REPORTER'S RECORD VOLUME 9 OF 53 VOLUMES

TRIAL COURT CAUSE NO. 380-80047-01

DISTRICT CLERK'S COPY

JURY VOIR DIRE

COPY



On the 27th day of August, 2001, the following proceedings came on to be heard in the above-entitled and -numbered cause before the Honorable Charles F. Sandoval, Judge Presiding, held in McKinney, Collin County, Texas:

Proceedings reported by Computerized Machine Shorthand.

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(Venireperson Littlejohn present.) THE COURT: Are you Juror 17? VENIREPERSON: Yes.

THE COURT: I will just remind you, on Tuesday last week when you folks finished, I administered the oath. I want to remind you that you are still under the oath to answer all the questions truthfully.

VENIREPERSON: All right.
THE COURT: Okay. Sir, please be seated.
All right. Are you ready for the State?
MR. SCHULTZ: Yes, sir.
VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

BY MR. SCHULTZ:

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Q. Good morning, sir.

Good morning.

Q. My name is Bill Schultz, and I am an assistant district attorney representing the State of Texas in this capital prosecution of Ivan Cantu. To my left is Ms. Gail Falco, a chief felony prosecutor from another felony district court, along with this prosecution. And to her left is Ms. Jami Lowry, who is a felony prosecutor assigned here in Judge Sandoval's court.

At the defense table is the defendant in the case, Ivan Cantu. Missing at the moment, but

a week ago now, with you as a group, when you heard from Judge Sandoval that it was going to be a capital murder that you were going to be considered for, what was your response? What was your feeling?

A. I was a little concerned because of the death penalty issue with capital murder and my beliefs on that.

Q. Okay. And I appreciate -- I remember when I gave that invitation to everybody, there was something in your background or circumstances that would make you less than fair to one side or the other. It is always interesting because a few people--I say a few--maybe as many as three came to us and said that, yeah, and what I have been thinking with that question was such things as I -- I had a son that was on death row or is on death row or perhaps my -- my daughter and son were murdered by someone who got the death penalty. I was thinking in those terms.

But a few people came up and said, yeah, there is something. And that's my conscientious objection to the death penalty that would prevent the State from getting a fair trial, if what the State is wishing is somebody that could give fair consideration to the death sentence. And I want to talk a little bit with you for a moment, and I want to focus on that

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perhaps going to arrive while you are here, is Don High, one of the fine attorneys that's in private practice in Plano, Texas. And then the gentleman to your far right at the defense table is Matt Goeller. And he's also a fine board certified criminal specialist engaged in the practice of law in Plano, Texas.

And my recollection is that you don't know any of us; is that correct?

A. That's correct.

Q. Okay. And you can probably help me a little bit by telling me: Have you ever served on a jury before?

A. No. sir.

Q. Have you ever been called to a jury but not been selected?

A. Yes.

Q. On how many occasions, do you figure?

A Once

Q. Okay. Was that here in McKinney?

A. No. It was in Dallas.

Q. Okay. And how far did you get? Were you just assigned any case, and they said, "Go on home now or --

A. I was sent to an off-site court, and they settled right before we went actually in.

Q. When we were talking last week, I guess almost

09:01 1 particular aspect of this case.

I suspect that probably many jurors would not agree with all kinds of things that we have in our law. I mean, I would suspect, for example, if we were to bring jurors in on a marijuana case that a great number of them might have opinions that the punishment range was perhaps too low for marijuana possession, or others might think it was too high, or some might think that it should be dealt with maybe not as a criminal matter but rather somehow administratively, almost like a mental health issue of some kind.

And, yet, it would seem that that would not be something about which they would be so passionate that they couldn't follow whatever the law was. I mean, if you are a juror and you think the punishment is too harsh, you could still probably do that. I mean, even if you don't think six months in jail should be a punishment, most jurors could still do that, because it's not so extreme and so final that it would compromise their core principles. Does that make sense to you?

A. Yes.

Q. I mean, there are situations in which we ask of jurors all the time to follow some law that perhaps they don't like. I will give you an example. Everybody in

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the world knows what parole is. It's the concept of prisoners being released for less time than they are sentenced, either upon good behavior or upon overcrowding or whatever the issue might be. Everybody knows about that, and I'm sure you do, too.

A. Yes.

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- Q. Notwithstanding the fact that everybody knows about it, jurors receive a standard instruction from the trial court not to consider how parole would work in the case of the defendant they are sentencing because that invites speculation. Okay?
 - A. Okay.
- Q. Most jurors can follow that instruction even though they think it's dumb. To a juror, their issue seems to be: How long do we want this guy locked up? Not how much of a paper sentence do we want to give the individual? But how long do we actually want him locked up? But it would seem, most people are logical, they ought to be able to factor in parole and boost the sentence. If it's going to be a quarter of the time, they ought to be able to quadruple the sentence to get what they want. Does that make sense to you?
 - A. Yes.
- But the law says they can't. Most people would be just fine with that. Now, where it gets very

that wasn't a problem. And I can't tell you about this case specifically, but there must be some cases where there would never be a doubt in the mind about the guilt of the accused.

Do you remember -- do you remember when the attempted assassination of President Reagan was on national TV? You seem like you would have been old enough to maybe remember seeing film clips.

- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. I don't guess there's any way that anybody could have ever sat on that jury and not known who actually did the shooting. Do you know?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. They captured the guy with the gun. They matched the ballistics to the gun. And for all I know he probably confessed to it, also. And so that's not an issue sometimes in cases. What if you were convinced that the person is guilty beyond all doubt? So you don't have to worry about five years later after he's executed. Are you okay with it then?
- No. I still don't because I don't know that I could ever be 100 percent convinced. Especially given what we've seen in the -- this year, earlier in this year with people that have been put in jail and find out through DNA testing and other technology that they

difficult is on something like the death penalty, because that's bound to do something more than logic and common sense, like maybe the parole issue would be, or some evidentiary rule. Without even asking you, I have a sense that your commitment to the opposition of the death penalty is founded at least within your own personal morality, if not your religion.

I mean, it's at least that strong because when somebody says, I can never under any circumstances return a verdict which assesses the death penalty, it would seem to me that that's not just somebody that thinks the death penalty is a waste of money or a waste of lawyer time or, rather, it's something deeper than that. That's my assumption. Tell me why it is that you find yourself in that situation.

- A. The reason I find myself that way is because we're all human, and we all make mistakes. And the death penalty in my mind is very final, and there is no room for that mistake. And the fact that, you know, if I put somebody in that position and then find out four or five years later that maybe they didn't commit that crime, you know, I'd have a problem personally with that.
- Q. Okay. Well, let's assume that you were convinced that he committed the crime. So that's not --

really didn't commit that crime. I think in the back of my mind there will always be a doubt.

- Q. Okay. Well, would you be -- suppose it weren't a death case. Suppose it were like a regular murder case. When I say regular murder, that's one that has a punishment range from 5 years to 99 years or life.
 - A. Okay.
 - Would you be able to do that kind of case?
 - Yes, I believe I would.
- Q. Okay. Well, tell me what the difference is in your mind then.
- A. The difference in my mind is that the person is not dead. They may be in jail. But 30 years from now. something could come up with technology; and if there was a wrong committed either way, it could be righted.
- Q. And even though they might have lost 30 years of their life, they would still have some of it left. And at least during that 30 years they would have had some kind of human existence?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. That makes -- all what you are saying makes sense to me. Okay. Is that -- there's some other people. There's some other ways that people express their opposition to the death penalty. I think I've mentioned one there. There are those who express

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A. Okay.

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Q. And they take the position that there doesn't seem to be an exception in the scripture that allows us to kill under certain circumstances, whether that's self-defense or time of war or for executions. And that's how come, for example, we have conscientious objectors to military service if they are genuine in their expressions. And that's because they take that portion of "thou shalt not kill" to mean, thou shalt not kill no matter what the circumstances.

And I'm not inquiring into your religious background, but I want to make sure that I fully understand the nature of your opposition. Is that a consideration for you?

- A. Yes, it is.
- Q. And is it -- is it from an organized religion or almost like a personal individual view of scripture because a lot of -- a lot of faiths don't have a -- there is Mr. Don High here who just came in.

A lot of religions don't have any stated opposition to the death penalty, and some do. I mean, the Society of Friends, for example, does. The Roman

saying?

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A. Yes.

Q. Same thing when you -- coming to traditionally disadvantaged ethnic or racial groups, which could be called minorities. And yet, I suppose, at least combined in Texas they probably actually are a majority of members in our society now. But you will find a higher percentage of Hispanics on death row perhaps than in our general population. And you'll find a higher percentage of black people on death row that are representative in our population.

And some people have the concern that what if the reason for that higher density on death row is because of the bias or prejudice or the lack of your understanding on the part of the juries that don't understand minority people the same way they might understand people of their own color. Do you know what I am saying?

A. Yes.

- Q. Does that cause you any concern, or does that have anything to do with your opposition to the death penalty?
- A. No, it does not. I've never paid that close of attention to it, honestly.
 - Q. And I can tell that you are the kind of man

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Catholic Church apparently does. It's a little bit fuzzy, but apparently they are opposed to it. And there are some other faiths that also take that position. Is yours more of an organized religious kind of a thing or more of a personal religious opposition?

- A. I think it's a little bit of both, actually.
- Q. Okay. Another thing that concerns people about the death penalty that creates some opposition is a fear or a concern that perhaps the death penalty is not applied evenhandedly across all segments of our society.

It is the notion that, if you go do a study of people on death row, that you'll find certain things statistically doesn't. You know how statistics are. I mean, they may be something that you don't understand. I mean, if you read statistics about people's health, you might think it's because they do one thing but maybe because they do another and that they don't know about it.

But here's what you find: You'll find an incredibly high percentage of males on death row. Maybe like, you know, 99 point something percent of people on death row are males. Now, you could look at those statistics and people could say, well, our Texas death penalty scheme, either on purpose or accidentally, discriminates against males. Do you follow what I'm

that whatever other cases might be involved, you are not the kind of person who would involve that in deciding an important issue like this; is that correct?

- A. That's correct.
- Q. And then, kind of related to "thou shalt not kill" in a way but a little bit different is the notion that it's kind of hypocritical that if we're saying to potentially cause the death of another person is such an outrageous crime that we're willing to take somebody else's life to do it in a certain way. How much better are we as a society collectively if we're doing the same thing?

It's almost like an inconsistency of ours is just a different kind of murder kind of thing. That doesn't have to be founded in religion. That can just be founded in the logic of how we go about our business. Is there anything in that that seems to strike any cord with you?

- A. It does to a degree, yes. I mean, raising children, you know, I tell them not to do this, not to do that. And then I turn around and sit on a jury and put a gentleman to death. I mean, it kind of goes hypocritical to what I'm trying to raise my children to believe.
 - Q. Okay, I understand. You and I are

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communicating fine. In many cases it's probably proper to say, all I'm doing is my job. And if the law allows me to do my job, there's nothing wrong with it. I was thinking of the guy that's the mortgage banker. And somebody buys a home and has a mortgage and gets behind on their payments. And finally, in order to get his money, he has no business choice but to foreclose on the mortgage, and he doesn't like doing it. And he knows that there are probably going to be children crying and moving vans and where are they going to live?

If you think about that for a second, the upheaval of that could be enormous from getting kicked out of your house. And yet most people can do that, and they can probably sleep at night and say, well, the law allows it in the contract. And they didn't fulfill the terms of the contract. And I'm sorry for them, but I'm just following the law, and I've been honorable with them in all regards.

But when you get to the death penalty, most people say, you know, you've got to draw the line at that kind of stuff. And if you really believe that it's wrong, you've got to stand up for it. That means stand up in any place you can stand up. When you go vote in the ballot box, you stand up with it with candidates. You stand up with it when you are on a

jury. And so it's kind of like, on that issue, on the issue of putting people to death, just following orders may not be enough. Does that make sense to you?

A. Yes.

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Q. I always think of Nazi Germany. I don't want to imply that we're anything like Nazi Germany. But most of those people who were killed there, didn't seem to have done anything wrong other than be born. They didn't get trials. They didn't worry about that sort of thing. So, I don't think we're anything like Germany the way we do the death penalty in Texas. But still, if you serve on this jury, you will be a part of that process. And I could tell you until I'm blue in the face that you really don't answer -- you really don't decide death or life directly. Instead, you answer questions, but you know that answering questions is going to have one effect or the other. How you answer those questions will result either in life or death on the other.

It's kind of like the trainman in Germany. I mean, yeah, they didn't pull the lever, they didn't produce the gas at the end of the train line, but they knew what was going on down there. And they were part of the process, and so they can't very well say, all I was was a trainman. They were part of it.

