

JUSTICE

CASE FILES

4

A
Coloring
Book



The Case of the Broken Controller

Justice Case Files: The Case of the Broken Controller

Dear Readers,

In the United States, the government is divided into three branches of government: the executive branch (the president), the legislative branch (the Congress), and the judicial branch (the courts.)

The judicial branch is the one that many people don't understand, and it's what this coloring book is all about.

The courts belong to you – the students, parents, teachers and all people who live in this country. In “The Case of the Broken Controller,” you will follow the story of Tyler, who wants justice because he says his friend broke his videogame controller. Through Tyler's journey for justice, we hope you will learn about the court system, how it protects you and your family and about the men and women who work in the courts.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS

MARY CAMPBELL McQUEEN
PRESIDENT

MANAGING EDITOR

LORRI W. MONTGOMERY
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & MARKETING,
NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS

EDITORIAL BOARD

THE MESSAGE AND CONTENT OF THIS BOOK WAS EDITED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS, WITH PARTICULAR INVOLVEMENT OF THE BOARD'S PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ATTORNEY AND TV LEGAL ANALYST MANNY MEDRANO.

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR STATE COURTS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS IS MADE UP OF CHIEF JUSTICES FROM THE STATE COURTS OF LAST RESORT, JUDGES, GENERAL COUNSEL, STATE COURT ADMINISTRATORS, ATTORNEYS AND NCSC PRESIDENT MARY C. McQUEEN.

**CHESTER
COMIX**

The story, illustrations and book design were created by
BENTLEY BOYD

More information on his civics cartoons can be found at
www.chestercomix.com

Justice Case Files -- Issue 04. No portion of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted, in any form or any means, without the express written permission of the National Center for State Courts. Names, characters, places and incidents featured in this publication are based in reality but entirely fictional. Printed in the United States.

ONE EVENING AT THE
DINING ROOM TABLE . . .



MOOOOOOO!!!



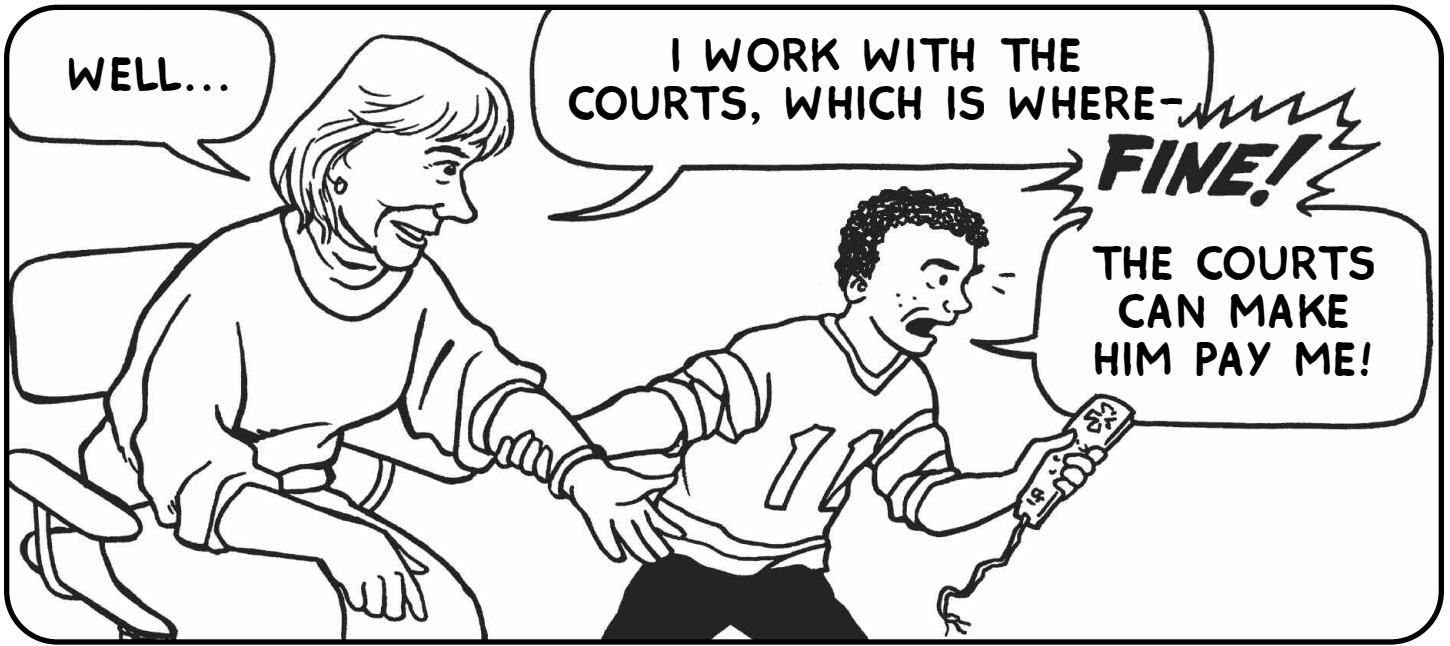
**DYLAN BROKE MY
VIDEOGAME CONTROLLER!
YOU GOTTA HELP ME!**



**OK, TYLER,
HOW CAN
I HELP??**



**YOU WORK WITH THE
POLICE! ARREST HIM
OR SOMETHING!!**



WELL...

I WORK WITH THE COURTS, WHICH IS WHERE-

FINE!

THE COURTS CAN MAKE HIM PAY ME!



THAT IS NOT QUITE HOW IT WORKS.

ISN'T THIS WEEK THE "TAKE YOUR KID TO WORK" DAY?

YEAH! RIGHT! PLEEEEEEASE, MOM! HELP!!



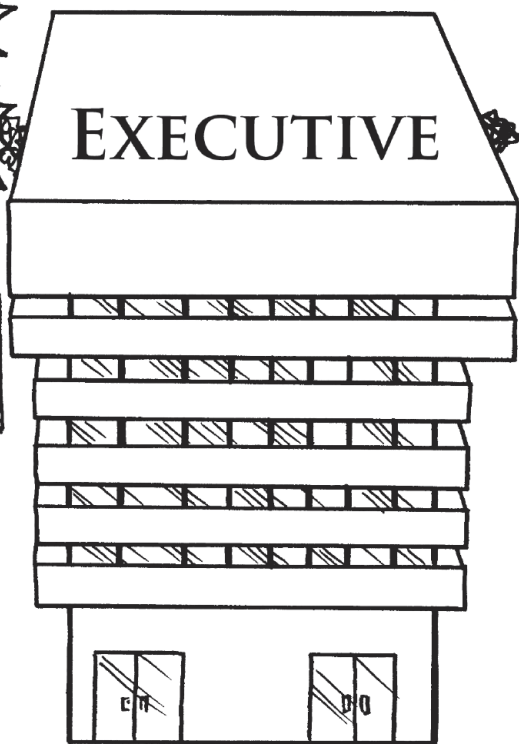
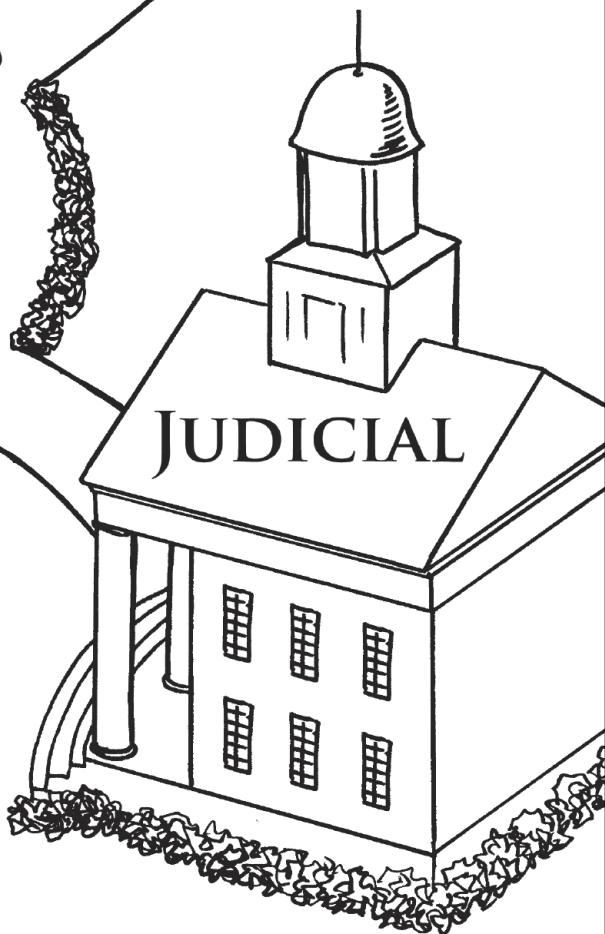
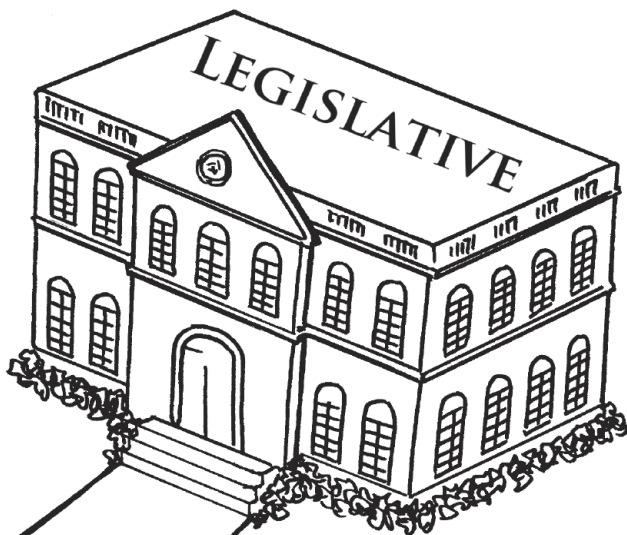
I'LL TAKE YOU -- IF YOU PROMISE TO PAY ATTENTION.

