

Courtroom Clash: Different Roads to Justice

Have you ever watched an American film or TV series about lawyers? The intense courtroom battles, dramatic objections, and emotional jury decisions often make the legal system look exciting. But not all countries (1)..... justice this way. There are two main types of judicial systems: the **European system** (also called the **civil law** system) and the **Anglo-Saxon system** (also known as the **common law** system). Let's explore how they work and what makes them different!

The Anglo-Saxon System: The Drama of the Courtroom

The Anglo-Saxon system is used in countries like the United States, United Kingdom, Canada, and Australia. It is known for its **adversarial process**, which means two sides – the defense and the prosecution – argue their cases before a **jury** and a **judge**.

The jury, made up of (2)..... citizens, listens to the evidence and decides whether the accused is (3)..... or innocent. The judge acts as a referee, making sure the trial is fair and that the lawyers follow the rules.

This system is often featured in popular movies and series like *Suits*, *Legally Blonde*, or *Law & Order*. High-profile trials in the U.S., for example, can be highly (4)..... and even turned into media events, making the courtroom seem like a stage for drama and suspense.

The European System: Justice by Experts

The European system, used in countries like France, Germany, Italy, and many others, works differently. Instead of a jury, professional **judges** make the (5)..... These judges are highly trained experts in law who examine the (6)..... and decide the case.

This system is called the **inquisitorial process**, meaning the court takes an active role in investigating the case. Judges question (7)....., review documents, and work closely with investigators to find the truth. While this system may not be as dramatic as the Anglo-Saxon one, it is often seen as more efficient. There are fewer (8)..... arguments, and trials usually focus on facts and evidence rather than performances.

Key Differences

- **Juries:** The Anglo-Saxon system uses juries, while the European system relies on professional judges.
- **Lawyers' Role:** In the Anglo-Saxon system, lawyers present evidence and persuade the jury. In the European system, judges lead the investigation.
- **Drama vs. Efficiency:** The Anglo-Saxon system is seen as more dramatic, while the European system is more focused on practicality.

Both systems aim to (9)..... justice and protect society. The Anglo-Saxon system values public involvement through juries, while the European system emphasizes expertise and efficiency. Neither system is perfect, but they both reflect the history and (10)..... of the countries that use them. So, next time you watch a courtroom drama, remember – it's not the only way justice is done around the world!

Word Bank

achieve, decisions, handle, publicized, culture, emotional, advocate, evidence, ordinary, guilty, witnesses