

Unit One: The Nature of law and the Welsh and English Legal  
Systems  
Criminal Process  
Jury Trial

Arguments For and Against Jury Secrecy

Arguments in favour of secrecy are:

- It ensures freedom of discussion in the jury room;
- It protects jurors from outside influences e.g. harassment;
- If the public knew how juries reached their verdict they might respect the decision less;
- Without secrecy people might be reluctant to serve as jurors;
- It ensures the verdict is final;
- It enables jurors to bring unpopular verdicts;
- It prevents unreliable disclosures by jurors.

Arguments against secrecy and in favour of disclosure are:

- Makes juries more accountable;
- Make it easier to inquire into the reliability of convictions and rectify injustices;
- Show where reform is needed;
- Educate the public;
- Ensure each juror's freedom of expression.