YOU MEAN, LIKE... LEARNING?! GEEZ!!

TWO DAYS LATER ...

THIS IS THE
GOVERNMENT
CENTER, TYLER.


IN THE UNITED
STATES WE
HAVE THREE
BRANCHES OF
GOVERNMENT.




WHERE
IS THE
POLICE
STATION?!



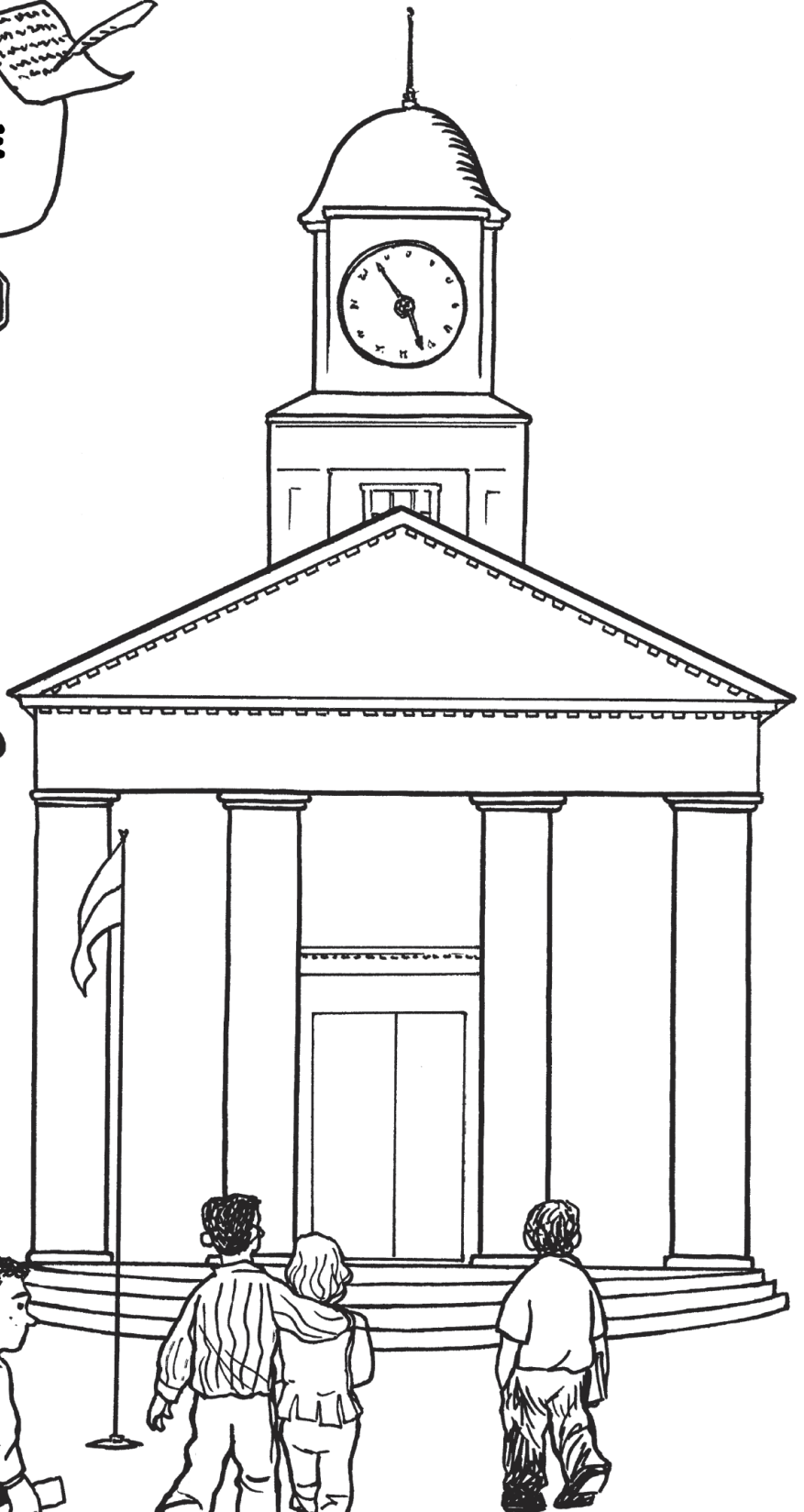
LAWS ARE MADE
BY THE **LEGISLATIVE**
BRANCH.



THE POLICE
WHO ENFORCE
THOSE LAWS
ARE PART OF THE
EXECUTIVE
BRANCH.



TO SETTLE AN
ARGUMENT AFTER
AN INCIDENT
(LIKE THE
BREAKING
OF YOUR GAME
CONTROLLER)
WE GO TO THE
JUDICIAL
BRANCH.



LOOK WHO ELSE IS AT COURT TODAY ...

WE'RE GETTING MARRIED!

I GOT CAUGHT SHOPLIFTING AT A STORE.

