What is law?

Characteristics of the law:
- Law governs human behaviour / conduct
- Law should be obeyed by ALL of society
- Law is enforced by state organs
- By ignoring the Law we may be prosecuted / punished

PUBLIC LAW
State and individual
- Municipal elections

PRIVATE LAW
Individuals with each other
- Payment of school fees
- Repair work to an object (car / window)

LAW

FORMAL / PROCEDURAL LAW
Followed in legal proceedings
- Evidence allowed in court, how court cases are decided

SUBSTATIVE / MATERIAL LAW
Contents and meaning of different legal rules

FORMAL / PROCEDURAL LAW

The law and other normative systems
- Religion
- Individual morality
  Personal ethics, being honest, not drinking too much.
- Community mores
  The norms of a whole community. Collective morals
  (Etiquette, fashion, interracial marriage)

Question about Justice
- Laws can be just or unjust

Formal Justice:
- Must be explicit rules laid down to show how people must be treated in specific cases
- Rules must apply generally. Must apply to all people in the same circumstances
- Rule must be applied impartially by a legal institution (judge may not be biased)

Substantive justice (material law):
- The content of the rule – not the way it will be applied

Formal Law is that part of the law that regulates the enforcement of substantive law