

## Corruption in Shawshank

### Corruption:

*Wrongdoing on the part of an authority or powerful party through means that are illegitimate, immoral, or incompatible with ethical standards. Corruption often results from patronage and is associated with bribery.*

1. Who is the authority in Shawshank Prison?
2. Compile a list of the corrupt acts this authority commits in Shawshank
3. What is the proper role of this authority? What should this authority be doing in the prison?
4. When does this authority resort to using bribery?
5. How does Andy assist the authority in committing corrupt acts?
6. Why is the setting of the prison itself the perfect setting for corruption to take place?



### The Symbolism of the Pie

Red (to Andy), *'He's [the warden] got his fingers in a lot of pies, from what I hear.'*

Andy replies by explaining how he's helping the Warden with his money making schemes saying, *'I had to come to prison to be a crook.'*

A contractor approaches the Warden to complain that his Inside Outside scheme is putting him out of work, and then he offers the Warden a bribe hidden underneath a pie: *'You have some of this fine pie my missus baked for you.'* The warden smiles in acceptance of the bribe.

7. The pie is a reference to the idiom 'A finger in every pie'. What does this expression mean and how does this relate to the Warden's activities in the prison?