

An incident during an educational trip

Cast members

Introductory speech – Sirushik Sahakyan

Judge – Tigran Abrahamyan

Teacher – Anna Harutyunyan

Plaintiff – Ardavasd Ardhdaldjian

Plaintiff's lawyer – Arman Martirosyan

Plaintiff's parent – Luiza Avagyan

Teacher's assistant – Zara Hovsepyan

School defender – Artak Nshanyan

Medical expert – Anahit Zaqaryan

Plaintiff's witness – Sona Bezirganyan

Teacher's witness N1 – Nane Sargsyan

Teacher's witness N2 – Sona Mayilyan

Court secretary – George Tevosyan

School employee – Adelina Miqayelyan

Neutral witness – Mane Khachatryan

Supervisors

Irina Apoyan

Vanik Gabrielyan

Sirushik - Hi, everyone. Today we'll present a court trial created by us. During our English classes, we have explored much about crimes and punishments. We have read some articles, consulted topics with our law teacher during our Legacy classes. We have also discussed different situations and created many creative punishments for different crimes. Last month we created one criminal case trial and **it went very well**, then we decided to make a civil lawsuit about an incident during an educational trip. Such cases can be unavoidable and we advise you to be vigilant as no one is safe from such cases. Please, keep silence during the process and enjoy it. One more thing, please switch off your phones as the lawsuit is being recorded.

Disclaimer: our case is NOT based on a real life event. **Enjoy!**

PLOT

George - All rise, the honorable judge is now proceeding.

Everyone stands up

Tigran walks in

Tigran - Thank you, you may be seated.

Everyone sits down

Tigran - I declare the lawsuit **open**, the case against the teacher Anna Harutyunyan is being heard. Honorable court secretary, please introduce the participants of the trial.

George - At the trial are present:

Ardavasd Ardhdjjan **the** plaintiff

Arman Martirosyan **the** plaintiff's lawyer

Luiza Avagyan **the** plaintiff's parent

Anna Harutyunyan **the** teacher

Zara Hovsepyan **the** teacher's assistant

Artak Nshanyan **the school** defence

Anahit Zaqaryan **the** medical expert

Sona Bezirganyan **the** plaintiff's witness

Nane Sargsyan teacher's witness

Sona Mayilyan teacher's witness

And witnesses whom I'll invite later. The hearing is chaired by Judge Tigran Abrahamyan.

Tigran - Thank you, Dear proceedings, the case is being investigated as a matter of fact, we define a sequence, first, the plaintiff is to present his claim, then the defendant is to present his arguments, after

which we will hear witnesses and participants involved in the case. Miss Harutyunyan, do you plead the charge?

Anna stands up

Anna – No.

Anna sits down

Tigran – Mr. Martirosyan, do you confirm the request?

Arman stands up

Arman. – Yes. Honorable court, I present my client's lawsuit against Anna Harutyunyan. Now I'll state the facts. On March 5th a group of students on the initiative of the teacher went on an educational trip to Dilijan. Because of the irresponsibility and inconsistency of the teacher, Ardavasd Ardhdaldjian, was bodily injured, damaging his leg and hand, after which he was taken to **the** hospital; --- first medical aid was given and the medical expenses amounted over 350.000 drams. I'll present the reference as well. Honorable court, I ask to plead the respondent guilty and compensate the medical costs.

Arman sits down

Luiza angrily stands up

Luiza - I don't understand, if you are unable to follow and take care of the students, why on earth --- are **you** always taking them to **these god damn** trips.

Tigran – **Watch your language, we are in court.** You'll speak when you are allowed.

Luiza sits down

Tigran - Now the defense will speak, please present your arguments.

Artak stands up

Artak - Honorable court, the trip really took place on the initiative of my defendant as she is a very experienced and skillful teacher. She has a long working experience, she has also organized a number of trips during which nothing of this kind has ever happened. Most people, **including** parents, students **and** teachers can prove the above-mentioned words. My client is not only a good teacher, more than that she is **a** very reliable, punctual, responsible **and** caring person. The injured, Ardavasd is distinguished by his lively and notorious behavior.

Luiza angrily stands up

Luiza - I won't let anybody talk like that about my son.

Tigran – **Mrs.**, don't interfere, don't make me use sanctions.

Luiza rolls eyes and sits down

Artak - The incident took place on Ardavasd's fault and not because of **the** teacher's unawareness. Several times he wanted to separate from the group with 2 friends but the teacher noticed them and warned them. After several attempts ---- he managed to slip away from the group, his curiosity led him to try to climb a rock, **where** he fell and injured **himself**. Dear Court, please take into consideration the fact, that the injured had been shown the first aid immediately by the teacher and the assistant.

Luiza angrily stands up and shouts

Luiza - You never take the first aid kit, what on earth --- are **you** talking about?

