

# What is assault as far as schools are concerned?

- Presented by Douglas W. Green EdD  
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- When New York State started violent and disruptive incident reporting (VADIR) for all schools, I noticed that neighboring schools with similar demographics had very different numbers of assaults. Upon further investigation, I discovered that some schools were labeling minor pushing and shoving incidents as assaults, while others weren't. To help the schools I was working with avoid looking more violent than they were, I put together this slide show.

# What is an assault?

- **Assault with Physical Injury:** Intentionally or recklessly causing physical injury to another person, with or without a weapon. Physical injury means impairment of physical condition or substantial pain. As a general rule, a physical injury is a minor injury, such as a scrape, minor cut, or minor bruising, that does not involve a risk of death, disability, or disfigurement. Assaults involving injuries that are treated by the school nurse but do not require further medical attention should be included in this

# What is a serious assault?

- **Assault with Serious Physical Injury:** Intentionally or recklessly causing serious physical injury to another person, with or without a weapon. **Serious physical injury** means physical injury which creates a substantial risk of death, or which causes serious and protracted disfigurement, protracted impairment of health or protracted loss or impairment of the function of any bodily organ, i.e, disability. As a general rule, a serious physical injury is one that requires hospitalization or treatment in an emergency room or clinic or treatment by a licensed health professional outside of the school setting and includes, but is not limited to, a bullet wound, a serious stab or puncture wound, fractured or broken bones or teeth, concussions, cuts requiring stitches, and any other injury involving risk of death or disfigurement.



# Some examples of assault

- In the adult world, assault can take many forms. In order supply some examples I followed the Brooklyn, New York police beat in the New York Post for several months. I selected samples and added my own moral for each along with some generalizations at the end. While some of these incidents may seem humorous, I am sure they weren't to those involved.

# What does it take?

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Assault, menacing, and harassment



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Assault, menacing, and harassment

Moral: Hitting or pushing back is not such a great idea

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Dad: Assault, menacing, and endangering the welfare of a child



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Son: Assault, menacing, harassment, and weapons possession

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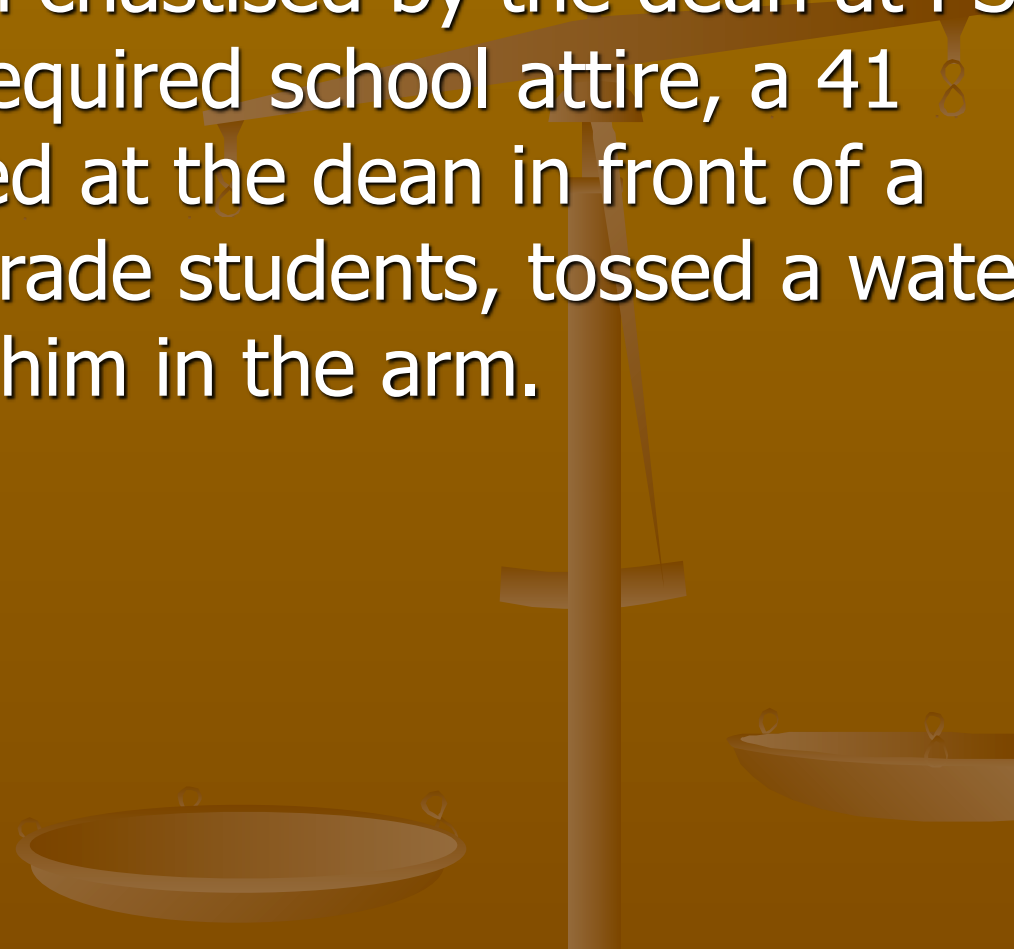
Dad: Assault, menacing, and endangering the welfare of a child

Son: Assault, menacing, harassment, and weapons possession

Moral: Remote controls are part of your personal space

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East New York, Brooklyn, New York: After hearing that her son had been chastised by the dean at PS 308 for not wearing required school attire, a 41 year-old woman cursed at the dean in front of a class of 6th and 7th grade students, tossed a water bottle at him, and hit him in the arm.



