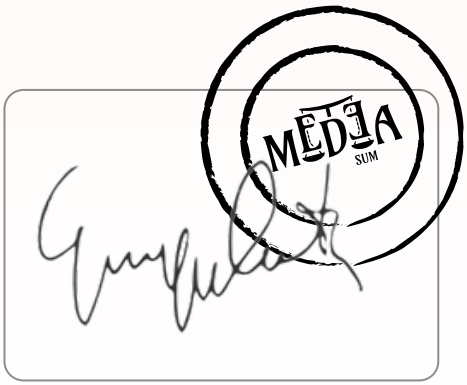
INVESTIGATION NOTEBOOK

SENECA

IMPORTANT NOTES



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INVESTIGATION SHEET	
Character	
Number of items selected	

From the evidence file provided by Judge Ginsburg, we have selected the items listed in the table below.

This **investigation sheet** will enable us to easily locate the items that will help us establish our character's profile.

Evidence collection carried out by (Surname, First name):

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GATHERING OF EVIDENCE	
Item No.	**Relevance to our investigation / our subject**

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GATHERING EVIDENCE	
Item No.	**Relevance to our investigation / our character**

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TESTIMONIAL

Character Profile	

Based on the ‘character profile’ we have drawn up, and by trying to anticipate the questions that might be put to us by the opposing parties, we are writing a testimony for our character here.
This testimony aims to defend our character: exaggeration, downplaying, accusation, paraphrasing, irony… All means are permitted, **except lying**.

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MEDEA
SUM

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INTERVIEW

Person being interviewed	

QUESTIONS / ANSWERS

For each person we have met in connection with this case, we have recorded our questions and their answers here.

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EVIDENCE : LAW_0002_EN	
Title	Roman Law, Twelve Tables, Table IV, Paternal Powers
Subtitle	***ius vitae necisque*** ("the right of life and death")
Author	Unknown
Date / Historical era	Antiquity : c. 450 BC
Theme(s)	Gender Roles & Patriarchy
Type	Legal Text
Language	**EN**

Excerpt

"To a father... shall be given over a son the power of life and death".

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EVIDENCE : LAW_0003_EN	
Title	Roman Law, Twelve Tables
Subtitle	**perpetua mulierum tutela** (Women's perpetual guardianship)
Author	Unknown
Date / Historical era	Antiquity : c. 450 BC
Theme(s)	Gender Roles & Patriarchy
Type	Legal Text
Language	**EN**

Excerpt

"Women, even though they are of full age, because of their levity of mind shall be under guardianship[1]...".

[1] With few exceptions, Roman women were legally subject to some form of male authority (father, husband, or a court-appointed male guardian, or *tutor*) throughout their lives.

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EVIDENCE : LAW_0004_EN	
Title	**matrimonium cum manu** (Marriage with hand)
Subtitle	**Roman law**
Author	Unknown
Date / Historical era	Antiquity
Theme(s)	Gender Roles & Patriarchy
Type	Legal concept
Language	**EN**

Definition

In ancient Rome, **matrimonium cum manu** was a form of marriage where the wife legally left her father's control (**patria potestas**) and entered the **manus** (hand or authority) of her husband or her father-in-law. She essentially became a legal member of her new family, acquiring the status of a daughter to her husband and inheriting from his estate, not her original family's.
There was thus a transfer of control: The husband (or his paterfamilias) gained significant authority over the wife, though this power was more limited than the **patria potestas** over his natural children (lacking, for example, the right of life and death).

Moreover, the wife generally had no proprietary capacity; her property transferred to her husband's family.

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EVIDENCE : LAW_0005_EN	
Title	**Cives Romani** (Rights of Roman Citizens)
Subtitle	**Roman law**
Author	Unknown
Date / Historical era	Antiquity
Theme(s)	Exile and Foreignness
Type	Legal concept
Language	**EN**

Definition

In ancient Rome, the law primarily established the rights and duties of Roman citizens (**Cives Romani**) and, by distinguishing them from non-citizens (peregrini), inherently differentiated them from non-citizens by stating that certain laws, known as the **jus civile**, applied exclusively to citizens.

- Access to Law: The Roman civil law applied to citizens only. Non-citizens did not have the same legal standing in Roman courts.

- Property Rights: Citizens had stronger property protections and acquisition rights that were not available to foreigners.

- Marriage: Intermarriage between a Roman citizen and a non-citizen was generally prohibited unless a special dispensation was granted.

- Capital Punishment/Trial: Laws concerning the capital punishment of a Roman citizen required a trial, a right not extended to non-citizens.

- Citizenship Acquisition: Access to citizenship was primarily determined by birth to Roman parents.

