



# VIRGINIA LAW WEEKLY

2017, 2018, & 2019 ABA Law Student Division Best Newspaper Award-Winner

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## Love in the Time of Corona

Ben Stievatar '22  
Events Editor

As both society and the Law School adapt to the new realities and challenges that coronavirus brings, many aspects of life that once seemed a given are in flux. From online classes and grocery shopping to grabbing a drink with friends and hitting the gym, activities as we know them are changing before our eyes due to quarantining and social distancing. So too are love and modern romance. In this serious and anxious time, the staff at the Law Weekly thought it would be intriguing, pleasantly distracting, and (dare we say it) heartwarming to hear how couples and singles alike are handling romance in light of all these changes. You've heard of Love in the Time of Cholera, but get ready for Love in the Time of Corona.

This week's guests are Maria Luevano '21 and Sam Pickett '21.

Hi Maria and Sam! Welcome to Love in the Time of Corona. Let's start with some basics. How and when did you two meet?

Sam: We met on the first day of class, when I yelled hi to her as we were walking to the Law School. She didn't respond the first time I said hi, because she was listening to a podcast. I was embarrassed so I just yelled louder (a pattern). We chatted on the way to class and then sat next to each other in Criminal Law. The rest is history!

Where are you both located right now during social isolating szn?

Sam: In Charlottesville! Specifically, we've been spending most of our time in Maria's apartment because she has a TV.

What is the biggest way coronavirus has impacted your relationship so far, if any?

Maria: Pre-coronavirus, Sam was really up to date on Twitter memes and would send them to me frequently. Now, I've usually seen them already because I'm also spending way too much time on Twitter, so there's less meme sharing.

Sam: We spend most of our time together anyway, so that part hasn't been too difficult to adjust to or anything.

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# Classes Online

## Student Perspectives and Privacy Concerns about Zoom



Photo Courtesy of UVA Law. Logo Trademarked by Zoom.

Marlyse Vieira '22  
New Media Editor

On Thursday, March 19, Zoom—University UVA Law kicked off its first day of online classes. Most larger, lecture-based classes are being recorded by professors and posted on Canvas with no opportunity for real-time questions. In contrast, courses requiring more participation from students, such as seminars, have transitioned to the Zoom video conferencing platform.

Last Thursday, I had the opportunity to take my first Zoom class: Employment Law with Professor Rip Verkerke. The class has around sixty students and Professor Verkerke uses a website called Poll Everywhere to solicit student answers and opinions on course-related questions. The first poll question on Thursday's class was: "What word best describes your feelings about our shift to online instruction?"

As the word bubble shows, as seen on page 2, many students were feeling anxious and apprehensive, and some mentioned current Law School GroupMe buzzwords like "pass/fail" and "Bryce."<sup>1</sup> It became clear as the class went on that people were more timid about piping up on Zoom than in regular, in-person class. Then again, it

1 If you don't know who Bryce is, ask a local 1L about his infiltration of the Class of 2022 GroupMe, including the puzzling but thought-provoking line: "Law school isn't the same, sure, but leave a lug loose on a Goodyear Eagle and it'll cost you checkers."

was around noon, so maybe everyone was just too busy eating lunch with their mute on and cameras off to feel the need to contribute. Eventually, people warmed up a bit to the format and participated more, reducing the number of uncomfortable silences after Professor Verkerke asked for volunteers. As Kshitiz Gautam '22 summed it up, "Despite the awkwardness, it was a fruitful experience overall."

Zoom definitely has its benefits and drawbacks. One handy feature of the platform is the "hand-raising" function, which allows students to virtually signal if they have a comment or question without them having to awkwardly interrupt the professor or each other. It also has a nice chat feature, so if you have friends in a class, you can easily shoot them a chat.

However, maybe don't say anything too spicy on a Zoom DM, because it's been suggested that even private messages to another student can be monitored by the meeting host for "non-webinar" meetings.<sup>2</sup> This is not the platform's only privacy red flag. As Zoom surged in popularity over the past two weeks and became the teleworking software of choice for thousands of employers and schools across the country, it has been under fire for a slew of privacy issues. Meeting hosts can see when users do not have the Zoom meeting open and active for more than thirty sec-

2 <https://mashable.com/article/zoom-conference-call-work-from-home-privacy-concerns/>

onds. You should also be aware that all of your text chats to the whole group are saved if the Zoom session is recorded. And just like any internet service you use these days, Zoom will track your "name, physical address, email address, phone number, job title, employer [or school]." Students who wish a large company to not have these details, and live off the grid, seemingly have no options.

All things considered, however, Zoom seems to offer a solid solution for continuing the typical law school style of education during a global pandemic. For better or worse,<sup>3</sup> you can now get virtually cold-called while in the comfort of your own home, in your pajamas. It remains to be seen whether the privacy issues will be resolved, so in the meantime, just G-chat your friends during class instead of Zoom chat. Happy Zooming, everyone, and don't forget to stay muted.

Jacob Jones '21  
Features Editor

For future generations trying to figure out what life was like during online classes,<sup>4</sup> let me tell you, it's funky. I'd heard many stories of Zoom lectures before they came to UVA and they all seemed wild.

3 Definitely worse.

4 I'm assuming in 1,000 years when all other professions transfer to digital learning, law schools will still require students to attend class using only #2 pencils.

ZOOM page 2

## around north grounds

Thumbs up to the new VLR EIC for cancelling VLR's April cite check. No really, ANG means it this time. Thumbs up.

Thumbs down to professors for telling us to operate as if we're on a normal class schedule and then posting lectures in seven different recording clips, emailing us at 9:45 p.m. on Friday nights, and not making lectures available until after the regularly scheduled class time. ANG wasn't going to watch lectures anyway, but is glad ANG's classmates are dealing with stress and anxiety like ANG has been ever since Bilt closed!

"Thumbs up" to the administration for not giving students a timeline to announce whether grading will be pass/fail. Apparently both ANG and the admin team enjoy being like Gandalf after defeating the Balrog of Morgoth, simply lost in time and space.

Thumbs down to UVA for encouraging students to return home so the University hospital won't have to deal with them. In the famous words of Patrick Star, the University wants to take a problem "and push it somewhere else!"

Thumbs up to classes being online. Now, professors can't continue the archaic practice of forcing students to take handwritten notes instead of typed notes. ANG has never actually taken any notes, but ANG appreciates the sentiment nonetheless.

Thumbs up to being able to add a background picture on Zoom. In the event ANG ever logs onto Zoom, ANG looks forward to adding a picture of the dumpsters outside of the Caplin Auditorium as ANG's background picture.