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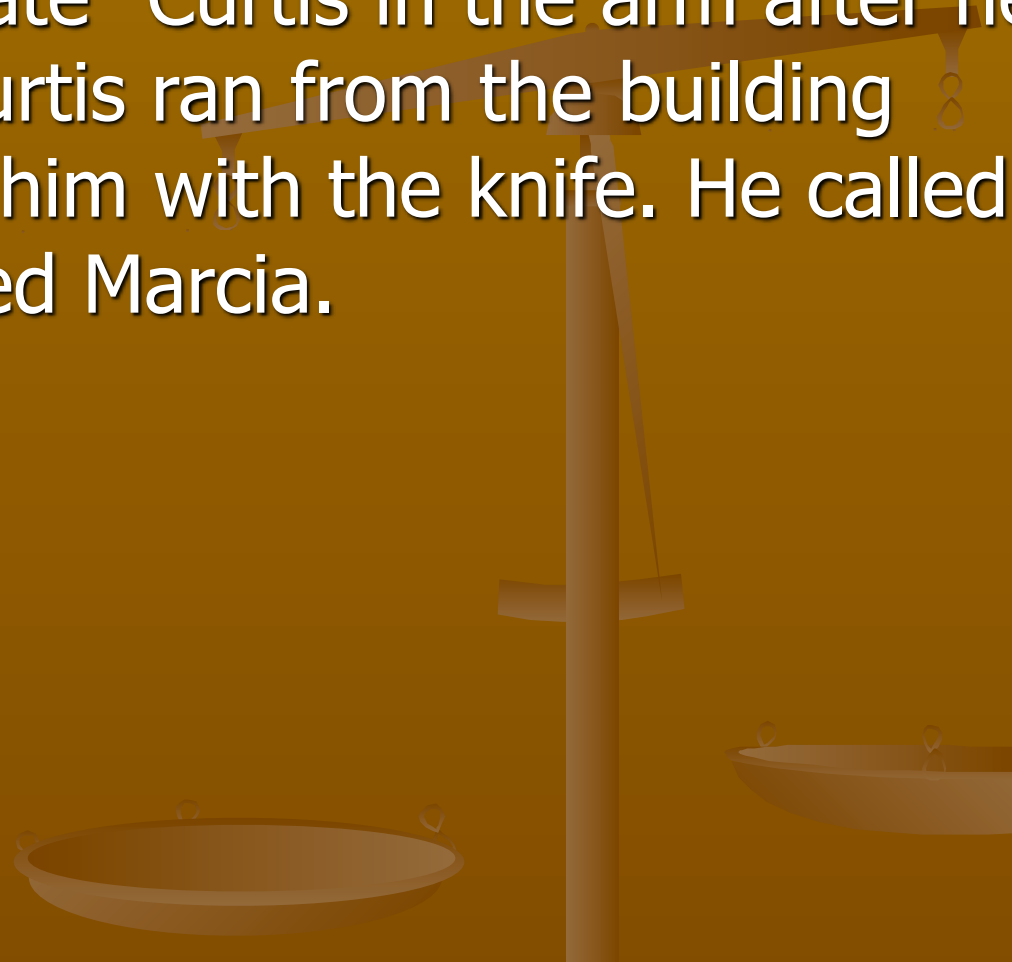


Assault, menacing, and harassment

Moral: When you correct a student get ready to duck.

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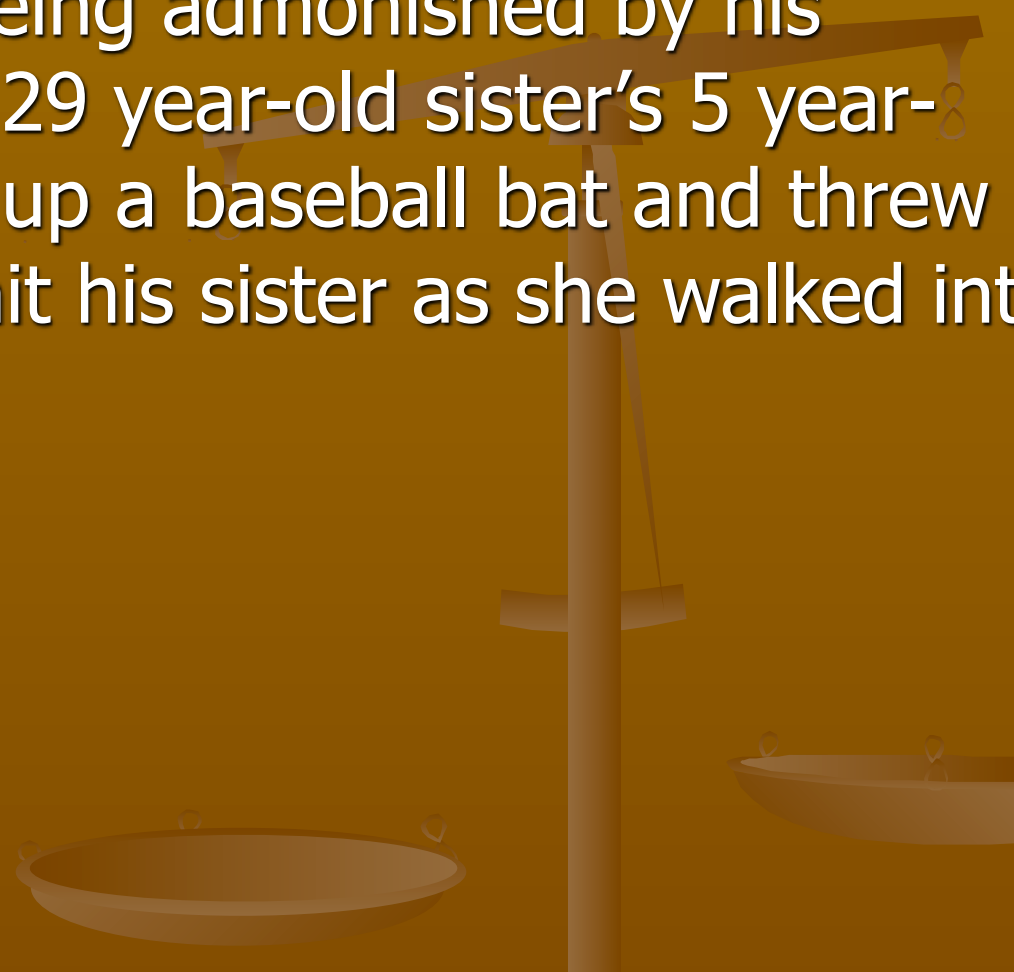
Assault, menacing, harassment,  
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Moral: It's the man who is supposed to leave when things don't work out.



