**Medieval Crime and Punishment: Fact or Fiction**

*Predict whether each of the following statements about Medieval crime and punishment is true or false.*

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| During the Middle Ages… | True or False? |

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| Judges usually decided very quickly whether someone was guilty or innocent.  |  |
| Common criminals were regularly beheaded in the public square. |  |
| There was no professional police force. |  |
| Thieves were punished by having their hands cut off. |  |
| A body-stretching device called the rack was commonly used as a punishment. |  |
| Banishment was a common punishment. |  |
| Criminals could avoid punishment by seeking sanctuary in a church. |  |
| Many women were accused of being witches and were burned at the stake. |  |

*Then read Medieval Torture’s 10 Biggest Myths* [*https://www.livescience.com/11338-medieval-torture-10-biggest-myths.html*](https://www.livescience.com/11338-medieval-torture-10-biggest-myths.html) *to see which of the statements are fact and which are fiction. If a statement is not accurate, revise it to make it true.*