



(908) 293-7330  
PezzanoLaw.com

# INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Second Amendment Is a Guarantee
- 2 Bizarre Legal Battles  
Unique Laws Around the World
- 3 Puff Pastry Berry Hearts  
Teach Kids to Resolve Their Own Arguments!
- 4 Seeds, Science, and Surprises in Medicine

## HISTORY OF PREGNANCY TESTING

### FROM SEEDS TO SCIENCE

From ancient times, human ingenuity has been pivotal in unraveling medical mysteries, and pregnancy testing is a particularly fascinating example.

In Egypt, around 1350 BCE, pregnancy testing blended mysticism and early science. Women would urinate on wheat



and barley seeds, an intriguing method that modern research has shown to be surprisingly accurate, with a 70% success rate. If barley grew, it indicated a male child; wheat signified a female.

Across different cultures, unique approaches emerged. The Greeks, influenced by Hippocrates, developed diagnostic theories based on the four bodily humors. In India, ancient Ayurvedic texts detailed pulse examination techniques for various conditions, including pregnancy, showcasing remarkable observational abilities and a deep understanding of the human body.

The Middle Ages saw a curious amalgamation of superstition and the beginnings of scientific inquiry. "Piss prophets" examined urine for its color and clarity, practices that were precursors to today's urinalysis.



A significant advancement came in the 20th century with the discovery of the hormone hCG. This breakthrough led to the first reliable home pregnancy tests in the 1960s, marking a dramatic shift from rudimentary ancient methods and offering greater accuracy and privacy.

This journey from ancient seed tests to sophisticated modern diagnostics illustrates the evolution in our understanding of the human body. Those early tests laid the groundwork for the reliable techniques we use today, inspiring us to continue improving our medical knowledge and practices.

224 Roseberry Street, Suite 4  
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

PRST STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
BOISE, ID  
PERMIT 411



224 Roseberry Street, Suite 4  
Phillipsburg, NJ 08865

(908) 293-7330 | PezzanoLaw.com



FEBRUARY  
2024

LP Perspectives

# The Second Amendment Is Meaningless Without the Right to Carry

In June 2022, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a landmark decision clarifying the rights of citizens to carry firearms. In *New York State Rifle & Pistol Assn. vs. Bruen*, the Supreme Court struck down a New York state law that effectively prohibited citizens from carrying guns. The law mandated citizens to demonstrate a "special need" for self-defense to qualify for a carry license, which was nearly impossible to fulfill. In declaring the law unconstitutional, the Court ruled that the Second and 14th Amendments protect an individual's right to carry a gun outside the home for self-defense.

Writing for the majority, Justice Clarence Thomas noted that the right to bear arms in public is not a "second class right" requiring that citizens take special steps to attain:

*"That is not how the First Amendment works when it comes to unpopular speech or the free exercise of religion. It is not how the Sixth Amendment works when it comes to a defendant's right to confront the witnesses against him. And it is not how the Second Amendment works when it comes to public carry for self-defense."*

New York's Sullivan Law required evidence of a specific threat to the individual's safety, beyond living or working in a high-crime area, for obtaining a handgun carry permit. The Court underscored that the Second Amendment guarantees the "individual right to possess and carry weapons in case of confrontation," which can obviously occur outside of the home. The dissent focused on the issue of gun



violence, failing to acknowledge that citizens may wish to carry a gun for self-protection in response to such violence.

In his concurrence, Justice Alito explained that the decision only affects the six states in the country that prohibit law-abiding residents from carrying a gun. The holding does not prevent states from creating gun-licensing rules, including fingerprinting and background checks, or restricting the types of weapons individuals may carry.

