

## GRASPS

### UNIT: Everything Is Economics

### LESSON #6: "Order in the Court"

**ESSENTIAL QUESTION:** How are our common everyday decisions closely interconnected with how society, the environment and the economy functions? What does it mean to be an educated consumer?

G R A S P S	
Goal	<p><b>Goal:</b></p> <p>Your job is to either indict or acquit a well-known multi-national corporation charged with unethical corporate behavior in a court room bench-trial simulation.</p>
Role	<p><b>Role:</b></p> <p>You will assume one of several roles: i) member of a Human Rights / Environmental legal team working for the prosecution, ii) defense team lawyer working for the Corporation iii) member of the public affected by the Externalities allegedly caused by the Corporation, and iv) members of the Corporation's Executive team / Board who maintain they are solid corporate citizens.</p>
Audience	<p><b>Audience:</b></p> <p>Judge (teacher/group of students) and ideally a Law 12 class as peer mentors before trial and as audience during trial.</p>

**Situation**

**Situation:**

A real-life Corporation (decided upon as a class) has been charged with failing to follow the standards of Corporate Social Responsibility and the result is harm to people and the environment. The Corporation vehemently denies these allegations. A bench trial is conducted to fully explore the actions of the Corporation and a verdict is reached by Judge.

**Performance or Product**

**Performance or Product:**

If acting as a witness, you will anticipate legal questions and be prepared with truthful answers. If part of a legal team, you will show evidence of putting thought into the order of your arguments and carefully word your questions to elicit authentic responses.

**Standards**

**Standards:**

Your case will be framed around the standards of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). You will generate opening and closing statements and publish these to the class before the trial. You will dress appropriately for a court situation and conduct your manner appropriately. Your evidence will be accurate and well-researched. You will provide a bibliography of all sources. Finally, you will write a one-page reflection on what you would do the same and differently the next time you argued your case. In this reflection you will also comment upon the accuracy of the Judge's verdict, in your opinion.

## **Differentiation:**

### Adaptations:

#### Differentiation

- A student may be assigned to the side they relate to the most.
- Their research can be focused to one or two main events and not all economic externalities, such as how the workers are treated by management.