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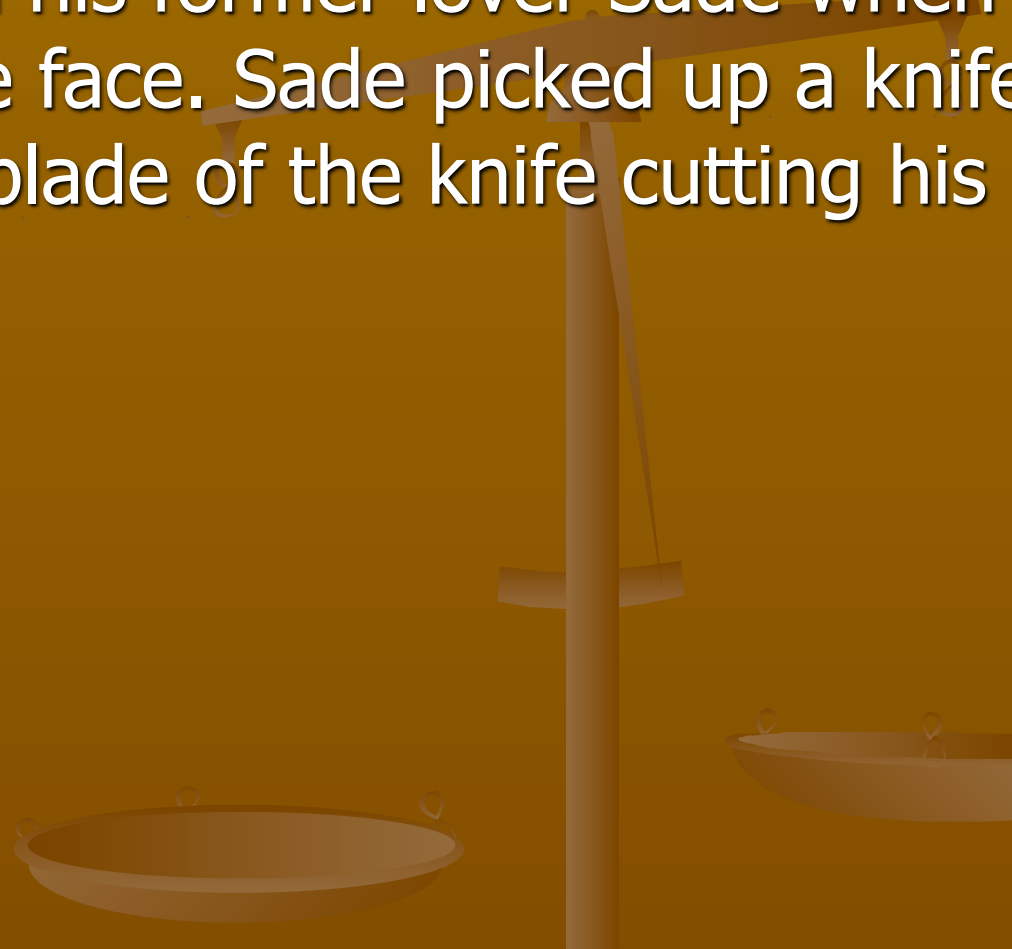
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Assault, endangering the welfare of a child,  
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Moral: Don't leave baseball bats where 18 year-olds can get at them.

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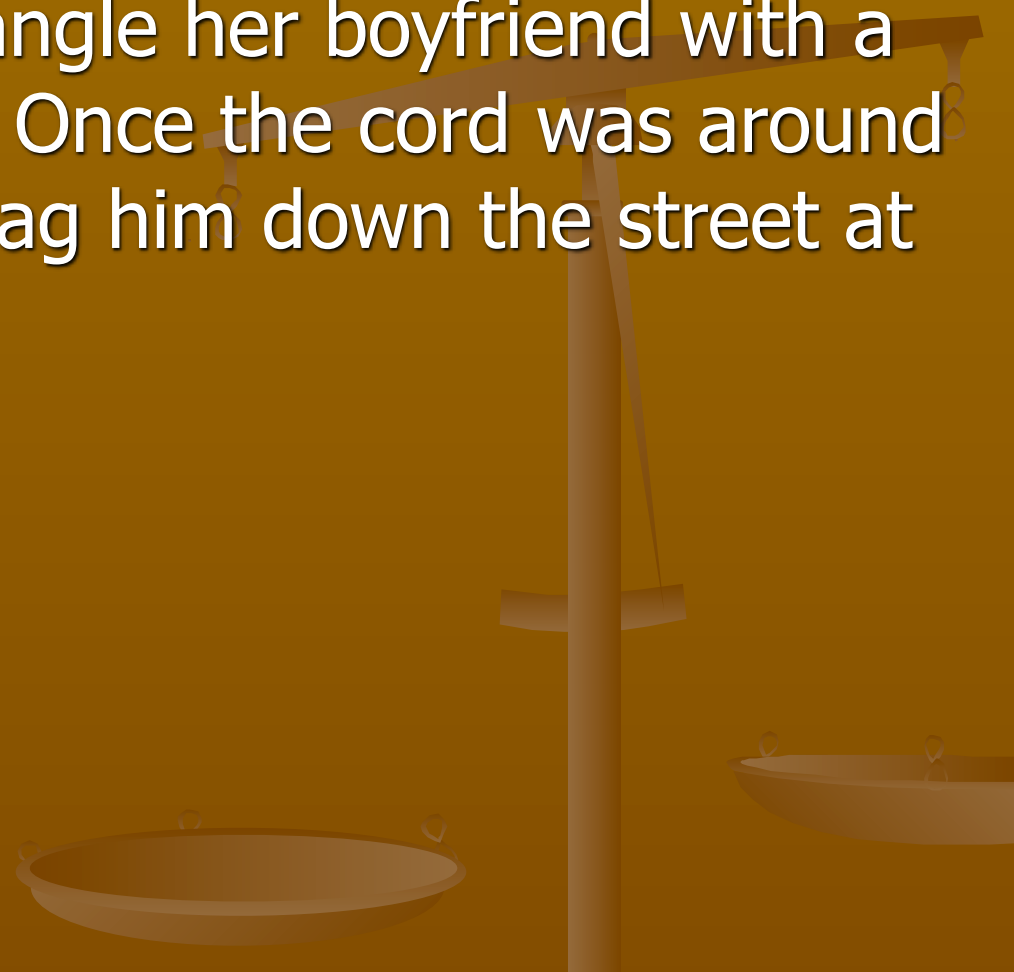
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Assault, menacing, and harassment

