

Definition taken from Wikipedia.

In [criminal law](#), the doctrine of **common purpose**, **common design** or **joint enterprise** refers to the situation where two or more people embark on a project with a common purpose that results in the commission of a crime. In this situation the participants are jointly liable for all that results from the acts and [omissions](#) occurring within the scope of their agreement. For example, the High Court of Australia in *McAuliffe v The Queen* 69 ALJR 621, states at 624 that "...each of the parties to an arrangement or understanding is guilty of any crime falling within the scope of the common purpose which is committed in carrying out that purpose" and concluded at page 627:

...it is sufficient to found a conviction for [murder](#) for a secondary party to have realised that in the course of the joint enterprise the primary party might kill with intent to do so or with intent to cause [grievous bodily harm](#)