A. Okav.

Q. So, I don't get a sense that it would on a matter of this magnitude -- I don't get a sense from you that it would do me any good to say: You are just the umpire calling balls and strikes. You shouldn't worry about the final score.

A. That's correct.

Q. And I'm not -- I'm not in any way denigrating this. I hope when I talked directly back last Tuesday, I hope you understood what we proposed to do. That I wasn't trying to be amusing or entertaining or I didn't think this was a delightful thing that we're all about here. But I wanted everybody to realize this is the real thing where 12 people will be called upon to be able to do one or the other if the person is found guilty of capital murder. Okay?

A. Okay.

Q. And I think you are telling me that you are not able to do one or the other. You could do one but not both?

A. That's correct.

Q. Okay. Now, sometimes things that we'd rather not do or don't make sense to us, the Judge can instruct us to do some things, and we do it, and it's okay. As a lawyer we have hearings all the time, and maybe

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afterward the Judge will tell me or the prosecution, don't do certain things. Don't introduce this or that kind of evidence. Don't mention this or that event. Don't even refer to this or that document or something like that.

Even if I disagree with the Judge, I think he's mistaken about his ruling, I can still follow those instructions. And you know I've gone through bunches of trials in my life and never breached those directions by the trial judge. All right?

A. Okay.

Q. Same thing can happen to a jury. You can be instructed by the Judge at some point: Don't consider a certain amount of a particular kind of evidence. He would never tell you, forget you heard that evidence, because that's humanly impossible. What he would say is, don't consider this or that, like parole. He couldn't say, put parole out of your mind because it's in your mind. You can't do that. But he could say, don't put that on the scales of justice as you are trying to weigh what's to be done.

A. Okay.

Q. And that works okay with a lot of things. That works okay with failure to testify. You might think that a defendant ought to have to testify in his own

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trial. But if the Judge says he doesn't have to on the scales of justice. Yeah, you are sitting there and you know he can testify because you are sitting there watching him, and he wasn't up there. But that's not something you are going to have trouble with not putting on the scales of justice.

Why would the death penalty be different? If the Judge were to instruct you not to answer those special issues in accordance with achieving a particular result, but rather to only consider the evidence and let the chips fall where they might, why would that be different than not considering parole to you, for example?

- A. I'm not sure I'm clear on what you are --
- Q. Well, let me spin this around a little bit. Can you read that okay from your angle?
 - A. Yes.

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> Q. Okay. That's the first special issue that we get. Whether there's a probability that -- that the defendant would constitute a continuing threat to society by a propensity toward acts of violence. Now, if you just looked at that question, apart from this trial, and I were to ask you: Do you think there are some people that are a continuing threat to society because of their violence? The answer is, of course,

A. Yes.

- So do all of us. But do you think that your opposition to the death penalty would, if it wouldn't prevent you from being able to return a death sentence. would it substantially interfere with your ability to look at these questions and judge them fairly?
- A. I think it would cloud my judgment a little bit, yes.
- Q. Well, do you think it would substantially impair your judgment?
 - A. Yes, I do.
- Now, it used to be that would probably be the end of our discussion because there were other special issues, but it was an automatic-type process. If you answered them yes, then the death sentence resulted. If you answered one or more or them no, a life sentence resulted. The issue is a little different now because we have this question here. Take a moment, if you would, to read that for me.
 - A. Okay.
 - Let me know when you are finished.
 - A. Okay.
- That question, first of all, doesn't have a burden of proof. We don't have to prove a lack of mitigation. The defense doesn't have to prove the

there are. We all know that.

- A. Yes.
- Q. I mean, there are people that are as dangerous as any tiger in a cage, if given that opportunity. That's maybe how they got that way. Maybe we don't know. But there are such people; do you agree?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. So, except for the fact of a death penalty being related to that question, you'd be able to answer that question the same way as anybody else, right?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Now, if you are told that answering that question yes may result in a death sentence being assessed against the defendant, in answering that question *no* would automatically give that defendant a life sentence. Because of your personal beliefs about the death penalty, are you free to do that? Are you free to give a completely fair answer to that question knowing that that answer might be a death sentence?
- A. I don't know that I would. I think I would in the back of my mind, still knowing that it was a life or death issue, I think I would move the other direction and not answer yes to that question.
- Q. Okay. We never know what we do until we get faced with that, I know.

24 existence of mitigation. You will never get a definition of sufficient, whatever that means. Clearly what that question doesn't contemplate is that the mitigating evidence be opposition to the death penalty because it doesn't direct you to take into consideration your feelings about the death sentence. It rather directs you to take into consideration all the evidence including the circumstances of the evidence, the defendant's character and background and the personal moral culpability of the defendant. And consider all of that and anything else that's in the evidence. Then it says: Is there sufficient mitigating circumstance or circumstances to warrant that a sentence of life imprisonment rather than a death sentence be imposed?

Now, from talking with you, I get the impression, and it's not critical, we're just communicating like a couple guys talking.

- A. Sure.
- Q. I get the impression that in a sense your view of the death penalty would be the mitigating circumstance, apart from anything else. Is that a fair statement?
 - A. Yes, it is.
- Q. Okay. And if that's the case, I guess I'm thinking, no matter how well we present this case, no

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matter how clearly we establish the defendant's guilt, no matter how clearly we establish his danger and a propensity toward violent acts, no matter how strongly we resist the notion that something in his background, character or the circumstances of the case operate to lessen the need for the death penalty, I have the impression from your questionnaire answers and your courtesy to me in answering the questions, that none of that is going to matter. Your vote is still going to result in a life sentence, at least your individual vote. Is that fair?

A. Yes, that is fair.

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- Q. Okay. And I don't take it personally, because I know it's not personal to me or the lawyers. We could get the world's greatest prosecutor in here and charm you for three weeks. It wouldn't matter, right?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. Well, if Judge Sandoval were to instruct you that that's -- that what has to operate to answer these questions is the evidence and your assessment of it and not your personal moral judgments about the result -- I can tell you are not a disobedient man. It is not that you are just balky and want to do things your own way. Is that an instruction that you would be able to follow, in your opinion?

Well, yeah, I guess you would, if you thought it was the right thing to do.

We would all do things that we think is the right thing to do. But you could never think that's the right thing to do. Do you follow what I'm saying?

- A. Yes.
- Q. And the same with the death sentence. Sure, if you believe the death sentence is the right thing to do, you would do it. But that's never going to happen with you; isn't that so?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. And then, it might be that you would be asked the question, well, if you look at this. I mean, you know, you could take into consideration all the evidence and maybe you'd say, well, you know, the evidence isn't 100 percent certain. And I'm taking into consideration the evidence, and I'm thinking, you know, since there's always that possibility that everybody is wrong about it all, I'd still be worried about that. But that's just -- that would just be words trying to justify what's really the core moral belief of saying that you are opposed to the death penalty. Is that what you are saying?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. And then some people might ask you this, they

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- A. I think I could follow it to a degree but, again, I'm still human. And in the back of my mind, I'm still going to know what the result of that will be.
- Q. The bottom line, no matter, we're not going to get a death vote from you in this case; is that correct?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. Now, sometimes if you go a little further and if I were to take the other side. Let's say I were trying instead to demonstrate the fact that you couldn't be fair to me and the rest of the prosecution team, if I were trying to demonstrate the offense of -- somehow by my questions I wanted to prove, oh, yes, in that rare case you could do it. I might approach it this way. I might say, well, sir, if you heard all the evidence and you believe that voting in a way to cause a death sentence was the right way to do, would you vote for it? And if you phrase the question that way, I guess we'd all do anything, if we believed it to be the right thing, right?
 - A. Yes, I believe we would.
- Q. I mean, if I said, hey, let's me and you go up to the sixth floor and jump off on our heads and see how we feel after we do that. And if you felt that was the right thing to do, then if I were to say, if you felt that were the right thing to do, would you go do that?

might say, well, because this is probably how I do it, if I want to be like the other side and I'm debating with you, I might say do you remember Adolf Hitler? Do you remember he killed 6 million people? And he probably never killed anybody himself, but he certainly caused it all to be done.

Or do you remember Timothy McVeigh? He killed 160 something people in Oklahoma City, we figure. I mean, kind of all of what we're saying, we better -- it's too late now if he didn't kind of thing because that's over.

- A. Correct.
- Q. And I might think, well, I'll come up with an outrageous fact situation. Something so extreme that almost I could -- I could get this juror to almost want to feel silly by saying, I wouldn't vote for the death penalty for Hitler or Timothy McVeigh or Abdula the Butcher, or somebody like that maybe. But the truth is, if you got right down to it, if killing -- if executions are wrong, you have to admit it would even be wrong for Hitler or McVeigh, too? Even though it's more enormous still, wouldn't you?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. So, I mean, it's not even a matter of there are some extreme fact situations that would justify the

death sentence. What you are saying is to be morally consistent, the facts don't matter. It's our act of killing that you could not participate in?

- A. That's correct.
- Q. And it doesn't do any good for me to say all you are doing is voting because you are part of the process if you vote in a way that causes that?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. And you are not saying this just to get off the jury. That's not your purpose. You are not doing that to us?
 - A. No
- Q. So as you sit there right now in this case with this defendant Mr. Cantu, if you are on that jury, he doesn't ever have to worry about a death sentence; is that right?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. This is very respectful to you for your honesty. Judge, I'd challenge this juror for cause for inability to follow one of the laws upon which the State of Texas is entitled to rely on, and that's a fair consideration of a death sentence and in answer to those questions in a fair manner.

THE COURT: All right.

MR. GOELLER: Thank you, Judge,

Mr. Schultz and Ms. Falco, and Ms. Lowry.
VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

BY MR. GOELLER:

- Q. Mr. Littlejohn, my name is Matthew Goeller.
 And I think we met just about a week ago. I guess it was Tuesday morning. Tuesday had to be probably one of those days that you'll remember for a long time because I talked to many jurors. Not many, but jurors who have come into contact with the courthouse in these kind of cases. And when you come to the courthouse and you --last Tuesday morning you had no idea what the case was about, correct?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. When you sat in that room with 200 people, did anything start to creep in the back of your head, or were you still up until the time that Judge Sandoval talked about capital murder and possible death penalty and that type of thing, is that the first idea you had what was going on?
 - A. Yes.

Q. And that had to be kind of a shock, I imagine, sitting in a room where a representative from the State stands up and says we would like to kill this young man here if we have our way when it's all said and done. And that's essentially what took place that day,

correct?

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A. Yes.

Q. What have you thought about in the last week, or if you have at all? Has this case kind of been in the back of your mind? Have you thought about death penalty and criminal trials and judges and prosecutors and the defense lawyers and that kind of thing, or was it kind of like until you got here again this morning, you didn't really ponder it?

- A. Well, I mean, my belief on the death penalty has been that way for a long time. So I didn't really enter into that. I do work for a law firm, so I mean --
 - Q. You are a comptroller?
- A. I am a comptroller. I'm the accountant for a law firm, yes.
 - Q. It must be a big firm.
- 09:33 17 A. No. There's about 20 attorneys. It's not very 09:33 18 large.
- 09:33 19 Q. Billing, and I don't know what a comptroller 09:33 20 does in a law firm. Tell me about that.
 - A. Basically, I'm responsible for all the financial decisions that are made in the law firm, as far as spending, receiving, anything financially related. So, I mean, I've talked to, you know, attorneys obviously. I deal with them day-to-day. But

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not specifically about any kind of criminal case or -- we're a plaintiff litigation.

- Q. You are plaintiffs' firm?
- A. Yes
- Q. I understand that you are an opponent of the death penalty.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And that is okay. In fact, under our law, Texas law and federal law, you could not be excluded. You cannot be stricken as a juror because you are an opponent of the death penalty. Depending on how your personal views figure into your assessment of the facts and the special issues, and you may or may not be disqualified.

Now, when Mr. Schultz was asking -- he asked you a series of questions. And you were very consistent, and you stated several times you are an opponent of the dealt penalty. You don't believe in it. When he got to the special issues -- I've got special issue No. 1. And the Judge asked you about taking the law from the Judge. If the Judge said you would answer this question as a juror.

Now, by the time you get to these questions, you would -- you probably know this -- you've already found that somebody intentionally killed two

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people or killed in the course of robbery or killing in the course of burglary as the indictment in this case states.

When Mr. Schultz asked you, would you answer that -- would you take the law and the directions from the Judge and answer that question? I can't remember exactly how he phrased it, but you stated, it would be in the back of my mind, or it would figure in my opposition to the death penalty?

- A. Actually, it was on the second mitigating circumstance. That would be my mitigating factor, yes.
- Q. Okay. This first special issue, do you think you could answer such a special issue, based on the facts presented to you, either in -- and you can consider, I suppose, all the evidence in the first phase of the trial and any evidence in the punishment phase. We refer to that as the future dangerousness question. Could you answer such a question?
 - A. Yes.