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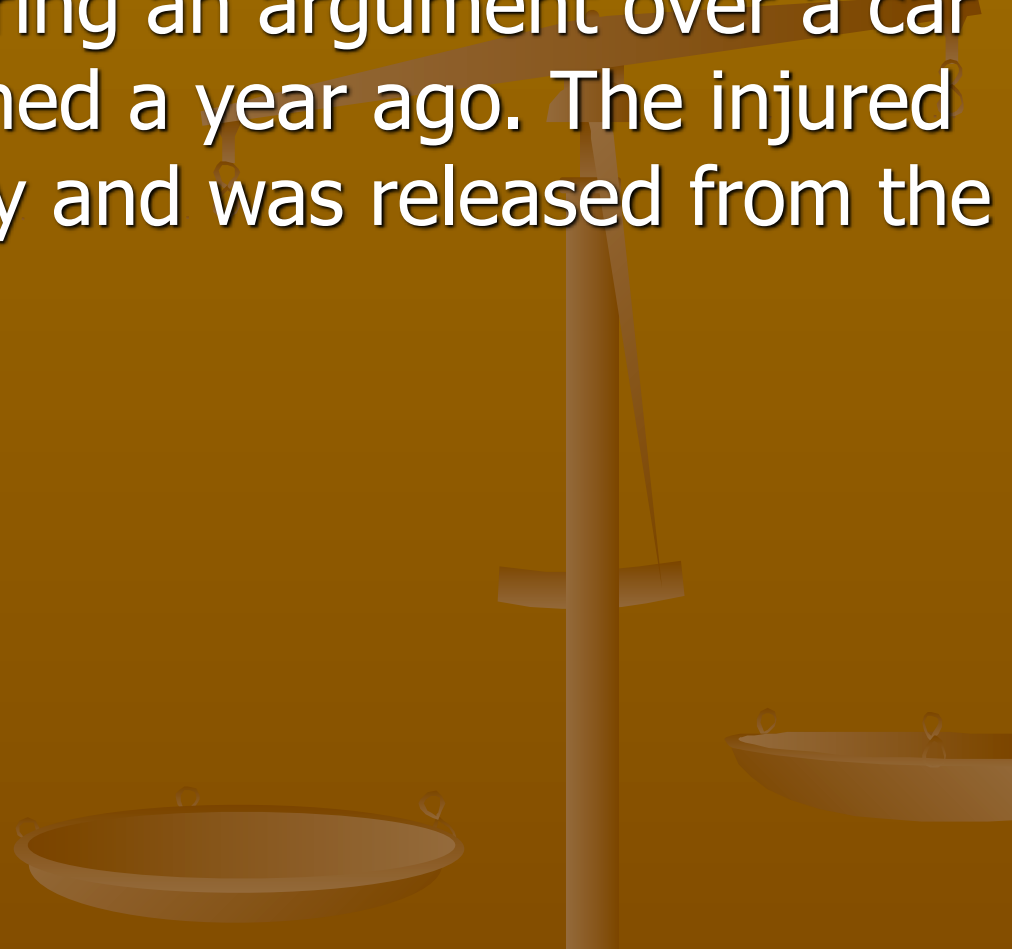
Assault, menacing, and harassment

Moral: Think twice before you offend a girl with a fan.



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Moral: Don't argue with crazy customers.

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Prospect Heights, Brooklyn, New York: Scott argued with his gal pal over her coming home late to their Bergen Street apartment at 2 a.m. He grabbed the woman by the neck and choked her before throwing her onto the bed. He placed a pillow over her face, punched her, dragged her across the floor, and bit her hand.



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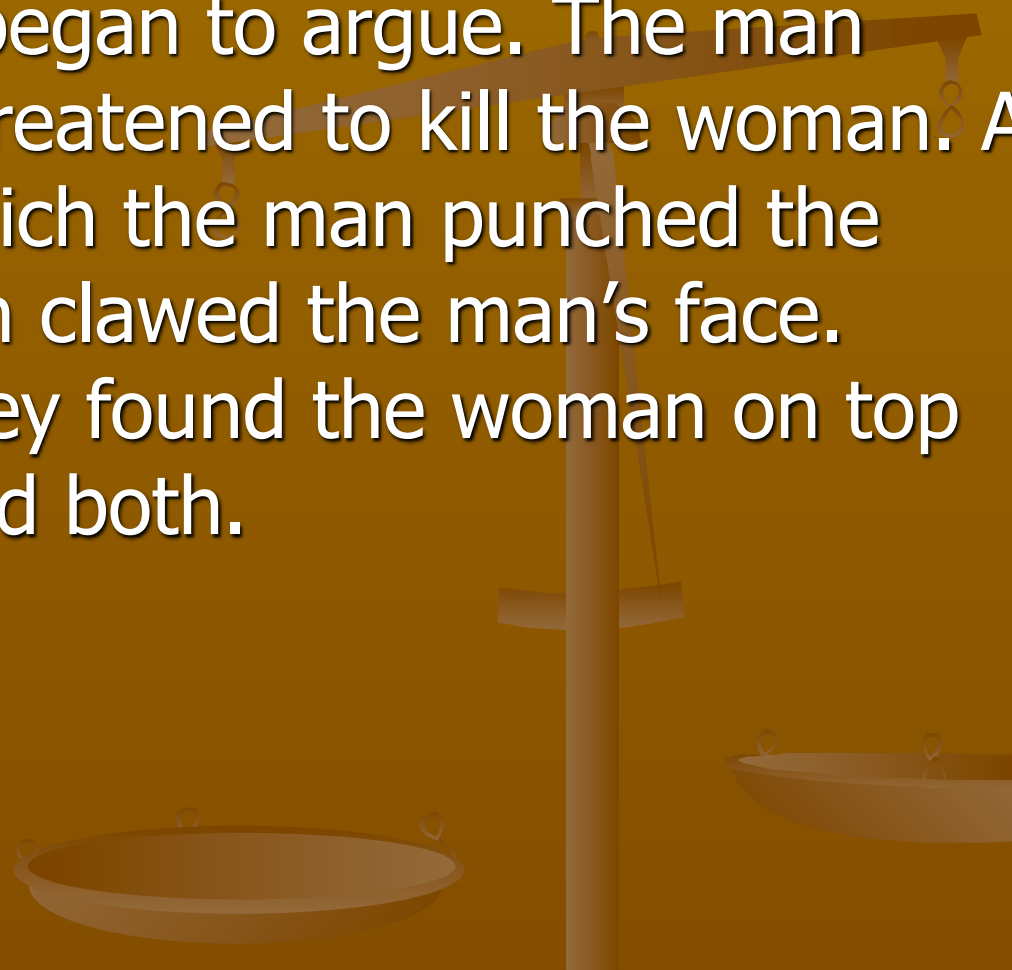
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Moral: Be more understanding when gal pals go astray.