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Evidence : SEN_0001_EN	
Title	**Act 1, scene 1, lines 1-55**
Subtitle	**Medea's monolog**
Author	**Seneca, translated by Ella Isabel Harris (1899)**
Date / Historical era	**Antiquity**
Theme(s)	**Vengeance, Betrayal, Exile, Motherhood, Justice**
Character(s)	**Medea**
Language	**EN**

Extract

Medea

Ye gods of marriage; Lucina, guardian of the genial bed; Pallas, who taught the tamer of the seas To steer the Argo; stormy ocean's lord; Titan, dividing bright day to the world;

And thou three-formed Hecate, who dost shed Thy conscious splendor on the hidden rites! Ye by whom Jason plighted me his troth; And ye Medea rather should invoke: Chaos of night eternal; realm opposed

To the celestial powers; abandoned souls; Queen of the dusky realm; Persephone By better faith betrayed; you I invoke, But with no happy voice. Approach, approach, Avenging goddesses with snaky hair,

Holding in blood-stained hands your sulphurous torch! Come now as horrible as when of yore Ye stood beside my marriage-bed; bring death To the new bride, and to the royal seed, And Creon; worse for Jason I would ask

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Life! Let him roam in fear through unknown lands, An exile, hated, poor, without a home; A guest now too well known, let him, in vain, Seek alien doors, and long for me, his wife! And, yet a last revenge, let him beget

Sons like their father, daughters like their mother! 'Tis done; revenge is even now brought forth— I have borne sons to Jason. I complain Vainly, and cry aloud with useless words, Why do I not attack mine enemies?

(...)

Seek, my soul— If thou still livest, or if aught endures Of ancient vigor—seek to find revenge Through thine own bowels; throw off woman's fears, Intrench thyself in snowy Caucasus. All impious deeds Phasis or Pontus saw,

Corinth shall see. Evils unknown and wild, Hideous, frightful both to earth and heaven, Disturb my soul,—wounds, and the scattered corpse, And murder. I remember gentle deeds, A maid did these; let heavier anguish come,

Since sterner crimes befit me now, a wife! Gird thee with wrath, prepare thine utmost rage, That fame of thy divorce may spread as far As of thy marriage! Make no long delay. How dost thou leave thy husband? As thou cam'st.

Homes crime built up, by crime must be dissolved.

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Evidence : SEN_0004_EN	
Title	**Act 5, scene 1, lines 910-953**
Subtitle	**Medea hesitates to kill her children.**
Author	**Seneca, translated by Ella Isabel Harris (1899)**
Date / Historical era	**Antiquity**
Theme(s)	**motherhood, justice, revenge, guilt, innocence**
Character(s)	**Medea**
Language	**EN**

Extract

Medea

I am Medea now, through sorrow strong.

Rejoice, because through thee thy brother died;

Rejoice, because through thee his limbs were torn,

Through thee thy father lost the golden fleece;

Rejoice, that armed by thee his daughters slew Old Pelias! Seek revenge!

No novice hand Thou bring'st to crime; what wilt thou do; what dart

Let fly against thy hated enemy?

I know not what my maddened spirit plots,

Nor yet dare I confess it to myself!

In folly I made haste—would that my foe

Had children by this other! Mine are his,

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We'll say Creusa bore them! 'Tis enough;

Through them my heart at last finds full revenge;

My soul must be prepared for this last crime.

Ye who were once my children, mine no more,

Ye pay the forfeit for your father's crimes.

Awe strikes my spirit and benumbs my hand;

My heart beats wildly; mother-love drives out Hate of my husband;

shall I shed their blood— My children's blood?

Demented one, rage not, Be far from thee this crime! What guilt is theirs?

Is Jason not their father? guilt enough!

And worse, Medea claims them as her sons.

They are not sons of mine, so let them die!

Nay, rather let them perish since they are!

But they are innocent—my brother was!

Fear'st thou? Do tears already mar thy cheek?

Do wrath and love like adverse tides impel

Now here, now there? As when the winds wage war,

And the wild waves against each other smite,

My heart is beaten; duty drives out fear, As wrath drives duty.

Anger dies in love.

Dear sons, sole solace of a storm-tossed house,

Come hither, he may have you safe if I May claim you too!

But he has banished me; Already from my bosom torn away

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They go lamenting—perish then to both,

To him as me! My wrath again grows hot;

Furies, I go wherever you may lead.

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Evidence : SEN_0005_EN	
Title	**Act 5, scene 1, lines 982-1027**
Subtitle	**Murder and conclusion**
Author	**Seneca, translated by Ella Isabel Harris (1899)**
Date / Historical era	**Antiquity**
Theme(s)	**Vengeance, justice, motherhood, divine order**
Character(s)	**Medea, Jason**
Language	**EN**

Extract

Medea

I have recaptured now my crown and throne, My brother and my father; Colchians hold The golden fleece; my kingdom is won back;

My lost virginity returns to me! O gods appeased, marriage, and happy days, Go now,—my vengeance is complete! Not yet— Finish it while thy hands are strong to strike. Why seek delay? Why hesitate, my soul?