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Q. Okay. I suppose the root of problems in seating a juror is a juror who would intentionally throw the questions or answer the questions not based on the facts or evidence, but answer the questions going into the trial knowing they may answer those questions, answer those questions in such a way that it's purely

I put a great deal of stock in that kind of evidence. But all of those things figured in, you could answer that question?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Based on the evidence?
- A. Yes.

Q. Okay. And then we get to -- let me put up the third special issue of mitigation. When we get to that question, that question, for all the verbiage and wordiness in there, I suppose, that question is a final look. I suppose when we look at the word mitigation and all the things that are in -- that make up part of that question, the bottom line of that question is, does the jury individually and then collectively as a group vote life or death? That's really what it is. Because anything can be mitigation. Anything can be mitigation, I suppose.

There is no burden of proof on this question, oddly enough. No burden of proof. The State nor the defense have a burden. That's really -- it goes back there. Now, to answer that question no, a no answer to that question, as you probably figured out, a unanimous no, means a death sentence would be -- would come about. Again, that -- that question really looks at evidence in many many different forms: circumstances

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based on their own personal beliefs and not let the evidence figure into it.

And the State has a right not to have jurors who would do such a thing from their side. And, likewise, I would have the right not to seat a juror on this case who would not answer the questions but vote to kill every time. And I'm not trying to be flippant but, you know, that is the bottom line here.

- A. Sure.
- Q. Now, even though you stated you could answer this question based on the facts and admittedly that, if the answer -- and the State has the burden of proof on this question, beyond a reasonable doubt, same quantum of evidence necessary to find somebody guilty in the first place -- in the first phase of the trial, beyond a reasonable doubt. This question here, burden of proof on the State, beyond a reasonable doubt. Based on the evidence, whatever the evidence may be. And the thing about being a juror in a criminal case is you are absolutely free as a juror to consider what evidence is evidence. You probably know this.

You can believe half of what a witness says, none of what a witness says, everything a witness says, 10 percent, 90 percent, 0 percent. You are free to consider -- I don't consider that evidence at all, or

of the offense, character, background, personal moral culpability.

I would submit to you that you are, somebody such as yourself, versus somebody that takes that chair during this individual voir dire and is very, very, very pro-death penalty, I mean, they like the death penalty, and they like it imposed. Both sets of people and those people in the middle, they are going to go back to that jury deliberation room, and they are not going back there in a vacuum. You're going to be bringing all the baggage of your 38 years and your philosophies and your look at life, just like the other person that's maybe very pro-death penalty versus the people that are not really sure where they are. And I think it would be absurd to think that your philosophical views, like any other juror, would not somehow figure into it. Okay?

- A. Okay.
- Q. Do you see what I'm saying?
- A. Yes.
- Q. It's crazy to think that we could find a juror that wouldn't. So anyhow, even though -- I guess the bottom line question here is: If you can answer the first special issue based on the facts, could you answer the second special issue based on facts?

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- A. Again, because it specifically states life or death in it, in the back of my mind would be that issue. And I would vote against the death penalty at that point.
- Q. When you say in the back of your mind, all right, that may not be a problem.
 - A. Okay.

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- Q. Would you purposely throw any question? Okay?
- A. Well, I mean, I don't know what you mean by purposely. I mean, I'm going to answer the question based on my belief. Now, whether that's purposely throwing a question or not, I don't -- I mean, my stance is that I would not bring back the death penalty. If that means in your view that I'm throwing the question purposely, then I guess so. In my mind, no, I'm not throwing the question. I'm answering it honestly and to the best of my ability.
- Q. And what would you figure into answering a question honestly? Because that's where -- that's where I'm still -- I want to make sure I understand exactly where you are coming from because, based on some of your answers to Mr. Schultz's questions, you would take the law from the Judge and you would apply the law to the facts in the case, and I know we overlay that with your beliefs on the death penalty.

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But I guess when I say, throw the question, I'm saying, would you disregard the evidence? Would you disregard the Judge's instructions and the law and the facts of the case to ensure, no matter what, you would always answer that question yes?

- A. Given that circumstance, probably so, yes.
- Q. When you say probably so, I know you are struggling. I know I am splitting hairs here, but --
- A. Well, again, I guess it goes back to what Mr. Schultz said earlier, I mean, until I'm put in that situation, I can't say, because I've never been in it. I can't say, yes, I've done that before or, no, I haven't.

My belief is in the way I think I would answer that question is, I would answer against the death penalty in that question. You know, if it was posed to me, that's my belief at this point as I sit here. But without having it posed directly to me and actually being in that situation, I guess I can't really say yes or no that I would do it one way or the other.

Q. Okay. It would have to be one of those where, until you hear the facts of the case and all the evidence and sit down as an individual juror and collectively with 11 other people, you won't know until you get to that point?

- A. That's probably a very fair assessment. I mean, it would take, in my mind right now, I would still be voting against the death penalty. I don't know what it would take to convince me, let me put it that way. I don't know what it would take to make me change my mind in that instance. And I don't know if there's anything out there that could. And maybe that's why I'm saying "probably" more than a definite yes or no.
- Q. Yeah. This jury will be made up of -- I really think -- two kinds of people. The State has the right to have people who can, in the proper case, give death. And that boils down to 8 billion pages of case law, but that's the bottom line.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. I suppose that really equates to 12 people that are -- if not pro-death penalty, certainly don't have too big of an objection to it. So, we know all 12 jurors per our law have to be able to, in the proper case, vote in such a way to impose death.

The other kinds of people that we'd like to think could make it on a jury are those opposed to the death penalty but in the proper case could vote in such a way, based on the special issues, future dangerousness and then a no vote to that mitigation issue. Although they are philosophically opposed to the

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death penalty, they would vote based on the evidence and the end result could be a death sentence, even though they are against the death penalty.

Mr. Schultz gave you a lot of examples about Nazi Germany and gas chambers and, I guess, the SS loading aboard trains and things like that. That's pretty extreme as well. Okay?

- A. Okay.
- Q. He talked about the extreme ends, McVeigh, and Adolf Hitler, and Joseph Stalin, and Polpot. And you can think of all sorts of people in your lifetime and my lifetime that have killed tens of thousands or hundreds of people in the media. We can't help but know about those kinds of cases.

As I hear your testimony, you are not telling me that you would answer the questions disregarding all the facts in evidence and would answer them -- we know on special issue No. 1, you are very clear that you can answer that question based on the evidence.

- A. Yes.
- Q. Even though you know that question could -it's the first step -- well, I shouldn't say -- it's the
 first step to either a life or death sentence. That
 future dangerousness issue, the probability that

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somebody would commit violence in the future and be a threat to society and all that. So what I hear you telling me is that it would always be in the back of your mind, your bottom line stance on the death penalty that you are an opponent of the death penalty. But I don't hear you saying you would disregard the Judge's law and instructions to you and disregard the evidence in the case.

I know you are -- I think you are being extremely honest because it would be easy for a juror to say -- let's say a juror came in here, and we get these questionnaires. And you can see some of these questionnaires, some people filled these out to be politically correct. Okay? They are right down the middle of the road on everything. I'm a 5 from a 1 to a 10. I could give -- maybe they are people out there that have never given it much thought and don't have much position on something like capital punishment. Maybe because I'm a lawyer I think people are either for it or against it.

But anyhow, your questionnaire cut to the chase, and I think it was honest. But the situation I find myself in right now is, I hear you saying I'm not for the death penalty, and it would always be in the back of my mind in the way I look at things.

here and force you to think of a fact situation where if it all hit you, you may -- you may vote in such a way that the death sentence would be imposed. We don't have the right to sit here, and it's probably wrong. I think the Judge would probably stop us. If I asked you, I want you to think of this situation: Would you vote to impose the death sentence, or vote to impose the life sentence? But I still hear you saying you, once you see it, it may come to you that the appropriate decisions, based on the evidence would be a death sentence. You can't think of one right now.

A. Well, again, like you said, you can't ask me to think of one, and I honestly do not believe there's one you could think of that would make me put myself in that position. But, again, giving the nature of what I do for a living as an accountant, there's always -- I always have to be open to any possibility as remote as it may be. But that doesn't mean that it will change how I believe in it. I mean, that possibility would have to be extremely, extremely powerful. And I just don't see one out there that could do that.

- Q. Do you have any questions of me or Mr. Schultz about anything that we've discussed so far?
 - A. No, I don't believe so.

MR. GOELLER: That's all I have.

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A. Yes.

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Q. And I submit to you there's nothing wrong with that. Could you look at things, even with that, with that in the back of your mind, and I submit to you that you are not in a vacuum. That's okay.

A. Okay.

Q. It's if you would disregard the evidence and disregard consciously -- I would say consciously disregard the facts and evidence and the law that Judge Sandoval would give you. That would probably disqualify you as a juror.

A. Well, to me the bottom line has to be that in the back of my mind, can I go home and look my children in the face who I have been telling for 12 and 9 years of their life, it's wrong to commit a murder. It's wrong to kill somebody. And then I stand in here and commit somebody to death.

So in that case, yes, I probably could disregard that instruction because, again, I don't know that there's anything out there that could really override that in my mind. Because my children are obviously the most important thing to me, and my presentation to them in the way I live has to be very important.

Q. And no one could -- no one has the right to sit

THE COURT: Challenge for cause is granted. You are finally excused, Mr. Littlejohn. Thank you very much.

(Venireperson Littlejohn excused.)

THE COURT: All right. We're going to take up Mr. Johnwell next. And I suppose it will be appropriate to tell both sides that we had a lot of contact with Mr. Johnwell on the telephone. I have the distinct impression that he has other fish to fry, but I'm just telling you that because it's true.

MR. GOELLER: Judge, what number would he

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THE COURT: No. 54. We tried to take him up a time or two, but just didn't get to him. And he's the fellow who had a comment for Mr. Schultz during the -- during the general voir dire that, so any way...

MR. GOELLER: Judge, can you give me just

09:54 18 a second?

be?

THE COURT: Yes, sure.

MR. SCHULTZ: We'd like to plow other fields with this.

MR. GOELLER: Yes.

THE COURT: Would you do me a favor, with regard to Mr. Johnwell, would you take him outside the jury and tell him he's finally excused and get the next

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one who, I guess, would be Ms. Rhoads, Susan Rhoads would be the next one.

(Venireperson Rhoads present.)

THE COURT: The attorney is going to ask you some questions. I just want to tell you, if you recall last Tuesday, I swore everyone in during at some point in the proceeding and ask that you would swear to give true answers to any questions they might make. And I just want to remind you that you are still under oath. She's No. 18. All right. Mr. Schultz?

MR. SCHULTZ: Thank you, Judge.
VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

BY MR. SCHULTZ:

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Q. Ms. Rhoads, my name is Bill Schultz. I'm one of the assistant district attorneys representing the State of Texas in this capital prosecution of Ivan Cantu. To my left is Ms. Gail Falco, the chief felony prosecutor of one of our other courts who is on loan to this court to work with us here. And to her left is Jamie Lowry, who is an assistant district attorney, assigned primarily to the 380th Judicial district Court.

Moving further to your right is the defendant in this case, Ivan Cantu. One of the other attorneys representing Mr. Cantu, is Mr. Don High, although he's not here. He's been in and out, and he's

guilty, then of course he's free because people not guilty don't go anywhere, except back into society. But if he's found guilty of capital murder beyond a reasonable doubt, then we move into the punishment phase of the trial, in which case, only one of two things can happen. Either a death sentence is imposed, depending on how the jury votes or a life sentence. Those are the only two possibilities. And once a jury returns a death sentence, if it does, that may be the early part of the process. But at some point in the future, then that piece of paper takes actual effect, and the defendant is executed.

When I talk that way, did you actually look that way and do you see any change in yourself or just -- I sense that in a room that large, but I'm curious about yourself.

- A. I didn't feel any differently. That it's a serious case, and of course capital punishment is the most serious sentence there can be.
- Q. I suspect that most people, pardon me, most people would, if they were called upon to serve on a capital jury, I suppose most people of good will would hope that the evidence presented would indicate that a life sentence were the proper result, rather than a death sentence. Let me tell you what I mean by that.

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involved in some things that are related to this case. And then at the far right of that table is Mr. Matt Goeller, a very fine practitioner of law that works in Plano, Texas. And I think you don't know any of us; is that correct?