Anna stands up

Anna – We always have the kit with us, we can present the facts.

* Takes the photo to the judge*

Both Anna and Luiza sit down

Artak – **The** school administration has told the parent, many times that **it** is ready to cover --- part of **the** expenses for not scolding and blurring the good reputation of the school and the teacher.

Luiza shouts sitting down

Luiza - You are to blame and you have to cover all the expenses.

Tigran slammes the gavel

Tigran – **Look lady, if you interrupt the process one more time, I'm going to have to remove you from the court. And** now we'll turn to the witnesses and other participants related to the case. The speech is given to the plaintiff. **Now you can finally talk.**

Luiza stands up

Luiza - Honorable court, knowing my boy very well and having heard all the above mentioned opinions to his address, I may definitely declare that you are not right. I stick to my opinion that the school must cover all the expenses because till now my son is under a doctor's supervision. The incident occurred because of the teacher's carelessness. She probably was with some students and my boy was left without any attention. No medical treatment was provided, and I do not **even** know --- if they had any permission of organizing a trip.

Luiza sits down

Tigran points at Ardavasd

Tigran - Please, state everything in detail.

Ardavasd stands up

Ardavasd - I have taken part in many educational trips, this was one of them. I saw something on the rocks and I wanted to find out what **it** was. I tried **to go several times**, but the teacher didn't let me, then I found a suitable moment and went, **and that's when** I slipped and fell on the **rocks**.

Arman stands up

Arman- Honorable judge if you let me, I'll call the witnesses and they'll confirm our words.

Ardavasd sits down

Tigran – **Very** well, please invite your witnesses.

Arman - Now, we'll hear the witness Sona Bezirganyan.

Arman sits down

Sona B walks in

Tigran - State the details, please.

George – Constitution

Article 22 - No one is obliged to testify against his/her spouse or relatives. The law may release a person from the obligation to testify in certain cases also.

While in court and under oath a blatant lie by a witness or victim is punishable by up to two years of imprisonment or by up to one year of correctional labor.

Hands out papers

Nane starts reading from the papers

Sona B - My rights and responsibilities have been presented to me and I have familiarised myself with the contents of this text.

Signs the document and gives it back

That day we went **on** a journey. For a moment the teacher was playing with **the** other students, and Ardavasd was out of **sight**. **Because** we all know that he is active and vigorous, I did not allow him to go far ---, but then I also joined the **others**. When we were driving to **the** hospital, I remember there was a bandage, but **I don't** know what bandage it was.

Tigran - --- Anything **else** to add?

Sona B – No.

Tigran - You may be seated, call the next witness.

Sona B sits down

Arman stands up

Arman - I invite the next witness, Mane Khachatryan.

Arman sits down

Mane walks in

George - Constitution

Article 22 - No one is obliged to testify against his/her spouse or relatives. The law may release a person from the obligation to testify in certain cases also.

While in court and under oath a blatant lie by a witness or victim is punishable by up to two years of imprisonment or by up to one year of correctional labor.

Hands out papers

Nane starts reading from the papers

Mane - My rights and responsibilities have been presented to me and I have familiarised myself with the contents of this text.

Signs the document and gives it back

We always have a first aid kit with us during all our trips, but we have never had any incidents ---. As for this one, I must state, I can't clearly remember. We were playing with the teacher when some students came and told us that something had happened to Ardavasd. We rushed to help him.

Tigran - Can you state that the teacher didn't help Ardavasd?

Mane - Not really.

Tigran - So did she or did she not?

Mane - Maybe no.

Tigran -You may be seated. Now the speech is given to the defendant.

Mane sits down

Anna stands up

Anna - As it was mentioned above, we have many trips throughout the academic year, and our trips are always authorized by school authorities. That can be validated by our co-worker, whom we'll invite a bit later. We also always have a first aid kit with us when we go to trips and this time was no exception. As the number of students surpassed the norm I took an assistant with me, who carried the first aid kit with her. We even have accidental photos where you can clearly see the first aid kit. Ardavasd is very disobedient and --- somewhat curious too.

Luiza stands up

Luiza - How many times should I remind you that my son is NOT disobedient!

Tigran slammes the gavel

Tigran – How many times should I remind you to keep quiet?!

Luiza sits down

Anna - That day I reprimanded him both in the bus and outside, not to leave us and before the incident happened he had promised me that he would stay with the group and wouldn't leave. Ardavasd was out of my sight for just a few moments when I heard the kids shout that he fell down and injured himself. We immediately went to him and saw that his wound was bleeding. With the help of my assistant we fixed his arm and leg and put a bandage over it. We took him to the hospital right away. My words can be confirmed by both the students and the teachers. Knowing Artavasd's unruly behavior, my assistant even called his mother and asked her to join us.