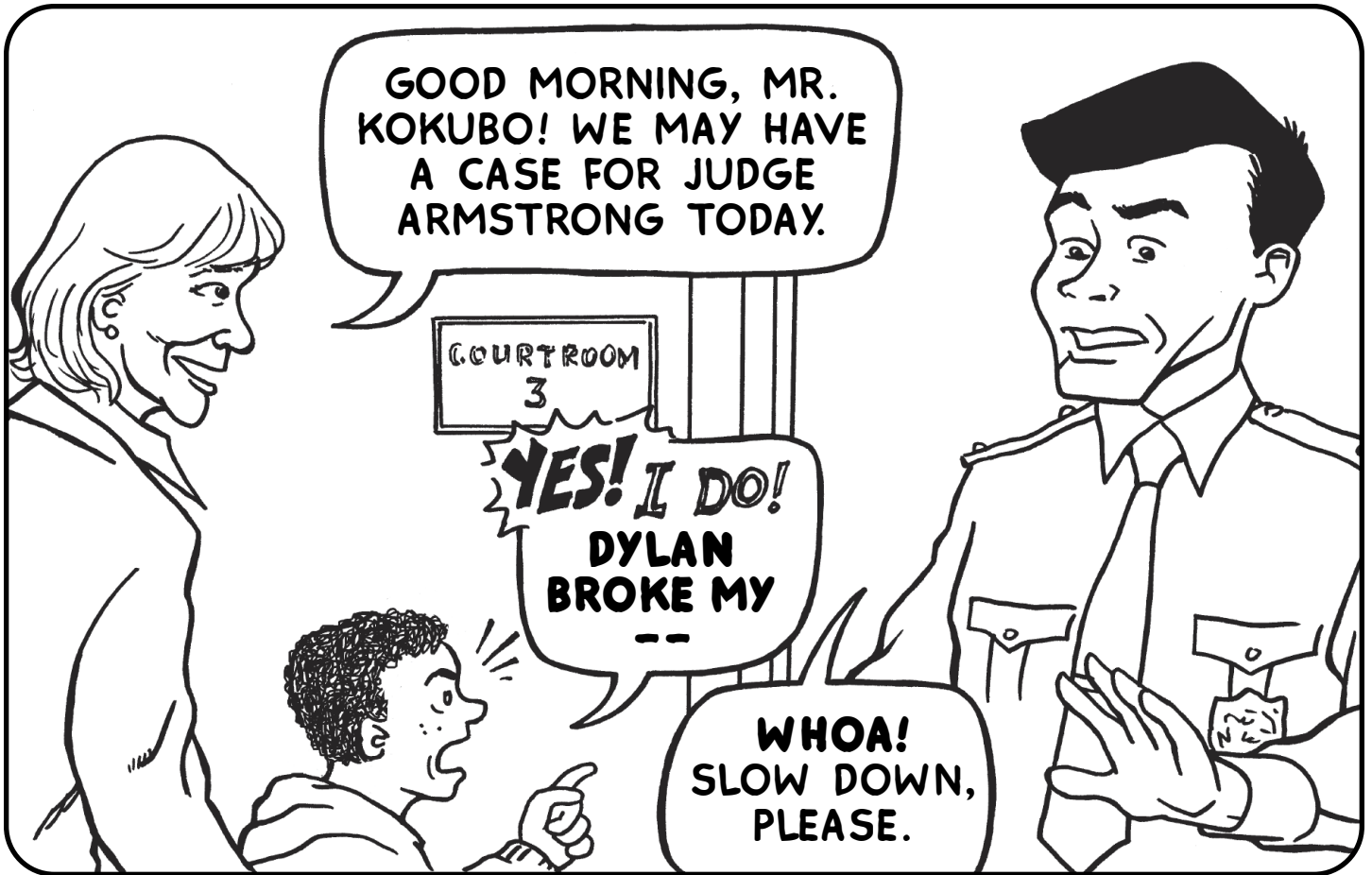
I'M BROKE!
NO MONEY.
SO I AM
DECLARING
BANKRUPTCY.

WE ARE TALKING TO THE JUDGE ABOUT SHARING CUSTODY OF OUR CHILDREN AFTER OUR DIVORCE.

THE COURTS BELONG TO ALL THE PEOPLE. THE COURTS PROTECT PEOPLE AND THEIR RIGHTS.

THE DOORWAY TO THE COURTS IS THROUGH THE **UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION**, WHICH ORGANIZES OUR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT AND DESCRIBES OUR INDIVIDUAL RIGHTS.





GOOD MORNING, MR. KOKUBO! WE MAY HAVE A CASE FOR JUDGE ARMSTRONG TODAY.

COURTROOM
3

YES! I DO!
DYLAN
BROKE MY
--

WHOA!
SLOW DOWN,
PLEASE.

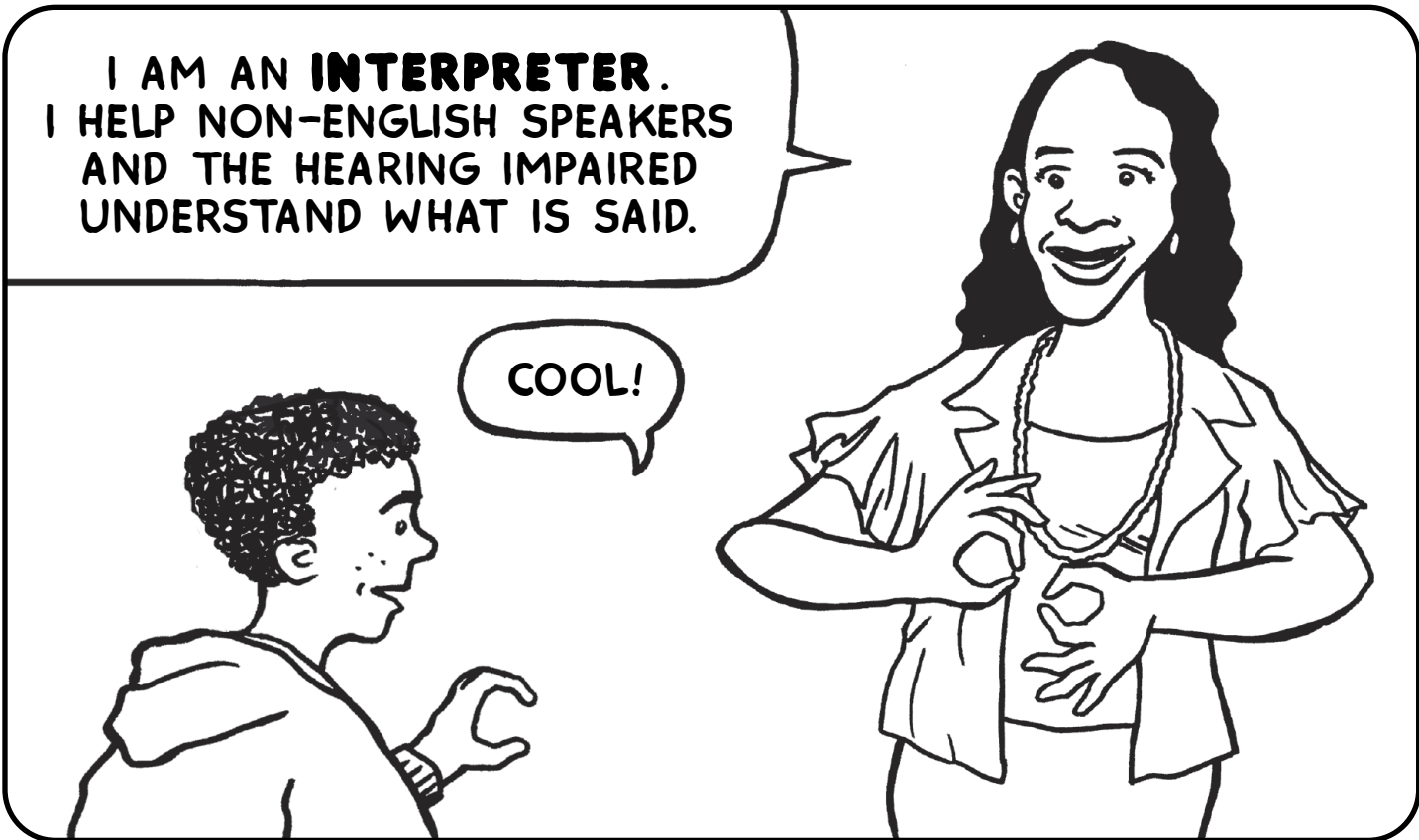
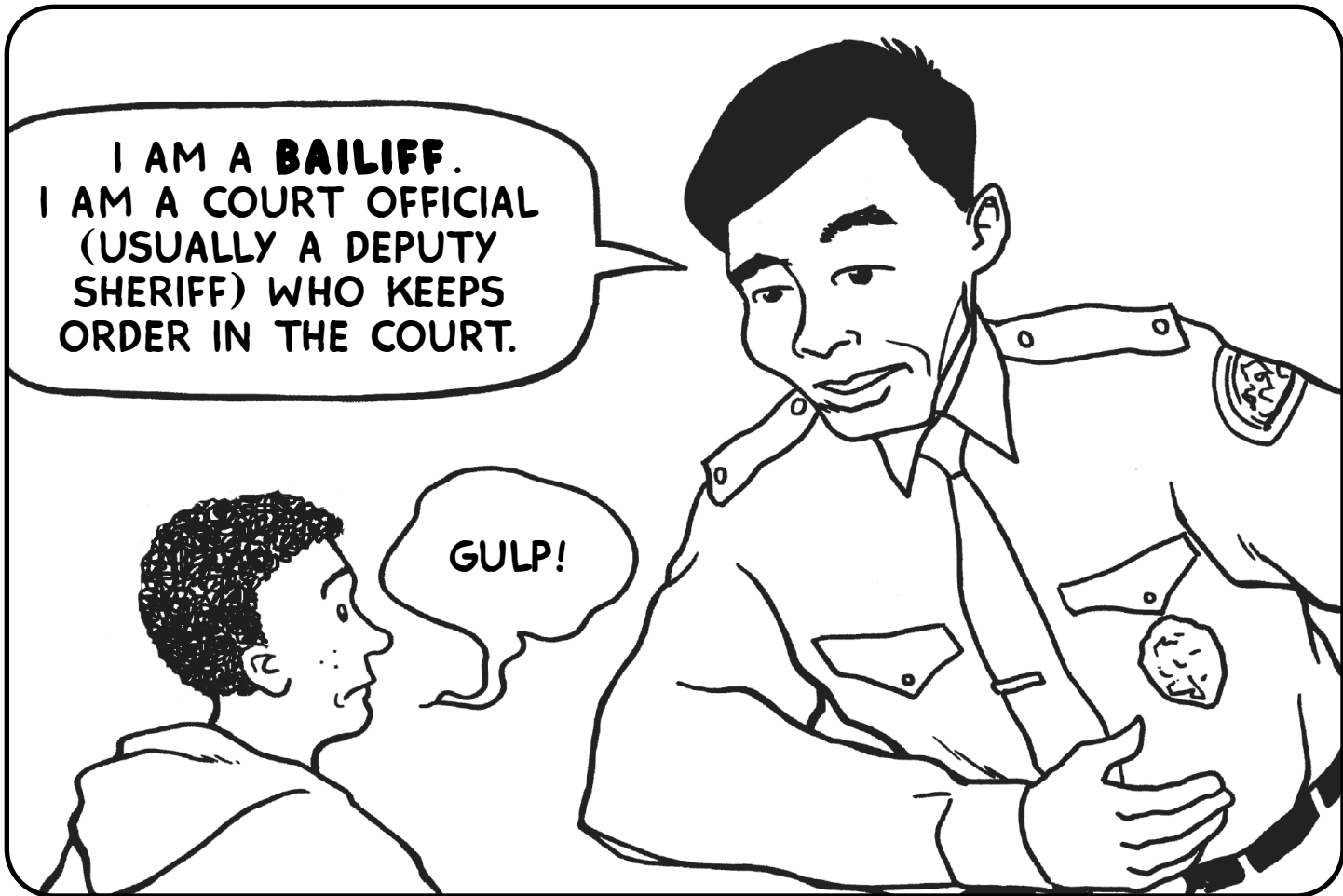