Thumbs sideways to the Law School being on 24-hour lockdown with only key card access. While ANG obviously lost ANG's student ID card years ago and can't get in, ANG is happy that the snakes under the WB floor board finally have some peace and quiet from all those pesky law students gunning at all hours of the day and night.

## ZOOM

continued from page 1

My expectations were high as I started my first Zoom lecture in Professor Ferzan's evidence class.

Unfortunately, no one used memes for their Zoom background backgrounds. The "this is fine" dog with everything burning would have been a popular choice. As we started the lecture, Professor Ferzan's voice sounded like a robot. Fearing that I was the only one having this problem, I said nothing and prepared to have an awkward lecture. But other people apparently were having the same problem, which was a relief. But then I had another concern: What if Professor Ferzan had been replaced by a robot? Or worse, what if Professor Ferzan had hired a robot to lecture for her, thereby

breaking her contract with the Law School? I could simply not stand for any breach of contract. Luckily, the audio issue was fixed, and Ferzan stopped sounding like a series of beeps and boops.

While Zoom classes are clearly no good substitute for in-person ones, I will admit that it's nice to have a bit of a schedule and something close to normalcy. The city of Charlottesville, Main Grounds, and North Grounds may be empty of people, but Zoom lets you see how everyone who used to be there is safely at home. When you're used to seeing the 900-some faces of UVA Law everyday, seeing a few on Zoom is the next best thing.

Sam Pickett '21  
News Editor

My Zoom School of Law Experience began at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday—or rather it was

supposed to begin. What actually occurred was that I sat there on my laptop answering emails and waiting for the wait screen to materialize into a gridded group of faces. Just as I had given up hope, I was admitted into the "Zoom Room" at 1:30 p.m. Finally, I had done it. I was online-law-schooling. My classmates and I soon realized, however, that our professor was not in the virtual room with us. Sad. It was then that we received an email that class that day was canceled and that he would see us on Monday. What a wild ride and what a positive start to the Zoom School of Law.

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mav3p@virginia.edu

jmj3vq@virginia.edu

shp8dz@virginia.edu

## Baby's Day Out and The Necessity of Noticing

The other night, I watched the John Hughes-penned classic, *Baby's Day Out* (1994). While Hughes is more fondly remem-

Michael Berdan '22  
Staff Editor



bered for his 80s teen romcoms (*Sixteen Candles*, *The Breakfast Club*, *Ferris Bueller's Day Off*), I turned to *Baby's Day Out* for some braindead slapstick after a particularly draining day in quarantine, hoping only that I'd get to hear my son laugh.

In a similar vein to *Home Alone* (also written by Hughes), *Baby's Day Out* involves a seemingly vulnerable child gaining the upper hand on some bumbling criminals (Joe Mangegna, Joe Pantoliano, Brian Haley). One-year-old Baby Bink is kidnapped by the three criminals and held for a \$5 million ransom. But Bink quickly slips through their grasp, crawling across rooftops and through department stores, riding buses, and scaling a skyscraper under construction, all while our villains are beaten, smacked, run over, burned, drenched in concrete and slime, and dropped several stories into conveniently-placed dumpsters (which, of course, break a fall from any height).

But among these gags, there is a lesson to be learned. Our not-so-hapless hero, Baby Bink, manages to evade the detection of just about everyone throughout the film. He crawls through

a crowded department store and slides gleefully across the floor when pushed by the rotating door. He even yanks a dangling cord, pulling the mic out of the hand of a TV reporter who is LIVE ON AIR, REPORTING ON HIS DISAPPEARANCE. The camera dips down, showing Baby Bink live on TV, but Bink's mom, who is watching the broadcast at home, was distracted at that precise moment. No one notices, and Bink continues down the downtown Chicago sidewalk, pursued by the criminal trio.

The people don't maliciously ignore him. They aren't presented as missing him because they're overly wrapped up in something bad or selfish; they are simply living their lives. Some even do catch a glimpse—one construction worker, for example, sees Baby Bink's back half-crawling around the corner—saying, "Was that... a baby?" before shaking his head and going on with his day.

What do we just barely miss? What passes behind us or underfoot, undetected? Of what do we catch a glimpse and say, "Was that...?" before going on with our day?

Perhaps it's the fact that thousands of asylum applicants have been dumped back over the border into Mexico after reaching the United States, in violation of international law, without being given a proper hearing. Maybe it's the fact that black American

DAY OUT page 5

What word best describes your feelings about our shift to online instruction?  
(answer as many times as you wish)



Picture: Employment Law students react to online classes. Photo Courtesy of Prof. Rip Verkerke.

## The Debate Ends Here: Why Cereal is Not a Soup

The last few weeks, members of the *Law Weekly* have been debating a ridiculous question:

M. Eleanor Schmalzl '20  
Editor Emeritus



Is cereal a type of soup? I have been steadfast in saying the answer is no, but some members have refused to believe reason and logic. While our readers might not have been thinking about this absurd question, the *Law Weekly* is now devoting approximately 1,300 words in this week's edition to hammer out the debate. So, if you're tired of reading about coronavirus and falling down a hole of existential dread as you sit on your couch in your PJs for the seventh day in a row (and counting),<sup>1</sup> enjoy the conclusive reasoning behind the obvious answer that cereal is, in fact, not a soup.

A deep dive on the Internet reveals that this debate has been going on for quite some time and that many different sites have explored this question. People compare this to the "Is a hot dog a sandwich?" debate<sup>2</sup> and the pro-"cereal is

a soup" folks are relentless in their ridiculous arguments. To the argument that soup is served hot, they point to the soup served cold, gazpacho, for why that can't be the reason why cereal is not a soup. And to the argument that milk is not a broth, they point to broccoli cheddar soup—whose main "broth" ingredient is milk—for why that also can't be the solution.<sup>3</sup> However, there are several reasons that, both individually and in compilation, prove all the haters wrong.

First, cereal is cereal whether or not it is served with milk. Do you know what I'm saying? Cereal in milk = cereal. Cereal not in milk = cereal. Vegetables in broth = soup. Vegetables not in broth = vegetables. I know math is hard, but it doesn't lie. TBT to all those days of math class where, unlike law school, there was in fact a right answer. The math here shows the fundamental distinction between cereal and soup.

Second, cereal is eaten for breakfast. People who know me well know I LOVE soup (especially potato soup, the equivalent of soup heaven on earth), but even I would never be so radical as to eat soup for breakfast. "What about breakfast for dinner?" the haters start chanting. Listen, you can eat cereal at 6 p.m., no one

fast-cereal-a-soup.

