

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.

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The law in many states provides that a person is guilty of robbery in the first degree if that person "attempts to kill anyone or purposely inflicts or attempts to inflict serious bodily harm, or is armed with or uses or threatens the immediate use of a deadly weapon."

37. Things Are Not What They Seem to Be!



Late one evening an elderly woman (Gertrude) was robbed by the defendant (Jim) in a poorly illuminated parking lot of a local grocery store. The defendant had his hand in his coat pocket in a manner that suggested that he had a concealed revolver. The woman feared for her safety believing that Jim had a revolver and gave him her purse containing \$450.00 plus numerous credit cards and her retirement check worth \$2952.50. Police arrested him one block from the scene within minutes due to an eyewitness calling the police within moments of the incident. The police determined that Jim did not have a gun in his pocket instead he had used his finger to simulate a gun. Jim is charged with robbery in the first degree.

Is he guilty of robbery in the first degree? **Explain your answer fully.**

How do you think the case should have been decided?
