

DOCUMENT 19

THE 25 MOST DANGEROUS ASSUMPTIONS IN COURT

PURPOSE

The Liberty Dialogues is built upon the recognition that assumptions often become accepted as facts. This document identifies common assumptions that repeatedly appear in legal proceedings.

1. Because a charge was filed, guilt probably exists.
2. Because a judge says it, it must be correct.
3. Because a prosecutor asserts it, it must be true.
4. Because an officer believes it, it must be accurate.
5. Because something is common, it must be lawful.
6. Because a rule exists, it automatically applies.
7. Because paperwork is missing, a crime occurred.
8. Because a person is self-represented, they are unprepared.
9. Because no objection was made, the evidence is reliable.
10. Because a witness sounds confident, the testimony is accurate.
11. Because a statute exists, applicability is established.
12. Because a court has authority, jurisdiction is established.
13. Because jurisdiction is asserted, it is proven.
14. Because status is assumed, it is established.
15. Because standing is presumed, injury exists.
16. Because obligation is alleged, duty exists.
17. Because enforcement occurred, justification existed.
18. Because everyone does it, it must be proper.
19. Because an issue was not investigated, it is irrelevant.
20. Because evidence is unavailable, assumptions may replace it.
21. Because a defendant remains silent, guilt is implied.
22. Because the process is familiar, it is fair.
23. Because no one challenged it, it is correct.
24. Because a title exists, credibility exists.
25. Because enforcement is routine, proof is unnecessary.

LD APPLICATION

Authority, Jurisdiction, Status, Standing, Obligation, and Enforcement are all vulnerable to presumption. The purpose of the Liberty Dialogues is not to reject conclusions automatically, but to require that they be supported by proof.

FINAL PRINCIPLE

Assumptions are often invisible because they are familiar. The first step toward clarity is recognizing that an assumption exists.