

Accompanying materials
Justifying the Salem Trials - Worksheet 2

Danforth
Prosecution
Case notes

These notes should be used to argue that Danforth was not acting in the best interests of the people of Salem. Use the following points to help make your case and remember, at that time in Salem most people believed in God, the Devil, heaven and hell.

- Witchcraft is not currently a threat to the community
- Yes, the Devil is real but there is no evidence that he is present in Salem
- There is never an excuse for sending innocent people to their deaths
- Yes, the innocent people will go to heaven but think of the grief caused to children, wives and husbands at the loss of their loved ones
- The girls are scared of Abigail and of getting into trouble for dancing – once they started lying they had to keep going or else they would be in even more trouble for making it up
- There is no evidence that witchcraft was being practised – the girls were just having some fun in the woods