3 Stan Birch, I will forever like you a little less for pointing this out to me in the GroupMe.

refutes that. Potato soup at 6 a.m. though? I know you "cereal is a soup" folks have proven your unreasonableness, but let's be above the noise and see the truth for what it is.

Third, and less convincing but still important to bring up, soups are primarily savory (check the label to see that you're eating 47 percent of your daily serving of sodium per serving next time you whip up your favorite pre-canned cup of goodness). "But dessert soups do exist," the haters shout. "And because dessert soups exist, cereal could be a dessert soup." But would you eat dessert soups besides cereal for breakfast, the meal that cereal is invariably deemed to be? And do people eat cereal as their post-dinner dessert? This is madness. Stop the madness.

Fourth, soups are almost always<sup>4</sup> cooked or otherwise further processed beyond pouring the ingredients into the broth and dunking them with a spoon until they become saturated. Some of those among us argue cereal is also cooked because the pieces served in the box are cooked in some fashion before hitting the shelves, but this confuses the argument. It's not about whether the individual parts of the mixture are cooked. Instead, the primary consideration here is whether

4 And maybe always, but law school has made it impossible for me to use "always" except when talking about how often I'm right.

the individual cereal pieces are cooked or otherwise further processed with the milk. And they aren't. Cereal pieces are not cooked or otherwise processed with milk to create one cohesive whole, namely, soup. Look back to the math above. Cereal with milk = cereal. Cereal without milk = cereal. Cereal is not blended/cooked/combined in any such way with milk to create soup. See the light, bros. Cereal is not soup.

Fifth, one of my co-believers of the rightful fact that cereal is not soup, Leah Deskins '21, rightfully echoes the above paragraph, saying, "[T]he relationship between the broth/cream in soup and the added ingredients and the relationship between milk and added cereal is especially important. Saying cereal in milk is soup is like saying broccoli in water is broccoli soup. Yuck. Water and milk are both single ingredients. Even tomato soup involves interactions between different ingredients, rendering it a soup.<sup>5</sup> It's not just water and tomatoes or something. The interactions between the ingredients in the broth/cream to make the broth/cream are important, as well as the interactions with the added ingredients (such as noodles, chicken, potatoes, etc.)."

Sixth, if you don't believe all of this, take it from the Supreme Court that common sense rules

5 <https://www.inspired-taste.net/27956/easy-tomato-soup-recipe/>.

above your belief that something "technically" belongs in a certain category. Another of my co-believers that cereal is not soup, Nate Wunderli '22, says it best: "In 1893, the U.S. Supreme Court had to decide whether a tomato is a fruit or a vegetable. They admitted that botanically speaking, tomatoes are fruits, but nonetheless decided to classify them as a vegetable because the 'common language of the people' says they are vegetables. The same applies here. Cereal-is-a-soup folks can point to the elements of cereal and, in a roundabout way, somewhat rationally conclude that cereal is a soup. But this ignores the reality of the spoken word. Words have meaning, and that meaning comes about by a consensus among the population, and the consensus is that cereal is not soup. If someone said 'I ate soup for breakfast,' not even the cereal-is-a-soup folks would think that person meant they ate cereal for breakfast. Just because something shares common elements with a particular group or class of things, does not necessarily make it part of that group or class."

Finally, Michael Schmid '21, in response to calls by the pro-cereal is a soup anarchists of the *Law Weekly* GroupMe,<sup>6</sup> tried to address the question by pointing out how the defi-

6 @Taylor Elicegui.

CEREAL page 6

**CORONA LOVE**  
continued from page 1

I think the biggest impact has been our restriction on seeing others.

**R.I.P. Meme King Pickett. Let's jump back to some #romance. How would you describe each other in one word or a phrase?**

Maria: Genuine! What you see is what you get, and yes, he's actually like that 100 percent of the time.

Sam: I would describe Maria as everyone's best friend.

**What is your favorite quality about each other?**

Maria: (This was very hard!) Sam is really the most thoughtful person I know. He does it without even thinking, and is so patient and kind to everyone.

Sam: She makes you feel like what you're saying really matters and that you're the only one in the room. She's a very active listener, which is important given how much I talk, LMAO.

**Do you each have a favorite memory of each other?**

Maria: Honestly, any time we've traveled together has been a blast. Sam is the best travel partner and even when we've had twelve-hour delays or an unexpected overnight road trip, he manages to keep my spirits up! He's also very skilled at finding good restaurants on-the-go.

Sam: I think living together in D.C. this last summer. Our friends and family were nervous that it was moving quickly, but it was so much fun experiencing the city with Maria and it was even better to get to come home from work to her!

**Call ya boi the Lion King, because I'm feeling the love tonight (technically today, as I type this.) Let's do another 180° to Corona to cool things down. What's been the most challenging part about this so far for you both?**

Maria: Picking what to watch every night! We spend at least twenty minutes scrolling through various streaming apps before we finally get frustrated and settle on something. There's almost too many options.

Sam: We are both fairly social people and I think that not being able to hang out with others has left us both feeling down at times. It has made us adjust to a new normal, which has been difficult at times, especially when the weight of the pandemic kind of hits.

**Can you share any creative ways you've gotten past these challenges?**

Maria: We've started keeping a list of movies we want to watch together, so that's the first place I check when we have no idea what to watch.

Sam: Currently we do work at Maria's apartment during the day and then walk over to my apartment at night. This has given us some separation between home and work now

that the library has closed.

**Nice! Keeping with the creativity, let's get abstract. Is there a feeling/sight/smell/color/etc. that you associate with each other? Why?**

Maria: I'm sorry this is so lame but just generally, laughing. We laugh a lot together.

Sam: Maria loves mayonnaise and I hate it, so whenever I see mayonnaise I cringe, but I think about Maria too!

**Don't blame you on that cringe. Looking forward, what is the first activity you'll do/place you'll go once all social restrictions are lifted?**

Maria: I would love to go to Carter Mountain or a local winery, or even Bilt (lol). It's finally so nice out I just want to drink outside with my friends basically.

Sam: I would say either to the bar with everyone we know to celebrate the end of the pandemic. Someplace we can all relax and enjoy socializing without the distancing.

**Here's hoping that day comes soon. Thanks for coming on, guys. Before we go, let's end on a romantic note. What is one thing you want to say, in public, possibly in front of the whole Law School (or at least our online readership), to each other?**

Maria: How much he inspires me! He's so hardworking and he's a really great boyfriend, friend, PA-the list goes on. He's the only person who

has successfully gotten me to go to the gym on a regular basis. He's also very levelheaded (unlike me sometimes), so when I'm in tough situations I try to channel what he would do. And then I usually ask him what he would do and then do that. I'm very lucky to have him in my life.

