



# The Spanish Inquisition

# What was the Inquisition?

- It's sole purpose was to extract confessions from heretics.
- It began in the late 1400's and ended in the mid 1600's.
- To extract confessions, torture was used in many cases.

# Ferdinand and Isabella

- King and Queen of Spain during the Spanish Inquisition.



# The Targets

- Muslims, Jews, and any other non-Christians.



# Tomas Torquemada

- Grand Inquisitor
- Tried 100,000 people as heretics.
- Ejected all unbaptized Jews from Spain.



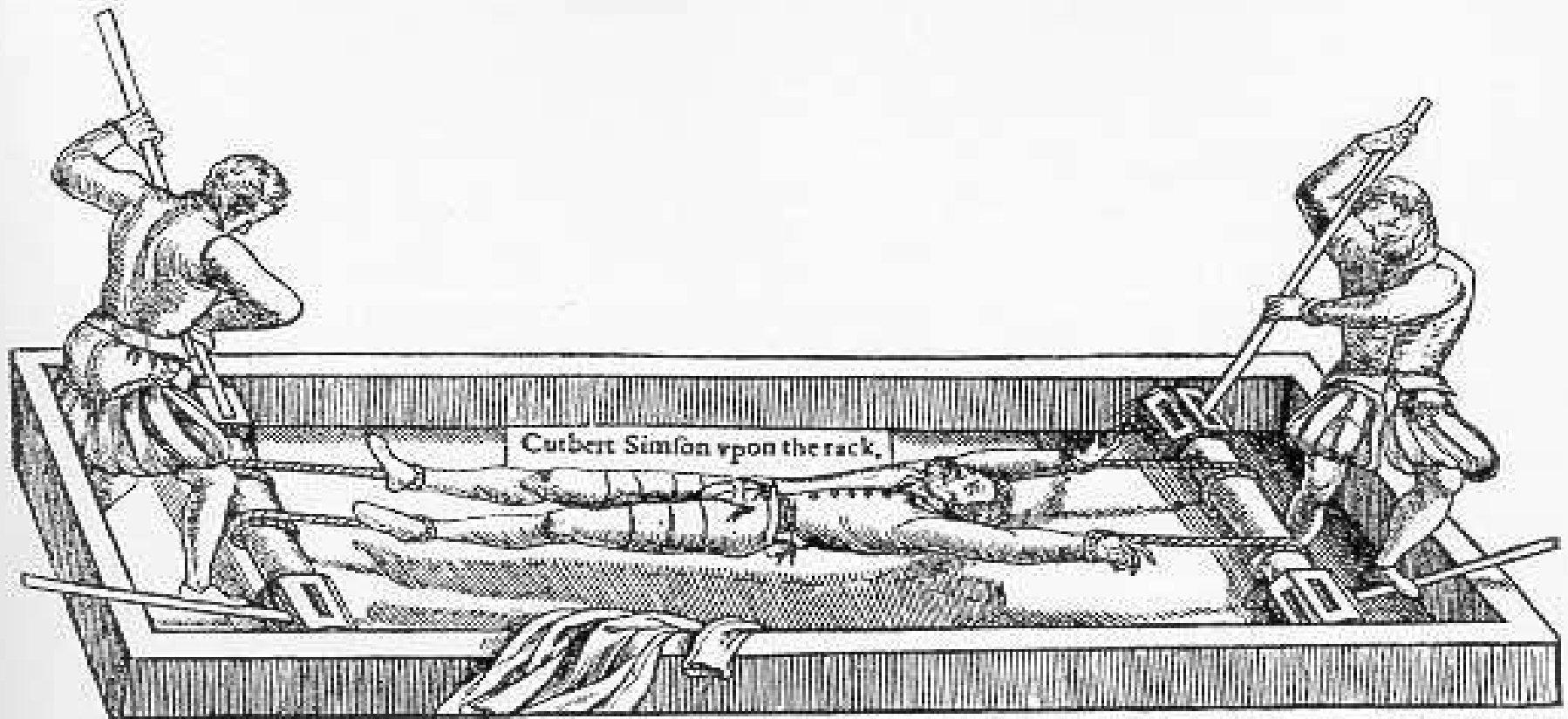


# The Trial



# If the subject wouldn't confess...

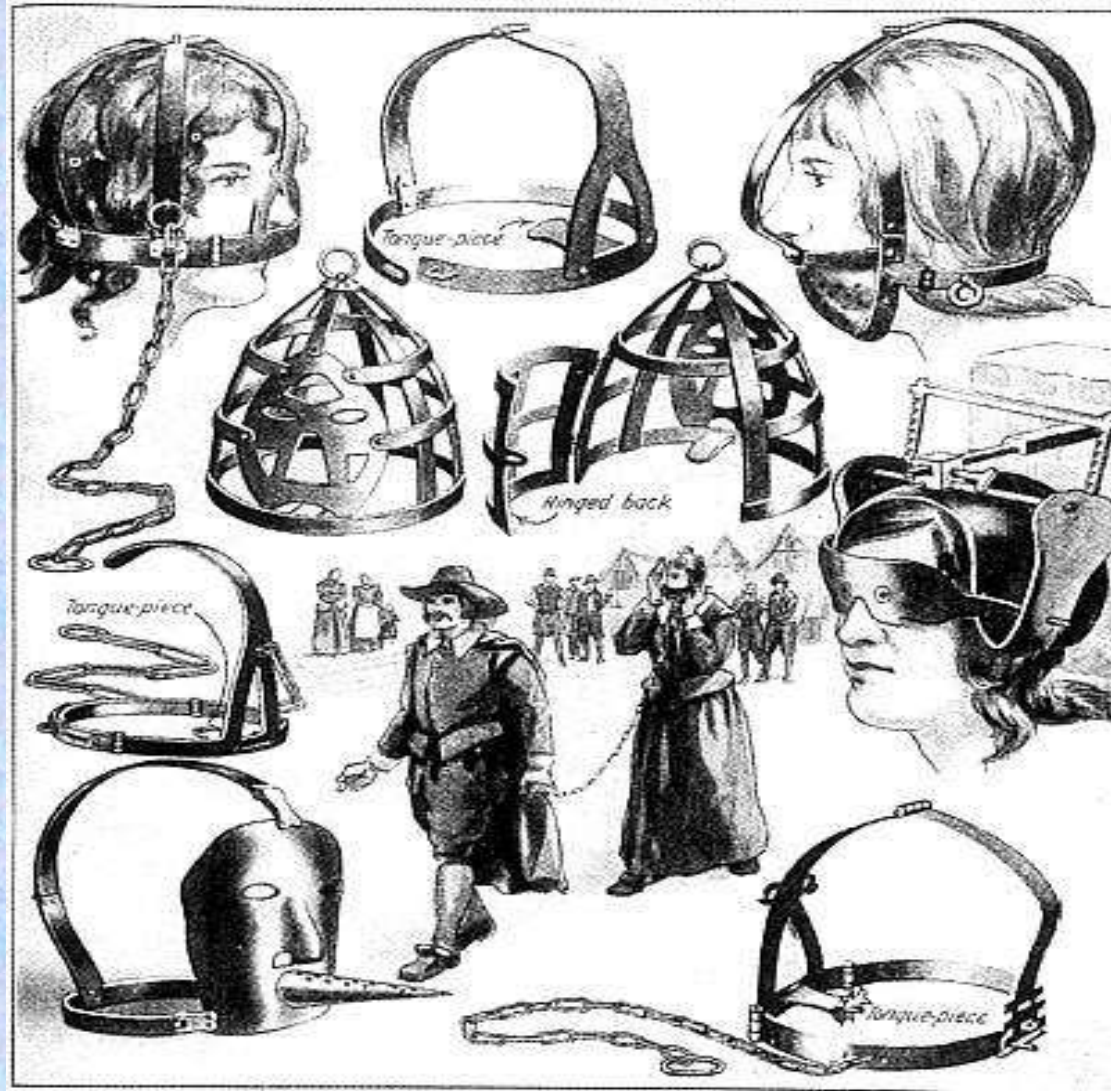
- Perhaps a little taste of the rack will change his/her mind.





# A Brank for the Lovely Lady

- Take a brank—medieval torture device which would prohibit one from speaking.

