Reasonable Care

and

The Reasonable Person

Adams v. Bullock

and

Braun v. Buffalo Gen. El. Co.

#### For next this class...

Come prepared to:

- argue for the opposite holding in Adams and Braun
- with foreseeability as the reasoning behind the holding

#### The Reasonable Person Standard

An objective standard\* designed to clarify what reasonable care requires

<sup>\*</sup> with some exceptions

## Justifications for an objective standard

- 1. Administrative feasibility
- 2. Consistency & enforcement of community norms
- 3. Equality & fairness

### Exceptions to objective standard

- 1. Physical disability
- 2. Children
- 3. Expertise

### Not exceptions to objective standard

- 1. Mental disability
- 2. Children engaged in adult activity
- 3. Old age & infirmity

# Bethel v. New York City Transit Authority

The standard of the highest degree of care

versus

the standard of reasonable care

## Readings

Sex and Gender: The Reasonable Woman?

The Right to Live in the World: The Disabled in the Law of Torts