YOU CAN'T
JUST CHARGE
IN HERE TO
GET JUSTICE.

DECIDING RIGHT
FROM WRONG IS
SERIOUS BUSINESS.

WE WANT
TO BE
CALM AND
CAREFUL
IN HERE.







I AM A **LAWYER**. SINCE COURTS ARE IMPORTANT TO OUR DEMOCRACY, YOU WANT MY HELP TO MAKE THE STRONGEST ARGUMENT IN YOUR COURT CASE.

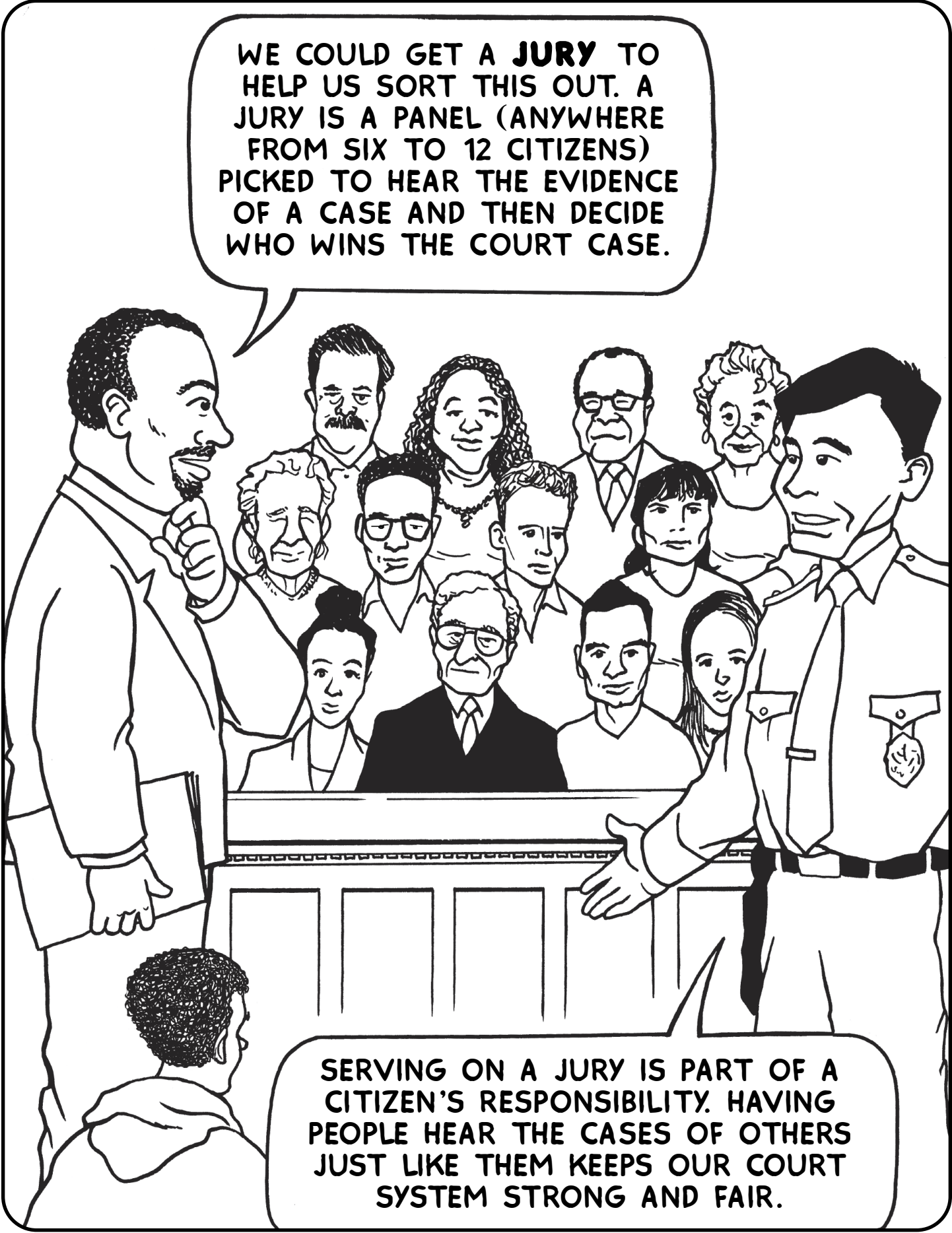
I AM A **DEFENSE ATTORNEY**. IF YOU ARE ACCUSED OF A CRIME, YOU HIRE ME TO REPRESENT YOU IN THE COURT CASE. IF YOU CANNOT PAY, THE COURT ASSIGNS ME TO REPRESENT YOU, AT PUBLIC EXPENSE.