New Jersey had similarly stringent requirements as New York, essentially prohibiting citizens from carrying a gun for self-defense. In light of the Supreme Court's decision, N.J. residents can now apply for a license to carry a gun outside their homes. Those without a suitable firearm for carrying must first obtain a permit to purchase a handgun by completing an online application at [NJPortal.com/NJSP/FARS](https://www.nj.gov/treasury/revenue/revenue-services/licenses-and-permits/). Residents should check with their local police department to obtain their Originating Agency Identifier (ORI) number needed for the application and schedule an appointment for fingerprinting.

After obtaining a permit and purchasing a firearm, residents must take a course to ensure proficiency in carrying that specific firearm. Applications for a concealed carry permit may be completed online at the N.J. State Police website and must be accompanied by a recent photograph, (4) non-family references, and a \$200 application fee. I am currently going through this process myself and will report back on my progress.

The high levels of violent crime in our country will undoubtedly motivate more law-abiding citizens to be prepared to defend their own safety. Our borders are overrun by migrants and illegal drugs; and hordes of young people are encouraged on social media to pillage our cities, knowing they will face no real consequences. So, let us hope that those who carry concealed weapons will do so responsibly, supplementing the protection provided by our police officers, who have their hands full attempting to keep law and order.

-Lisa Pezzano



# CRAZY LAWSUITS SHOWCASE STRANGE REALITIES

Just because the law enforces order doesn't mean all the cases that get tried aren't a little silly. Let's delve into the realm of legal oddities with three particularly strange lawsuits, each bizarre enough to make you wonder if reality is stranger than fiction.

## Subway's Knife Sandwich Fiasco

In a twist that sounds like a fast-food horror story, a man discovered a 7-inch serrated plastic knife baked into his Subway sandwich. This alarming find led him to file a whopping \$1 million lawsuit against Subway. Beyond the shock of the knife, he claimed the sandwich caused him severe stomach aches due to food poisoning. The case was eventually settled, but it remains a reminder of the potential dangers lurking in everyday meals.



## Weatherman's Forecast Flub

Weather forecasts are often taken with a grain of salt, but not in the case of an Israeli woman who sued a weatherman for getting the forecast wrong. The weatherman predicted sunshine, but it rained, leading the woman to dress inappropriately and catch the flu. She sued for \$1,000, citing missed work and medication expenses. Surprisingly, she won the lawsuit against the TV station, setting a precedent that weather predictions might be more legally binding than previously thought.

## The Victoria's Secret Mishap

A routine shopping trip to a Victoria's Secret store turned perilous for a customer when a metal piece from a pair of panties she was trying on flew off, striking her in the eye. This incident resulted in a cut cornea, which required a topical steroid treatment. Her lawsuit against the lingerie giant highlighted the potential hazards that can arise from seemingly innocuous products. The case raised questions about product safety and the responsibilities of retailers to ensure their products are free from such defects.

These lawsuits showcase the unexpected and often bizarre nature of legal disputes. They remind us that in the world of law, almost anything can become a case, no matter how outlandish it may seem.

# Smile and Don't Run Out of Gas

## WEIRD LAWS AROUND THE GLOBE

Let's embark on a journey around the globe to uncover some of the most unique laws on the books, from Arizona to Egypt. Protecting plants and birds, enforcing public cheerfulness, and preserving cultural dance traditions are among some of the examples of unique legislation we've uncovered.

### Arizona's Cactus Custodians

In Arizona, the local cactuses are not just plants; they're legally protected entities. It behooves everyone to avoid harming these prickly residents, as you could face up to 25 years in prison. This law serves as a stern reminder to treat nature with respect. The bottom line to stay out of jail? Don't cut the cactus. Period.

### Australia's Homing Pigeon Heroes

Down under, harming a homing pigeon isn't just frowned upon; it's illegal. These birds, known for their remarkable navigation skills, are protected by a law that imposes a fine of \$250 for causing them harm. It's a testament to Australia's reverence for its avian inhabitants.

### Germany's Run-Out-of-Gas Ban

The idea of a highway where drivers can go as fast as they want is a reality on Germany's Autobahn. But it comes with a peculiar (yet understandable) rule: No matter what you do, *don't run out of gas!* Not only would it be a safety issue, but you'll also face a hefty fine. So, fill up before heading out.

