

# Justice

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For the presentation of "Surviving the Bosnian Genocide," by Selma Leydesdorff,

and the film, "We Came to Testify," by Pamela Hogan,

New York University, October 17, 2011

Can justice come in courts?

Can a widow's tears be dried by trials?

Can a raped girl's shame be healed by rituals?

Can a fatherless child be consoled?

What was justice to Dutch soldiers who surrendered Bosniak men in a "safe area" so they could be shot?

What was justice to Bosniak men murdered on killing fields?

What was justice to Serb militias who hunted Bosniak neighbors and bulldozed their bodies into mass graves?

What was justice to diplomats who watched and did nothing but pass Security Council resolutions?

What was justice to the UN's Akashi, who refused to bomb Serb militias, while he was at the beach when 8000 men were slaughtered near Srebrenica?

What was justice to Slobodan Milosevic who died without judgment?

What is justice to a mother whose children were slaughtered before they led her to the rape house?

What is justice to a bride whose husband's last caress was the last caress she would ever know?

What is justice to a gang-raped woman who will never trust a man again?

What is justice to an orphan in a refugee camp?

What is justice to lawyers who still deny there was genocide all over Bosnia?

Justice is the spirit of the law.

Without justice, law is dead, like an empty skull.

Without justice, there can be no reconciliation between enemies.

Without justice, love cannot re-weave the social tapestry.

Without justice, hope dies.

Without justice, death conquers life.

Justice establishes the truth.

Justice restores the dignity of the victims.

Justice recognizes a widow's grief.

Justice is digging up bones and giving them proper burial.

Justice is telling stories about the dead to someone who really listens.

Justice is confession that your country was responsible.

Justice means always having to say you're sorry.

Justice struggles to understand why men do such evil.

Justice affirms that the rule of law is stronger than rule by force.

Justice says murderers cannot get away with genocide.

Justice is the antidote to abandonment.

Justice is reconnection with the human race.

Justice rebalances the moral universe.

Justice is God's force socially empowered.

Love is God's force personally expressed.

Justice restores social order.

Love makes reconciliation possible.

With justice and love, hope can return.

Hope is the assurance that life will triumph over death.