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**REVIEWED**

By Chris Tighe at 11:00 am, Oct 04, 2017

## 'damage, v.

**Forms:** see the n.

**Frequency (in current use):**

**Etymology:** < Old French *damagier*, *-er*, *domager*, < *damage*: see DAMAGE *n.*

**1. trans.** To do or cause damage to; to hurt, harm, injure; now commonly to injure (a thing) so as to lessen or destroy its value.

a1400 [implied in: *Childh. Jesus* 1344 (Mätz.) Of þe lioness he made a semblingue bifore heom withoute damagingue. (at DAMAGING *n.*)].

1477 EARL RIVERS tr. *Dictes or Sayengis Philosophres* (Caxton) (1877) lf. 53<sup>v</sup> A king in his kyngdome may be dommaged and hurte, and specially be fyue thinges.

1548 *Hall's Vnion: Henry V* f. lvi The Englishmen studied all the waies possible to damage their enemies, some shot arrowes, some cast stones.

1597 SHAKESPEARE *Richard III* IV. ii. 61 To stop all hopes whose growth may damage me.

a1674 *Clarendon's Hist. Rebellion* III. 459 (R.) He..gave him a broadside, with which he..damaged the ship.

1794 LD. NELSON in *Dispatches & Lett.* (1844) I. 492 Not any notice having been taken..of my eye being damaged.

a1859 MACAULAY *Hist. Eng.* (1861) V. 130 He missed no opportunity of thwarting and damaging the Government.

1892 *Laws Times' Rep.* LXVII. 251/1 The *Merchant Prince*..ran into and damaged the *Catalonia*.

**2. intr.** To suffer damage or injury. *rare*.

1821 J. CLARE *Village Minstrel* I. 37 Her Sunday clothes might damage with the dew.

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