

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

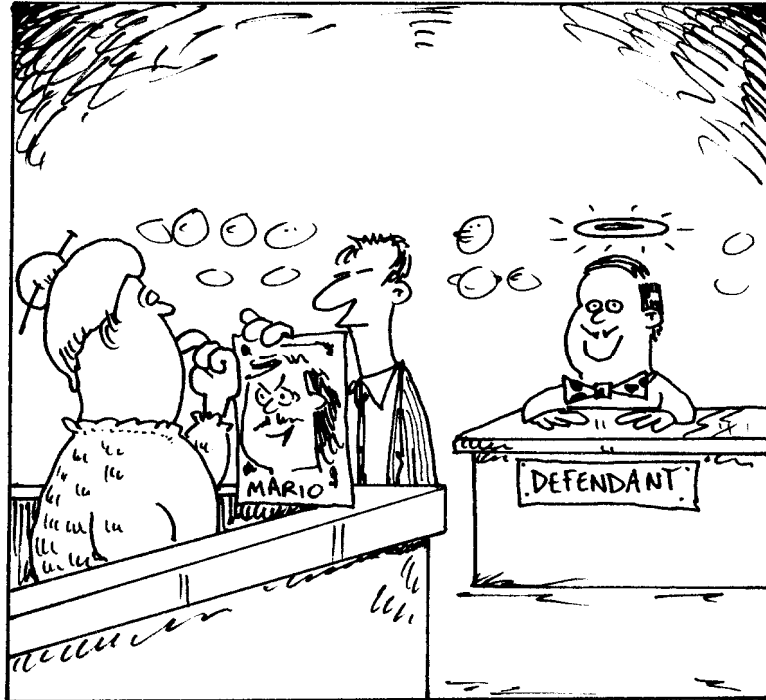
Opening Activity

You be the Judge

Name: _____ Period: _____ Row: _____ Date: _____

You be the Judge is a legal puzzle designed to exercise your mind and reasoning power. Read the facts of this real life court case. Then put your judgment against that of the real jury or trial judge.

20. Absolutely But Not So Certain?



An elderly married couple arrived home late one evening after playing Bingo at their church. As they entered the house they were confronted in their living room by a young man who was holding a hatchet. The man beat them, took money from them, ransacked the house, bound and gagged them. That same evening police caught the suspect and the couple independently viewed six police photographs, one of which was the suspect. Both victims identified Mario Bedford as the man who robbed and beat them. At the trial, however, the elderly couple could not positively identify Mario in person as their assailant. The prosecution relied on the fact that they had identified Mario by means of photographs on the night they were robbed.

Is this evidence sufficient to convict Mario of the offenses?

How do you think the case should have been decided?