I DON'T
NEED A
DEFENSE
LAWYER.
DYLAN
BROKE
THIS!
**ARREST
HIM!!!**

HMMM. IF
TWO PEOPLE
DISAGREE,
THEY HAVE
A **CIVIL**
COURT CASE.
I COULD HELP
YOU START A
LAWSUIT TO
DEMAND THAT
DYLAN FIX
YOUR GAME
CONTROLLER.

AND I WORK
IN **CRIMINAL**
COURT
CASES WHERE
A CRIMINAL
LAW HAS BEEN
BROKEN. BUT
YOUR PROBLEM
DOESN'T
SOUND
CRIMINAL.



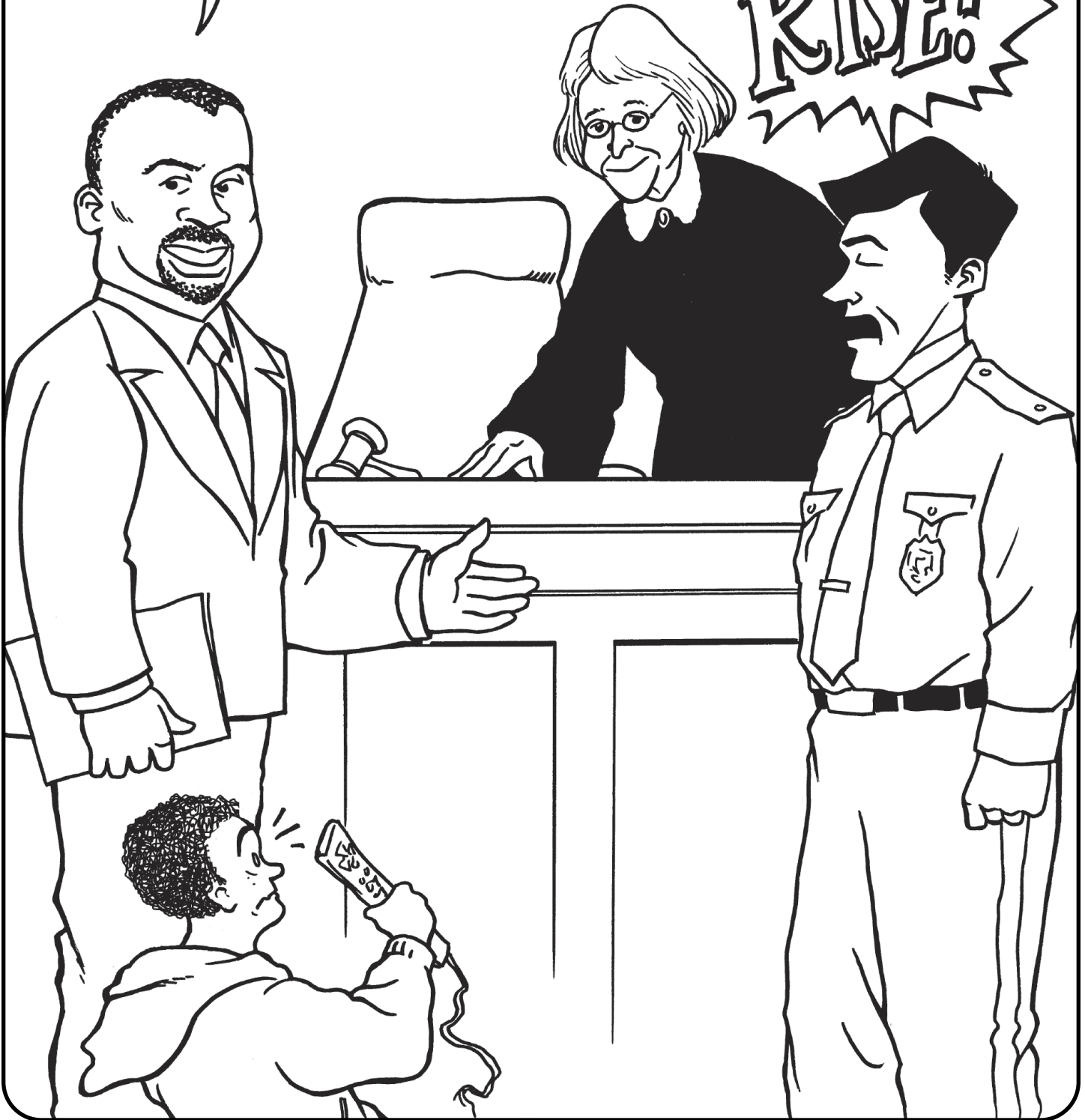


WE COULD GET A **JURY** TO HELP US SORT THIS OUT. A JURY IS A PANEL (ANYWHERE FROM SIX TO 12 CITIZENS) PICKED TO HEAR THE EVIDENCE OF A CASE AND THEN DECIDE WHO WINS THE COURT CASE.

SERVING ON A JURY IS PART OF A CITIZEN'S RESPONSIBILITY. HAVING PEOPLE HEAR THE CASES OF OTHERS JUST LIKE THEM KEEPS OUR COURT SYSTEM STRONG AND FAIR.