A. Correct.

- Q. You have to excuse me because I have a cold. And I'm -- if you can't hear me or if I get real hard to hear, just let me know, I'll try to do better with it. When you came to court back on Tuesday and the Judge told you that it was a death penalty case, what -- what thoughts went through your mind?
 - A. The seriousness of the case.
- Q. And do you remember what -- then when I talked, one of the things that I talked about was I asked the jury to actually look at the defendant for a moment and realize that what we propose to do was -- it was the real thing. And I hope you did not interpret that somehow as my trying to be amusing or my trying to have shock value on the jury, just for the pleasure of hearing myself talk. But rather it was designed, at least for some people, to -- to actually think about this process, and to think about it before we actually started talking with you individually. Because what happens on a jury is, if the defendant's not found

We, in America, are a very caring society. We go to tremendous lengths to try to help people. We -- if it gets very hot outside and we become, as a very society, very concerned about our elderly citizens who might not have air conditioning so we go distribute fans, and that's just how we are.

Somebody gets lost in the mountains, and there will be a search party of 3,000 people looking for that lost person. Even to the point that we know that person probably can't still be alive, but life is so important to us, to the pursuit of that, that we still do that. We still worry so much about that. We believe in the death penalty as a society. And we care so much about this defendant's life and everyone else in such a similar situation that we put enormous resources into the jury selection -- both sides do. Getting good lawyers for him and freely doing that because we think that life is precious, not just the life of people that have been murdered, but all people's lives. Does that make sense to you?

A. Yes.

Q. And so, it seems to me that it's human to say, you know, I wish the evidence would come out of this case in a way that a death sentence wouldn't be necessary. In other words, I wish that either the

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person was rehabilitated or there's some kind of mitigation or maybe he wouldn't be a dangerous person in the future. I'd rather come out of this courtroom knowing that the true vote was a life sentence rather than a death sentence. Do you understand -- do you feel that way at all? Does that make any sense to you?

- A. I hadn't thought about it previously, but, yes, it makes sense. It all depends on the evidence and the facts.
- Q. Sure. I mean, if a country is getting ready to go to war, I imagine most of us in good conscious would wish the other side would surrender or negotiate or, you know -- I mean, I think of the Desert Storm War we had, I imagine most of us would have to prefer that no one had to die, that he would go back to where he came from and leave that other country alone. We'd all prefer not to have to kill if we didn't have to. Wouldn't you agree?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. Okay. Now, all that having been said, tell me, if you would, why you are in favor of the death penalty and are able to vote that way if the evidence points that way.
- A. Because of what happens sometimes later when, for instance, the Rivas case, if he had been given the

death penalty is this concept of deterrence. Are you familiar with that term deterrence?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Now, I guess we would all agree that executing somebody would deter that person from future crimes because they would not be in a position to ever do such things again. But really when we're talking about deterrence, it's the idea that what happens to this person be a warning to people who would do such a thing. And that is, if you do the kinds of crimes that he did -- I'm not meaning this defendant, I'm just talking hypothetically, if you do the kinds of crimes that this person did -- you may get the same punishment, which would be death. Does that seem like an important reason to have a death penalty to you?
 - A. I'm not quite -- can you make that concise?
- Q. Sure. Do you think that if people are at their, thinking about doing capital murders and living that kind of life, do you think if they hear on TV or see in the newspapers that other people are getting executed for that sort of thing, as you go into the death ward, do you think that might prevent them from doing such a crime?
 - A. Possibly some people. And some people in a moment of passion or greed or whatever aren't thinking

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death penalty and it had been able to be performed before he escaped, that officer would still be alive. So it's the potential of future crime inside and outside prison that makes me in favor of capital punishment.

Q. Let's talk a little bit about that because there are about four reasons that are advanced as legitimate reasons for punishment, whatever that punishment would be. One of those is retribution. It's the idea that, if you do a small crime, you would have small punishment.

As your crime gets larger, your punishment would become larger until, at some point, your crime is so huge and so awful, that you might have to lose your life in retribution or retaliation by society for having done that. Is that important to you? The eye for an eye kind of a concept. You killed somebody for no reason, and so we're going to kill you because of doing that?

- A. I would hope that in that case we might be able to do life imprisonment because there is the possibility of rehabilitation.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. It would depend on the past record and the perceived potential.

Q. Okay. Another reason that people use for a

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- Q. Okay. Another reason advanced for punishment, it doesn't exactly relate to the death penalty except kind of in a backward way, and another reason for that is the concept of rehabilitation. And it's pretty obvious why the death penalty is not consistent with the notion of rehabilitation. Because if you execute somebody, the person can't be rehabilitated anyway. Does that make sense to you?
 - A. Sure.
- Q. If we're talking about a robbery case, and we were talking about a possibility of a life sentence or probation with counseling or those kinds of things maybe, then perhaps this issue of rehabilitation would be significant. But I want to talk about rehabilitation with you because that concept might find its way into how we answer one of the punishment questions. The notion of whether or not there could be rehabilitation?
 - (Moving head up and down.)
- Q. Do you think there are, first of all, do you think there are some people, who for whatever reason, can't be rehabilitated?
- A. Can't be? Well, it's an internal thing. Some aren't interested.
 - Q. Okay.

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- A. And even if they haven't committed a serious crime, they just don't care about other people.
 - Q. Okay.

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- A. And don't care what happens to themselves.
- Q. Okay. Well, now, understanding you are not a -- certainly not a professional juror, I don't get a sense from you, ma'am, that you even want to be in this trial. If you had a choice, this is not probably what you especially want to do. is it?
- A. Well, I believe in the system that we have. And if I'm needed to serve, I will serve.
- Q. If you were a -- if you went to a lot of capital murder trials, either as a juror or even as an observer, you feel like you are -- first of all, do you feel like your view on rehabilitation is like most people in our society, that most of the people would agree with the things that you are saying about rehabilitation, do you feel like?
 - A. Out of 12 people?
- 10:11 20 Q. Uh-huh.
 - A. Probably.
 - Q. Okay. I mean, it's kind of what you say, if a person wants to be rehabilitated --
 - A. Or if they are open to it.
 - Q. Right.

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- A. Yeah.
- Q. Of course, on the other hand, if you were -- if you were a person charged with a capital crime, if you would just kind of bear with me for a minute, knowing how people feel about rehabilitation, would you be telling everybody you could think of that you were going to get religion and you had gotten religion, and you were rehabilitated and you were sorry? Would you be doing that and kind of laying the groundwork for when the trial came along?
 - A. Well, that's a possibility.
- Q. I mean, we don't know this defendant. I don't know him personally. I don't imagine he wants to die. I wouldn't think most of us want to, right?
 - A. Right.
- Q. Would you expect a capital defendant to claim rehabilitation or conversion or being born again in the jailhouse or new insight? Would you expect that as part of the evidence that you might hear in that case?
- A. Are you talking about just speaking about it, or are you talking about actually -- the actions that would go along with it?
 - Q. Well, for sure, speaking about it.
- 10:13 24 A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. Would you expect that?

- A. Possibly, depending on the defendant.
- Q. I mean, we all watched Timothy McVeigh. And apparently he's one person to the end was proud of what he did, apparently, from what we can hear. But would you expect most people -- and he seemed to really want to die, frankly. He didn't even want to appeal. So if that's what you want, it's very easy to be kind of bravado about it all. On the other hand, if he had not wanted to die, do you think he would have had a different approach, would you expect?
- A. And he could very well have been sincere. It could be either way.
- Q. So how would you know? I mean, if you are sitting here, how would you as a juror -- because rehabilitation is important to you -- how would you know whether it were genuine or whether it were designed for the jury's benefit to get a life sentence?
- A. Past record, past activities, facts brought out in the case of different attributes of the defendant in the past. That's the only thing you can judge on, I think. And, well, and then there would have to be some time to prove those claims.
- Q. Okay. Understand that if you are locked up in jail, you really don't have an opportunity to demonstrate. About all you can do about it is talk.

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- I'm not talking about this defendant, and I'm certainly not -- I'm not on the bandwagon for defendants and how they handle their cases. But if you think about it, if you are in the jailhouse, you can't very well do a whole lot of a positive nature other than just behave in the jail. Do you know what I'm saying? You can't -- you can't fix toys for children for Christmas because you don't have access to any of that sort of thing. Do you know what I mean?
- A. Well, aren't there different levels of rehabilitation, though?
 - Q. Maybe.
 - A. And aren't there social times, group times?
 - Q Sure
 - A. And their visits by clergy, for instance.
- 10:15 16 Q. And you can --
 - A. That.
 - Q. You are absolutely right. When a clergyman comes to see you and asks to pray with you, for example, you, of course, can say, yes, I would like that, Father, or, yes, I would like that, Reverend. I mean, you don't have to -- you can say just the opposite. No, I'm not going to do that, so you are free to.

I guess what I'm asking is -- let's just say I'm over in the jail. I'm a capital defendant, and

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I'm thinking, I don't want to die. And I've got nothing but time on my hands anyway before my trial. I could do all of that. I could say nice things, and I could organize religious groups. I could say, come pray with me. I could write letters of apology. I could do all of that. And maybe it's sincere, just like you say or maybe it isn't. And you've said one of the things you'd look at is the past record, the past behavior; is that right?

A. Yes.

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- Q. How would that -- how would that relate to whether it was sincere or not? Is it the idea of the more frequent this kind of behavior, the more likely it is just part of his behavior, more of an impulse kind of thing maybe?
- A. Yes. And if he had a religious upbringing or she had a religious upbringing say, well, that influence is there, whether it's being displayed or not. The influence is there. And also when -- let's assume that the defendant is paroled at sometime, then there are precautionary measures that are taken. I understand there are tracking devices and checking in and all this kind of thing that could possibly be used while the defendant is proving that he has sincerely repented and is -- is rehabilitated.
- Q. Well, I don't think they are going to give somebody with a life sentence a tracking device. I mean, I think they will give him the cage kind of thing.
- A. Okay. So it would be life sentence with no parole; is that correct?
- Q. No. We don't have such a thing. There is no such thing as life without parole. We don't have that. We may not know when he gets out, but we can't say he will be there until he dies, either.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And you'll get an instruction that is from the Court that will tell you somehow that works in a general sort of way. But then it's kind of odd because the instruction further reads: Don't consider this law in terms of how long this defendant would actually have to serve on a life sentence.

When you look at the facts of a case, do you think you could look at facts and say anybody who could do such a crime, anybody whose mind would allow him or her to do such an awful crime doesn't have the basic tools to be rehabilitated? Doesn't have the controls that would enable the member to be rehabilitated? Do you think you could do that, if the crime is awful enough?

A. No. I think anyone who has the potential to

change can change. Anyone who wants to change can change.

- Q. Let's, for example, one of the things I like to point out a lot of times is Hitler and the things that he caused to happen. And we think of -- we think of the Holocaust when we think of Hitler. And yet, he didn't limit that just to the Jews in Eastern Europe. He would set cities on fire with women and children inside. And that didn't have anything to do with their ethnicity. They were just enemies and that was how he would handle it. Do you think, for example, somebody who could do such crimes as that would have the capacity for rehabilitation, if he wanted to?
- A. I wouldn't think so because he was psychotic. He was like mentally diseased.
- Q. How about somebody like McVeigh that fought such a gigantic -- he understood how big that bomb was. It's not like -- you or I might not know anything about it. We might think of it as being loud or something because we are not knowledgeable on that. But he was schooled in all that. He knew how to do it. Is that the kind of person that could be rehabilitated maybe, if he wanted to be?
 - A. If he wanted to be.

MR. SCHULTZ: A moment, Judge.

THE COURT: Yes.

- Q. (BY MR. SCHULTZ) If a person behaves well in jail or prison, does that mean that person is not a dangerous person?
 - A. No, because it depends on their motive.
 - Q. Explain what you mean.
- A. Well, if they sincerely are wanting to be different, then it will carry over. But if they are not, if they are just waiting for an opportunity, just faking it, in other words, then they don't want to be rehabilitated.
- Q. And how would you know the difference if you were on -- on a jury? What would you look to see whether they were faking the good behavior or whether they were good?
- A. Well, again, some of that would depend on the past record. That's all we would have to go on for facts. And then it would depend, too, on the circumstances of what occurred at the particular time of the murder as to --
- Q. I think -- I think I'm understanding, but I want to make sure I'm -- I want to make sure exactly what you mean. Tell me, you are on the jury, and you are trying to figure whether this person is sincere because we understand that most people probably are

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going to try to look good for the trial, right?

A. Uh-huh, yes.

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- Q. And you say that you would look at the circumstances of the case to decide whether this was an act designed to try to keep from getting the death penalty or whether it was sincere. How would that work? How would you do that exactly?
- A. If it were -- let's say a crime of momentary circumstances, that would probably not happen again, then that could be a potential for rehabilitation, sincerity. That's a really hard question without knowing the facts of the case and the defendant, without knowing the defendant.
- Q. Sure, sure. When you say a momentary, tell me kind of what you have in mind with that.
- A. If it were preplanned like the McVeigh or the Rivas thing, I mean, and that -- then that makes it harsher rather than, let's say there was an argument and someone became very angry momentarily and committed a crime. That makes it a little different.
- Q. Well, okay. I don't know a lot of the evidence of the Rivas case, but my understanding is, his story is they broke out of prison. They needed -- they needed stuff, and they were in the process of burglarizing a place when an officer shows up. And it gets a little

premeditation kind of idea?

