



**Comm Skills Virtual Learning**

**Legal Communications I & II**

**Identifying Problems**

**April 24, 2020**



Lesson: April 24, 2020

**Objective/Learning Target: Students will identify problems in the criminal justice system.**

# Bell Ringer/Let's Get Started

Yesterday we began our inquiry -based criminal justice reform project. You were asked to identify a problem area. Let's start today by creating a brainstorm list, bullet journal, or concept map of your current understanding of the selected topic.

# Lesson/Activity

First, let's think about the problem you have selected. It needs to be inquiry-based. How will you research your issue?

In addition to online resources (Google Scholar, databases, etc), we will use community members. People such as local civic leaders, experts, public officials. Let's take a few minutes and draft a list of potential contacts. Don't be afraid to dream big!

# Lesson/Activity

Develop a question that you are excited to answer.

Today, I would like you to answer these 4 questions. First, answer yes or no. Then justify your reasons.

## PROBLEM AREA:

1. Does the government have a responsibility to address this matter?
2. Is the problem important to our community?
3. Is there enough information about the problem?
4. Is this a problem that might have a solution?

# Practice

Your task is to convince me that your problem is one that should be chosen for this project.

In a letter, email, or video message, show that:

- This problem is actually a problem
- People care about the issue
- There is evidence this is a problem
- The government has a responsibility to deal with it
- The problem is solvable

# Additional Resources

[Inquiry - Based Learning](#)

[How to Contact Elected Officials](#)

[Interviewing Experts](#)