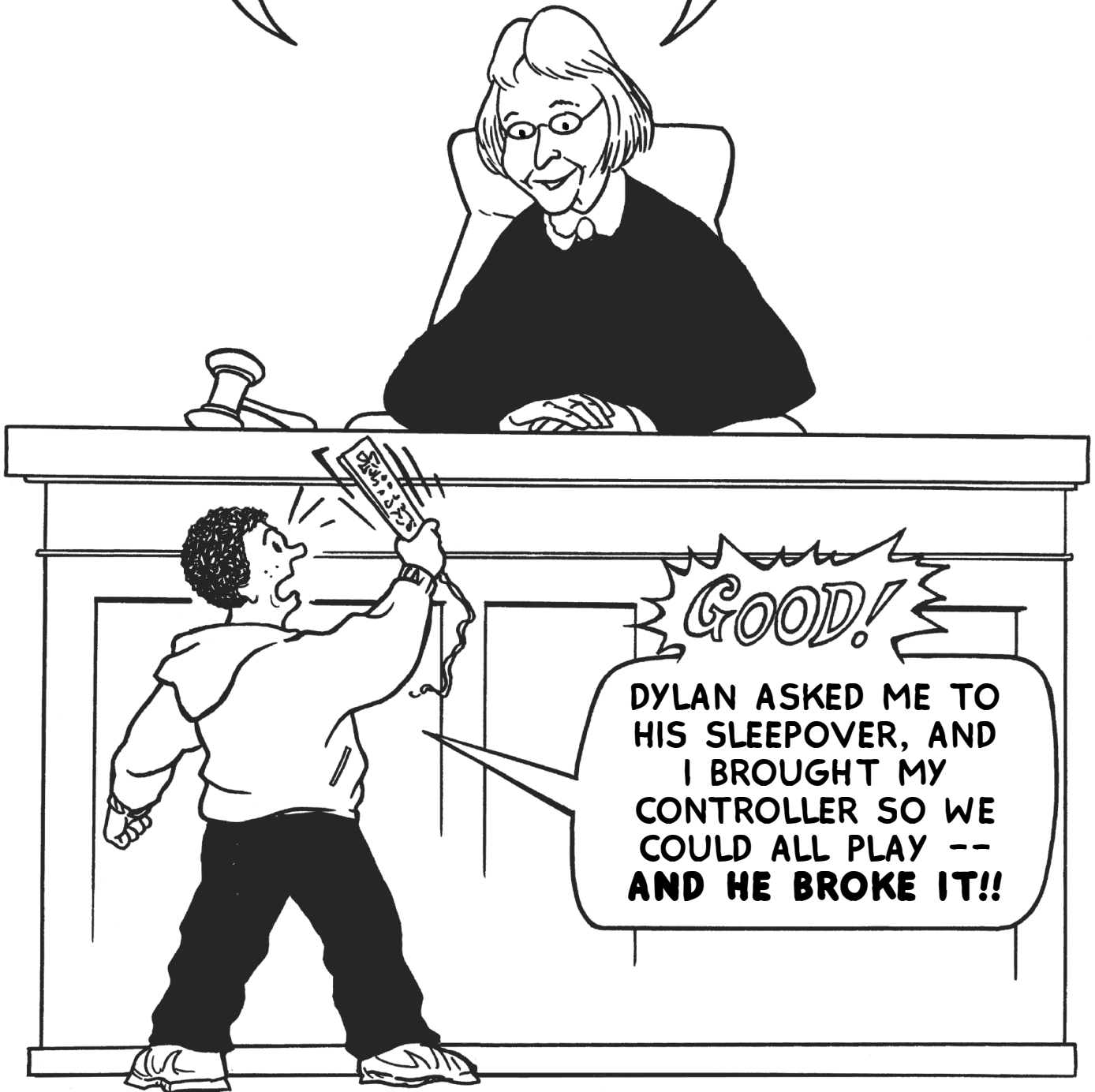
BUT MANY CASES ARE
DECIDED BY A **JUDGE**
WHO CAN --

**ALL
RISE!**



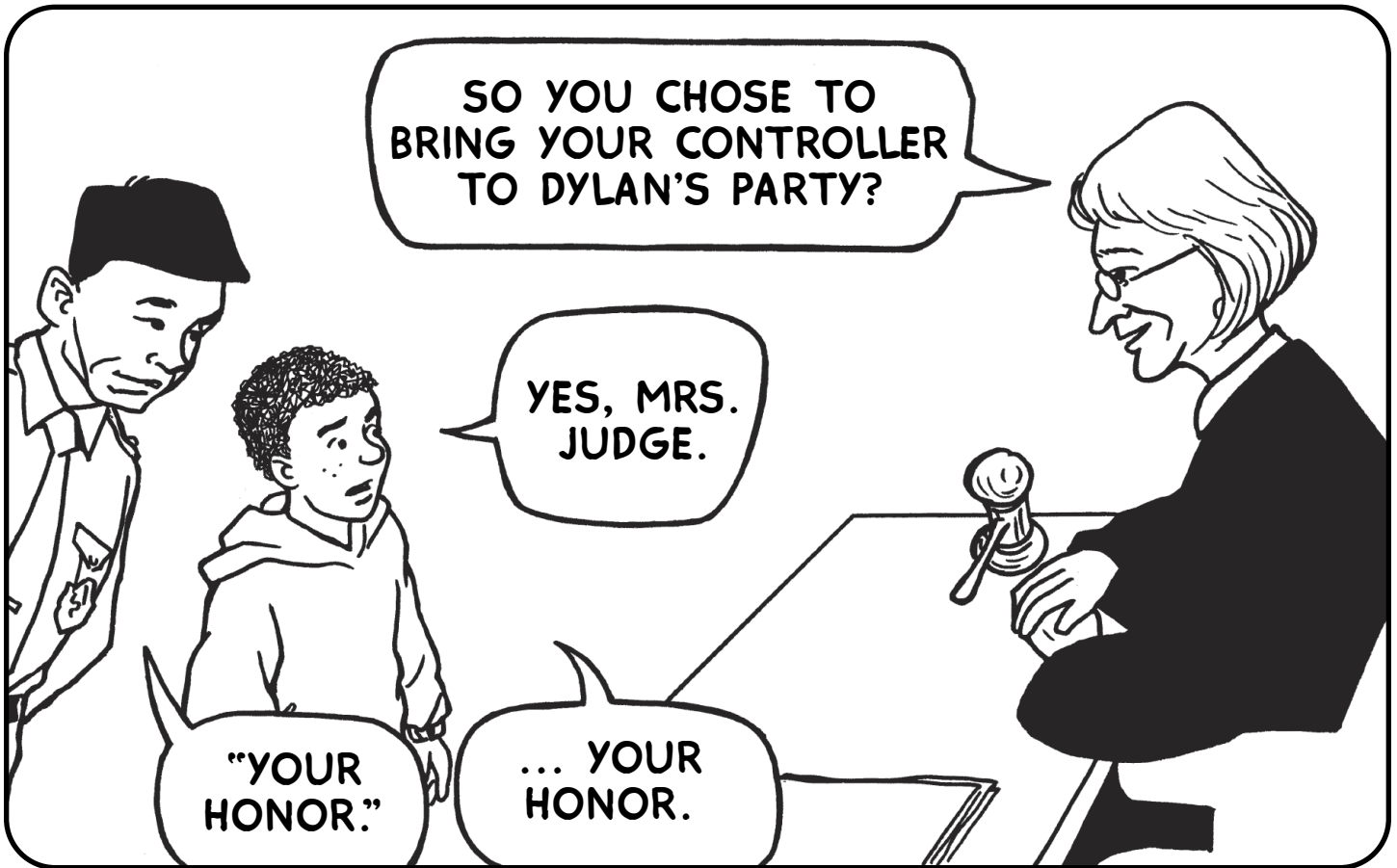
HI, TYLER. I UNDERSTAND YOU HAVE A DISAGREEMENT WITH ONE OF YOUR FRIENDS.

I HELP PEOPLE SOLVE PROBLEMS. IT'S A JUDGE'S JOB TO KNOW THE LAW AND DECIDE IF LAWS HAVE BEEN BROKEN.



GOOD!