- A. Yes.
- Q. In other words, if I'm -- if I'm coming over to visit somebody that I'm maybe going to have some trouble with, and I know I'm going to have some kind of argument or disagreement with, and I take a gun with me to go over to this person's residence, let's say, that's some pretty good evidence that I planned, if things didn't go the way I wanted it, to use that gun. Is that what you are saying?
 - A. I would see it that way.
- Q. As opposed to just being over there and getting into an argument and picking up a lamp or something and hitting him in the head and killing him that way?
 - A. Yes. That I would consider more momentary.
- 10:26 16 Q. And the more, the way it was planned out, the more you'd think that rehabilitation or apparent rehabilitation might not be sincere. Is that kind of the way you are thinking?
 - A. Well, it even goes back farther than that, before the premeditation, before even thinking about the crime.
 - Q. Okay. How about after the crime? Is there -- are there some things about how you handle yourself after the crime that would relate to this rehabilitation

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fuzzy after that because I guess their story is they thought the officer was going for the gun, and they shot him first, that kind of idea.

But that's kind of a momentary thing. Had the officer not shown up, he wouldn't have been killed. They didn't set off to find a policeman to kill for the fun of killing a policeman. Do you know what I mean?

- A. Yes.
- Q. So that is a momentary event that just occurred. And had they been there 10 minutes earlier or the officer 10 minutes later, I guess he would still be alive, and they would maybe lose or maybe something else would happen.
- A. However, the intent was there, first of all, by planning the escape. Second of all, by going to the sporting goods store and deliberately going for guns.
 - Q. Right.
- A. And it's -- I compare that a little bit. They were going to kill anyone who got in their way or at least one of the people, Rivas, felt that way. So, in a way, that is premeditated. That, if I have to, I will use the gun.
- Q. I guess what you are saying is that, even having the gun before, having the gun with you before you get into those circumstances is kind of a form of

10:26 1 issue in your mind?

- A. There might be some evidence of sincerity if the person who commits the crime turns him or herself in, if they go quietly. If they are not resisting arrest. If they cooperate, in other words, then I would say rehabilitation could be likely.
- Q. How about if they escape and deny it all and try to blame somebody else for it? Is that -- how does that factor in?
- A. That depends on the truth. Maybe someone else is to blame.
- Q. But assume not. Assume you found the person guilty. And after the crime, he or she escaped and when talked to by the police said, I didn't have anything to do with it. It was somebody else or something else?
 - A. I would consider that normal.
- Q. It's not bad to try to lie your way out of a serious charge then probably, under those circumstances?
 - A. I don't think so.
- Q. We talked on Tuesday, last, about whether it matters in a murder case what kind of a person the victim was, if that really matters. Do you remember the discussions about that?
- A. Yes, very well.
 - Q. And I know there are a number of ways to look

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at it. If you and I are in a restaurant, let's say, and we look at it. And there's a train track and we see somebody walk across the train track and that train comes along and runs over you, we're probably the kind of people that we would go down in there and see if there is anything we can do to help, even though there probably is not going to be, given that happening. Do you know what I mean?

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Q. And I don't know about you, but if somebody told me because you are going to get police there and ambulance people, and who knows what, our railroad inspectors and people like that. I don't know about you, but if somebody told me this guy is a known drug dealer, as a matter of fact, the police have been looking for him for six months to try to arrest him because he's a regular drug dealer, it doesn't mean that his life is less precious to our creator, perhaps. But I'm human enough to say I'm going be -- I'm not going to be as upset about that. I don't like seeing it because it's still a human life being lost, but I'm not going to be as upset about that perhaps if I found out it was, oh, an inspirational teacher or maybe somebody that coached Special Olympics or something like that. How do you feel about that?

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A. I would agree because the potential of the drug dealer to do future harm is ended. However, on the positive side, the potential for future good is lost of the other person, assuming that the drug dealer would continue drug dealing and the other person would continue the doing good if they had lived.

Q. That makes perfect sense to me. And I think if you look at it and say, how bad is society's loss, I think you are right on the money with that. I think that's exactly what we're talking about. The other side of the coin -- and this is very different from an accident happening -- and the other side of the coin is, if the reason, instead of getting run over by a train because he was carelessly crossing the tracks, if the reason that the drug dealer is dead is because somebody else intentionally and calculatingly murdered him, does that make that -- does that make that murder some lesser grade of murder if what we're trying to do is punish murderers for the crimes that occurred? How do you think about that part?

A. It would depend somewhat on the reason for the murder. If -- if it were to prevent more drug dealing or if it was a drug deal gone bad.

Q. Uh-huh.

A. Then, again, that potential is lost for that

drug dealer, but the person that does the murder should not be off scot-free, either.

- Q. I understand maybe not scot-free, but does the fact that the reason you murder somebody is because he's the kind of person that society says is not very important? Does that make any difference in your mind in terms of how bad the murder is?
- A. Technically no, because there is still the potential for, no matter how bad a person is, they can change if they want to. So, because he's a drug dealer, still does not mean that he could never have done good. So the loss of that person's life is potentially harmful, and the one that commits the murder then is accountable.
- Q. And when I ask these questions, and you are absolutely right, because if it is a drug deal that's gone bad, that might be one of those momentary things you are talking about. Even though we don't like drug dealing at all, if this was some kind of a drug deal and there's a shoot-out that results from it, maybe the person is going to be dangerous or maybe not or maybe that's the only time such a thing would ever happen. It's just that bunch of events.

Why I ask the question and spend a lot of time on it, if we take the position that, because a

person is a drug dealer, his life is somehow easier to take, easier or more acceptable to society to allow it to be taken, than do we have to do the same thing for defendants? If you have a defendant who is a drug

dealer, do we have to say we are not as concerned about his life since he's a drug dealer as opposed to a robber or a burglar or -- do you follow what I'm saying?

A. Yes. And my answer would be no, because anyone, no matter what they have done, has the potential to turn around and do better.

Q. Okay.

A. If they want to.

Q. Okay. Now, you've indicated that you think that some breaks would justify the death penalty, even though a death didn't result? I guess I'm kind of reading between the lines.

A. No. That specific question and answer was if there were a rape involved in the murder.

Q. I see.

A. At least that's what I thought when I was answering it.

Q. Okay. I see. You've indicated that you believe that the biggest problem in the criminal justice system is releasing the guilty?

A. Well, guilty is probably not the right word.

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Releasing the person who is potentially going to commit crime again.

- Q. Okay. Now, the Judge -- we talked about the parole instruction. We talked about that a little bit, just a minute ago.
 - A. Uh-huh.

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- Q. Are you able to follow that instruction and not consider how long somebody would actually have to serve in deciding what the punishment should be? Could you follow that instruction?
- A. Would that be without parole or -- or -- I don't -- I'm not real clear on the instruction.
- Q. There is nothing -- there's no such thing as life without parole in Texas.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. Now, that's not to say that we know when somebody exactly gets out. We know a minimum is 40 years. A person has to do 40 years on a life sentence before being eligible for parole.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. Whether that person gets out at 40 years or not is probably something none of us can know. Many of us probably won't be alive in 40 years to find out kind of thing. All right? And because we don't know when after that 40-year minimum a particular defendant would get

instruct you, is not to consider how long he actually served. In other words, those are the kinds of things you probably won't consider. You just do life or death according to what it ought to be and entrust it to somebody else to determine when he will get out. Do you think you can do that okay?

- A. Yes, yes.
- Q. When you were looking at the defendant on Tuesday and you have had a chance to look at him some today, have you had a chance to look at him today?
 - A. A glance or two.
- Q. You obviously don't know him or know anything about the facts of this case. Do you have any impressions -- as you've had a chance to look at him -- do you have any impressions of him?
- ${\bf A.}\ {\bf I}$ would guess from the last name, and ${\bf I}$ would guess he would be Hispanic.
 - Q. Any other impressions that you might have?
- A. Young. I don't know how much. I'm assuming from what you said on Tuesday, 18 or 19, perhaps.
- ${\bf Q.}$ Well, without getting real specific, he's not that young.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. How does youth, if it does, factor into your service as a juror? Are you more compassionate toward a

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out, we do sort of a strange thing in this. We tell juries that on a life sentence you are eligible for parole even on capital murder. But after we tell them that and tell them how it works, then we say, now that we've educated you on the subject, don't consider that in this particular case.

And it doesn't make any sense to me, but I didn't write the law and neither did Judge Sandoval. But he will give you that instruction because it is Texas law. All right?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Could you follow that instruction?
- A. Given the fact that the defendant would be in prison for 40 years, I would say there would be quite a bit of evidence on how the defendant behaved during that time. I would say the potential, if he's still, the attitude, that the attitude would be important, I would think --
 - Q. Okay.
 - A. -- in that.
- Q. It's interesting because you are doing exactly what you should be doing. You are considering all of that. You are considering parole and those kinds of considerations in a particular case.

What you have to do, and the Judge will

younger person than toward a middle aged or elderly person charged with capital murder?

- A. Not really because the ability to commit murder doesn't depend on age. I mean, a middle-aged person could do that as well as a young person.
- Q. Does age have anything to do with your opinion about rehabilitation and capability for rehabilitation?
- A. Age? Not really because anyone can be rehabilitated too, if they want to, at any age.
- Q. Do you think drug usage is any type of excuse for the crimes that result from using those drugs?
- A. I think it's probably part of the reason, but not an excuse.
- Q. Okay. Let's say, and I'm just like you and -- do you have children?
- A. Yes.
 - Q. I don't know if you are like me, but I'll bet you are. Were you worried about drugs in those kids when they were in that window of opportunity?
 - A. Not very much.
 - Q. How come?
 - A. Because it was not as prevalent then as it is now.
 - Q. I think you would agree with what I said on Tuesday. There is no way a human being could ever, a

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again.

regular intelligent human being, could ever grow up in America's society and not have one or two messages a day not to do drugs, in one form or another, right?

- A. To be offered, probably.
- Q. No. I mean, to be told in some form or fashion, don't do drugs. It's bad for you. Don't we get that message nonstop in America?
 - A. Yes.

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Q. We get it by watching TV and seeing people getting arrested for drugs. We get it by seeing people overdosing and dying. We see that on TV. Our schools have this "Just Say No" program. We hear -- I mean, it's nonstop. Drugs are a problem in our society. You know it, and I know it.

If I go and choose to take some illegal drugs like maybe, I don't know, heroin or cocaine or something, crack, crack cocaine, if I do that tonight and it affects me so that I'm not even in my regular mind because that's what drugs do. And I'm not experienced with them, and there's no telling what my reaction is, and I go into some sort of a drug induced rage, and I go kill some people, and I'm just -- I'm almost like a beast because I've got the drugs in me, you know? I might be telling you the truth, kind of what you said when I say, had I not taken those drugs, I

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A. You have to know the person's intent. If they
10:44 8 really mean that or -- if they are saying I will never
10:44 9 do drugs again, that's one thing. If they are saying, I
10:44 10 won't because I can't, then that's different.
10:44 11 Q. So I say, I'll never do drugs again, but even
10:44 12 if I want to, I won't be in a position to do it. Just

Q. So I say, I'll never do drugs again, but even if I want to, I won't be in a position to do it. Just give me a life sentence, and I don't want drugs. I never want to do them. But even if I do want them, I won't have that opportunity. Does that make sense?

that, if I had not taken the drugs, it wouldn't have

someplace where I can't ever take drugs again. Am I

right about that? And I'm not dangerous as long as

happened. And if you give me a life sentence, I'll be

somebody will lock me up and not let me ever get drugs

- A. But even when I heard, even in prisons, that that's not necessarily true. So if drugs are available in prison and that defendant does not take them, then that's evidence. But of course you wouldn't know that before.
- Q. Right. Or if I escaped, for example, if I can get out of prison --
 - A. Right.
- Q. -- and then I head for the nearest crack house kind of thing?

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would never have done those crimes because I never have done anything like that in my life before.

Does that in any way lessen my responsibility for those crimes, when I wasn't even thinking about them? I mean, I just went into a frenzy. And I wasn't thinking about them at all because I got those drugs in my -- does that in any way in your mind lessen my responsibility, because I didn't exactly know all of what I was doing because my judgment was so messed up?

