

# Justice

## What is Justice? (Dictionary Definition from Dictionary.com)

1. the quality of being just; righteousness, equitableness, or moral rightness

Definition of "Just": guided by truth, reason, and fairness

## Justice and Current Events: (Article from *The New York Post*; January 27, 2009)

Two Florida teens whose trust funds went down the toilet because of Ponzi schemer Bernard Madoff vented their rage by wrapping a tree on his Palm Beach estate in toilet paper.

The once-flush trust-fund kids called The Palm Beach Post after their deed was done, saying it was retaliation for Madoff losing the money that had been invested in their futures. They said their parents approved.

Then they put a woman on the phone who said she could confirm their story. None gave a name.

Madoff, 70, is cooling his heels under house arrest in his Upper East Side apartment. And because Madoff's housekeeper at the estate did not file a complaint, it appears the kids will get off Scott-tissue free.

The teens struck Sunday night, decorating the stately tree that stands just outside the \$9.4 million home overlooking the Intracoastal Waterway. Police arrived at the crime scene - a two-story, five-bedroom, seven-bath home featuring a boat dock, a spa and an in-ground pool - the following morning, after seeing a picture of the tree in the paper.

"By the time they got there, it was all cleaned up," said Janet Kinsella, a police spokeswoman.

Cops found only the housekeeper at home. "The housekeeper declined to make a report, so we're not investigating it," Kinsella said. And, since the teens won't identify themselves, there are no recognizable suspects. At most, Kinsella said, the toilet-papering could be considered vandalism, a misdemeanor.

## Your Experience of Injustice:

1. What are your feelings about the actions of Bernard Madoff?
2. Give some other examples of things that you would consider injustice.
3. Do you have any personal examples of a time when you experienced injustice from another person, organization or government?
4. What do you think is the motivation that causes injustice in society?
5. What do you think is the solution to injustice? (What will bring justice in society?)

## What about God and Justice?

- Job 34:12 Yes surely, God will not do wickedly, neither will the Almighty pervert justice.
  - Ps 89:11 The heavens are yours. The earth also is yours; the world and its fullness. You have founded them.....14 Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne. Loving kindness and truth go before your face. 15 Blessed are the people who learn to acclaim you. They walk in the light of your presence, Yahweh.
  - Ps 111:7 The works of his hands are truth and justice. All his precepts are sure. 8 They are established forever and ever. They are done in truth and uprightness.....10 The fear of Yahweh is the beginning of wisdom. All those who do his work have a good understanding.
6. Summarize what these texts above say about God's thinking on Justice. What might be a personal application of this reality?

## Quotes about Justice:

- The sad duty of politics is to establish justice in a sinful world. (Jimmy Carter)
- True peace is not merely the absence of tension: it is the presence of justice. (Martin Luther King, Jr.)
- Conscience is the chamber of justice. (Origen)

## Article from [Indepedant.ie](http://Indepedant.ie) (Internet site)

One of the most outwardly respectable gentlemen in [New York](#) finance for decades, Madoff confessed to conning his family, friends, colleagues, clients and regulators to the tune of \$50bn. With his confession to Cacioppi, Madoff drove a final nail into the coffin of the dazzling, wild [Wall Street](#) of the past quarter of a century.

"We are here to find out if there is an innocent explanation," Cacioppi said quietly. The 70-year-old financier – his grey hair receding but thick and kept long, swept back; his skin tanned, making him look younger – paused, then replied.

"There is no innocent explanation."

The words unleashed a firestorm. As piece by piece the breathtaking scale of this fraud came to light, revealing a vast network of rich and famous victims across the world and banks brought to the brink of collapse, it has become increasingly mind-boggling to trace this maelstrom back to [Bernard Madoff](#). How could one man alone evaporate so much wealth? What was he thinking? It is hard to imagine that we will ever have more than a partial answer.