Sam: I would want her to know how much the Law School community values her and how lucky I feel to so often be referred to as "Maria's boyfriend." I think even the 1Ls I PA for refer to me that way at this point...

*couple that's been separated or getting creative during this social isolation period? A single whose desire to mingle has been curtailed by COVID-19? A platonic friend or member of a family who wants to share how you've been making it through this together? Love comes in all shapes and sizes, and we want to hear about it! Email [bes4cf@virginia.edu](mailto:bes4cf@virginia.edu) if you or someone you know might like to be featured on Love in the Time of Corona.*

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[bes4cf@virginia.edu](mailto:bes4cf@virginia.edu)

*Many thanks to Maria and her boyfriend for being the first featured pair on Love in the Time of Corona! Are you a*



Pictured: Sam and Maria enjoying their pre-quarantine activities. Photo Courtesy of Maria Luevano, '21 and Sam Pickett, '21.

# Law Weekly Tips for Surviving Quarantine

Here we are, almost one week into our time at the Zoom Law School at the Uni-

Leah Deskins '21  
Professor Liaison Editor



versity of Virginia School of Law at the University of Virginia. Perhaps as the novelty of Zoom has started to wear off, you're beginning to wonder how long your toilet paper supply is actually going to last, your Weil Gotshal & Manges hand sanitizer bottle might be running low, and most importantly for the purposes of this column, you're woefully bored and understimulated.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Despite the mountain of schoolwork that seems to keep growing...

Luckily for you, there are some ways to stave off the boredom and lack of normalcy that comes with hiding from COVID-19. I solicited hints and tips from some friends—The *Law Weekly's* GroupMe and my Instagram followers—and here are my favorites:<sup>2</sup>

1) **Go on a walk.** This was the most frequent suggestion, and who's surprised? I

2 These are intended to be helpful and perhaps slightly humorous suggestions. The *Law Weekly* realizes that not all of its readers may have access to resources that would enable them to carry out some of these suggestions. We have endeavored to suggest low-and no-cost activities, and we hope no one will feel hurt by our suggestions.

certainly love walks! They're free. You can do them by yourself (but use your judgment and be safe). You can do them with your dog. You can do them with your frog/toad.<sup>3</sup> You get some exercise. And, you get a breath of fresh air. One *Law Weekly* member suggested different styles of walks...crab walking, anyone?

2) **Talk to a friend or family member over the phone, Skype, FaceTime, or, dare I mention it, Zoom.** Bonus points if you talk to someone who you really should talk to a little more frequently! This was another fan favorite. I'd recommend mixing up who you talk to. Maybe call or chat with different friends over the course of the week. Variety can really work wonders.

3) **Listen to new music or music you haven't heard in a long time, or if you can, play music.** I've been going through my phone and revisiting some of my less-loved playlists.<sup>4</sup> If you're a musician, try working on some fundamentals you haven't practiced recently.

4) **Try exercising with some YouTube exercise videos.** I really like the Blogilates videos on YouTube (apparently there's an app now if that's more your style). You can focus on different

<sup>3</sup> Professor Coughlin, this one is for you.

<sup>4</sup> Pairs well with walks.

muscles and do as much or as little as you want. And many exercises don't require any weights.

5) **Work on a craft or try creative writing.** Knitting is popular, so is painting and/or drawing. St. Patrick's Day is behind us, but why not try writing some limericks? If you're looking for some creative inspiration, I'd recommend you check out some Bob Ross videos online. They're calm and pastoral, and Bob Ross makes everything look easy. Did you know that Bob Ross had at least one pet squirrel? Now you do.

6) **Reorganize your living space.** There's no time like the present to move the couch or redesign your childhood bedroom that hasn't changed since you were fifteen...or seven. Mixing up

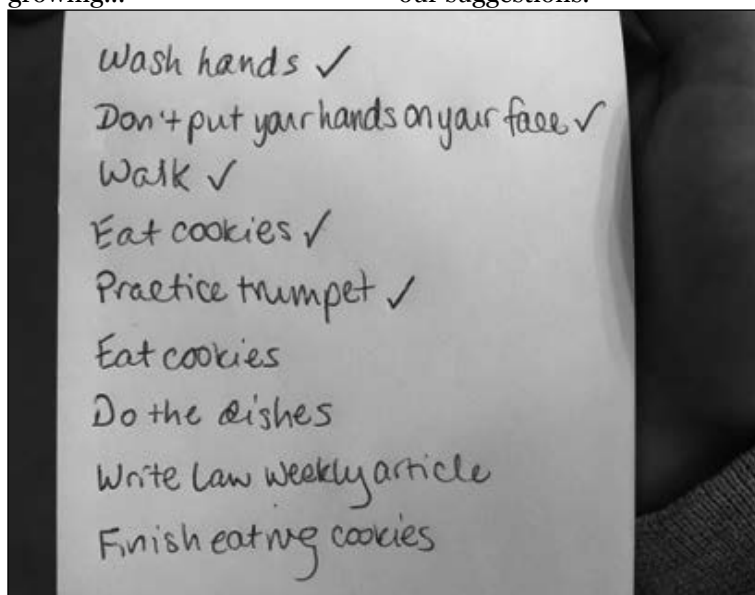
your living space a bit can provide a helpful change of pace that can actually facilitate better learning.<sup>5</sup>

7) **Put a puzzle together.** Admittedly, this requires you to have a puzzle in your possession, but if you do, it's a fun and mentally stimulating way to spend an afternoon.

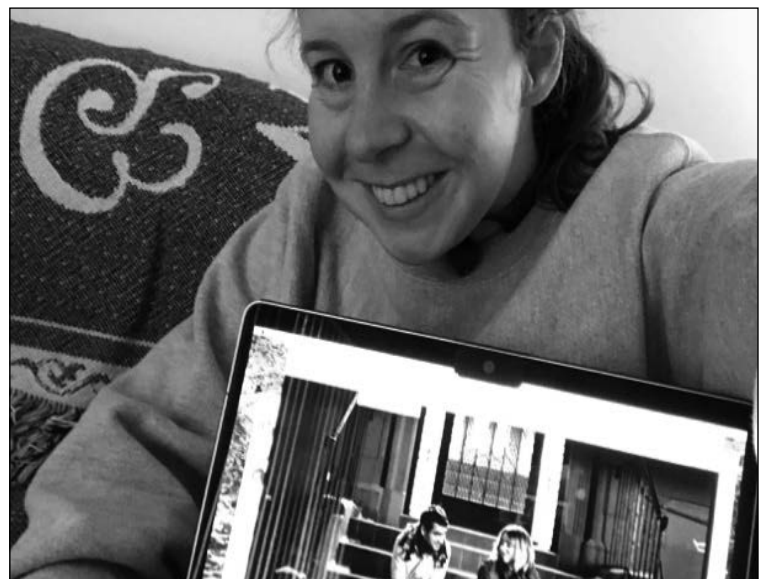
8) **Work on your to-do list.** I know what you're thinking: That's not fun! That's work. Ok, yes, it is probably work for most peo-