- A. Well, again, that goes back to the reason for doing the crime that, but still it's a choice to take drugs or not to take drugs in that case. And anyone who chooses to take drugs -- well, first of all, they'll say, it's not going to happen to me. I'm not going to die, especially younger people.
 - Q. Right.
- A. But it does not lessen the responsibility, the accountability of having done something under the influence of drugs. Same thing with alcohol.
- Q. Okay. Well, then, if I get charged with capital murder because I killed two or more people and I come to trial and my position is, as long as I don't have any drugs again, I'm not a danger to society. And this was one of those momentary or situational things

A. And then that would be obvious that the intent to go straight was not there.

- Q. But unfortunately it's too --.
- A. That's right. You don't know that beforehand.
- Q. Then we have a Rivas situation on our hands, and somebody else has to perhaps die because of our compassion.
- A. Right. And some of that would depend on the past record also. If the person had been taking drugs, now, you say it's a one-time thing. That would be slightly different than if they had been on drugs for years and taking many kinds and mixing them.
- Q. How about if they had been violent on drugs in the past and beat up wives or, you know, that kind of thing? Would that be important to you?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. And how would that be important to you?

A. Well, it shows that, well, how can they claim then that I've never -- that the drugs made me do it? Because they can say, if it's the first time, as your first example, it's my first time. I didn't know what they were going to do to me. That may be legitimate. But if they have done it before, then surely someone has told them that they have done these things, whether they were aware of it or not. So even after that, they

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would -- after the -- each time, they would be aware of what drugs do to them.

MR. SCHULTZ: A moment please, Judge? THE COURT: Yes, sure.

- Q. (BY MR. SCHULTZ) You understand, of course, that we have to prove him guilty of capital murder, or we don't worry about the death penalty issue at all. We don't consider it at all?
 - A. Yes.

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- Q. And when I say prove that he's guilty of capital murder, that means beyond a reasonable doubt. We have to prove that either a murder was committed in the course of a burglary, in the course of a robbery, or that in the same criminal episode two people were murdered?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And any of those three are capital murder. And it might well be that one or two or all three of those might be submitted to the jury to decide and just simply, you know, only have one verdict form. Do you find that it was either murder-burglary, murder-robbery, or murder of two people. And the answer would be: "We do." "We do not." That kind of thing.
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. If, for some reason, we were not able to prove

10:49 1 you are finished.

- A. (Moving head up and down.)
- Q. When we get that question, or when the jury gets that question -- first of all, it's beyond a reasonable doubt. If you think the answer to that question, based on the evidence is "no" -- all right? That's what the jury comes back with, 10 or more of the jurors come back with a no, as a matter of fact, then that's -- do you know what the result of a no answer to that question is?
 - A. Then that would be life.
- Q. Uh-huh. Automatic. We don't go any further, then that's the end of it, and he goes off to Huntsville, Texas, to begin serving his sentence. If that question is answered "yes" by the jury, 12 members of you in a unanimous verdict, then we move to another question. There are actually two possible other questions. Famous last words -- neither side is going to even talk about the second one because it doesn't seem to apply from what we know about the evidence. And mark my words, it will end up being the pivotal issue of the whole case.

But the third question is the mitigation question. That's very very open-ended, not critical evidence. It's a fact. It's open-ended. Okay? And

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that two people were murdered by the defendant or we're not able to prove that a murder occurred in the course of a burglary or a robbery, it might be that there would be a lesser-included offense provided.

It might, for example, be only murder. It might have an option, and that would consider not only capital murder, but regular murder. But let's assume that from the evidence that you find, the defendant's guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, you and 11 other people have collectively shared in your wisdom. And you, say, find him guilty.

- A. Would that be of capital murder or of --
- Q. Of capital murder, yes, ma'am.
- A Voc
- Q. And then we move into the penalty phase of the trial. That's the punishment phase.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. We give you questions. We talked about that on Tuesday. There are questions the jury is asked, the answered to which will automatically determine what happens to the defendant.
 - A. I remember.
- Q. For example, when you get this first question which is what we call the future danger question -- take a moment and read that to yourself, and let me know when

that will be a "yes" or "no" question to you. It's a little different from that other danger question because there's not a burden of proof.

In other words, both sides either have the same burden of proof or no burden, depending on how you look at it. The defense can say, why didn't they prove to you that there is mitigation? I can argue, why didn't they prove to you that there is? And we're both right. I mean, I guess I could say they didn't discharge their burden. And they can say we didn't discharge ours. It doesn't matter. It's whatever the jury thinks on that question. Okay?

- A. (Moving head up and down.)
- Q. Some of the things that we know about that question are as follows: It focuses your attention on the defendant, if you look at it, kind of the way it's phrased. It talks about his moral culpability, his background, his character, and the evidence in the case, which is the evidence of what he's done. Because you don't get to that question unless you've already found he's the capital murderer, you know?

And it doesn't really say anything about: Consider the victim one way or the other. For example, despite what I've been saying about drug dealers and if you murder a drug dealer, is that good or bad or worse

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or better or whatever, the fact is that it's possible that one of the people you murder could be a drug dealer and that wouldn't have anything to do with drug dealing. It could be for some other reason altogether, other than being a drug dealer. And maybe another person that you murdered, if you murdered two or more people, wasn't a drug dealer and didn't behave that way. Do you know, that kind of idea?

A. Yes.

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Q. And that question, although you may hear victim evidence in this case -- and what victim evidence is is family members come up and talk about how they have been touched by what has occurred and what the result of these actions has been and how their life will be forever changed. And that doesn't really directly focus you on victim's losses. Do you notice what I'm saying there?

If you look at that question, there's nothing in there about consider the victims or consider what it must be to a brother or a mom or dad to lose a child. Do you know that kind of idea?

- A. Yes.
- Q. I suppose we could say that that is one of the circumstances of the offense, you know, right here, including the circumstances of the offense. But still,

dad because she's made sandwiches for me after school and those kind of things, does it make any difference that you are killing somebody, knowing the victim's family, knowing how they are going to be hurt, because you know them? Does that make any difference at all to vou?

- A. Maybe slightly, but not to a great degree.
- Q. Okay. Now, when we use the term mitigating in that question, you probably notice that doesn't have a definition either. So, I mean, the jury can do as it wishes. There's not a problem on that, but they talk about sufficient mitigation and almost anything, if it's mitigating to you could be construed as mitigating, I mean, there's no -- there's no -- Judge Sandoval would never say there's anything that's not mitigating. But the only thing we could ever say that might not be mitigating is opposition to the death penalty itself.

In other words, if you were the kind of person that would say, I believe all death sentences are mitigated because I don't believe in the death penalty. That's about the only thing that I could ever think of where that would not be legitimate, you, as a mitigating circumstance. The fact that you just vetoed the death penalty automatically. Do you follow me?

A. Yes.

it seems to focus mostly on the defendant and his background because it's his life or death sentence that we're talking about. Do you agree with me, as near as you can see from that question?

- A. Yes.
- Q. How important do you think victim evidence would be in evaluating a case? In evaluating the moral culpability of the defendant? Is that something that you think doesn't really matter that much?
- A. No. Because that would be normal. If someone has lost a loved one, for whatever reason, there's grief.
 - Q. Right.
- A. And the circumstances of the event would be more important than the victim evidence, I would think.
- Q. Would it make a difference to you if the defendant knew the victims and their family and absolutely knew how devastated they would be just because he knew the people involved? Does that make any difference to you at all?
 - A. I don't think so.
- Q. Like, for example, if I go rob a liquor store tonight and killed a clerk. I don't know the clerk. I mean, he's just somebody. But if I go rob my friend for ten years that's working there, and I know his mom and

Q. But, for example, you mentioned the defendant seemed young to you. If you think that's a mitigating circumstance all by itself, that nobody should be executed at age 27, for example. That's just too young. I'm not saying you do, but if you believe that, we can't quarrel with that. You know, I guess on the other hand if you think that being that age it makes it even worse because you are old enough to have known better and you didn't. You are free to look at it that way because nobody could tell you otherwise.

If you think drugs mitigate against the death sentence for a capital murder, you can vote yes to that question. If you think drugs make it even worse, rather than better, you could -- you are free to say that's not mitigating; that's aggravating. That makes it even worse because he did it on drugs, you know, you can -- if you are a gun hater, and you are very strongly involved in gun control, let's say, and you think that using a gun is a worse kind of murder than stabbing somebody or hitting them with a pole or something, you could say that's aggravated. If you think guns are -- if you think guns aren't somebody's fault because we have guns in our society. You could say that's mitigating. Nobody can control what you think is mitigating evidence.

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A. All right.
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- Q. Do you think that's an important thing for juries to be able to have, the ability to spare a life, notwithstanding the evidence if they think there's something about, about the background of the offender that's important? Do you think that's a good thing for a jury to have, that option?
- A. I would think that that's just totally dependent on the individual case.
- Q. All right. Do you like the idea that if you are on the jury that you would have the opportunity to do such a thing and consider that possibility?
 - A. Or any mitigating circumstances.
 - Q. Right.
 - A. Yes.
- Any that's exactly what I mean, any mitigating
- A. But as you said, so long as it doesn't disqualify a person, right.
- Q. And I see nothing about you that's disqualifying. You sound fine to me, from what I can tell. Do you -- do you recognize there are cases where a person can be dangerous because you answer that special issue yes, and there are capital murderers?
 - A. Uh-huh.

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- And yet something about their background would be such that you say that life should be spared?
 - A. Yes. I see what you are saying.
- Does that make sense to you that you have that option?
 - A. Well --
- Q. Now, it's funny because the rehabilitation aspect that you talk about could find its way into that question pretty easily. Do you see how that could be? Is it being receptive to rehabilitation, if you look at that question you could plug that into the character of the defendant, you know?

THE COURT: Mr. Schultz, I'm going to ask you to mark your notes and remember where you are. We're going to take about a five- or ten-minute recess. And, Ms. Rhoads, I want to ask you not to discuss with any of the jurors about what you have said or what was said to you in here. And I suppose if they ask you, you can tell them the Judge has instructed you not to say anything. And we'll come back in five or ten minutes and continue the voir dire.

THE BAILIFF: All rise.

(Break.)

THE COURT: All right. Ms. Rhoads. naturally, you are still under the oath. Mr. Schultz?

MR. SCHULTZ: Judge, this will be State's peremptory challenge No. 1.

THE COURT: So I suppose that takes care of that.

MR. GOELLER: Yes.

THE COURT: All right. Then, Ms. Rhoads, you are finally excused. Thank you, very much.

(Venireperson Rhoads excused.)

11:13 9 MR. SCHULTZ: Judge, do we have some 11:13 10

jurors from last week maybe?

THE COURT: I tell you, we got four people that are on standby, and you probably know their names. They are Ballard, Johnson, Kerr, and Lauriello, No. 13, 14, 15, and 16. And we've got to think of some way to try to work them in. And I'm trying to -- I was thinking about talking to both sides about what you've done in other cases to stay on schedule, and too, you know, I could put everybody on standby and simply call in eight people the night before. But right now we've got four leftovers, if I could call them back. And we've got two people waiting to be questioned out here. And we've got four coming in at one o'clock. So at any rate, those four that we're

11:14 1 and get them in here. So, but that's our status right 11:14 2 now. The next one is Venora Allen. Everybody ready to

11:14 3 talk to Venora Allen?

> (Venireperson Allen present.) THE COURT: Are you Venora Allen?

talking about are still on standby, and I suppose we

need to work them in or simply put off some other ones

11:15 6 VENIREPERSON: Yes.

> THE COURT: Perhaps you remember last Tuesday I had put everyone under oath in regard to answering questions truthfully. And you, like everyone else, will continue to be under oath.

> > VENIREPERSON: Okay.

THE COURT: Please be seated, ma'am. All right, Mr. Schultz.

VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

BY MR. SCHULTZ:

- Good morning, Ms. Allen.
- 11:15 17 Good morning.
 - You didn't hear enough of me last Tuesday. You have to listen some more. I like to tell you that I'll be brief, but you know better than that. So if you'll just bear with me, having been pleasant about it, I hope that you share with me the same view that this is really important stuff.
 - Uh-huh. A.
 - And the things that I said on Tuesday, it's one

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of those things that I would hope we would not have anybody on this jury who would find it delightful to have the opportunity to maybe cause somebody's death. I don't think that's good.

