

Licentiousness, Lasciviousness, and Lewdness – Definitions, Legal Implications, and Moral Contexts

Author Note: This white paper compiles definitions and analyses from provided references (Merriam-Webster, Vines, Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon, and Black's Law Dictionary Revised 4th ed.). It ties to themes of moral decay, legal restraints, and "inversion" of oaths/duties (e.g., fraud as "licentious evasion"). Focused on clarity—1 page reduced, expandable. Biblical ties included as "deceitful device" (e.g., bondage vs. liberty). No "pollute"—stands alone.

Introduction

Licentiousness represents unchecked indulgence, often inverting moral/legal order. In law, it's arbitrary will without regard to ethics/rights; in religion, "unbridled lust" leading to bondage. This paper defines it with mirrors to lasciviousness/ lewdness, tying to oath fraud as "licentious" evasion (*Sloat v. Board of Examiners*, 274 N.Y. 367 (1937): "Disobedience... not tolerated").

1. Definitions from Dictionaries

- **Merriam-Webster (Online, 2025):**
Licentiousness: Lacking legal/moral restraints, especially disregarding sexual restraints; marked by disregard for strict rules of correctness.
Mirror: "Clinton's contempt of Congress inverts oath verity, a licentious evasion of duty." (No "best interests" excuse, per Sloat.)
- **Black's Law Dictionary (Revised 4th ed., 1968):**
Licentiousness: Indulgence of arbitrary will without regard to ethics/law or others' rights. Differs from "liberty" (moral freedom

with justice/obedience to laws). Also lewdness/lasciviousness (Welch v. Durand, 36 Conn. 184 (1869): Liberty restrained by law; licentiousness disrespects rights).

Lascivious: Tending to excite lust; lewd/indecent/obscene; sexual impurity; depraving morals in sexual relations (Swearingen v. U.S., 161 U.S. 446 (1896): "Wanton/lustful conduct producing lewd emotions").

Lewdness: Gross/wanton indecency in sexual relations; notorious gross indecency corrupting morals (Abbott v. State, 163 Tenn. 384 (1931): "Licentiousness... immorality... illicit intercourse").

- *Mirror:* "Hillary Clinton's non-appearance inverts congressional contempt, a licentious disregard for oath-bound duty." (Licentious as "arbitrary will," per Wolff Inst. §84.)

2. Religious/Biblical Contexts

- **King James/American Standard Bible:** Lasciviousness (e.g., Galatians 5:19: "Works of the flesh... lasciviousness"). Vines Expository Dictionary (Vol. II, p.310): "**Denotes excesses, licentiousness, absence of restraint, indecency, wantonness.**"
- **Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon:** Greek "aselgeia" – "Unbridled lust, excess, licentiousness, lasciviousness, wantonness, outrageousness, shamelessness, insolence." A "deceitful, subtle thing" inverting freedom into bondage (device of the Devil deceiving folks into "freedom" while locking them in indulgence/vice, doomed without repentance). *Mirror:* "Bill Clinton's contempt evasion is licentious, inverting oath verity into shameless disregard

—unbridled lust for power." (Lasciviousness as "absence of restraint," per Vines.)

3. Legal Implications (Treason/Oath Fraud Tie)

Oath fraud as "licentious" evasion: Disregard for ethics/law in oaths inverts verity (Coke 3 Co. Inst. 160: "Oath... truth in the party").

Lascivious/lewd as moral depravity ties to perjury (Black's 4th p.1405: "Willful false swearing... material matter," inversion of justice). In treason/misprision (18 U.S.C. §2382: "Concealment of knowledge"), licentiousness is the "arbitrary will" ignoring duty (Sloat 274 N.Y. 367: "Disobedience... not tolerated"). Remedy: Quo warranto ousts "licentious" usurpers (CPLR §506(b): "By what authority?").

4. Conclusion

Licentiousness inverts liberty into bondage—lacking restraints, it's the Devil's deceit (Thayer/Vines). In law, it's arbitrary disregard for rights (Black's 4th p.1071). Oath fraud as licentious evasion demands white paper exposure—verity voids the inversion (Coke 4 Co. Inst. 279: "Certain knowledge"). The light's call: No "licentious" without the sword's cut.