DYLAN ASKED ME TO HIS SLEEPOVER, AND I BROUGHT MY CONTROLLER SO WE COULD ALL PLAY -- **AND HE BROKE IT!!**

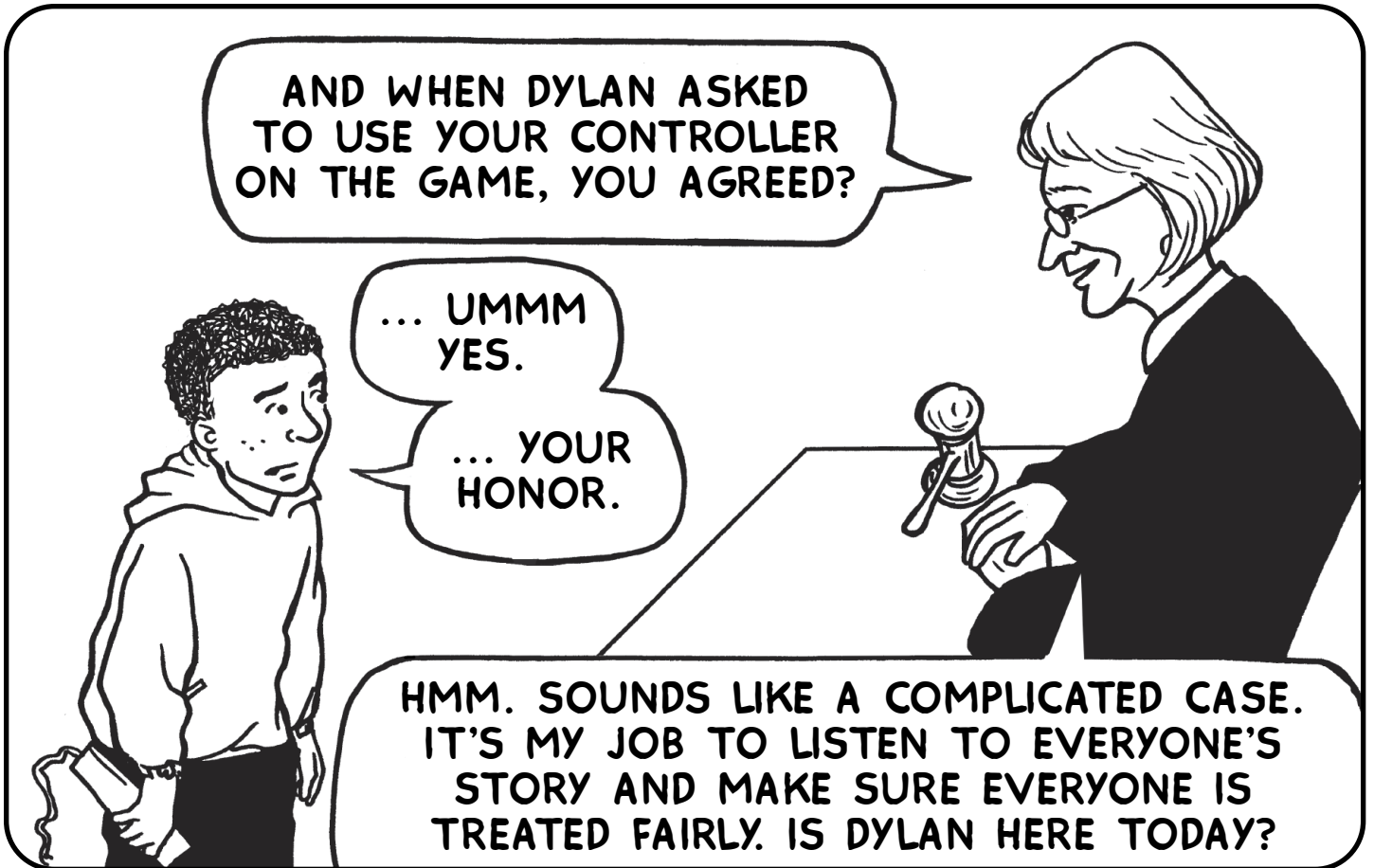


SO YOU CHOSE TO BRING YOUR CONTROLLER TO DYLAN'S PARTY?

YES, MRS. JUDGE.

"YOUR HONOR."

... YOUR HONOR.

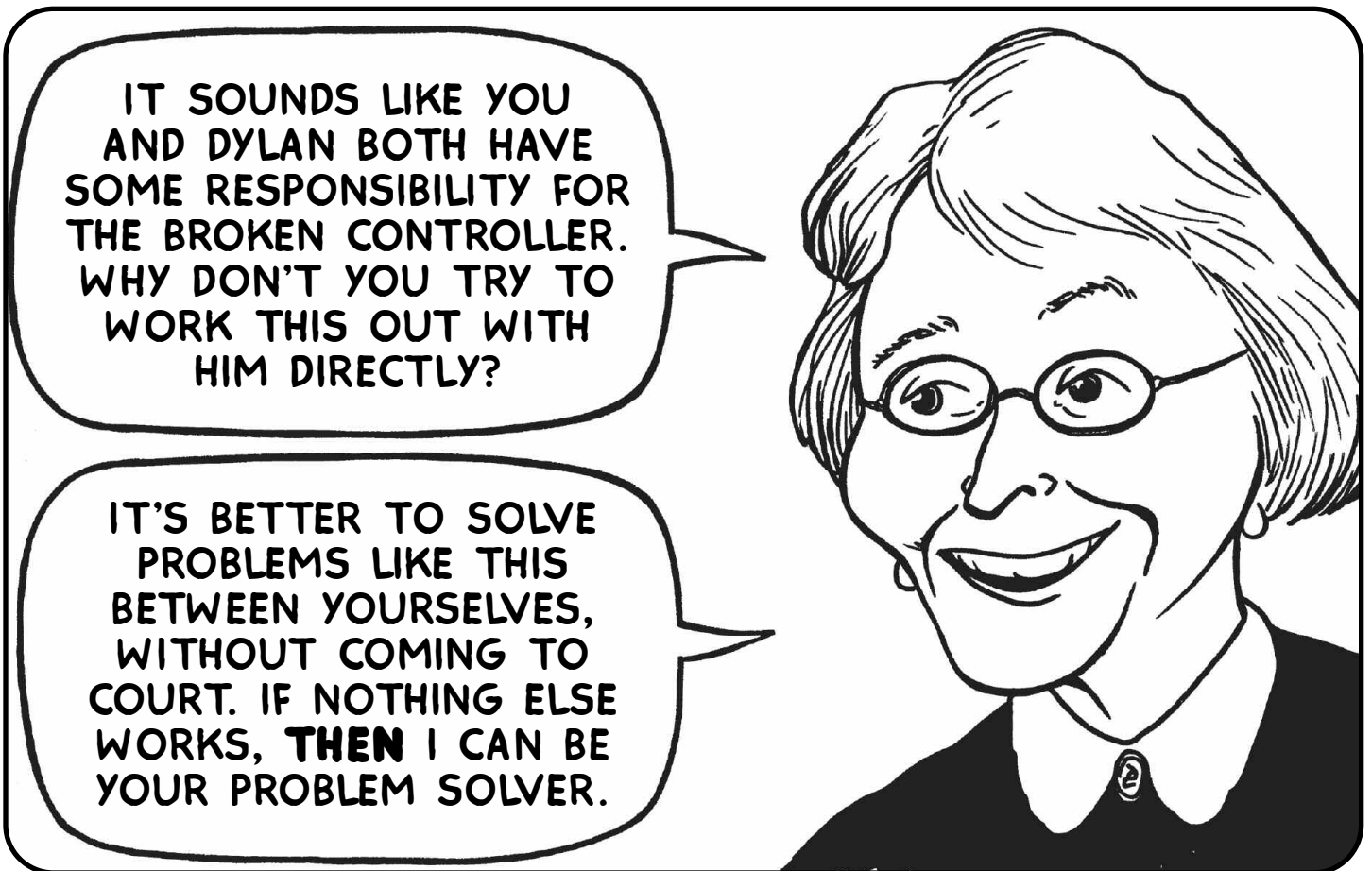
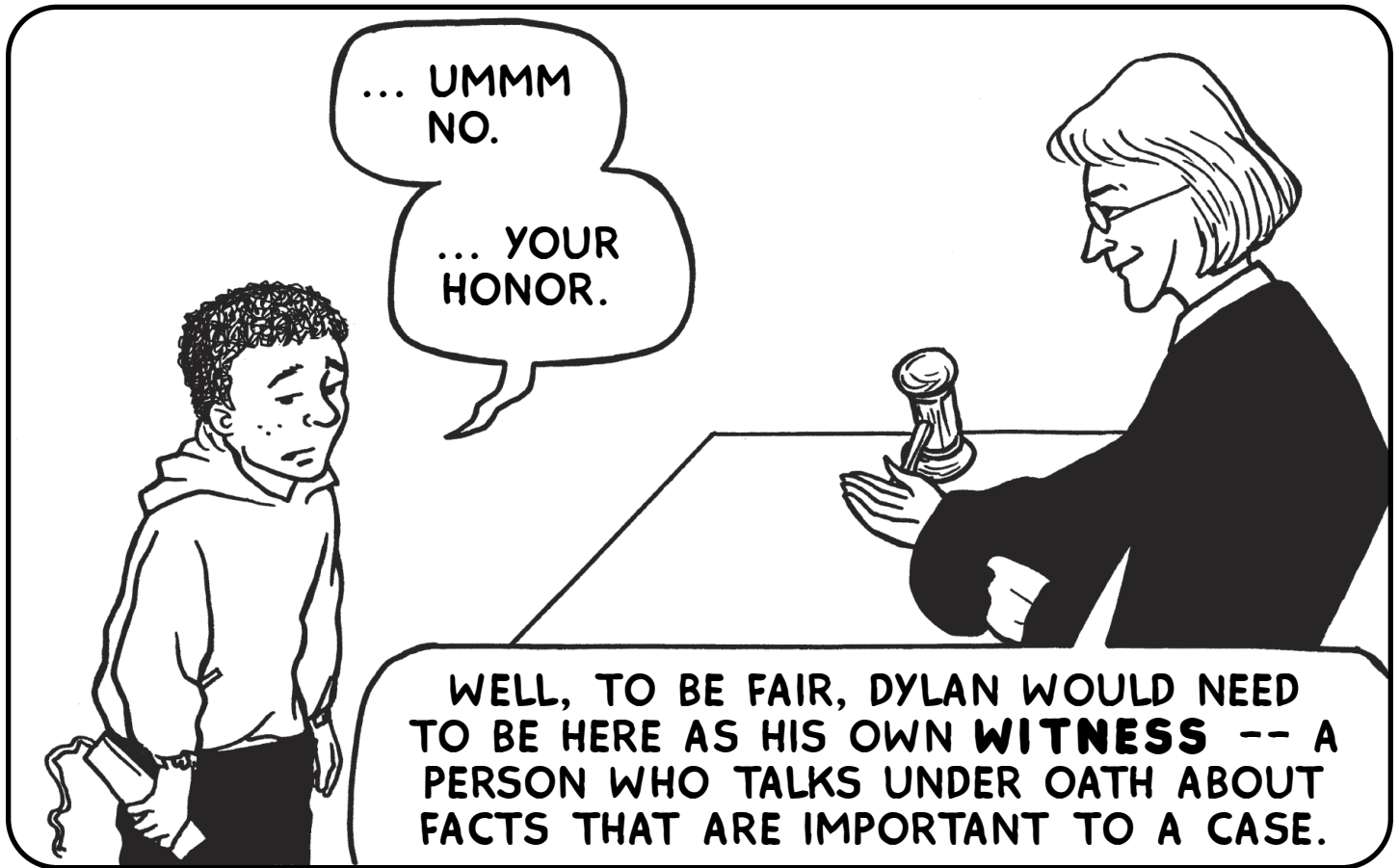