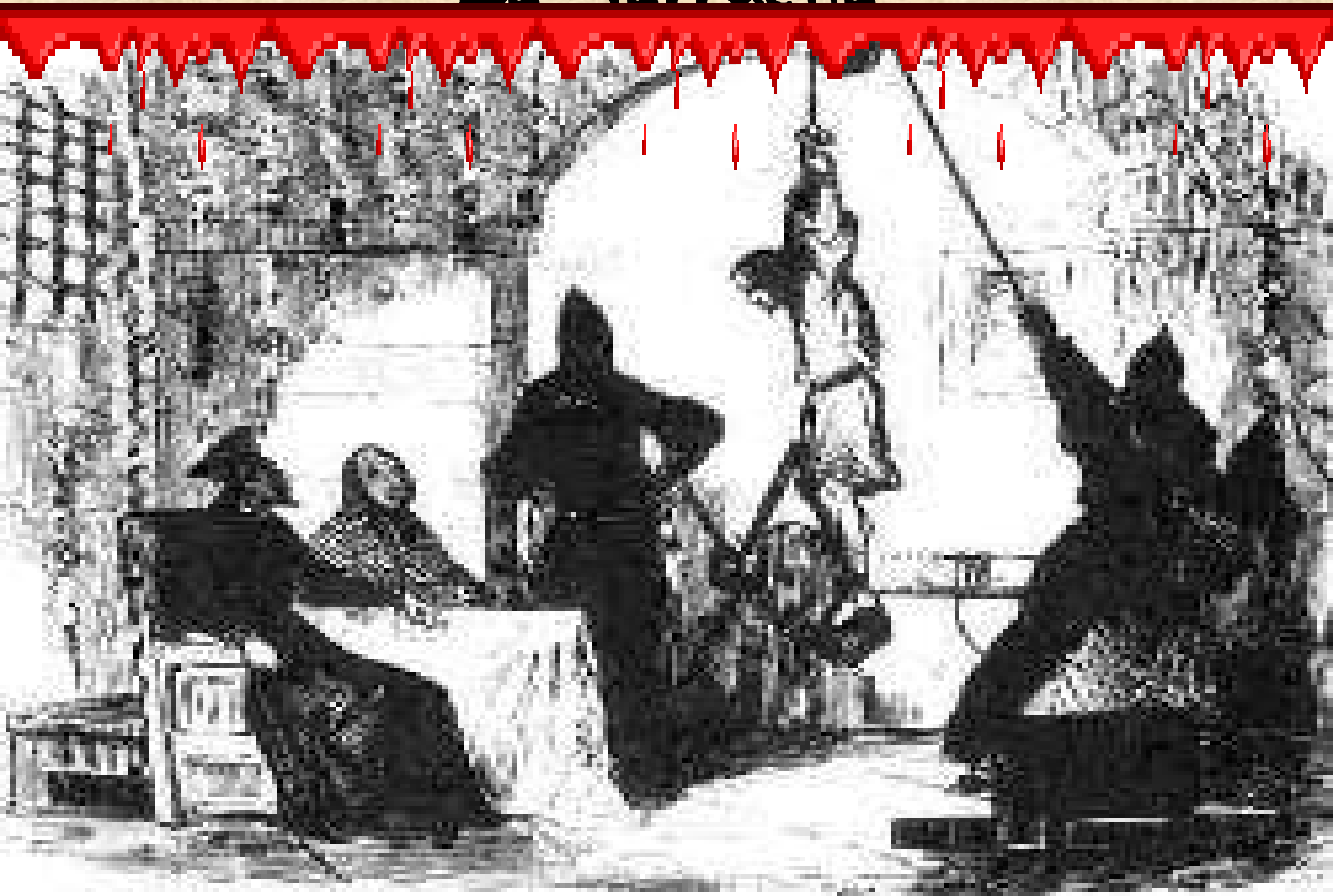




# Water Torture (Tortura del' Agua)



# Lia Garrucha



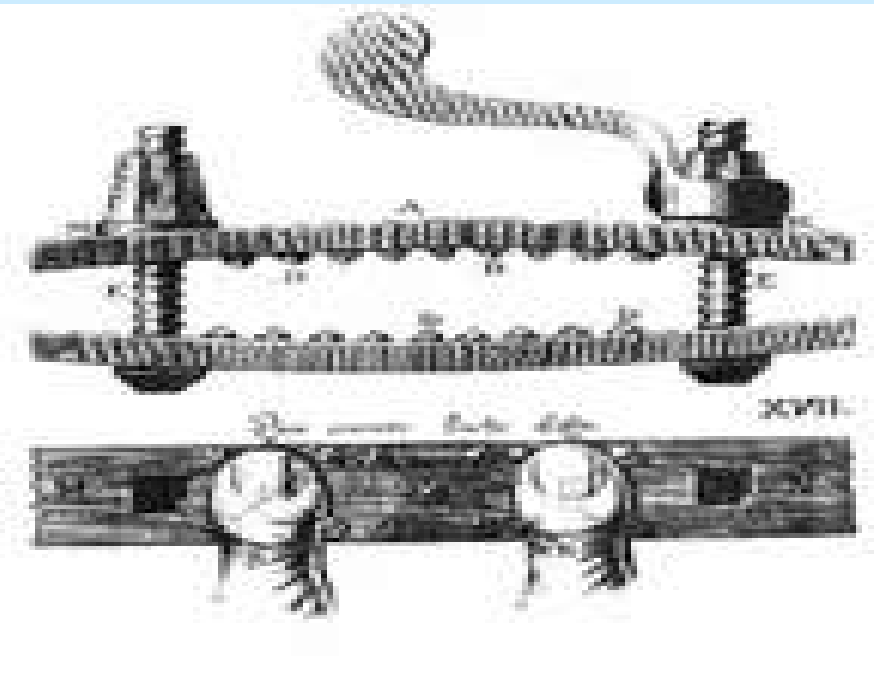
# Drop the big boot!