A. Right.

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- Q. I don't have a problem with the concept of the death penalty because it's the law. And if we prove what we have to prove, I don't apologize for our position on it, but it's almost like going to war or something. I would rather our country not have to fight and people have to behave that way if we had a choice, and maybe we really don't. When I -- when I ask you to take a moment back on Tuesday to look at the defendant, I told you that we really planned to do it that way, I hope you understood I wasn't trying to be funny or amusing or that it was like a funny way to talk to me, because it really is serious.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And I think both sides owe it to the prospective jurors to know that this is the real thing, and that we really are actively trying to convince 12 people that this should be done. And of course the defense is trying to convince the jury that it should not be done or, furthermore, we can't seem to convict of capital murder. We have to do that first before we move

Q. Exactly.

- A. I don't know. I'm not sure how I feel as far as the -- as far as with Mr. Cantu, as far as how everything goes because I don't know all of the underlying facts.
 - Q. Of course not, of course not.
 - A. Do I want to be fair? Yes.
- Q. You know, the truth is, I guess what's fair is to have a juror who is open to all possibilities that would arise in the trial.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. It might be that you are the kind of person who would more often go for a death sentence than maybe another person would.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. I can look at your questionnaire for some guidance on that but, you know, I don't know you. I'll know you better from this talk than I did before. But still, you don't -- you don't ever really know how somebody's going to react until they are faced with that anyway.
 - A. Right.
- Q. You just never know. But the fact that you might be more leaning one way or another than somebody else, doesn't make either of you unfair. The nice thing

into the punishment phase.

But I don't know if you are like me, but I know before I started doing this kind of work it was a lot easier for me to watch television at night and see some awful crime and just no reason for it at all other than just meanness and callousness. It was easy for me to say, why don't we just start killing more people, and we won't have these kind of problems?

And although that's perhaps correct still -- that's a correct statement -- when I have to sit here and this becomes a part of my life, you get a more clear view of the circumstances, I think, than maybe when it's just in your living room. Do you know what I mean?

- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Do you feel any different now that you know you are actually involved in it rather than when you were answering the questionnaire maybe and you were just talking abstract about it?
- A. I feel different due to the fact that in the questionnaire there was no middle answer. As far as some of the questions, do you believe in the death penalty or not? That was a tough one to answer.
 - Q. Right.

A. Yes, in certain cases. No, in certain cases.

about the jury is that 12 people make a collective decision when they get together, and they -- and they do that.

You made the statement that you are in favor of the death penalty, and your explanation was that if a person takes several lives, why should I support life in prison than death?

- A. Yes.
- Q. The person benefits by life and uses taxpayer dollars doing so.
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Is that still your view?
- A. Yes.
 - Q. When you talk about several lives, obviously we think of such things as maybe Hitler?
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. Or Oklahoma City or that sort of thing?
 - A. Right
 - Q. In Texas our law provides that if you intentionally kill two or more people -- it just has to be two --
 - A. Okay.

Q. -- that that's a capital murder, if it's in the same criminal transaction. Or even if you are a serial killer and it's a different transaction, but it's all

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- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. I know it's not the same numbers as a Hitler or Oklahoma City type situation; does that seem to be the kind of case that should be subject to the death penalty?
- A. It just depended on the circumstances. If it was something maybe self-defense, then I wouldn't say that it would be subject to the death penalty.
 - Q. Right.
- A. If it was just something out of pure -- a malicious intent, yes.
- Q. And you are absolutely right with what you are saying because, if it was self-defense, if you really believed it was self-defense, he would be not guilty anyway because that's a defense. I mean, if I'm coming at you with a view toward you and deadly harm, you don't have to let me do it to avoid killing me; you can kill me. It's like kill or be killed?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. So you are absolutely right. And if it were an accident, let's say I'm driving my car in a -- and I look away for a second and my car swerves and it kills two people --
 - A. Uh-huh.

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- Q. -- that's not a murder. That might be something. That might be like a manslaughter. It might be negligent homicide or it might not be any crime. It might just be an accident like it happens.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. But it couldn't be murder because I have to intentionally run my car into these people to be murder. Does that make sense to you?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. I guess what you are saying is you don't disagree with our law, that if somebody kills two people intentionally on purpose, without justification, you don't disagree that that could be a death penalty case?
- A. I don't disagree with it if the facts are true. Again, listening to the evidence itself.
 - Q. Right.
- A. If I -- like if it was a malicious intent, then I would definitely consider that. If it's something outside of that, then no. I mean, I -- the death penalty is kind of a difficult one to deal with. I know if it was maybe that, if the shoe was on the other foot, that is something I would want everybody to listen to everything first before they would decide something like that.
 - Q. Of course, of course. What about some of the

other kinds of capital murder? Does murder in the course of burglary seem like that is one that could be a death penalty case to you?

- A. It's still kind of hard to say. I'm not sure. Again, due to the fact of the evidence. Maybe if the person didn't know -- I don't know. I don't know.
 - Q. How about murder in the course of a robbery?
- A. Again, I'm not sure if that's something because I don't know the facts. If it was a point blank robbery, what the circumstances were. That again, that's tough.
- Q. Some of the other varieties like murdering police officers, does that seem to you to be a capital kind of case?
- A. I will say maybe we could try them as capital. And, again, if the jury decides to go to the death penalty, then that's something that the jury would decide on. But I don't know if that's something -- a police officer, yeah, maybe you can go ahead and try them for capital murder. But you never know; you don't know what the circumstances are there.
- Q. And maybe it's my question that's confusing or just not a good question.
 - A. Okay.
 - Q. We don't have an automatic death sentence in

11:25 1 Texas anyway.

A. Right.

- Q. So I'm more like -- I could probably name a crime that you could say that should never be a death penalty.
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. Shoplifting?
 - A. Right.
- Q. There may be countries on this earth that would execute you for shoplifting.
 - A. Oh, yes.
- Q. But we wouldn't do that in America, and we shouldn't. Do you agree with that?
 - A. I agree.
- Q. Burglary. You are up here today, and I've got somebody that has the jury list. And he goes and breaks in and happens to steal your TV while you are here. You don't want your TV stolen, and you don't want people going in your house and invading your privacy, but you don't think the person should be executed for doing that?
 - A. No.
- Q. And more what I was asking you actually,
 Ms. Allen, was whether those kinds of crimes seem like,
 depending on the circumstances they could or could not

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be a death penalty.

A. Okay.

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- Q. And do you feel that they could depending on the circumstances?
 - A. Depending on the circumstances, yes.
- Q. Okay. Okay. If you had a choice between being on this jury and off, and it's like right in the middle of all this, Judge Sandoval said, Ms. Allen, we got a lot of people available to be jurors in this case so I can be generous to you. It's up to you. Do you want to be on this jury or off this jury, what would your answer be?
- A. I would tell them I want to go ahead and do my duty as a citizen of the United States, especially if Collin County, if it was all -- I would want to do my duty. If he feels that I need to serve on the jury, that's what I would do and make the accommodations to do so.
- Q. Did I make you mad when I was talking about how important it is and even if your personal life is disrupted? I probably came on a little strong with you than you wish I had?
- A. It was strong. No. You didn't bother me because I know that if -- if something did come up to it, I would think Judge Sandoval would have a listening

personally, I don't know how I would handle that situation.

But if that's something that I would -- if there was something that somebody would do and you are putting them there for the death penalty, I would have sympathy for that person. As a parent I would understand what that person is going through. I would say I would be against the death penalty in that situation if somebody just goes out and commits an act with the intent, due to again, due the facts of the crime and what the past or their background's about. Then that's something I would have consider. I wouldn't say that I'm totally against the death penalty but there are certain situations. I don't know if I answered your question or not.

- Q. I think you did. Are you saying -- are you saying that if one of your children got charged with capital murder?
- A. No. I'm saying if there was a person that did harm to my child and my child is no longer here.
 - Q. Right.

A. Which happens a lot. And as a parent, if I go out and do intent to that person, you know, due to rage, anger, whatever, capital murder -- charging me with capital murder, I think would be difficult. I don't

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ear, but I also know that this is important, too. That if my life was on the line, I would want somebody to do the same thing for me. So as far as making special provisions, that's something I would do.

- Q. Right. And that's what I meant. I know vacations are important and fall breaks and all those things we do with our kids.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And I like it the same as the next person. But compared to what we're doing here, I think -- I think sometimes there are bigger issues than vacations.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And dinner parties or whatever that we may have that -- weddings, those kinds of things sometimes are big, but they are not -- they are not maybe as big as this anyway. Was there ever a time in your life that you were against the death penalty, that you can remember?
- A. Probably before there was DNA. I wouldn't say totally against it. The only time that I'm totally against it is like somebody used the example last week stating that, if somebody did something terrible to my child, with the intent, without my child actually having the ability to protect herself, then I would think the death penalty is wrong due to the fact that -- me

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 $_{11:30}$ 1 know if, I don't know if that's even the right thing to $_{11:30}$ 2 say, you know.

- Q. And there's nothing wrong with saying that because we're just talking.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And you are absolutely right. There are ways that that could be a capital murder perhaps in theory. For example, if you went -- let's say there were two people that had harmed your child.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And your child wasn't around anymore and you went and killed both of them. And you found them together because they left the courtroom laughing together. You know, that kind of idea?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Well, that's capital murder. You intentionally caused the death of two or more people.
 - A. Right.
- Q. So, yes, you have committed the crime of capital murder, and if that were charged, and if the Grand Jury returned an indictment that way, and if the District Attorney's office said, yes, you know, Ms. Allen knew what she was doing, and she needs a death sentence kind of thing, you would be on trial for that?

A. Correct.

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- Q. Now, I mean, I think we would all agree that you could try those facts a million times out of a million and you would never get a death sentence because we got this question here that would have to be considered, taking into consideration all the evidence considering the circumstances and your character and your background. And so there's that, there's that protection against those cases where it doesn't fit?
 - A. Uh-huh.

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- Q. There's that protection available -- available under our law.
 - A. Right.
- Q. You bring up an interesting point that I would like to talk with you about. Let's say, and I know it wouldn't happen. I'm just using this as an illustration because I don't ever talk about this case in particular. It's not appropriate, nor can Mr. Goeller or Mr. High, they can't do it either.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. I can sense from just how you describe this, that you love your children.
- 11:32 22 A. Uh-huh.
- $^{11:32}$ 23 Q. As most moms -- we'd hope all moms, but most $^{11:32}$ 24 moms for sure do.
 - A. Right.

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- Q. And I know it would never happen, but if one of your children got arrested and convicted for capital murder -- how old are your kids, by the way?
 - A. I just have a 7-year-old daughter.
- Q. Okay. Let's say you had a son. It doesn't matter. You would be there for your son, wouldn't you, no matter what he had done?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. And you would be meeting with your son's lawyers?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- 11:32 12 Q. And you would be saying, how can I help?
- 11:32 13 A. Uh-huh.
- 11:32 14 Q. You'd be visiting him at the jail whenever 11:32 15 possible?
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. Writing letters and praying for him, all of those things?
 - A. Correct.
 - Q. And truthfully in your heart you'd want to be believing that he has changed or that he hadn't really meant it at all or that sort of thing, right?
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. I think that's just what good people -- that's how good people are. That's what it is. And here's

- where it can get tough because I'm not talking about this case in particular. I'm talking about in general, it is not unheard of for a mom to come in and beg for a child's life.
 - A. That's correct.
 - Q. You would do it. I would do it. You know?
 - A. Uh-buh.
- Q. Anybody with children would do it in a heart beat. What's that mean in the overall scheme? How important is that in deciding what is justice, the fact that somebody's mamma really loves him? Is that important to you?
- A. It's important to me because it just shows the care that that parent feels for their child. But still as a parent, I guess you at one point in time you are going to have to separate the two. Right is right and wrong is wrong. And if wrong was done, I think that my child needs to understand that there is going to be a penalty to that punishment or to whatever was done and that I will be there for you as long as I can. And then after that, it's out of my hands.

But I mean, I would do the same thing. I would beg and plead but, you know, it's still up to -- I don't know if that would have a huge impact on me after seeing all the evidence that was there. But I would

11:34 1 feel for her as a parent, yes.

Q. I mean, you seem -- I don't know you well, but I almost have to guess just from us talking. You seem like a kind person and a person that relationships mean everything to you.

A. Yes.

- Q. You seem like that kind of person. And I suspect you are the kind of person, if you were watching that evidence and listening to that, that could just put you in tears. Not because you are weak, but maybe because you are strong. Do you know that kind of idea?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Probably could do that to us here. I mean, we are not -- just because we're prosecutors, doesn't mean we don't have hearts and don't care about stuff. Do you recognize that a way of looking at that is that sometimes when you do these bad acts and you are not even thinking about your own mother and what that's going to do to her kind of thing?
 - A. Oh, yeah, definitely.
- Q. I mean, I mean, in addition to the victim's family, when they will never see that child again. You put your mom in that position too and that's, she may be the unfortunate victim of it all.
- A. Yes.

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- Q. But she's still a victim of some wrong. Does that make sense to you?
 - A. Yes, it does.

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- Q. All right. Now, we don't know the defendant. You don't know him, and I don't know him. But you and I can both agree, he probably doesn't want to die. If he had a choice, it's probably not his wish to die?
 - A. Oh, I'm pretty sure he doesn't.
- Q. And I bet most of the people that are charged with capital murder probably don't want to die?
 - A. Correct.
- Q. And that means that juries may be called upon to do something that the defendant doesn't want to do, and that's kind of unnatural for us. We're not used to doing that.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. If you stop and think about it. I don't know about you, but a lot of us give to charities, for example?
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Do you work for Ugly Duckling?
- 11:36 22 A. That's correct.
 - You probably don't work in a huge office. Is it like 50 or 60 people in that office?
 - A. I think there's around 120.

