



ANTHONY D'AMATO

The Moment of Truth for a practicing lawyer occurs whenever a prospective client tells a story that seems morally compelling but legally hopeless. That is where the attorney's legal research should begin, not where it should end. Too much injustice persists in the world because tired legal thinking has accepted unjust patterns as legally inevitable.

The question about human rights is not "Where did they come from?" but rather "Who is trying to take them away from us?"



Left to right: Dr. Milan Kovacevic (the accused), prison guard, Anthony D'Amato (lead counsel), Dusan Vucicevic (co-counsel) at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, The Hague. The accused was the first defendant to be charged with genocide.

Hello, my name is Anthony D'Amato. Thank you

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SOME SAYINGS YOU MAY NOT HAVE

for dropping by.

My reason for setting up this web is to make accessible for downloading [books and articles](#) that I've written over the years. All writings are listed in my [Curriculum Vitae](#). Many of my articles are available on the SSRN Legal Scholarship Network. My favorite web sites are [here](#).



Drawings by Brian D'Amato

ANTHONY D'AMATO is the Leighton Professor of Law at Northwestern University School of Law, where he teaches courses in international law, international human rights, analytic jurisprudence, and justice. He received his law degree from Harvard Law School and a Ph.D. from Columbia University. He is admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Tax Court, and several U.S. Circuit Courts of Appeal, and is a member of the New York Bar. Professor D'Amato was the first American lawyer to argue (and win) a case before the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, and he has litigated a number of human rights cases around the world. He is the author of over 20 books and over 110 articles. Biographies of Professor D'Amato can be

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HEARD:

1. [Hollywood](#)
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1. Hollywood

When did I realize I was God? Well, I was praying and I suddenly realized I was talking to myself. -- Peter O'Toole.

You're not kidding this time, are you? -- Boris Karloff, at the funeral of Bela Lugosi.

I'm a housekeeper. I get divorced, I keep the house. -- Zsa Zsa Gabor.

I once shook hands with Pat Boone and my whole right side sobered up --Dean Martin

I used to be Snow White but I drifted. -- Mae West

It's been so long since I've made love, I can't even remember who gets tied

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Email: [a-damato\[at\]northwestern.edu](mailto:a-damato[at]northwestern.edu)

This web site: <http://anthonydamato.law.northwestern.edu>

up. -- Joan Rivers

I've been doing the Fonda workout: the Peter Fonda workout. That's where I wake up, take a hit of acid, smoke a joint, and run to my sister's house and ask her for money. -- Kevin Meaney

Great acting requires sincerity, passion, and realism. If you can fake those things, you've got it made. -- Marlon Brando

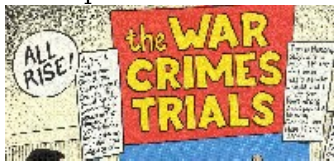
Start every day off with a smile and get it over with. -- W.C. Fields

There goes the good time that was had by all. -- Bette Davis (remark-ing on a passing starlet)

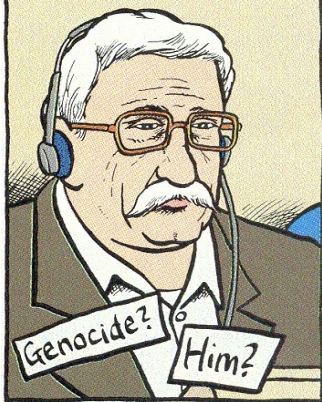
I like you. I kill you last. - a Schwarzenegger movie line.

When she started to play, Steinway himself came down personally and rubbed his name off the piano. -- Bob Hope, on comedienne Phyllis Diller.

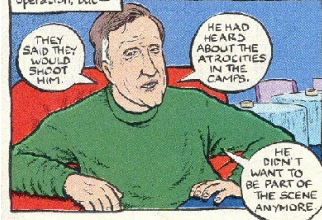
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Genocide: Acts committed with the intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, or religious group...



One of his attorneys Anthony D'Amico, a professor at Northwestern Law School, tells me that Kovacevic wanted to resign from the council overseeing the operation, but...



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2. Law

You can take the lawyer out of the courtroom, but ... - Larry Kramer.

Therefore, the United States should not be weary of this claim. - Law student's final exam.

Home-grown wheat is clearly not part of interstate commerce according to the original intent of the Farmers of the Constitution. - Law student's final exam of some years ago when I taught Constitutional Law.

The appearance of law must be upheld, especially when it's being broken. -- Jim Broadbent as Boss Tweed in Gangs of New York

Article II cannot be read to swallow itself. - Legal brief filed on behalf of Al Gore, Dec.10, 2000

Circumstantial evidence is the most damaging evidence there

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Part I: Jurisdiction; Part 2: Merits *in Jurist*,
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is, because it's the most difficult to arrange. -- Warren Burger on the O.J. Simpson trial

The Los Angeles police were so corrupt that they botched the job of framing a guilty person. -- Professor Ron Allen

The Iliad was not written by Homer, but by a different blind man who was called Homer. - Anon. law professor

A is the owner of Blackacre, so for convenience we'll call him B. - Anon. law professor

3. Politics

For every action, there is an equal and opposite government program. - Anon.

