



Comm Skills Virtual Learning

Legal Communications I & II

Court Reform

April 23, 2020



Lesson: April 21, 2020

Objective/Learning Target: Students will identify problems and propose solutions to reform criminal procedure.

Bell Ringer/Let's Get Started

Over the last few weeks, we've explored several topics that are possible areas of reform in the criminal justice system. At this time, brainstorm several that you recall. List some proposed solutions, as well.

Lesson/Activity

We will now take our exploratory work and create our own inquiry-based project.

Objectives of the Project:

- · Identify the knowledge and skills that are gained through the reformation of the criminal justice system
- · Practice research, problem solving, and civic participation
- · Analyze problems and determine multiple solution options
- Support decisions with evidence, practice, and follow

Lesson/Activity

WHAT YOU WILL DO

- conduct research about important problems in the criminal justice system
- · choose one of the problems that you think most needs a solution
- · identify alternative solutions to the problem and weigh advantages and disadvantages of each
- · then propose one policy solution that includes revision with government action
 - propose an action plan for your chosen policy solution
 - steps and results are recorded and demonstrated in both documented research and a display of some kind
 - results are presented

Lesson/Activity

Create a chart with four columns.

Column 1: Record the problem that you wish to investigate further.

Column 2: Record how the present system currently addresses the issue.

Column 3: Record at least two alternatives to the present system.

Column 4: Record your proposal. Be sure to ask yourself if your idea is Constitutional. Does it protect people's rights?

Practice

Create a folder (electronic or physical) to house and organize your materials.

Create four sections.

1. Explanation of the problem
2. Alternative policy solutions
3. Chosen policy solution
4. Arguments for the plan of action

*If you feel confident in your research idea, you may begin researching right away!

Additional Resources

[4 Ideas for Reform](#)

[The Conservative Case for Criminal Justice Reform](#)

[Most Americans Support Sentencing Reforms](#)