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Bushwick, Brooklyn, New York: After returning home at 1:30 a.m. a couple began to argue. The man grabbed a knife and threatened to kill the woman. A fight ensued during which the man punched the woman and the woman clawed the man's face. When police arrived they found the woman on top of the man and arrested both.



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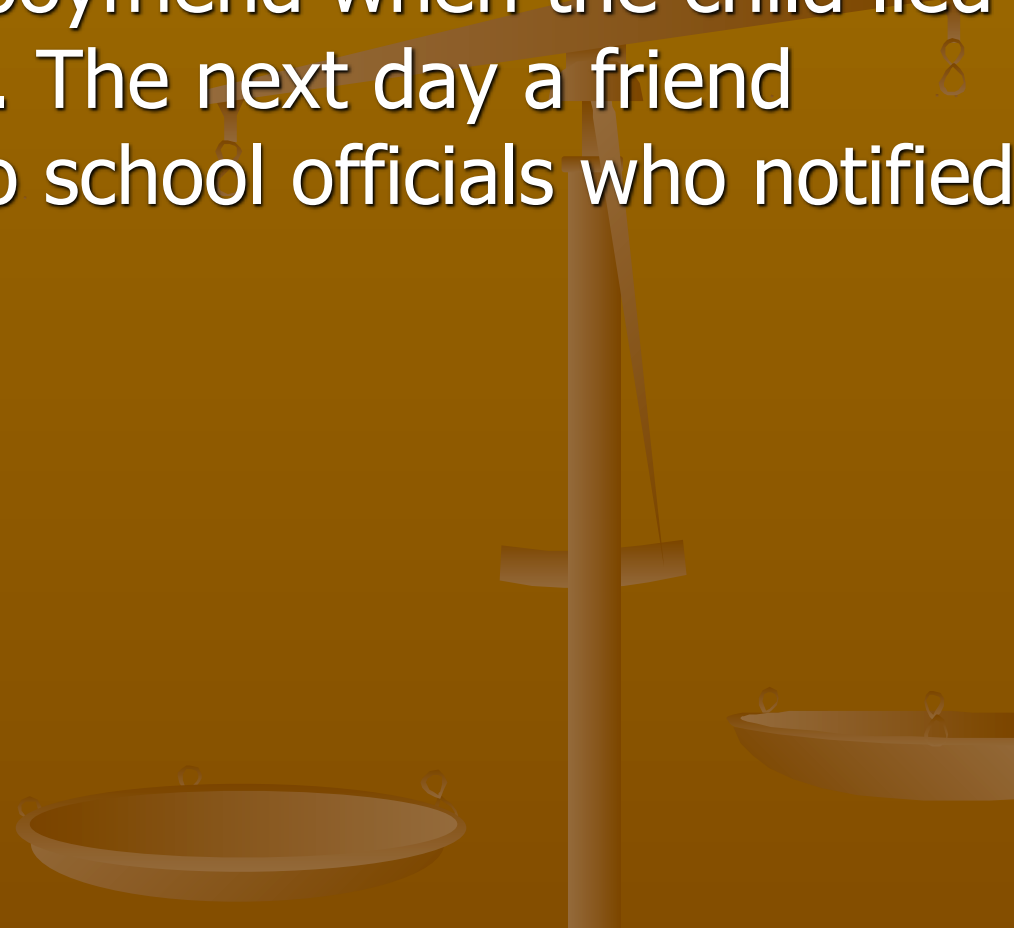
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Moral: Women should consider pleading self defense.

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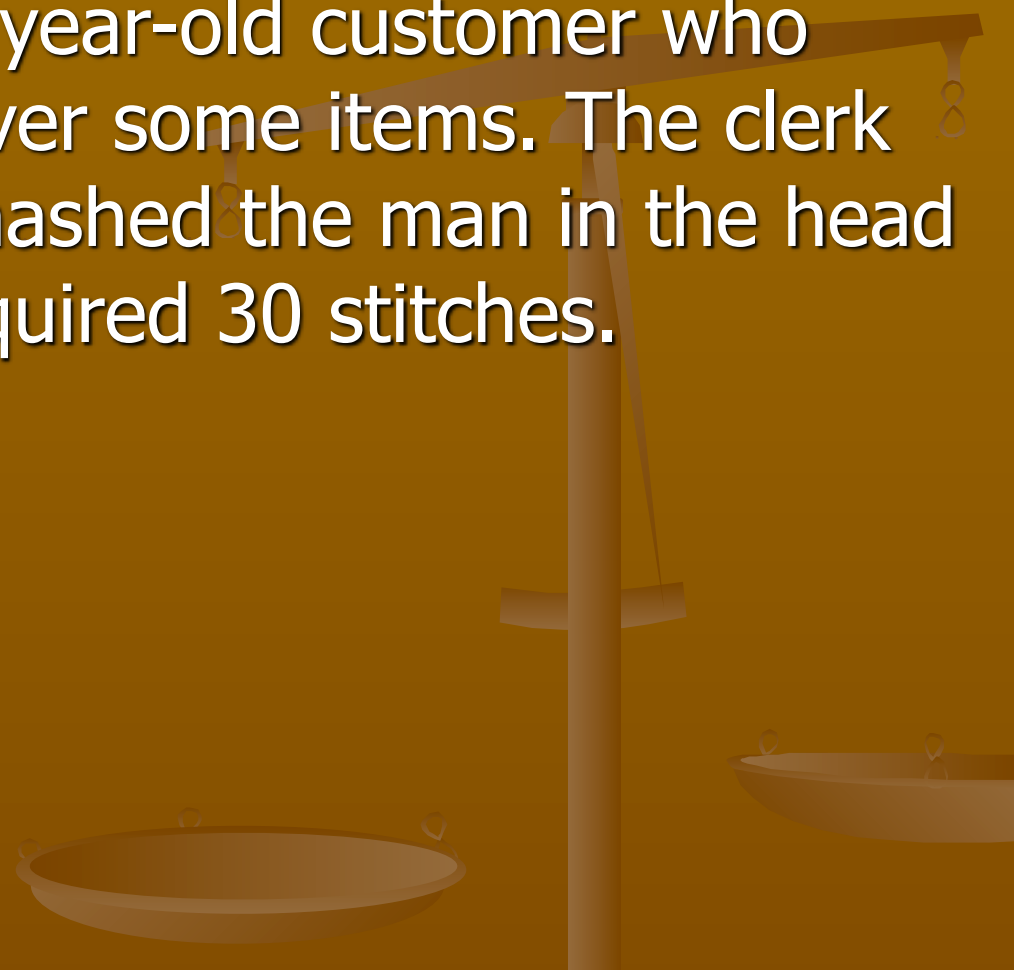
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Moral: School officials are mandatory reporters.