<sup>5</sup> I read this in a booklet about studying once. Therefore, it must be true. True story: After writing this footnote, my mom called and asked where that booklet was. ~ s p o o k y ~

QUARANTINE page 5



Pictured: "I've already made some progress on my to-do list. You can, too!" Photo Courtesy of Leah Deskins '21



Pictured: "I tried out tip #10, but without any friends, and the movie was on Amazon Prime. So, really, just watched a movie...by myself...alone. It's fine." Photo Courtesy of Leah Deskins '21

LAW WEEKLY FEATURE: Court of Petty Appeals

The Court of Petty Appeals is the highest appellate jurisdiction court at UVA Law. The Court has the power to review any and all decisions, conflicts, and disputes that arise involving, either directly, indirectly, or tangentially, the Law School or its students. The Court comprises four associate justices and one Chief Justice. Opinions shall be released periodically and only in the official court reporter: the Virginia Law Weekly. Please email a brief summary of any and all conflicts to cl3eh@virginia.edu

Corona (La Cerveza Mas Fina) v. Corona-virus (El Virus Menos Fino) 72 U.Va 21 (2020)

PICKETT, J., delivered the opinion of the Court, in which TONSETH, GLADDEN, CALAMARO, QUERNER, FAYE, J., and LUK, C.J., join.

JUSTICE PICKETT delivered the opinion of the Court.

I. Introduction

These past few weeks, the coronavirus has been wreaking havoc on the United States and around the world. It has led to online classes, and canceled trips, graduations, weddings, and more. Yet, there is one victim whose voice has not yet been heard before this court: Corona Beer. In this opinion, the Court finds Corona Beer to be the victim of trademark infringement and defamation of character, and puts an injunction on Coronavirus's existence, demanding that it cease being a thing, for the love of God, please.

Rare are the opinions that a judge writes knowing they will define his tenure on the Court. I have written over two (2) opinions on this Court<sup>1</sup> and I have a strange feeling that this will be my most memorable one. Is it because I will single-handedly take down the pandemic that has forced us into social isolation and that has left an imprint on all of us that will assuredly haunt us for the rest of our lives? No. It's because, in a way that would make the Office of Private Practice proud, I will assist a helpless multi-billion dollar brand stave off a threat to its reputation and trademark.

1 Four including this one.

II. Facts Corona is a beer (a pale lager, to be more specific) produced by Cerveceria Modelo in Mexico and owned by AB InBev in Belgium. It is one of the top-selling beers worldwide. Corona is commonly served with a wedge of lime or lemon in the neck of the

III. Trademark Infringement Trademark infringement is an inherent betrayal of the principles of the United States of America. In our society, we have a right to name something and say that we are the only one who can use that name for a long pe-

ver the new reality of life in a pandemic.<sup>2</sup> The test also demonstrates too much faith in the American people, who seem to be unable to differentiate between words if they have too many letters in common—see entitled and title; infamous and famous; bemused and amused.

virus; and (2) Corona came before Coronavirus...at least this global pandemic version of it. Wow, that WAS easy. Coronavirus is clearly in violation.

IV. Defamation of Character

As my mother, Deborah Pickett, once said, "Two things you don't want compromised: your reputation and your credit." Is that a strange thing to say? Yes. Is it a strange thing for my mother to say? No. In the United States we hold our reputations near and dear to our hearts—so much so that Taylor Swift named her most recent album Reputation, presumably after Kanye West and Kim Kardashian allegedly defamed her reputation.<sup>4</sup>

As with trademark infringement, I Googled the test for defamation of character. It had only three elements. But, you see, the elements didn't really lead to the result I wanted and would have required more

4 I was going to make that reference lengthier, but there is so much backstory to the Taylor Swift-Kanye West drama that you're just going to have to look it up yourself. There's even a new wrinkle with an extended release of the conversation between Taylor and Kanye just being released. Spicy.

"In this opinion, the Court finds Corona Beer to be the victim of trademark infringement and defamation of character, and puts an injunction on Coronavirus' existence, demanding that it cease being a thing, for the love of God, please."

bottle to add tartness and flavor.

Coronavirus is a virus (a coronavirus, to be more specific). It is widely hated by the general public.

While the two seem completely different, a recent poll found that 38% of Americans would not buy Corona "under any circumstances" because of the coronavirus outbreak. Wow. While we don't have time to unpack all of that, Corona (the beer) has subsequently reported a loss of \$170 million.

Having had enough, Corona Beer has decided to file suit in the Court of Petty Appeals. They knew no other Court would permit them to sue a pandemic, but we are not a regular Court. We are a ~cool~ Court. And so here we are.

riod of time. It has led Paris Hilton to trademark "that's hot;" to Beyoncé and Jay-Z attempting to trademark their daughter's name (Blue Ivy); to Taylor Swift trademarking "This Sick Beat;" to Kylie Jenner trying to trademark "Kylie;" and, to our very own President Donald Trump trying to trademark "you're fired." So yes, trademark infringement is serious business.

I looked up the test for trademark infringement online and it is EIGHT steps long. That is absurd and much too long, especially for someone who, despite having more time than he has ever needed on his hands, struggles to accomplish anything given the overwhelming weight of self-dread that fills him anew each morning as he attempts to maneu-

My new test is more attuned to the American sensibility and can be broken down into two factors: (1) Does one party's name fit into the other party's name? If so; (2) Did the party's name that fits have that name first?<sup>3</sup>

My test is also easily applied. In the case at issue, (1) Corona fits into Corona-

2 Too real?

3 Also known as the "First-Come-First-Served" Doctrine.

COPA page 5

Faculty Quotes

M. Collins: "The man was suing for injuries suffered by his wife on a transatlantic cruise called the QE1, that's the Queen Elizabeth I, not quantitative easing."

D. Brown: "So we have [the defendants], who were driving a load of 19 kilos of coke north up the interstate, as one does."

T. Nachbar: "That seems like the logical thing to do ... it is wrong."

B. Sachs: "Someone went to school!"

A. Bamzai: "This is one of his opinions where he goes on and on about this is such a hard issue, Due Process is not mechanical, it's not a yardstick, it's a process, it's a delicate process, and you're like 'JUST TELL ME THE RULE, MAN!'"

