## **MIRANDA RIGHTS**

After the case Miranda v. AZ of 1966, these are a set of rights that a person being arrested or otherwise being placed in custody must be aware of. If the person is not aware of those rights, any of their statements cannot be used against them. It is only after the person has been made aware that their statements can be used against them.

Miranda did not know about his right to not say anything and ended up confessing to rape, robbery and a number of other crimes. He took this to court, and the Court sided with Miranda, saying that since:

- A. he was not made aware of his right to not say anything,
- B. he was not made aware of his right to a lawyer

then

C. the confession was involuntary and without guidance from a lawyer

thus

D. his 5th amendment right (self incrimination) and 6th amendment right (right to trial and public defense) had been violated.

Eventually, his conviction was overturned, although he was tried and convicted later for his crimes under different evidence.

## **ACTIVITY 1: "This part of the Miranda Rights is important because?"**

- 1. You have the right to remain silent.
- 2. Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law.
- 3. You have the right to talk to a lawyer and to have a lawyer present with you while you are being questioned.
- 4. If you cannot afford to hire a lawyer, one will be appointed to represent you before any questioning if you wish.
- 5. You can decide at any time to exercise these rights and not answer any questions or make any statements.

Part 4 of the Miranda Rights is important because officers must not take advantage of someone of low income whilst seeking justice.

Part 1 of the Miranda Rights is important because some people are unaware of their right to not speak to the authorities.

Part 3 of the Miranda Rights is important because lawyers are imperative to protecting the person's 5th amendment rights.

Part 2 of the Miranda Rights is important because a person needs to understand he consequences of not using their rights.

Part 5 of the Miranda Rights is important because it states that any statement made after "I don't want to talk" must have been forced out of them

by the authorities.

Part 1 of the Miranda Rights is important because being reminded of the basic right makes a person less likely to give up their right should investigators use a person's silence as evidence against them.

Part 4 of the Miranda Rights is important because some people may think that lawyers are only an option if they are able to afford one.

Part 2 of the Miranda Rights is important because it helps people realize that the authorities are not on their side and that questioning is a part of the legal process.

Part 3 of the Miranda Rights is important because a lawyer can help make sure that all statements that are made are accurately reported.

Part 1 of the Miranda Rights is important because saying it upfront helps authorities realize

## **ACTIVITY 2**

"It is not admissible to do a great right by doing a little wrong."

I personally disagree with this statement: see the wording, it states that a great right cannot be justified by a little wrong. Personally, it depends: there have been many instances of people pushing for things that greatly benefit the common good that involve "a little wrong", so in those cases, the "little wrong" should be outweighed by the common good, after all, laws are supposed to promote the common good, right? An example of this would be the uprising against a government that has long stripped the rights from the people unduly, or started to threaten the physical safety of its citizens in order to maintain power.