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Moral: If you knock it down, pick it up.

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East New York, Brooklyn, New York: A man gave \$50 to a clerk in a bodega for a carton of cigarettes. The clerk disappeared for 20 minutes. When he returned he had no cigarettes and pretended not to have the cash. When the customer refused to leave the clerk hit him with a bat.



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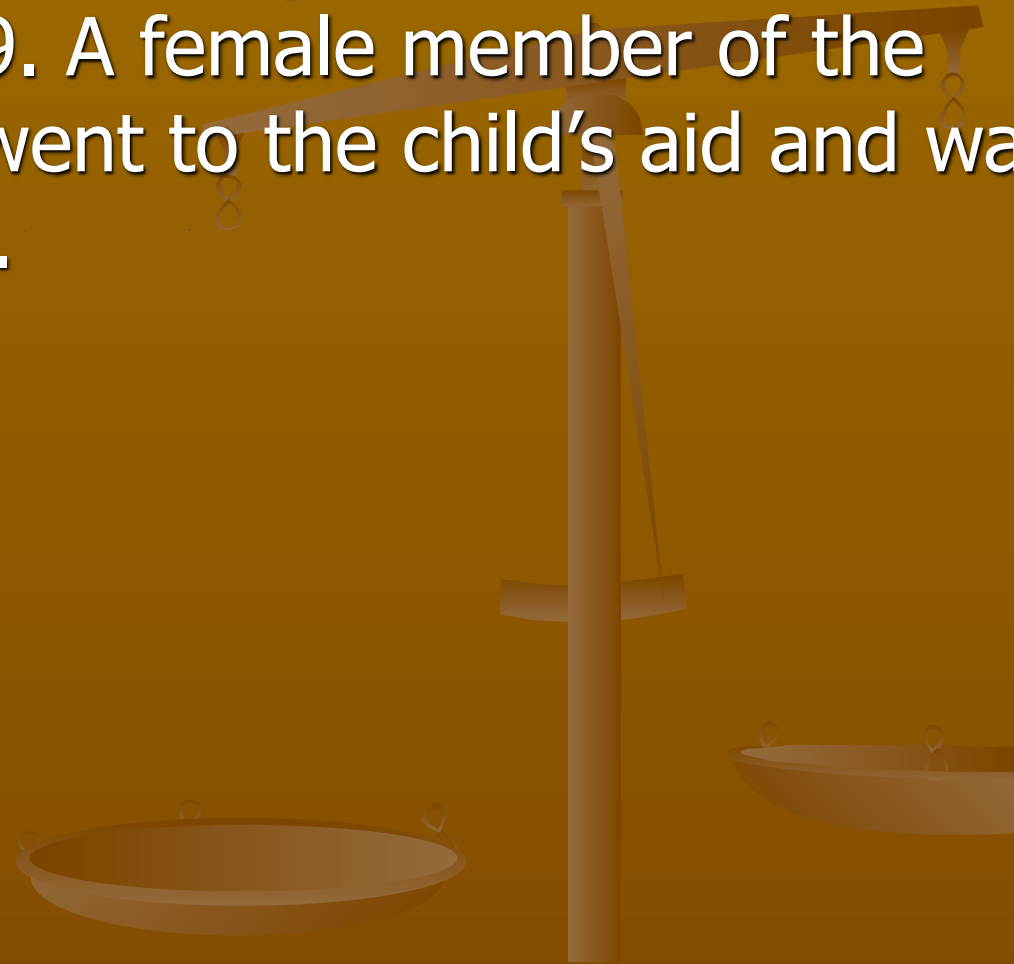
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Moral: Smoking can be very bad for your health.



