ▶ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gUyWNZZig5w> (until 2:54)

## Question 1

What is the first word that comes to mind when you think of the word War?

# War - /wôr/

“A state of armed conflict between different nations or states or different groups within a nation or state.”

## Question

2

What are some reasons that you've learned that countries go to war?

# Reasons

- ▶ To intervene and free people from oppression and violence
- ▶ To oppress minorities
- ▶ Imperialism – acquiring more land and exerting power
- ▶ Resources – oil
- ▶ To stop a certain kind of philosophy from spreading (Communism vs. Democracy)

# Question

3

What does Justice mean to you?

Just

Justice or

- ▶ “Acting or being in conformity with what is morally upright or good.”

Activity

Four Corners

# What is the “right thing to do”?

- ▶ We will read a series of statements describing situations in which individuals or parties are in conflict.
- ▶ We will also describe a list of possible actions to pursue in response to these statements.
- ▶ Please select an option depending on what action you think is the right thing to do.

# Scenario

1

- ▶ You're country A. Country B is blocking your path to accessing drinkable water. No one has a claim to the drinkable body of water. There is no other way for Country A to get these resources besides going through Country B. Country B wants 10 billion dollars in exchange for access. What do you think is the most effective solution?
  - ▶ Option 1: Ask them nicely and show proof that Country A's people will suffer otherwise.
  - ▶ Option 2: Threaten to attack Country B if they don't give you access.
  - ▶ Option 3: Involve Country C by asking them to condemn Country B's cruelty.
  - ▶ Option 4: launch a small scale attack to show that you're serious. Country A has plenty of nuclear and artillery power to spare.

# Scenario

## 2

- ▶ You're Country B. Country A threatens to attack you until you provide access to the drinkable water. You want money in exchange for access. Historically the drinkable water used to be part of your territory. You continue to refuse, and Country A flies a military plane into your airspace and then returns back to Country A. No one is hurt. What do you do?
  - ▶ Option 1: Nothing, no one got hurt.
  - ▶ Option 2: Send a missile to Country B to show them you mean business.
  - ▶ Option 3: Shame their actions by asking Country C to condemn them. C may or may not side with you.
  - ▶ Option 4: Give up and provide access to the water for Country A.

# Scenario

## 3

- ▶ Surprise! You're Country C. You watch Country B launch a missile into Country A and kill 300 civilians. 20 years ago, Country B provides trade that is worth billions for Country C. 20 years ago, Country A was an ally to Country C during a time of crisis and war. What do you do?
- ▶ Option 1: Intervene and help Country A by any means possible.
- ▶ Option 2: Intervene and help Country B by any means possible.
- ▶ Option 3: Do nothing, this ain't your mess!
- ▶ Option 4: Try to talk about this conflict at the United Nations meeting and ask for help from Countries D, E and F. This will take 10 years to get addressed.

# Thoughts/Reflections?

- ▶ How did your mind and feelings change as you became different countries?
- ▶ Is it easier or harder to be any one country?
- ▶ What does fairness mean to you?
- ▶ This is how international conflicts typically escalate into full blown world wars.

# What are the rules of war AKA War Crime Law?

- ▶ Geneva Convention – 1864.
- ▶ Updated after horrors of WW2.
- ▶ Limit the degree of brutality of an ongoing war.

# Geneva Convention

- ▶ For the purpose of this Statute, 'war crimes' means: Grave breaches of the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, namely, any of the following acts against persons or property protected under the provisions of the relevant Geneva Convention:
  - ▶ Willful killing
  - ▶ Torture or inhuman treatment, including biological experiments;
  - ▶ Willfully causing great suffering, or serious injury to body or health;
  - ▶ Extensive destruction and appropriation of property, not justified by military necessity and carried out unlawfully and wantonly;
  - ▶ Compelling a prisoner of war or other protected person to serve in the forces of a hostile Power;
  - ▶ Willfully depriving a prisoner of war or other protected person of the rights of fair and regular trial;
  - ▶ Unlawful deportation or transfer or unlawful confinement;
  - ▶ Taking of hostages.

# Has the Geneva Convention ever been violated?

- ▶ Many many times!
- ▶ Syria and chemical warfare on civilians, primarily young children.
- ▶ Israel targeting civilians living in Gaza and lethal force against Palestinian protestors.
- ▶ Saudi Arabia/UAE-led coalition have killed thousands in Yemen via arms and starvation tactics.

# What happens to violators of War Crime laws?

- ▶ U.N. Security Council decide if they will sanction the violator of the Geneva Convention.
- ▶ Sanctions include travel bans, trade bans, arms embargo.
- ▶ Not very effective.

Let's take a  
beat

One thing you're excited for this  
weekend OR tell me your favorite celebrity at  
the moment. Go!