K. Ferzan: "I used to be obsessed with fertile octogenarians."

Heard a good professor quote? Email editor@law-weekly.org

Virginia Law Weekly COLOPHON. Includes a portrait of Thomas Jefferson and a list of staff members: Christina Luk '21 (Editor-in-Chief), Kathryn Querner '22 (Executive Editor), Phil Tonseth '22 (Production Editor), Jacob Jones '21 (Features Editor), Samuel Pickett '21 (Columns Editor), Kolleen Gladden '21 (Photographer), Ben Stievater '22 (Events Editor), Nate Wunderli '22 (Sports Editor), Stanley Birch '22 (News Editor), Will Palmer '21 (Special Projects Editor), Raphael Cho '21 (Cartoonist-in-Chief), Leah Deskins '21 (Professor Liaison Editor), Bill Re '21 (Historian), Marlyse Vieira '22 (New Media Editor), Drew Calamaro '21 (Satire Editor), Grace Tang '21 (Foreign Correspondent), Donna-Faye Imadi '22 (Current Events Editor), Amy Pan '22 (Lifestyle Editor), Will McDermott '22 (Development Editor).

Domino's Rewards advertisement. Features a circular logo with 'ORDER ONLINE AT DOMINOS.COM', a 'Locally Owned' banner, and a 'PIECE of the PIE REWARDS' section. The rewards section includes 'JOIN TODAY AND START EARNING POINTS TOWARD FREE PIZZA' and a conversion chart: '1 = 10 ORDER POINTS', '60 = 100 POINTS', '100 = 1 FREE PIZZA'. It also includes a 'SIGN UP' button and the slogan 'FREE KINDNESS WITH EVERY ORDER'.

COPA

continued from page 4

explanation than I have the patience for. So I took a page out of the United States Supreme Court’s reporter and decided to do what I needed to do to get me to the result I wanted.<sup>5</sup> So the new test for defamation of character is: Does something you do make someone else with whom you are associated look bad?

Is this an easily satisfied test? Yes. But unlike other Courts who are afraid of releasing broad opinions, I am going big. I am not hiding from a “floodgate of litigation,” in fact, I am encouraging it. Those Gunners in your section who constantly raise their hands and give your section a “gunnery” reputation? You could sue them for defamation of your character. See generally, *Classmates v. Over-Enthusiastic Class Discussion Volunteers* 1330 U.Va. 15, 8 (2019). That person that heats up fish in ScoCo at the same time you heat up your food, making it so that no one knows who warmed up the fish? You could sue. That person who parks badly in the parking lot who makes you have to park badly to adjust, making you look like an incapable driver? You could sue. That person who argues for optional pass/fail because they are more concerned about their GPA than the well-being of

<sup>5</sup> See *Bush v. Gore*, 531 U.S. 98 (2000).

the students around them, making UVA look much less collegial? You could sue.

Given Corona Beer’s recent \$170 million loss, America’s newfound fear of the delicious imported beverage, and Coronavirus’s above-stated violation of Corona Beer’s trademark, it is fairly obvious that Coronavirus and Corona Beer are associated. But has Coronavirus’s association with Corona Beer made Corona Beer look bad? Coronavirus has terrorized almost the entire world, leading to illness, death, online classes, canceled sports leagues, unemployment, and worse. So yes, I would say that being associated with Coronavirus makes you look pretty bad.

V. Conclusion

In these chaotic times, the judicial system becomes all the more important. It is for this reason that we find it necessary to hold Coronavirus accountable for its shocking and irresponsible behavior. Thus, we hold in favor of the plaintiffs and place an injunction on Coronavirus’s existence, ordering it to, as my mother phrased in a text message to me today, “self-implode,” “self-destruct,” or “render a state of nihilism.” Good touch, Mother.

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shp8dz@virginia.edu

QUARANTINE

continued from page 3

ple. But it can be very rewarding to check tasks off of the list, and once you’re done, you’ll probably have accomplished quite a bit.

9) **Learn a new skill or learn about a topic you wish you knew more about.** Ok, maybe you won’t be able to master Aramaic during the remainder of this online semester, but there is a lot you can learn from the comfort of your living quarters. Ballroom dancing, British history during the time of Henry VIII—you name it, you can probably learn about it online.

10) **Watch Netflix with friends.** No, this is not your normal Netflix experience. Everyone knows watching an old or new show or movie is an option (if you have a streaming service) during these trying times. But did you know that Netflix has a streaming option that allows you to watch a movie with friends and pause the movie to chat over the platform? Apparently, it does. Watch2Gether offers a similar option for YouTube videos, or so I’m told.

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lcd4ew@virginia.edu

Lost in the Wilderness: Notes from Isolation

Day 0:

I am resolved to escape the looming plagues the way my family always has—by fleeing

Douglas Graebner '21  
Staff Editor



to the woods. Fortunately, I can obtain a camping stove and sleeping bag, and it is surprisingly not crowded. I look at a tent, although it seems expensive. Oh well, I saw *Man vs. Wild* and I’m pretty sure I remember how to build a shelter from that. I also run to the grocery store to pick up granola bars, which I am told you are supposed to have in the woods, and blueberries. On my way back to prepare for my voyage, I think to pick up *Robinson Crusoe*. Fortunately, the Defoe section of the shelf is not empty.

Day 1:

After driving as far as I can into the Park, I notice far more softball fields than woods and check directions. Correcting myself, I drive as far as I can to the nearest “national forest,” figuring it a good place to wait out the pandemic. Finally, I find a spot and park my car somewhere that seems to allow for a week’s worth of parking (at this rate, I figure, civilization will have collapsed enough that nobody

will bother to put a boot on my car by the time I emerge from self-isolation). FINALLY, I begin my intrepid journey and just as quickly feel something sticky at the bottom of my backpack. It seems that dried blueberries would have been the better choice.

Fearing the smell of sweet blueberries will bring predators, I rapidly Google “Black bears in March in Virginia,” cursing myself when I see that I forgot my charger and my phone is at 20 percent. But one must go on, so I tromp off into the woods until I find, after three hours of walking and crossing an inexplicable highway, that I am suitably far from civilization and beside a stream. I mentally prepare to make camp, until I remember I do not have a tent and, contrary to my previous belief, “watching Bear Grylls” is not appropriate preparation for being in the wilderness without a tent. Fortunately, I am able to summon from summer camp the recollection of how to build a lean-to, and I set one up.

1 Joey, if you’re reading this, I hope you remember our summers at Camp Winnoska as fondly as I do. Especially all that time setting bug spray on fire.

