

Subject: Definitions of allegation/accusation and slander

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Hi Everyone,

It has come to my attention that not everyone knows the definition of allegation/accusation or slander.

Allegation definition: a claim or assertion that someone has done something unlawful or wrong, typically one made without proof.

Accusation definition: come from the verb accuse, which means to charge someone with a crime. It is important to remember that an accusation comes about when someone thinks another wo/man has done something wrong or committed a crime. It doesn't mean, however, that the man/woman is guilty.

Slander definition: A false and defamatory oral statement about a woman or man.

Take for example:

A man (David) takes out an ad accusing Billy Bob of kicking a dog, swinging a cat by its tail. David puts that information in the newspapers. David then runs an ad on television accusing Billy Bob of kicking two dogs, hurting a cat, and shooting a bb gun at the birds. During a meeting that David and Billy Bob are attending together, David demands that Billy Bob leave the meeting. SPCA heard the story from the televised news and read the newspaper. SPCA goes to David (the accuser) to get the details, proof, and the Why, Where, How, Who etc. David the accuser needs to provide proof of his allegations against Billy Bob. Without proof against Billy Bob, it would follow that David is a false witness. If proof has been provided by David against Billy Bob, then Billy Bob needs to provide his rebuttal.

Hopefully this example is helpful.

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