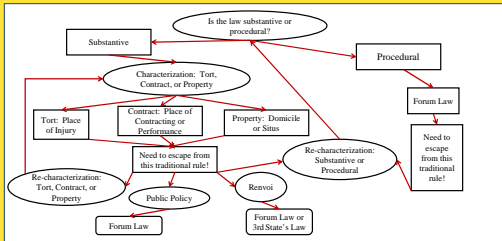


# USING VISUAL AIDS TO DEMONSTRATE LEGAL ANALYSIS

## FLOW CHARTS

EXAMPLE: Traditional Conflict of Laws Analysis

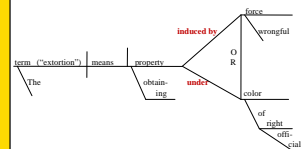


## SENTENCE DIAGRAMS

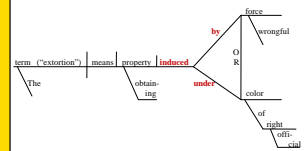
EXAMPLE: Construction of 18 U.S.C. § 1951 in *Evans v. United States*, 504 U.S. 255 (1992).

**Issue:** Whether an affirmative act of inducement by a public official is an element of the offense of extortion under the Hobbs Act

**Majority's Interpretation of the Statute:** No affirmative act of inducement is required (Justice Stevens)



**Dissent's Interpretation of the Statute:** An affirmative act of inducement is required (Justice Thomas)



## PROPOSITIONAL LOGIC

EXAMPLE: Court's reasoning in *Ala. G. S. R.R. v. Carroll*, 11 So. 803 (Ala. 1892).

Court's Opinion: "If every Alabama contract made since passage of the statute in 1885 were governed by the statute regardless of the place of injury, every contract made prior to passage of the statute would be exempt from the statute and the fellow servant rule would be a defense even for injuries in Alabama."

Court's Reasoning	Propositional Logic
<b>Proposition 1:</b> If contract made since 1885, then it is governed by the statute.	<b>Proposition 1:</b> If X, then Y.
<b>Proposition 2:</b> If contract made prior to 1885, then not governed by the statute.	<b>Proposition 2:</b> If not X, then not Y.
<b>Court's Reasoning:</b> Since we cannot accept Proposition 2, we reject Proposition 1.	<b>Conclusion:</b> Proposition 1 does not compel Proposition 2. The Court's logic is flawed.