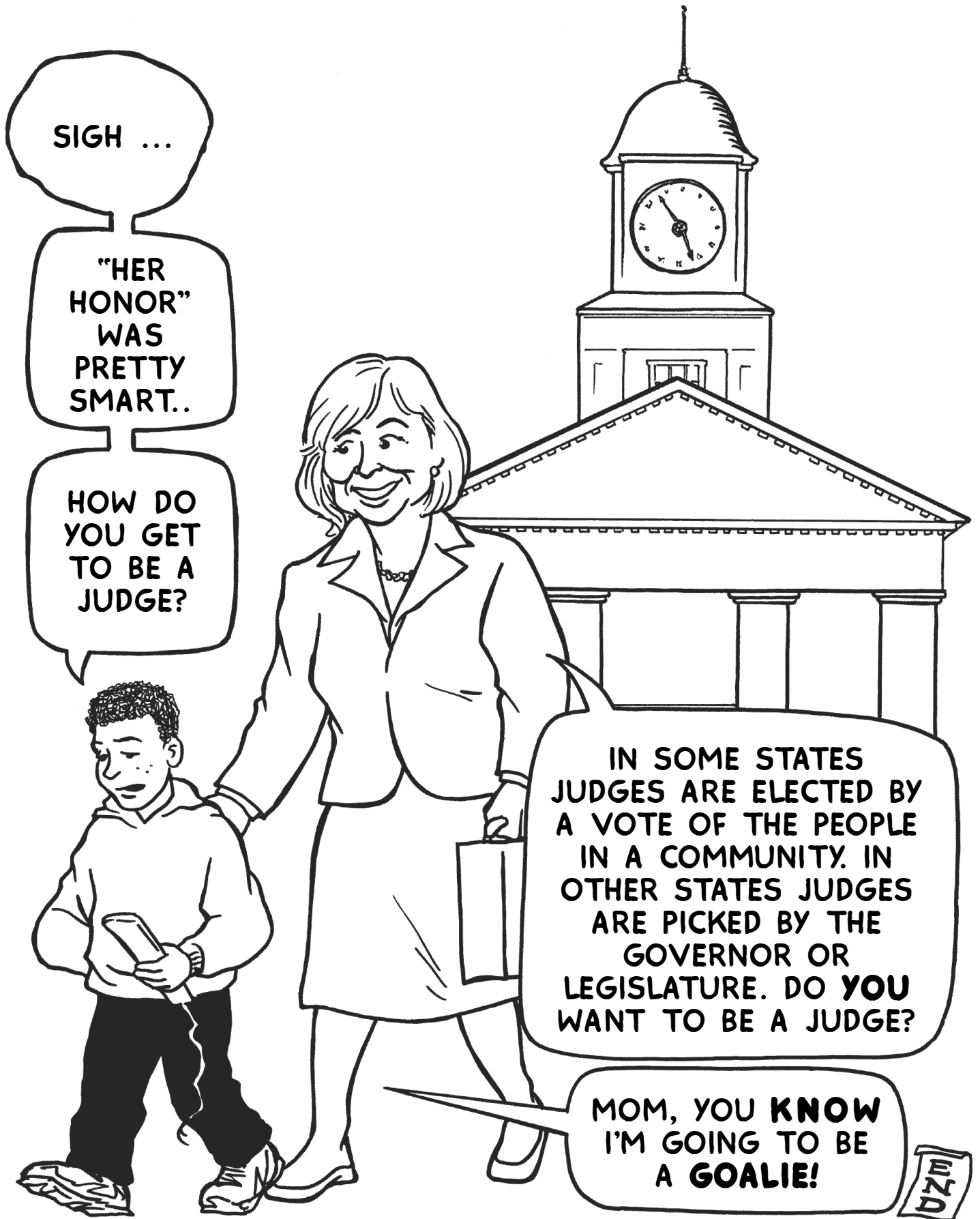
AND WHEN DYLAN ASKED TO USE YOUR CONTROLLER ON THE GAME, YOU AGREED?

... UMMM YES.

... YOUR HONOR.

HMM. SOUNDS LIKE A COMPLICATED CASE. IT'S MY JOB TO LISTEN TO EVERYONE'S STORY AND MAKE SURE EVERYONE IS TREATED FAIRLY. IS DYLAN HERE TODAY?





SIGH ...

"HER HONOR" WAS PRETTY SMART..

HOW DO YOU GET TO BE A JUDGE?

IN SOME STATES JUDGES ARE ELECTED BY A VOTE OF THE PEOPLE IN A COMMUNITY. IN OTHER STATES JUDGES ARE PICKED BY THE GOVERNOR OR LEGISLATURE. DO **YOU** WANT TO BE A JUDGE?

MOM, YOU **KNOW** I'M GOING TO BE A **GOALIE!**

END



The National Center for State Courts, headquartered in Williamsburg, Va., is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the administration of justice by providing leadership and service to court systems in the United States, U.S. territories, and around the world. The National Center, founded in 1971 by the Conference of Chief Justices and Chief Justice of the United States Warren E. Burger, provides education, training, and technology, management, and research services to the nation's state courts.

National Center for State Courts
www.ncsc.org

For FREE downloads of *Justice Case Files: The Case of the Broken Controller*, please go to:
www.ncsc.org/coloringbook.

To purchase printed copies of the coloring book please contact January Serda
at the National Center for State Courts at jserda@ncsc.org.

The National Center for State Courts is an independent, nonprofit, tax-exempt organization in accordance with Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

For more information about *Justice Case Files* or to order, please contact Lorri Montgomery: lmontgomery@ncsc.org 757.259.1525
or January Serda: jserda@ncsc.org 757.259.1854