### Milan's Smile Mandate

In Milan, Italy, they take fashion seriously. Smiles are at the top of their list, too. An old, never-repealed city regulation from Austro-Hungarian times mandates that everyone must smile at all times, barring those attending funerals or spending time in a hospital. This unique law, originating from an idea by Luigi Fabio, is aimed at ensuring a cheerful public demeanor. So, when in Milan, keep smiling — it's not just good manners, it's the law!

### Egypt's Belly Dancing Decree

In Egypt, the art of belly dancing is a cultural treasure and is also subject to gender-specific legislation. Here, men are



prohibited from performing this traditional dance. This law highlights the unique cultural and historical significance of belly dancing in Egypt and the gender roles traditionally associated with this mesmerizing art form.

These laws are a testament to the diverse nature of legal systems across the world. They remind us that the rule of law can sometimes be as varied as the cultures they represent.

# TAKE A *BREAK*



## PUFF PASTRY BERRY HEARTS

Inspired by Weelicious.com

### Ingredients

- 1 package frozen puff pastry, defrosted
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1 tsp powdered sugar
- 1/2 cup fresh raspberries (or berries of your choice)

### Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400 F. Unfold the puff pastry and use a heart-shaped cookie cutter to cut into heart shapes.
2. On a baking sheet, place puff pastry hearts and bake for 10–12 minutes or until golden brown.
3. In a standing mixer, whip the cream on medium-high speed for 2–3 minutes. Add the powdered sugar and beat on high for 30 more seconds or until thick and fluffy.
4. Remove hearts from the oven and allow to cool completely. Slice each heart in half between pastry layers to create 2 hearts. Top the bottom half with whipped cream and berries, and place the other half on top to form a sandwich.

# Teach Kids to Navigate Conflict

## A PARENT'S GUIDE TO PEACE

When you hear the word "conflict" in the context of kids, you might think of schoolyard bullies or having to ground your kid. However, children have their own disputes, ranging from toddler tussles over toys to digital duels between pre-teens. While they are undeniably challenging, conflicts provide kids the chance to learn life lessons. They encourage young minds to put on their detective hats, explore new perspectives, reevaluate old ideas, and even cement the bonds of friendship. Use the following strategies to equip your child with the superpower of conflict resolution.

### Empower Peacemakers

Conflict resolution skills are the compass that guides kids through the maze of life's disputes. Here's a map to help your child navigate these tricky waters:



- **Pause and Reflect:** Teach your child the art of taking a deep breath and calming the storm within. Reacting in a frenzy of anger is like tossing gasoline on a fire.
- **Speak Your Truth:** Encourage your child to explain their side of the story in clear and simple words. Understanding each other's viewpoints is key to conflict resolution.
- **Get Creative:** Foster their inner Picasso of problem-solving. Encourage them to brainstorm solutions that cater to everyone's wishes, like a culinary mastermind crafting the perfect dish.
- **Choose Respect:** Teach your child the importance of treating others kindly, even when disagreements threaten to capsize the boat.

These steps help kids patch up the current squabbles and cultivate emotional intelligence — a shield against future conflicts and a bridge to tolerance.

### Foster 'fun' conflict-resolution experiences in the home.

Parents wield the magic wand in conflict resolution play. Organize family activities that mimic real-life conflict scenarios, like board games with rules that spark disagreements. These friendly bouts teach your child the art of keeping their cool under pressure. And don't forget about the power of make-believe! Encourage your child to stage a conflict resolution drama. It's not just fun; it's a crash course in diplomacy.

Remember, every successful conflict your child conquers will give them confidence. By imparting these skills early on, you gift them tools for a lifetime of harmonious interactions, both personally and professionally. So, let's embark on this valuable conflict resolution journey together — the world will be a better place.