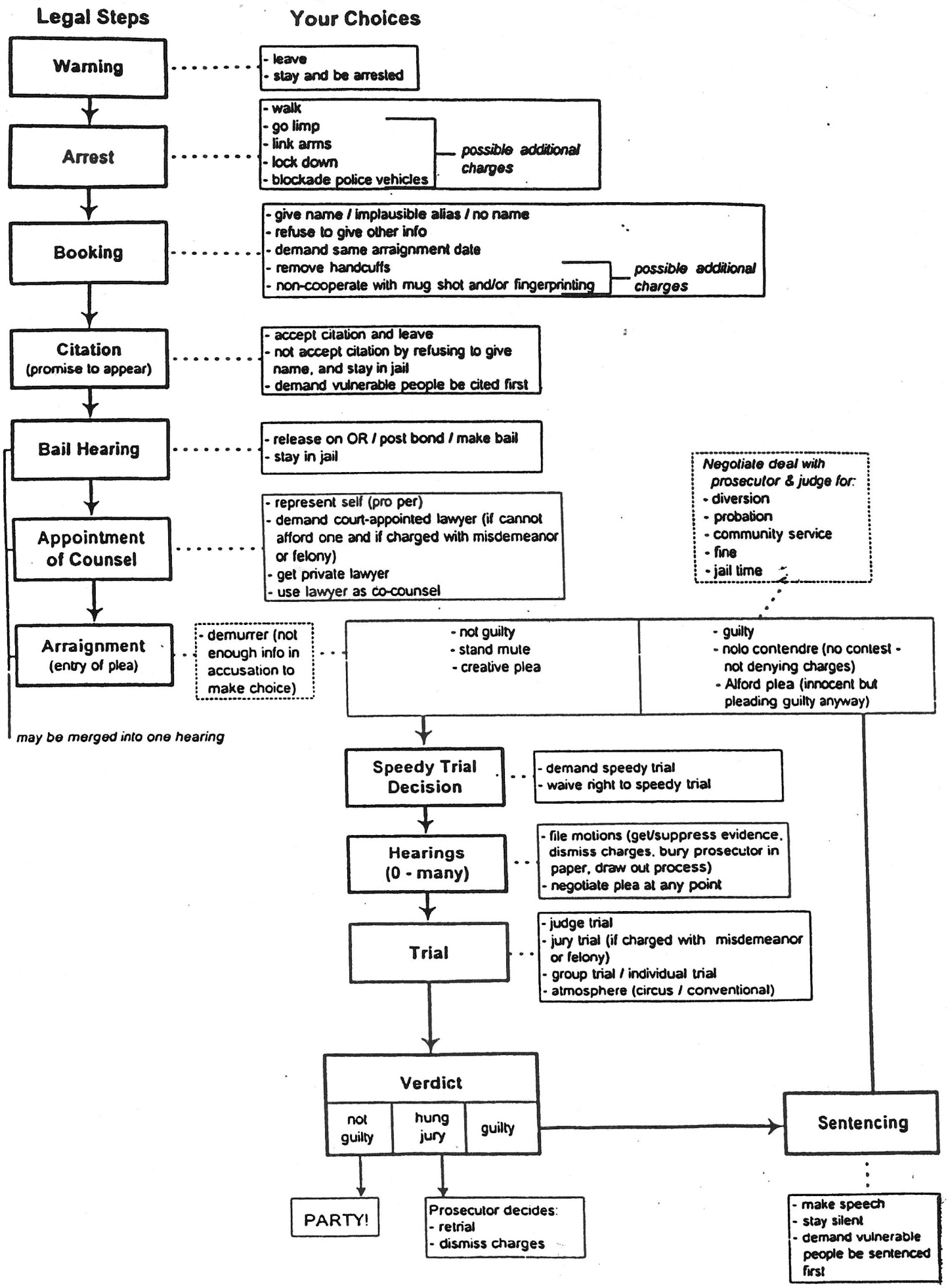
Legal Steps
Your Choices
Warning
- leave
- stay and be arrested
Arrest
- walk
- go limp
- link arms
- lock down
- blockade police vehicles
possible additional charges
Booking
- give name / implausible alias / no name
- refuse to give other info
- demand same arraignment date
- remove handcuffs
- non-cooperate with mug shot and/or fingerprinting
possible additional charges
Citation
(promise to appear)
- accept citation and leave
- not accept citation by refusing to give name, and stay in jail
- demand vulnerable people be cited first
Bail Hearing
- release on OR / post bond / make bail
- stay in jail
Appointment of Counsel
- represent self (pro per)
- demand court-appointed lawyer (if cannot afford one and if charged with misdemeanor or felony)
- get private lawyer
- use lawyer as co-counsel
Arraignment
(entry of plea)
- demurrer (not enough info in accusation to make choice)
- not guilty
- stand mute
- creative plea
- guilty
- nolo contendre (no contest - not denying charges)
- Alford plea (innocent but pleading guilty anyway)
Negotiate deal with prosecutor & judge for:
- diversion
- probation
- community service
- fine
- jail time
may be merged into one hearing
Speedy Trial Decision
- demand speedy trial
- waive right to speedy trial
Hearings
(0 - many)
- file motions (get/suppress evidence, dismiss charges, bury prosecutor in paper, draw out process)
- negotiate plea at any point
Trial
- judge trial
- jury trial (if charged with misdemeanor or felony)
- group trial / individual trial
- atmosphere (circus / conventional)
Verdict
not guilty
hung jury
guilty
Sentencing
PARTY!
Prosecutor decides:
- retrial
- dismiss charges
- make speech
- stay silent
- demand vulnerable people be sentenced first