

## Hoick

### Merriam-Webster Definition

: to move or pull abruptly : yank

### At play

She **hoicked** up the sign from her lawn. “This woman’s a whore.” A more direct approach than yesterday’s “Here lives a fornicator.” Mark had started with posting bible verses. She had requested a protective order from the court but the judge had been unimpressed with “The sexually immoral will not inherit the kingdom of God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.” The letters had been crammed together at the bottom, the last few words resembling “king of Goop.” The citation was smudged and illegible. But she knew what it was. Maybe now, with these new ones, she’d get some relief if she could catch him in the act. She remembered loving Mark. Even so, the day she married him and felt his large hand engulfing hers, she knew it was a mistake. She didn’t want to be unfaithful, and never was with her body. But she had been drawn Stephen’s quiet dignity and thoughtful manner. His grace. She knew her eyes, those traitors, softened when she looked at him. And Mark, ever watchful, had noticed.