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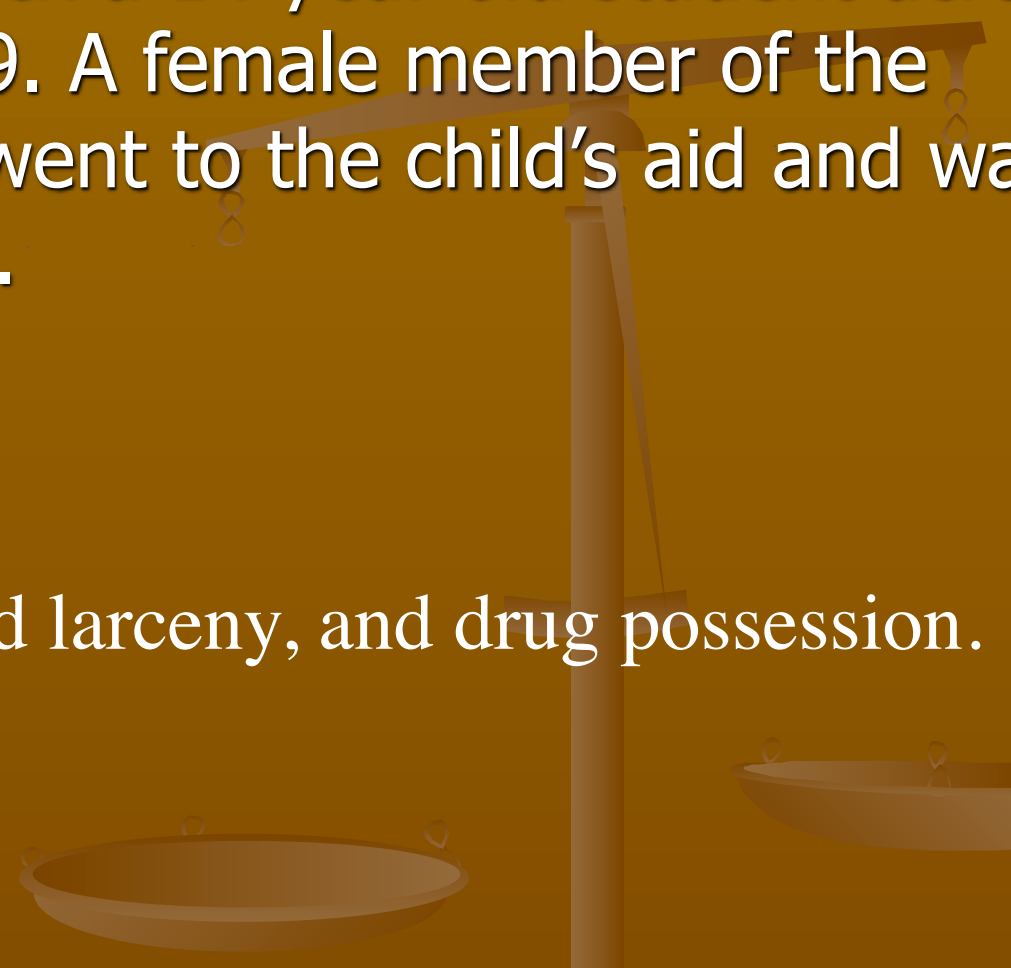
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Morals: No good deed goes unpunished.  
Don't carry more than you can eat

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Moral: We must listen when children try to tell us something.

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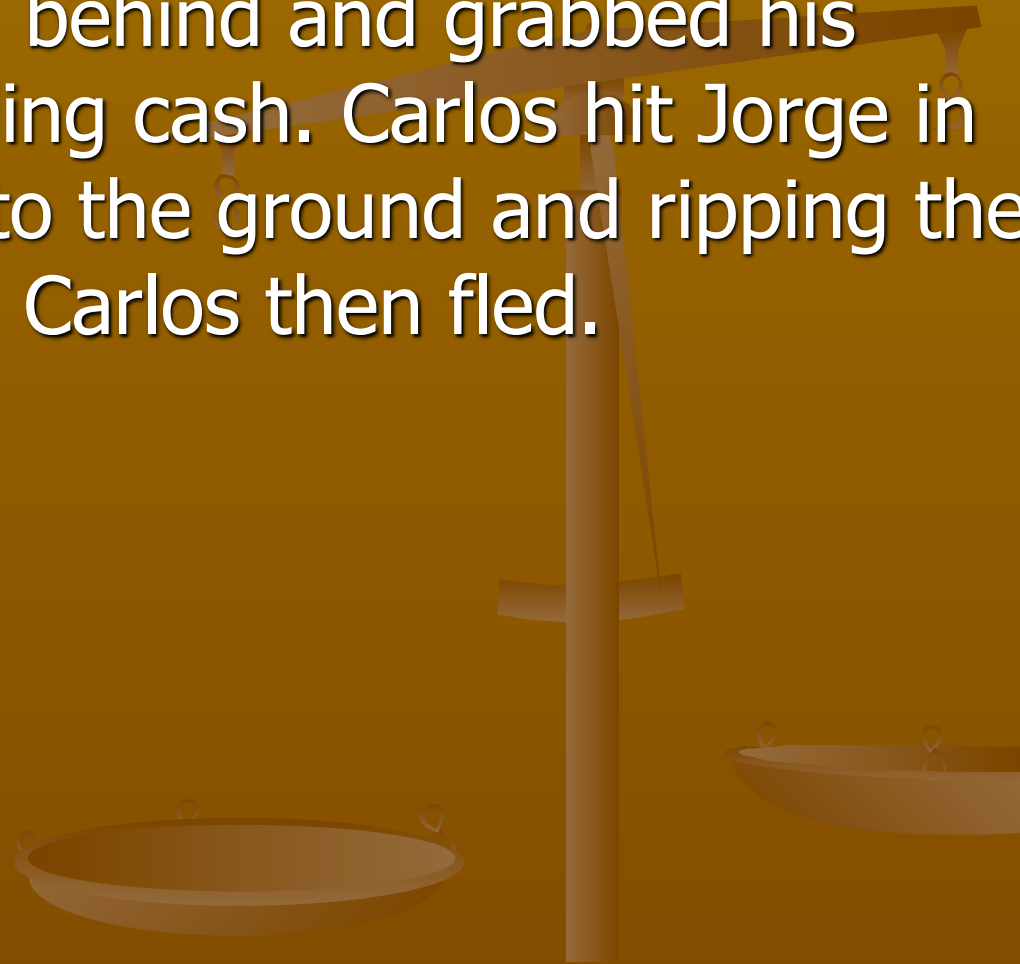
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Moral: Know what to expect before you expectorate.