WILDERNESS page 6

HOT BENCH



Nicole Padala '21

Hot Bench with Nicole Padala '21

Outgoing President of VFGLP and incoming 3L Senator

Hi Nicole, welcome to Hot Bench! Please tell all our readers where you’re from!

Garrison, New York. It’s about sixty miles north of New York City.

What are some of your goals as a newly elected 3L senator?

UVA Law is a unique place based on the contributions of the student body here. One function of SBA that is particularly important to me is its ability to assist students form new organizations focused on issues or identities that are not represented in other student organizations. SBA has been immensely supportive in helping other students and I start a new organization (Virginia Law First Generation Professionals) over this

past year. In my capacity as senator, I would like to help other students develop new organizations and support them as they make their impact on the Law School community.

What’s something you know now that you would tell yourself before coming into law school?

Believe in yourself! Imposter syndrome hits a lot of students here, but we all got into UVA Law and deserve to be here. And spend more time practicing softball!

Favorite food?

Pizza. Lampo is the best in Charlottesville and is doing takeout during quarantine!

Favorite place in Charlottesville?

I love to hike, so Shenandoah National Park or anywhere else in the Blue Ridge Mountains! We’re so fortunate at UVA to have close access to amazing outdoor resources, and I try to take advantage of that in any way I can.

Anti-Stress Hobby?

Sleeping or working out, whichever comes first.

Pet peeve?

The temperature of the WB classrooms. We’re not in Antarctica; please set the classrooms to be above freezing.

If you won the lottery, what would you do with

it?

Pay for law school, then use whatever is leftover to get a beer from Bilt.

Where’s a place you’ve never been, but would like to go?

The Amalfi Coast and all of Southern Italy, including Sicily. Most of my family is from that region of the world, so I’m hoping to take my bar trip there.

What are the Seven Wonders of the Law School?

1. The community here, even when we’re all stuck in quarantine.
2. How Mandy knows I want an Americano every morning before I know I want one.
3. Phone chargers from the library circulation desk.
4. Laps around the Law School.
5. Spies Garden, especially in the spring when it gets warm again.
6. The cow painting in WB.
7. Reese’s candy in the snack office (and Lisa, of course).

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ncp6yn@virginia.edu



DAY OUT

continued from page 2

women are 2.5 times more likely to die in childbirth than their white counterparts. You’ve likely heard of these things; maybe they ring a bell, but we don’t really see them. We miss smaller things, like a harsh comment we make to a friend, which stings us as we deliver it, but which we don’t retract and for which we don’t apologize. Maybe it’s time we waste.

Sometimes we miss good things, too. We catch a glimpse but the good things don’t really “land.” Perhaps you’ve heard that each day, roughly 170,000 people rise out of extreme poverty, and 325,000 people get access to electricity for the first time. We miss smaller things: Last night, when a friend suggested I buy a video game to play together, and I responded that it was out of my budget, she offered to buy it for me. I was grateful, but it wasn’t until writing this now that I realized what that really meant—what was expressed in that offer.

What would it mean to notice more of the things that sneak by us?

It may be unreasonable to suggest we all do more, just as we’re grappling with what could develop into the greatest global calamity since World War II. I also see the irony of making this point in the context of an overlong article reviewing an indefensibly dumb movie that I did, indeed, spend ninety-nine minutes watching. But let me suggest, in closing, that now is exactly the time when we should be noticing our world, and all that surrounds us, even if we start small. Now,

when we are detached from school and friends to an extent and things are developing a little more slowly in our personal lives. Perhaps now we can notice that this virus, which seems to be destined to arrive imminently on our own doorsteps, started as a disease considered both foreign and overblown. We can notice more when someone says they’re “good” with a hesitation, and engage on another level of sincerity. We can notice when our chosen vocation supports systems or entities that do violence. We can notice the goodness of those nurses and doctors working long, understaffed, underequipped hours. We can catch something that might have slipped by, care about it, and do the right thing with it.

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mwb4pk@virginia.edu

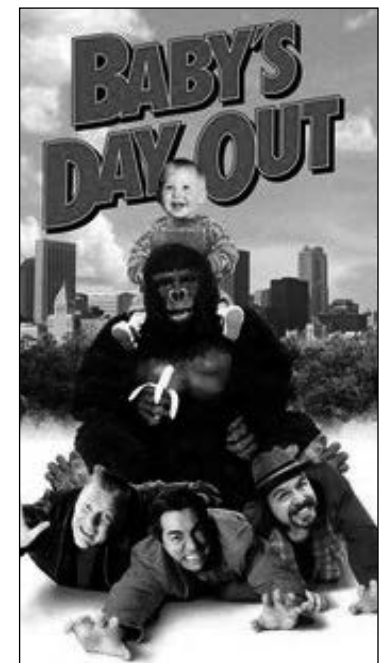
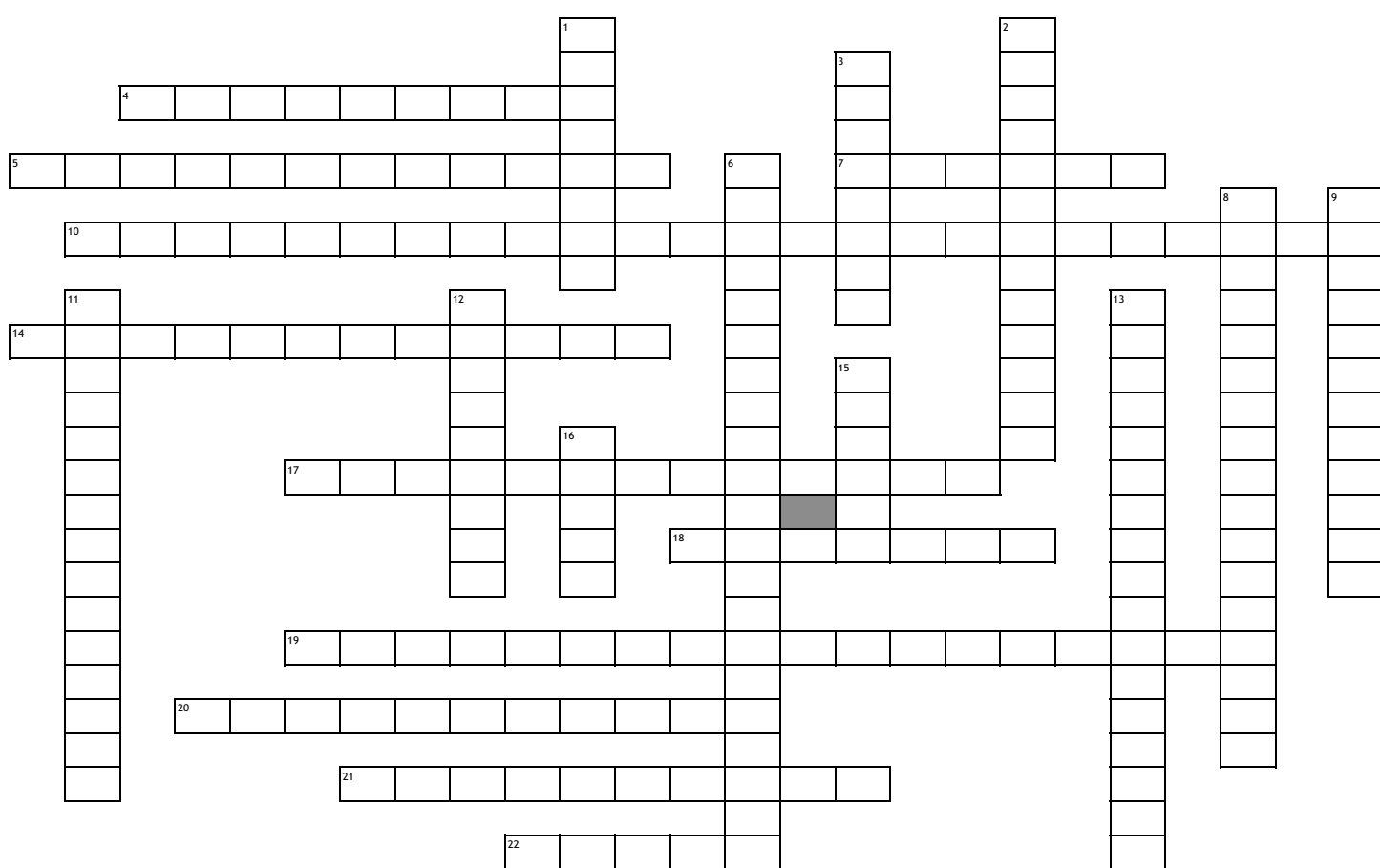