Zara stands up

Zara - I called, but his mother refused to come.

Luiza - I couldn't join you as I had work that day, and why should a parent join you anytime you go to some trip? Do your duty, and take care of the students!

Anna – I DO MY DUTY!!

Tigran – Order! Please invite the other witness Nane Sargsyan.

Anna and Zara sit down

Nane walks in

George - Constitution

Article 22 - No one is obliged to testify against his/her spouse or relatives. The law may release a person from the obligation to testify in certain cases also.

While in court and under oath a blatant lie by a witness or victim is punishable by up to two years of imprisonment or by up to one year of correctional labor.

Hands out papers

Nane starts reading from the papers

Nane - My rights and responsibilities have been presented to me and I have familiarised myself with the contents of this text.

Signs the document and gives it back

The day of the incident, the teacher reprimanded Ardavasd many times; who's the most undisciplined student and the most curious one in our class. He is the student who always seeks trouble. Knowing that, our teacher told us to keep an eye on him. At **the time of the incident** we were playing **outside and then ---** heard **him** scream, we ran **straight** to Ardavasd and **the** teacher with her assistant put bandages **on his injuries**. We always have **a** first aid kit with us, because during **one of** our previous trips I had a terrible headache and took a pill from **there**.

Tigran - Do you have anything to add?

Nane – No.

Tigran - You may be seated.

Nane sits down

Arman stands up

Arman – Please invite the next witness.

Arman sits down

Tigran – Invite Arman Sona Mayilyan.

Sona M walks in

George - Constitution

Article 22 - No one is obliged to testify against his/her spouse or relatives. The law may release a person from the obligation to testify in certain cases also.

While in court and under oath a blatant lie by a witness or victim is punishable by up to two years of imprisonment or by up to one year of correctional labor.

Hands out papers

Sona M starts reading from the papers

Sona M - My rights and responsibilities have been presented to me and I have familiarised myself with the contents of this text.

Signs the document and gives it back

Ardavasd suggested going --- to the rocks **with him**, but I refused, **but** I couldn't convince him not to go there **alone** either. Hardly had I hurried to the **teacher, to inform her about what just happened**, Ardavasd slipped --- and the incident **took place**. My friends and I approached him and helped, the teacher **performed first aid**. **After that** we took him to the bus.

Tigran - Do you have anything to add?

Sona M – No.

Tigran - You may be seated.

Sona M sits down

Artak stands up

Artak - Please, call the **medical expert**, who will confirm that there was a bandage.

Artak sits down

Anahit walks in

Anahit - I was on duty that day **when** the boy with leg and **arm** injuries was **brought** to **the** hospital. I don't know who had bandaged **him**, but the bandage was made professionally, which helped to avoid further complications. We operated on **him** immediately and put gypsum, the expenses altogether amounted **to** 350.000 drams.

Tigran - Do you have anything to add?

Anahit – No.

Tigran - You may be seated.

Anahit sits down

Artak stands up

Artak – Now I would like to invite a member of the school staff but unfortunately she's sick and we'll contact her via a video call. Please call Adelina Miqayelyan.

Artak sits down

Tigran- **One moment please.**

Pretends to call Adelina

Video starts playing

Tigran – **Good afternoon, ms. Miqayelyan.**

Waits for Adel to respond

George- **Constitution**

Article 22 - No one is obliged to testify against his/her spouse or relatives. The law may release a person from the obligation to testify in certain cases also.

While in court and under oath a blatant lie by a witness or victim is punishable by up to two years of imprisonment or by up to one year of correctional labor.

Adel talks

Tigran – Thank you, get well soon.

Pretends to end phone call

Tigran points at Luiza

Tigran - Do you have anything to add?

Luiza stands up

Luiza - I demand the school to cover all the expenses!

Luiza sits down

Tigran – Well, I declare the hearing closed the court retreats to the deliberation room to make a verdict.

Tigran walks out of the room

Tigran comes back a few minutes later

Tigran - The court proceeded with the case of Mkhitar Sebastatsi Educational Complex, which occurred on the 5th of March 2017. During the first court hearing the plaintiff presented the claim, and the defense presented the response. During the trial, the court accepted the petition of the plaintiff and the respondent, involving a number of witnesses related to the trip. Basing on the significance of the issue, the court gave both sides an opportunity to turn to the substantial part, however under the circumstance of non-constructive handling of both sides the court has examined the lawsuit in essence. The court decided to partially satisfy the claim of the medical expenses and plead the teacher and the school not guilty. The trial is closed.

After everything is done Sirushik walks in and says

As we all know our school organizes many trips and fortunately nothing of this kind has ever happened during them. To help celebrate that fact we would like to show a video from one of our memorable trips to Dilijan. Enjoy

Puts the video on