

# Christian Justice: A Guide for Inquisitors

Unfounded rumors and unsubstantiated accusations should be taken as sufficient grounds for starting a witch trial, and it should be ignored that the accusations could be caused by personal animosity or the reward for getting witches burned. This crime is so horrible that the normal principles of justice can be ignored.

Yes No  
Has the accused led an evil and wicked life?

Then she's a witch.

She appears righteous to avoid looking like a witch.

Yes No  
Does she show any fear?

Her bad conscience is tormenting her.

Witches often put on strong appearances.

Send her to court without an attorney or any possibility of defending herself. Should anyone presume to speak on her behalf, then accuse them of being witches.

Yes No  
Does she admit being guilty?

She insists on being stubborn. Send her to be tortured, but before that be sure to examine her for amulets that can protect her from the torture. Such amulets may never have been found before, but to be absolutely certain one should examine her privates extra thoroughly.

Show her the torture chamber. Does she admit her guilt?

Yes No  
So she admits her guilt without torture.

Commence the torture. Does she admit her guilt?

Yes No  
So she admits her guilt without torture. (Compared to what's to come the first torture isn't really torture.)

Intensify the torture. Does her eyes roll?

Yes No  
She is looking for her master, Satan.

Is she staring?

Yes No  
She has already found him.

Does her face contort during the torture?

Yes No  
With Satan's aid she resists the pain and laughs.

Does she faint during the torture?

Yes No  
She uses witchcraft to sleep through the ordeal.

Does she die during the torture?

Yes No  
Satan broke her neck to spare her the pain.

Get a priest to explain to her, that unless she repents, she'll go to hell.

Yes No  
Send her to a new prison and start the process all over again.

Guilty

Guilty

Guilty

Guilty

Guilty

This diagram is mostly based on the book "Cautio Criminalis" by Friedrich Spee von Langenfeld (1591-1635). A Jesuit who were fiercely critical of the witch trials.

Morten Monrad Pedersen  
www.atheist.net