Photo Courtesy of rottentomatoes.com

# Criminal Law Terminology Crossword



**Across**

- 4. institute legal proceeding against
- 5. equal treatment of all rivals or disputants fairness
- 7. help, assist, or support in the achievement of something
- 10. Yelling or harassment
- 14. An act respecting the criminal law
- 17. cease by legislation to treat as illegal
- 18. an act of trying to achieve something
- 19. affects how decisions are made and policies are established
- 20. turn into a criminal offense by making it illegal
- 21. a secret plan by a group to do something unlawful or harmful
- 22. in the proposed of legislation

**Down**

- 1. encourage or assist (someone) to do something wrong to commit a crime or other offense
- 2. case may be prosecuted either summarily or as indictment
- 3. Something that was previously illegal
- 6. a person who incites or assists someone to commit a crime
- 8. another word to call it is indictment
- 9. lack of regard for the danger or consequences of one's actions
- 11. Such acts are forbidden and punishable by law
- 12. as opposed to the mental state of the accused
- 13. Sometimes called ignorance of law
- 15. the reason for doing the act
- 16. make better; improve

Crossword Courtesy of wordmint.com

## WILDERNESS

continued from page 5

Unfortunately, I realize now that there are a number of things I was shockingly not told about camping, such as that I would need things like “pans” and “multiple clothes” and “things other than matches to start a fire with.” Regardless, my resolve is undeterred and I am able to settle down to my camp stove and toast some granola bars while settling down to my book. Unsettlingly, however, I seem to have picked up the wrong book and am now stuck reading *A Journal of the Plague Year*, which is at least less depressing than most of my casebooks.

**Day 2:**

I arise bright and early, feeling a tad chilly. Realizing that I am fast-eating through all 523 granola bars I brought, I consider the possibility of foraging for food. I wander through the woods, wondering if that fern with the curly top is edible before deciding not to chance it. Eventually, I find a patch of little berry-like things. Berries are edible, right?, I think. Oh well, any port in a storm. Some of the bark smells good as well. I also am worried about scurvy, so of course I remember some pine needles since I dimly recall reading about pine tea as a cure for scurvy in elementary school. Perhaps this all won't be so bad after all.

I wander over to the river for a drink of water and wonder if perhaps there are some

fish worth catching. I don't have any hooks, so I decide to try to “noodle,” and stick my hand in the river. It is cold and after twenty minutes I see a fish swim away. As it turns out, noodling does not actually work for trout, although I do nearly catch a snapping turtle with my left finger. All is not lost, however, as I am able to turn my backpack into an ersatz net and catch a few rather nice fish and an eel. Returning to camp, I build a modest if slightly sputtery fire and attempt to try to roast my catch in the bark. Unfortunately, I set one or two fish on fire. Perhaps I am better off attempting sashimi.

**Day 3:**

I am cold and wet and I decide that it is time to make my way back to the car. I end up hitchhiking, because society did not collapse and my car was indeed booted and my phone is too dead for me to Uber back home.

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dg4mk@virginia.edu



## CEREAL

continued from page 2

inition of soup on dictionary.com (defining soup as “a liquid dish, typically made by boiling meat, fish, or vegetables, etc., in stock or water”) does not include cereal. Schmid says, “Regarding the definition, I think it is less to do with excluding cereal from the definition of soup, but from recognizing that cereal has a limited definition which does not include soup. I believe cereal by its nature is grain-based (wheat, rice, oats etc.) and is derived from the ‘cereal grains.’ There aren't any soups I can think of that derive from cereal grains.” Further, his wisdom provides, “We don't necessarily need to refine our definition of ‘soup’ any further. Words inherently have social and contextual connotations that go beyond their definitions, and not every word/idea can be neatly given a label. To paraphrase Justice Stewart: ‘I shall not today attempt further to define the kinds of [food] I understand to be embraced within that shorthand description [“soup”], and perhaps I could never succeed in intelligibly doing so. But I know it when I see it, and [cereal] is not that.”

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mes5hf@virginia.edu

7 Please, someone, tell me how one thinks this definition includes cereal in the first place.

## SUDOKU

				9	3			7
9		2		4		6		
	8					1		
	4	9	7		2			
	3	5				9	7	
			3		9	4	5	
		6					4	
		7		2		5		1
8			1	6				

### Solution

6	7	3	7	9	1	4	5	8
1	9	5	8	2	4	7	6	3
8	4	7	5	3	6	9	1	2
9	5	4	6	1	3	8	7	2
2	7	6	4	8	9	5	3	1
3	1	8	2	5	7	6	4	9
4	6	1	9	7	2	3	8	5
5	3	9	1	4	8	2	7	6
7	8	2	3	6	5	1	9	4