

# LADY JUSTICE

## INFORMATION FOR DISCUSSION

**1. What are some other names for the “Lady Justice”? Where did she come from?**

Answer: “Lady Justice” goes by many names; the most popular are “Lady Justice”, “Scales of Justice”, “Blind Justice”. The origins go back to the ancient Greek and Roman images of Themis and Justitia. “Portraying Justice as a female figure dates back to depictions of Themis and Justicia (Justitia) in ancient mythology.” “Themis, known for her clear-sightedness, was the Greek Goddess of Justice and Law.” “In Roman mythology, Justicia (Justice) was one of the four Virtues along with Prudence, Fortitude and Temperance.”

The depictions of her carrying a sword in one hand and the scales of justice in the other with her eyes covered is used to this day as our symbol of law and justice.

**2. What is she holding?**

Answer: “Scale of Justice” and a “Sword”

**What is a scale of justice?**

Answer: The scales of justice in her left hand represent fairness and balance.

**What do the scales represent?**

Answer: “Some early depictions of Justice included scales to represent Impartiality.”

**3. What does the sword symbolize?**

Answer: The sword symbolizes power.

**4. Why is she blindfolded?**

Answer: “The origin of the blindfold is unclear, but there is some evidence that early artists added the blindfold to indicate the courts’ tolerance of, or ignorance to, abuse of the law. Today the blindfold is generally accepted as a symbol of impartiality.”

**5. Where can you see her?**

Answer: There is a statue at the “Hall of Justice” (Michigan Supreme Court) Learning Center in Lansing, Michigan. Go to: <http://courts.michigan.gov/plc/> click on They are also found all over the world. For a list of places that you can see “Lady Justice” go to: <http://members.tripod.com/mdean/justice.html>

For more information about “Lady Justice” go to:

The information sheet on Justice Statues, figures & images at the U.S.

Supreme Court provides the following facts:

<http://www.supremecourtus.gov/about/figuresofjustice.pdf>

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady\\_Justice](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady_Justice)