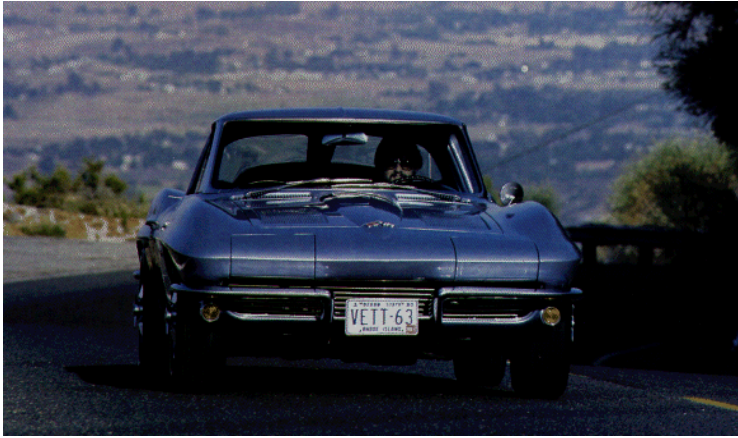


NAME: _____

CASE FOR DISCUSSION



Seneca reported to the police that his Corvette, which had been parked on a street, had disappeared. A few weeks later a police officer observed a car with an expired inspection sticker, and when the driver stopped, the officer asked the driver for his driver's license and owner's card. The driver could produce neither. A serial number check was then made, and it was found that the car had been stolen. The driver was charged with receiving stolen property and unauthorized use of an automobile. (*Commonwealth of Pennsylvania v.*

Belcher, 335 A.2d 505)

- (1) Does this case come under civil or criminal law?
- (2) Why wasn't the person in the car charged with "Grand Larceny?"
- (3) What do you think should happen to the person in the car?
- (4) What do you think did happen to the person in the car?
- (5) What legal rights were invaded which resulted in this case?
- (6) If you were Seneca, what would you want to happen?
- (7) How could Seneca protect himself against the having his car stolen?
- (8) What sanction (penalty) would deter the illegal conduct we see in this case?
- (9) Who pays for the type of illegal conduct we see in this case?
- (10) How do we know the illegal conduct here is wrong?
- (11) Where does the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania get the right to impose legal sanctions on Belcher, if it does have that right?