

Remove Obstacles to Justice¹

Response to Province editorial “Court delays make mockery of justice.”

Our entire "justice" system needs to be overhauled as well as our entire legal system and lawyer culture. Yes, that's a tall order, but without it we should quit the pretense of having a justice system.

Among other things--and these are not all--:

1. Our justices need to be elected, not appointed. That way they will listen more to the people.
2. We need to reinstate the role of common sense in our courts, so that we do not depend so much on legal technicalities.
3. We should eliminate the role of precedents so that no judge can single handedly bind the entire system to his interpretation in a particular case.
4. Though all accused may have the right to defence, lawyers should not be allowed to support and encourage lies, half-truths or untruths. Remember? “Nothing but the truth?”
5. Lawyer fees must be reigned in to make justice accessible. They are, in my estimation, the greatest obstacles to justice.

¹ Response to Province editorial in *The Province*, “Court delays make mockery of justice,” 12 Nov/2010, p. A18.