

Planet Money's "Hello, I'm Calling from La Mafia"

Honors Government Summer Assignment

I look forward to meeting you! I have just a 20-minute assignment that I'd like you to do a day or two before your first day of class. Bring this completed sheet with you on your first day of Honors Government. We will be thinking and learning about power and authority. That said, you will do yourself a service if you pay a bit of attention to the exciting political events that take place in the national and local elections leading up to our class.

Directions before listening: Read the statements below and indicate whether you agree or disagree in the "Before" Listening column. Please put comments that support your thinking in the available space.

Listen to the podcast at <http://www.npr.org/blogs/money/2014/12/12/370350849/episode-589-hello-i-m-calling-from-la-mafia>.

Directions after listening: After listening to the podcast, decide whether you still agree or disagree. Write information from the podcast that supports your response. Explain how your thinking has been confirmed or challenged.

Before Listening			After Listening	
agree	disagree		agree	disagree
		Why someone breaks the law, it is the government's job to make sure that justice is served. <i>Comment #1:</i> <i>Comment #2:</i>		
		Citizens of a democratic society have an obligation to make sure that they cooperate with government officials in authority. <i>Comment #1:</i> <i>Comment #2:</i>		
		When the legal system fails to protect, citizens should take matters into their own hands. <i>Comment #1:</i> <i>Comment #2:</i>		
		People may have the power to control or direct something, but they may not necessarily have the authority. <i>Comment #1:</i> <i>Comment #2:</i>		