If we do not succeed, we run the risk of failure. -- Dan Quayle

For Americans, winning is not enough—others must lose. - Gore Vidal

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Humanity, *in Jurist*, Dec
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The Long Term View
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The Road Map:
Looking for Peace in the
Middle East, *in Jurist*,
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The right to be
heard does not
automatically
include the right
to be taken
seriously.
--Hubert H.
Humphrey

If a problem
can't be solved,
enlarge it. -
Dwight D.
Eisenhower

When enough
bureaucratic
prestige has
been invested in
a policy, it is
easier to see it
fail than to
abandon it. --
Henry Kissinger

It was said of
Richard Nixon
that although he
doesn't think
honesty is the
best policy, he
does think it's a
policy

The great thing
about being
famous is that
when you're
boring people
think it's their
fault. -- Henry
Kissinger

I must study
politics and war
that my sons
may have liberty
to study
mathematics,
philosophy,
geography,
commerce and
agriculture, in
order to give
their children a
right to study

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[Warren, Earl](#), Guide to American Law

painting, poetry, music, architecture ...
-- John Adams

4. Teaching

I have taught forgettably many classes. - Professor Robert Paul

Why is it that each year I have to teach them the exact same thing all over again? -- Professor Carolyn Bell (Wellesley College)

Now remember, just because a Wellesley student is rich and beautiful doesn't mean she's stupid. - President Margaret Clapp, welcoming us new liberal assistant professors in September 1962

A Stanford dean once tried to deal with a "deadwood" on the faculty by suggesting that he take a well-earned early retirement at half salary. The professor declined, pointing out that, after all, he was already retired on full salary. - Anon.

World Book:

Commonwealth,
Enclave, Exile, Fiat,
Free City, Mandated
Territory, Nation,
Viceroy

5. Einstein

Any idea that can be put into a nutshell should remain there

The difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has its limits

The fish will be the last to discover water

I have no special talents. I am only passionately curious

It is the theory which decides what we can observe

Anybody who really wants to abolish war must resolutely declare himself in favor of his own country's resigning a portion of its sovereignty in favor of international institutions: he must be ready to make his own country amenable, in case of a dispute, to the award of an international court.

6. Listserves

I have been on this listserve for

four years; this is the first time I've used the expression "Joe Sixpack."

Believe me: If I'd had any idea that anyone found it offensive, I would have used it long before now. -- Anon.

We are a hospice and workshop for people with untreatable delusions of adequacy. - Reply email to a Nigerian con artist.

7. Culture

Wagner's music is better than it sounds. -- Mark Twain

I have been working on a book for several years now which addresses everything I think about, and one of the things I touch on is culture. - Footnote in a law student's term paper

That's a difficult question. Goethe might have answered it, but he didn't think it was worthwhile. -- Hans Zinsser, in Rats, Lice & History

Dante was a great transitional figure. With one foot planted firmly in the Middle Ages, he saluted the rising sun of the Renaissance with the other. -- From a literature student's exam as reported by John Ciardi

If saucers come from outer space, why have their pilots not attempted to make contact with us, instead of hovering mysteriously over deserted areas? My own theory is that for creatures from another solar system "hovering" may be a socially acceptable mode of relating. It may, indeed, be pleasurable. I myself once hovered over an eighteen-year-old actress for six months, and had the best time of my life. -- Woody Allen

After twelve years of therapy my psychiatrist said something that brought tears to my eyes. He said,

"No hablo
Ingles." -- Anon.

A gentleman is
never
unintentionally
rude. G.K.
Chesterton

You can only
drink 30 or 40
glasses of beer a
day, no matter
how rich you
are. -- Colonel
Adolphus Busch

Beer is proof
that God loves
us and wants us
to be happy. --
Benjamin
Franklin

Wine is the most
civilized thing in
the world. --
Ernest
Hemingway

Not only is there
no God, but try
getting a
plumber on a
weekend. -
Woody Allen

Some people get
so rich they lose
all respect for
humanity. That's
how rich I want
to be. -- Rita
Rudner

Approximately
100% of crop
circles are
man-made. -- Joe
Nickell

Who would have
thought that
there are so
many things in
the world that I

do not want? -
Socrates, while
strolling
through the
marketplace in
Athens

8. **Wisdom**

When we
neither punish
nor reproach
evildoers, we
are not simply
protecting their
trivial old age,
we are thereby
ripping the
foundations of
justice from
beneath new
generations. --
Alexander.
Solzhenitsyn

Those who are
kind to the cruel
will be cruel to
the kind. - The
Talmud

.
You can easily
judge the
character of
others by how
they treat those
who can do
nothing for
them or to
them. - Anon.

Seek simplicity
and mistrust it.
- Alfred North
Whitehead

It is better to be
wrong than to
be vague. --
Freeman Dyson.

Ignorance more
frequently
begets
confidence than
does knowledge.

- Charles Darwin, The Descent of Man

The paradox about evolution is that it has produced people who say they understand it. -- Stuart Kauffman

Martyrdom is the only way a man can become famous without ability. -- George Bernard Shaw

Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go. -- Oscar Wilde

Coincidences are spiritual puns. - G.K. Chesterton

Life isn't everything. - Neil Simon

My one regret in life is that I'm not someone else. - Woody Allen

First things first, but not necessarily in that order. -- Doctor Who

Beware the 12-division strategy for a 10-division Army. -- Gen. Eric Shinseki

There's a rule
that if you find
yourself in a
hole, stop
digging. -- Gen.
Anthony Zinni

Whose side
were we on in
the war, Daddy?
-- Dr. Peter Hall

It was not
enough to
produce
satisfactory
soap, it was also
necessary to
induce people to
wash. - Joseph
Schumpeter
(1939).

Before you
criticise
someone, you
should walk a
mile in their
shoes. That way
you'll be a mile
away from
them. And you'll
have their
shoes. - Anon.

9. **Some
Originals**
(unless someone
I never heard of
beat me to it):

His treachery
was so thick you
could stab it
with a knife

Little things
matter. But they
matter less than
big things

There are a
great many
people worse off
than me. Dead
people

Absinthe makes
the heart grow
fonder

The most
important thing
in life is - I
forgot

If someday we
build a
computer that
can understand
wave-particle
duality, I'm sure
we'll be unable
to understand
the computer.