- During this torture, the victim's legs would be entrapped inside short planks of wood with wedges attached on the inside. With each question asked by the inquisitor that was not answered, the planks would be struck with a hammer, driving the planks farther into the leg of the victim.





# Assorted Torture Devices











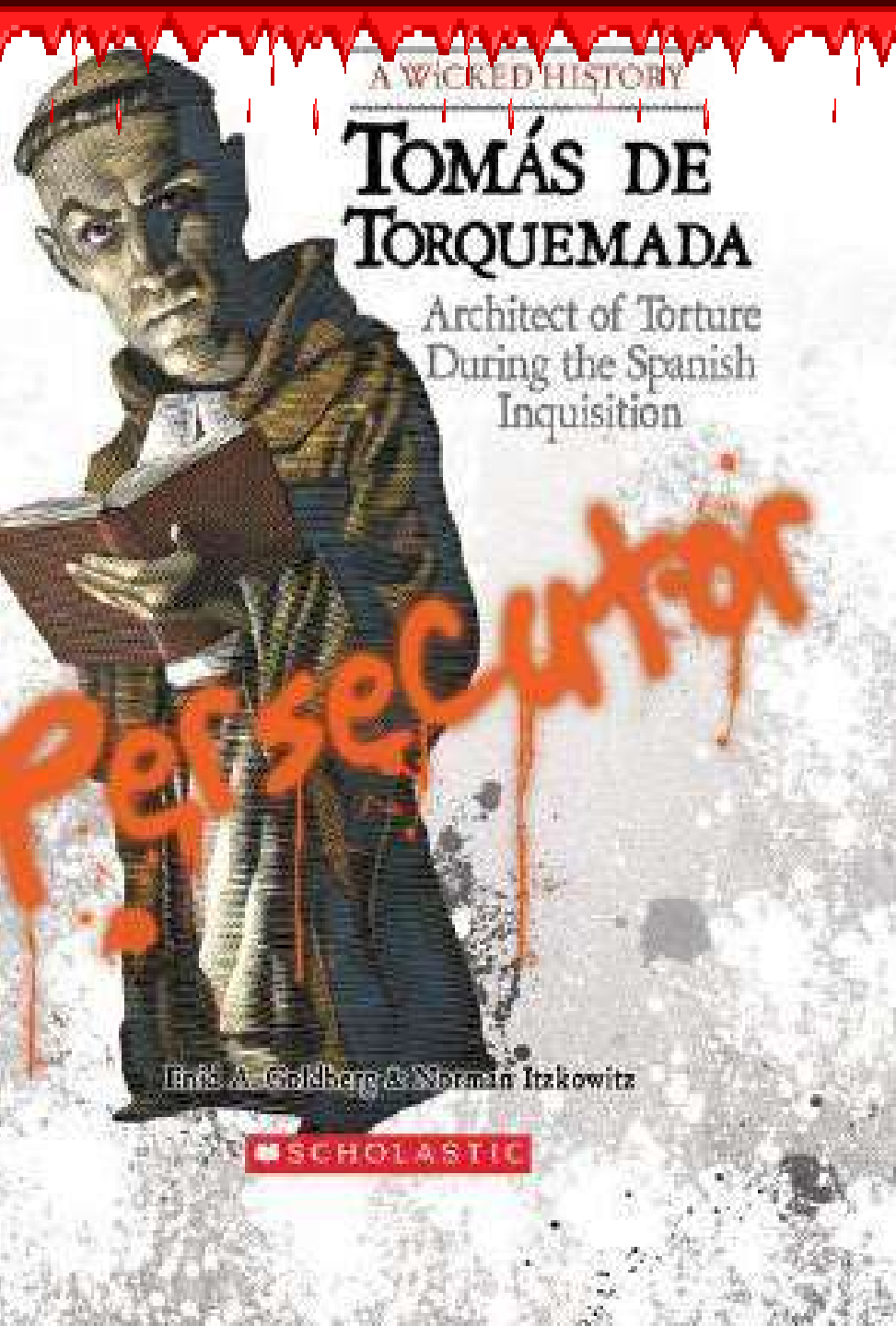






*Crabbies of the Inquisitors.*





# Methods of Execution

- Impalement



- Burning at the stake



# Effects?

- Many Muslims (perhaps as many as 3 million) and Jews fled Spain.
- 3,000-5,000 men and women were killed.
- The Church never endorsed the Inquisition.
- Many historical misconceptions exist, thus we must distinguish fact from fiction.



Thank you for your kind attention



# Task:

- In groups of 2-4, create a short play or skit depicting some elements of the Spanish Inquisition.
- Suggestions:
  - Inquisition Trial
  - A conversation with Thomas Torquemada
  - Interrogation of Suspected Heretic