

# MIRACLE COURT

## What is Miracle Court?

Miracle Court is a court that resolves conflicts, heals wounds, and restores peace and happiness to all who come before it.

## What types of conflicts does Miracle Court resolve?

Miracle Court hears and resolves all types of conflicts arising from wrongs that have happened in the past. Any dispute for which a party seeks justice can be brought before Miracle Court for resolution. Examples include: family and personal disputes, crime victims, property disputes, employer-employee conflicts, divorce, child custody, contract and business disputes, torts (personal injury), and school/teenager disputes.

## How is Miracle Court composed? Where is it located?

Miracle Court is composed of: (a) a Judge, and (b) a Party to a dispute.

*Miracle Court Judge:* Miracle Court is conducted by a Judge trained in the Five Principles of Nonjustice and the Nine Steps of the Nonjustice System.

*Party:* Only one Party to a dispute may appear before Miracle Court at a time. ***Both sides to a dispute are not necessary for the case to be fully heard and resolved. One side alone is sufficient and recommended.***

*Location:* A Miracle Court can take place anywhere. It has no special courthouse or physical location.

## Does Miracle Court Cost Anything? Are attorneys necessary?

Miracle Court is absolutely *free*. Attorneys are neither permitted nor necessary. Supporters (friends and relatives) may be present to provide guidance and support.

## Are witnesses permitted or necessary?

No, witnesses are neither permitted nor necessary in Miracle Court. Only the aggrieved Party need appear for the case to be fully heard and resolved.

### **Who can present a case before Miracle Court?**

Any person who has been wronged may present a case before Miracle Court.

### **Are Miracle Court decisions legally binding?**

Miracle Court decisions are spiritually, emotionally, and physically *liberating*. They are never “binding”. Miracle Court decisions, however, have no legally recognized effect under the laws of any local, state, or federal government.

### **How can a conflict be resolved if Miracle Court decisions are not legally binding?**

A conflict arises when one party feels that it has been wronged by another party. A conflict is resolved when this feeling of having been wronged has been eliminated and peace and happiness have been restored to the aggrieved party.

Conflicts are rarely resolved within the traditional justice system, which often magnifies the feeling of having been wronged and delays the restoration of peace and happiness by encouraging parties to seek “justice” against each other in the form of *revenge*. This form of justice serves only to prolong and exacerbate conflicts, not resolve them.

Unlike traditional justice systems, Miracle Court decisions eliminate the feeling of having been wronged, and they restore peace and happiness to the aggrieved party. Parties learn that *they alone* control their own peace and happiness, not their enemy or a lawyer or judge in the justice system. They also learn that seeking justice is the cause of their suffering, not the cure, and that the only way to resolve their conflicts and restore their peace and happiness is to practice nonjustice, which means “to abstain from seeking justice.” Therefore, although Miracle Court decisions are not legally binding, they resolve conflicts more efficiently and effectively than traditional justice systems.

### **Are Miracle Court proceedings held in confidence?**

What is said in Miracle Court remains in confidence, unless disclosure is requested by the Party or ordered pursuant to legal process such as a subpoena. Although Miracle Court proceedings are not recorded or transcribed, you should avoid disclosing sensitive information during the hearing.

### **When should a case be presented to Miracle Court?**

A case is ripe for presentation to Miracle Court any time a party feels that it has been wronged by another party. Ideally, cases should be presented to Miracle Court before proceeding with the case in the traditional justice system. However, cases currently pending within, or already concluded from, the traditional justice system can also be successfully presented to Miracle Court for resolution. Presenting a case to Miracle Court can help avoid or facilitate the settling a pending case in the traditional justice system.

### **How long does a Miracle Court hearing last?**

The typical Miracle Court hearing lasts approximately one hour. If more time than this is necessary, the hearing may be extended or another hearing may be scheduled with the mutual agreement of the Judge and the Party. One of the goals of Miracle Court is to teach parties how to resolve conflicts and restore peace and happiness for themselves outside of Miracle Court. Parties are given guidance in how to do this and a book to help them when they leave the hearing.

### **What can I expect during a Miracle Court hearing?**

In a Miracle Court hearing, you can expect to receive an opportunity to state your case before a compassionate Judge, who will listen to your grievances and guide you toward their resolution and the restoration of your peace and happiness.

Unlike a traditional court hearing, in a Miracle Court hearing *you* get play all the roles: prosecutor, defendant, witness, defense attorney, judge, jury, appellate court, jailer, and even executioner. During this process, you will experience what getting justice would be like by trying, convicting, sentencing, and punishing the person who wronged you.

Also unlike a traditional court hearing, in a Miracle Court hearing you are given the opportunity to experience what it might be like to be *God* at the Final Judgment of the person who wronged you. During this process, you will receive the miracle of having your peace and happiness restored by practicing nonjustice and forgiveness.

Miracle Court is unlike anything you have ever experienced.

### **Is any training or preparation necessary to present a case in Miracle Court?**

No. No training or preparation is necessary to present a case in Miracle Court. The Judge will help you through each of the steps.