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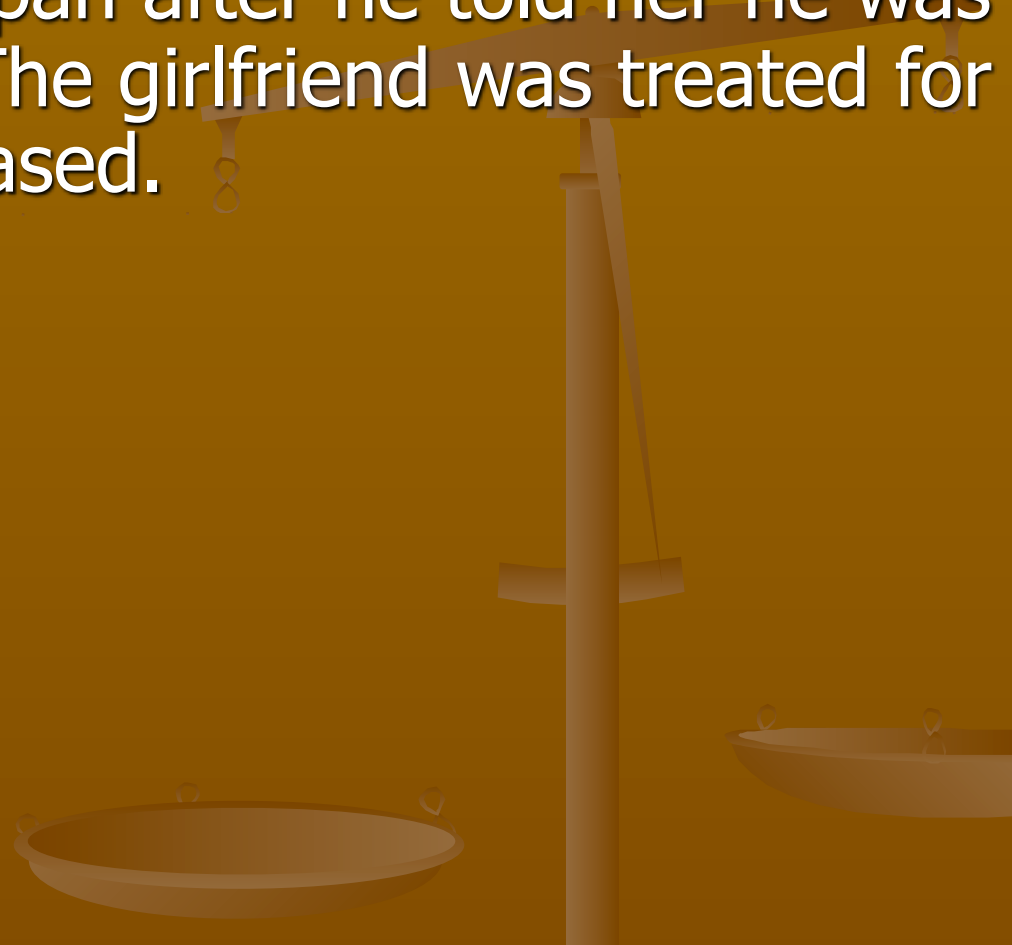
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Moral: It pays to be clean cut.

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Moral: You should never be too tired to have sex.



# So let's generalize



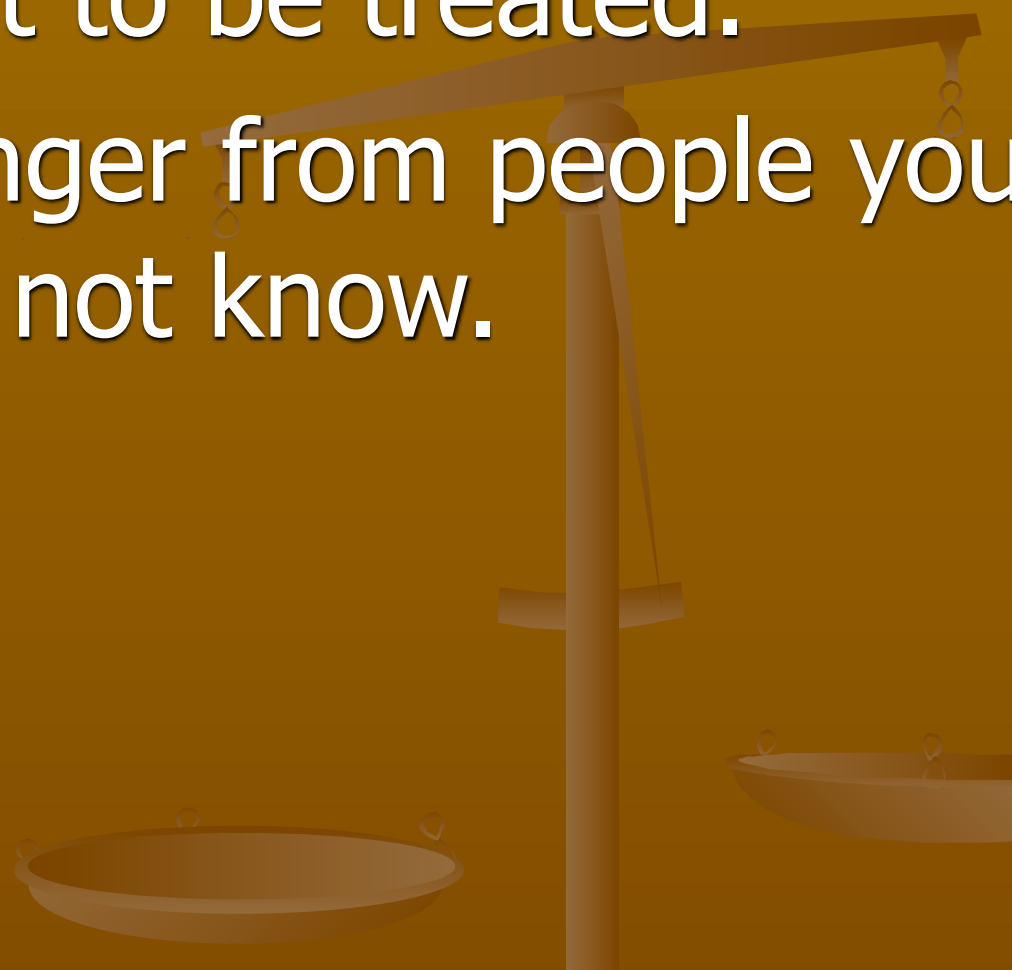
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- You are in more danger from people you know than people you do not know.



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- Treat your spouse, girlfriend, or roommate, the way you would want to be treated.
- You are in more danger from people you know than people you do not know.
- Your home or apartment contains a whole lot of potential weapons.

