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mis·fea·sance  (mĭs-fē zəns)

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n.

Improper and unlawful execution of an act that in itself is lawful and proper.

[Anglo-Norman *mesfesaunce*, from *mesfere*, to do wrong : *mes-*, wrongly (from Old French; see [MIS](#)¹) + *fere*, to do (from Latin *facere*; see [dhē-](#) [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

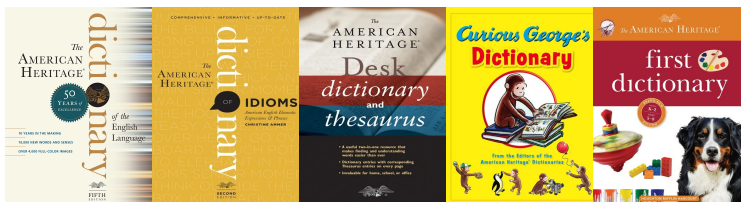
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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