### **How does a case proceed in Miracle Court?**

Cases in Miracle Court proceed in the following nine steps, which are also known as the “Nine Steps of the Nonjustice System”:

1. The Indictment—*You are the Prosecutor*
2. The Arraignment—*You are the Defendant*
3. The Trial—*You are the Witness*
4. The Summation—*You are the Defense Attorney*
5. The Verdict—*You are the Jury*
6. The Sentence—*You are the Judge*
7. The Appeal—*You are the Appellate Court*
8. The Punishment—*You are the Jailer, Torturer, and Executioner*
9. The Final Judgment—*You are “God”*

### **This sounds spiritual. Is it affiliated with any religion? What if I do not believe in God?**

Miracle Court is not affiliated with any religion. And you do not need to have a belief in God for your case to be fully heard and resolved. The legal principles underlying Miracle Court are universal concepts of human oneness, nonjustice, forgiveness and love.

### **How do I bring a case before Miracle Court?**

Simply schedule an appointment to present your case. No formal papers need be filed.

### **Will the Miracle Court Judge give me legal advice?**

No, the Miracle Court Judge cannot give you legal advice. If you wish to know your rights and responsibilities within the traditional justice system, you should consult a licensed attorney.

By presenting a case before Miracle Court, you agree that: (a) Miracle Court Judges cannot give you legal advice; (b) no attorney-client relationship is created between you and the Miracle Court Judge; and (c) the Miracle Court Judge is not engaged in the practice of law. You also agree that you proceed at your own risk in presenting a case before Miracle Court, and you forever release, indemnify, and defend Miracle Court and the Miracle Court Judge from and against all liability of any kind whatsoever arising from or related to your Miracle Court proceeding, your use of the information you receive, and your disclosure of personal information.

## Who created Miracle Court?

Miracle Court was created by James P. Kimmel, Jr., J.D., an attorney and the author of *Suing for Peace: A Guide to Resolving Life's Conflicts* (Hampton Roads, 2005) and *The Trial of Fallen Angels* (Penguin/Putnam 2012). The Five Principles of Nonjustice and the Nine Steps of the Nonjustice System first appeared *Suing for Peace*.

## What are the Five Principles of Nonjustice?

The Five Principles of Nonjustice are as follows:

1. **Seeking justice is the cause of human suffering in our world, not the cure.** "Seeking justice" has become a phrase used to excuse acts of vengeance, retribution, and payback, creating a society that condones and encourages revenge-seeking by confusing the true meaning of justice, which is fundamental fairness and equity for all people. As a result, we now live in a world where school children kill each other to get justice, adults engage in every form of malice in the name of justice, terrorists indiscriminately massacre thousands of people under the delusions of justice, and nations go to war waving the flag of justice. *All* deliberately hurtful acts are motivated by the pursuit of justice. Hence, justice is the primary cause of human-inflicted suffering in our world.
2. **We are addicted to seeking justice against our enemies.** Despite the suffering we inflict upon each other and ourselves by pursuing justice, we continue to pursue justice because we are literally addicted to it and see no viable alternative. Like a narcotic, the pursuit of justice offers us fleeting intense bursts of pleasure that only leave us feeling worse and wanting more. Like a narcotics pusher, the justice system encourages us to pursue more and more justice, producing an insatiable demand for itself and leaving a trail of suffering in its wake. The only alternative to pursuing justice, forgiveness, seems either naïve or impossible, offering us no meaningful way of resolving our conflicts short of capitulation.
3. **The most important trials of our lives each day are the trials of the people who wrong us.** During these trials, we must choose between justice and happiness. If we choose to seek justice against our enemies, we inevitably cause ourselves only more suffering and unhappiness. If we choose not to seek justice against our enemies, we end our suffering and restore our happiness. Thus, it is our freedom that is at stake during these trials, *not the freedom of the people who wrong us*. The outcome of these trials will determine our health, happiness and peace of mind; it will affect our relationships, family, job, nation and world.
4. **The secret to resolving conflicts and restoring happiness is to stop seeking justice against our enemies and start practicing nonjustice.** Between the teaching of nonviolence and the teaching of unconditional forgiveness lies a Middle Step. This Middle Step is called *nonjustice*, meaning "to abstain from the

pursuit of justice." Even when we are unable to forgive our enemies, we can break the justice addiction and restore our happiness by taking the less difficult Middle Step of practicing nonjustice and not further harming *ourselves*. By abstaining from the pursuit of justice, we end the cycle of self-inflicted suffering and convert the affirmative act of forgiveness from theoretical possibility to spiritual certainty. Nonjustice thus presents a third alternative to responding to conflict.

5. **The secret to practicing nonjustice is suing for peace using The Nonjustice System.** If you sue your enemies for justice, you will win only your own suffering. But if you sue your enemies for peace, you will win your own happiness. Between our secular justice systems and our religious traditions lies an alternative to the justice system that contains nine simple but powerful steps for resolving conflicts and restoring peace and happiness. By combining jurisprudence with spirituality, The Nonjustice System enables us to win the most important trials of our lives without lawyers, guns or money. *The Nonjustice System is made manifest in Miracle court.*