Thou art able! All thine anger falls to nought! I do repent of that which I have done! Why did'st thou do it, miserable one? Yea, miserable! Ruth shall follow thee! 'Tis done, great joy fills my unwilling heart,

And, lo, the joy increases. But one thing Before was lacking—Jason did not see! All that he has not seen I count as lost.

(…)

Pile high the funeral pyre of thy sons, And rear their tomb. (…) This son is dead, and this shall soon be so, And thou shalt see him perish.

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Jason.

By the gods, By our sad flight together, and the bond I have not willingly forsaken, spare our son! If there is any crime, 'tis mine; Put me to death, strike down the guilty one.

Medea.

There where thou askest mercy, and canst feel the sting, I thrust the sword. (…)

Had it been that one could satisfy my hands with blood, I had slain none. But two is not enough.

(…)

Now, grief, take slow revenge; It is my day; haste not, let me enjoy.

Jason.

Slay me, mine enemy!

Medea.

Dost thou implore My pity? It is well! I am avenged. Grief, there is nothing more that thou canst slay! Look up, ungrateful Jason, recognize Thy wife; so I am wont to flee. The way lies open through the skies; two dragons bend their necks, submissive to the yoke. I go In my bright car through heaven. Take thy sons!

Jason.

Go through the skies sublime, and going prove

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That the gods dwell not in the heavens you seek.

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Evidence : SEN_0007_EN	
Title	**Act 2, Scene 1, lines 150-175.**
Subtitle	**The nurse tries to reason with Medea**
Author	**Seneca, translated by Ella Isabel Harris (1899)**
Date / Historical era	**Antiquity**
Theme(s)	**Revenge, exile.**
Character(s)	**The nurse, Medea**
Language	**EN**

Extract

The nurse

Be silent, I implore thee, hide thy pain Deep in thy bosom. (...)

Medea

Light is grief that hides itself, And can take counsel. Great wrongs lie not hid. I am resolved on action.

The nurse

Restrain thy fury; hardly art thou safe Though silent.

Medea

Fortune tramples on the meek, But fears the brave.

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The nurse

This is no place to show That thou hast courage. (...) To thee, In thy misfortune, hope points out no way.(...) thy husband lost; Of all thy riches nothing now remains.

Medea

Medea now remains! Here's land and sea, Fire and sword, god and the thunderbolt.(...)

The nurse

Thou'lt die!

Medea

I wish it.

The nurse

Flee! (...)

Medea

I fly, but first revenge. (...)

The nurse

Restrain thyself And cease to threaten madly; it is well That thou adjust thyself to fortune's change.

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Evidence : SEN_0015_EN	
Title	**De Ira (On Anger), Book I, chapter 1**
Subtitle	**Anger as a destructive force**
Author	**Seneca**
Date / Historical era	**Antiquity: c. 41–45 CE**
Theme(s)	**Hubris & Excessive Passion**
Type of source	**Stoic philosophical treatise**
Language	**EN**

Extract

“Anger, if it is not controlled, harms us more often than the injury itself.”

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Evidence : SEN_0016_EN	
Title	**De Ira (On Anger), Book III, chapter 27**
Subtitle	**Revenge destroys the avenger**
Author	**Seneca**
Date / Historical era	**Antiquity: c. 41–45 CE**
Theme(s)	**Revenge & Justice**
Type of source	**Stoic philosophical treatise**
Language	**EN**

Extract

Anger is a passion that is "wholly excited and in assault, raging with an inhuman desire for pain, arms, and executions, self-neglectful while it harms another, eager to rush into the very weapons that will drag the avenger along with the vengeance.”

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Evidence : SEN_0017_EN	
Title	***Epistulae morales ad Lucilium* (Moral Letters to Lucilius)**
Subtitle	**Exile as loss of identity**
Author	**Seneca**
Date / Historical era	**Antiquity: c. 41–49 CE**
Theme(s)	**Exile & Foreignness**
Type of source	**Stoic philosophical letter**
Language	**EN**

Extract

"Exile snatches away one's country, friends, name; it leaves only the soul/spirit to itself."

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Evidence : SEN_0018_EN	
Title	***Epistulae morales ad Lucilium* (Moral Letters to Lucilius)**
Subtitle	**Being guilty of a crime is a punishment in itself**
Author	**Seneca**
Date / Historical era	**Antiquity: c. 41–49 CE**
Theme(s)	**Revenge & Justice**
Type of source	**Stoic philosophical letter**
Language	**EN**

Extract

"The worst punishment for crime lies in the crime itself... the crime is punished immediately after it is committed; nay, rather, at the moment when it is committed."

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