PROTECTING THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

Main Types of Contempt of Court



Disobeying a court order



Interfering with or prejudicing an on-going court case



Scandalising the court by making personal attacks on the judiciary

I do not want to commit Contempt of Court. Can I do this?

YES 🇸

- Privately discuss whether the accused person is guilty.
 E.g. with your family member at home.
- Publicly push for a change in the law which the accused person is charged with.
 E.g. whether the maximum punishment for the offence should be raised.
- Publicly discuss whether the judgment or sentence is fair, after the case has concluded.
 E.g. publish an academic article criticising the judge's reasoning.
- Report a judge's misconduct or corruption through the proper channels.
 E.g. to the Chief Justice or police.

NO X

- Run a campaign claiming that the accused person is guilty, while the case is on-going.
- Publish interviews with a witness while the case is on-going, especially when the witness has not given evidence in court yet.
- Disrupt a court proceeding.
 E.g. shout and make a nuisance of oneself in the courtroom.
- Make a baseless accusation that a judge is corrupt or bias.
 E.g. accuse a judge of giving a lighter sentence because the accused person is rich and famous.

Note: These are only examples. The courts will interpret the law and decide each case on its own facts.