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- Wow. Is it like a corporate --
- The corporate office.
- Q. Okay. Well, then I'll bet you there isn't a week that goes by that there isn't somebody coming in with Girl Scout cookies or Boy Scouts or light bulbs?
 - A. Yeah.
- Q. And maybe we don't like it because it seems like we pay more than we get maybe, but we do that because that's important to us.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. In helping people out, and it just matters. Somebody gets sick, and we take up collections for them, you know. And if we need it, maybe they would do it for us.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And so a lot of times when we ask a jury to look at a death sentence, it's asking them instead of being their usual caring kind of self or their usual protecting kind of self, it's asking them to do something kind of different. It's asking them to do something pretty harsh. And they've got to stay focused on why they think that way and what -- and what the purpose of it is or else -- or else we'd never have that happen, you know?
 - A. Uh-huh.

- Q. If a capital murderer -- if capital murder defendants don't want to die -- and you and I agree probably mostly don't. Once in a blue moon probably maybe, probably most of them don't. Would you expect them to behave well in jail before trial or act up bad in jail? What would you expect them to be doing?
 - A. Oh, that's a tough one.
- Q. Let's do it this way. Let's say it was you. You got yourself into something. You got yourself charged with capital murder. You are very concerned you are going to get convicted because, you know, I mean you know the evidence, and you know how it's all going to be. How would you behave in the jail? What would you
- A. Me, myself? I would try to make my stay as easy as possible because I know that the officers can make it very hard on me. Not only the officers, as well as the inmates. I would try to follow the rules and regulations that the facility has proposed on me. Because I already know that my stay there is going to be probably the remaining of my life. So I don't want things to be even harder than they already are.
- Q. What about the fact that that would be things that you wanted to be able to show the jury, to be able to say, well, I'm -- I'm a changed person. I'm -- I'm

- acting nice, I'm going to church, and I'm trying to create jail ministries and that sort of thing. Do you see how that could be something that you might think of doing?
 - A. Oh, yeah.
- And you know, I'm not -- I'm not at all against the notion of change for real reasons. I'm just saying that's always the puzzle because if -- you've never been on a jury before. But if somebody offered evidence that I did it. I'm glad I did it, and I'll do it again if I get the chance. That doesn't happen much. Why would it?
 - A. Right.
- Q. It's said that here are the reasons. I had a bad upbringing. I used drugs -- I used drugs. My dad wasn't around when I needed him. I grew up poor. I -you know, those kinds of things. And I did this awful thing, and I did it when I was on drugs and wasn't really thinking. And I'm real sorry and my life has changed, so please don't kill me, you know, that kind of deal. Sometimes that could be true.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. I mean, I'm not saying that everybody has to not mean it. If you were on the jury trying figure out if it's true or not, what would you be looking for?

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What would you look at to see if this is a person telling you what in our hearts we want to hear anyway?

- A. What has -- what has, first of all, you told me capital murder is something that you had to kill or you are committing a crime because of several people has been murdered, correct?
 - Q. At least two.

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- A. Okay. I would think what my thing would be was what were you doing to rehabilitate yourself in between the times? I don't know if the capital murder was -- all happened at the same time or not. What were you doing to remove yourself from the negative environment that put you there to begin with?
 - Q. Okay.
- A. Yeah. A lot of us come from bad backgrounds but, you know, we can change. Basically, are you still hanging around the same people? What caused you to get in that position? Did you have a choice to remove yourself from that environment if you did. Why didn't you?
- Q. Okay. Now, you haven't heard any evidence in this case, but the indictment alleges that the murders happened at the same time. So it's kind of like, you know, it's almost like the idea of murdering the husband and wife and brother and sister. It happened the same

have grown up pretty good and turned out bad?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Then do you think, what is it that makes people when they become adults, when they, say, hit 27 years old, that kind of age, what is it that makes people do right or wrong, do you think?
- A. I think it's just the lack -- doing right.

 Just the respect for themselves. I think as far as people doing right, just they want to make something of themselves, just a respect factor. Doing wrong and always being on the bad side, to me it just tells me that either -- the respect for yourself is not really there.
- Q. Now, when I talk about doing right or wrong and it's obviously all kinds of -- all kinds of levels?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. You know if you are doing -- let's say you got a part-time job.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Let's say your part-time job is working as a night watchman. And let's say the person that wants to hire you pays you in cash.
 - A. Okay.
 - Q. Now, everybody knows what that means. It means that he doesn't have to pay unemployment tax on that

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time, same place kind of thing. So it's not like I murdered somebody today, then a year from now I go murder a second person. That could be a capital murder. That's just not the way this is alleged. So apparently that's not what we can expect.

MR. SCHULTZ: In the interest of time, could you excuse the State's counsel for a few seconds?

THE COURT: Yes, sure.

(State's counsel conferring.)

- Q. (BY MR. SCHULTZ) When I talked before on Tuesday, when I said and asked people and just asked for a show of hands, and I don't remember if your hand went up or not. When I asked the question, if you had known people in your life who have come from a really really bad environment and a very, if not tragic background, certainly much missing in their growing up who have turned out really really good. Did you raise your hand when I asked that question?
 - A. Yes, I did.
- Q. And kind of the opposite question is always, well, have you known people that have grown up pretty good, you know. And I don't mean, nothing is perfect.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Teen-age years are awful no matter where you live, and it's a hard time for us all. But people that

money, and it means that he doesn't have to kick in his share of social security. He doesn't have to withhold income tax, and the night watchman knows what that means too. Same thing, no record of this. So my hundred dollars a week is tax-free money.

- A. Vh-huh.
- Q. Now, that isn't right, and we all know it isn't right. And it's not something that we'd want to get caught at, but that's stuff that probably a lot of people do that could otherwise be okay people. Wouldn't you agree with me?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. I'm not saying it's good, and I'm not advocating it, but that's the kind of thing that good people could say, well, they get enough from me already.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. I already pay 40 cents on every dollar I make and then they want more. And I pay 9 percent on sales tax or whatever it is now and I don't have anything left. And here I'm working instead of staying home at night, and they can do that.

And people could do other stuff. They can not spend enough time with their kids. And that's probably not good. We may regret that some day.

A. Right.

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Q. And that's not hard-core evil either. That's just being not the greatest of parents or just not thinking about what's right sometimes or whatever. But do you think there's some people who are so different from the rest of us that they could do -- just do an awful crime, an unspeakable kind of crime and not really even feel bad about doing it, just because of how they are made or whatever?

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- A. Yes. Yes, I do. I feel that there are other people out there that can commit an act and have no feeling towards that.
- Q. I mean, and it's interesting because in Texas we don't have to prove motive for why somebody commits a murder. And you may have seen on TV when they talk about motive. You've got to prove what the purpose was or something like that. That's not Texas law.

Oftentimes the motive will be clear, but it may not. It may be so bizarre that we can't ever figure out how that person thinks, and we can't -- when we can't understand why it happened, it may just simply be because our values aren't of a way that make it that way.

- A. Uh-huh.
- Oklahoma City, the bombing of the courthouse up there in Oklahoma City, apparently the motive was to

kids, or we try to teach our kids that even going to 7-Eleven and taking a piece of bubble gum is wrong. And as they get older they realize that. There is certain situations that, as a person gets older, they should realize that, what's right and what's wrong. And when they get to a certain age, our environment teaches us that we should know that.

And at a certain age if that person doesn't realize what's right and wrong by their feelings, then to me, it's just unteachable. And maybe -- you can't say society hasn't done their job. Maybe they just chose not to.

- Q. But when they got charged with capital murder and maybe got found guilty of capital murder, that person might offer evidence saying, I am real sorry and I'm remorseful, and I wish it had not happened.
 - A. Yes.
- And you realize that saying it isn't true, but it's not the same thing, but it's saying it. Do you know what I'm mean?
- A. Saying I'm sorry is one thing and actually doing it is another.
- Q. Do you ever make your daughter tell somebody she's sorry for something she said or did? Did you have her do that?

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retaliate against the government for things that this guy thought the government had done badly like Waco and Ruby Ridge and things like that.

- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. That's a motive, but you and I can't understand that.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. If we hate -- if we hate the FBI, why do we blow up women and children that have nothing to do with the FBI? That doesn't make any sense to us.
- Q. Apparently it made sense to him. Even to the end, he claimed it made sense to him. And he claimed it was kind of like war and just casualties of war.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. You do recognize that there are people who can do stuff like that and they don't -- they don't feel bad about it.
 - A. Uh-huh. Yes, I do.
- How dangerous are people who don't have the ability to feel bad about that, in your opinion?
- A. I feel very dangerous because if they don't feel bad about an act that was committed, then that tells me they can't understand the difference between right and wrong. Even a little thing like we teach our

A. Yes.

- Did you ever get the feeling that she is not really sorry, but she was doing it because she had to, kind of thing?
- A. I think at the end, I think she really did feel sorry. And that also she was to a point that she -that I did have to force her to go do that, the embarrassment of it all.
- Q. Okay. Now, let's talk about some things that can contribute to people's situations. Your child is a little bit young yet, but not too young for you to start worrying about drugs.
 - A. Right.
- Q. That's not an insult to her. That's what I do for a living and it's everywhere.
- A. Right.
- And I got it, and Matt's got it, and everybody with kids has that horrible fear.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- You teach them. You try to know their friends. You try to do everything you can, but they are in school and they are out on dates or their friends' houses more than they are around you kind of thing. Okay?
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. What do you think about people using drugs and

A. That's correct.

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because of the drugs that they use that makes them violent and they've done violent things before, and they keep doing drugs. And then a capital murder happens while perhaps they are on drugs or perhaps not. We don't, we may not know. Maybe they say they are, maybe they were, maybe they weren't, but that's the claim.

A. Uh-huh.

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- Q. How does that affect how you view the murder that they did when they were on drugs?
- A. That kind of reminds me of a question that was in the questionnaire that we, that you asked about the person on alcohol. Me, with myself having a zero tolerance for drugs, I use that -- that's not an excuse. You can't tell me that something of that -- something with that type of a traumatic event, that even though the person was under the influence of drugs did not realize what was going on.

So I -- I don't know. That doesn't sit too well with me. As far as if somebody is using that as: Well, I was on drugs; so, therefore, this is what happened. But you still did something that you shouldn't have done. I don't use that as a -- I won't say it was not a scapegoat, but it doesn't sit really well with me.

Q. So maybe if I tried to convince you of that,

to know what each one of them would have to say. I would sit there and listen to both sides. Because me not being an expert, as far as what drugs could do to a person, then I will want to know the -- the evidence or the facts that could get a person to do some type of act while they are on drugs.

- Q. Okay. And why I ask you that, Ms. Allen, is because one of the questions, assuming you found the defendant guilty of capital murder, one of the questions you get asked is whether there is a probability that the defendant would commit criminal acts of violence that would be a continuing threat to our society?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And many jurors would say, you know, that's not a medical question. I don't need experts to help me figure out when there is danger. I've lived on this planet, and I know -- I know how to tell about that. I know if I'm in a nightclub and it starts getting rough and some people start getting ready for a fight, I can tell about that, and I know when to leave. And I understand that.

And they say, if I go to the circus and the tiger escapes from the cage when I'm there with my children, I don't need a veterinarian to tell me that that tiger is dangerous after he gets out of the cage.

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I'll go get a doctor to come in and say, oh, yeah, when you do drugs, especially with all the other stuff in your background that you've got, it affected your judgment. You wouldn't have done that when you weren't doing drugs.

- A. I don't agree. I wouldn't agree with that.
- Q. Okay. Okay. On the subject of which, both sides can introduce psychiatric testimony --
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. -- in helping the jury to determine punishment. The State can bring in a psychiatrist to say I've examined the evidence in this case and read about what happened and maybe talked to the defendant, maybe not. It depends. And the State's psychiatrist can say, in my opinion, he's a dangerous person. And the defense could have a psychiatrist come in and say we've talked to the defendant, and we don't think he is a dangerous person.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And they can get more, and we can get more. You know how that would be?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Is that important to you, is what each side having a psychiatrist to say kind of what their side says? Is that important to you?
 - A. Yes. It's important to me because I would want

I already know that. I don't need an expert.

In other words, a lot of what I can do I can do just by myself because I'm an intelligent person that makes my way in this world.

Do you see how they could feel that way, that they would listen to anything that either side put up in terms of psychiatric evidence? But deciding whether somebody is dangerous or not you need to find out what they did, or kind of what you said before, what they have been doing besides that crime, right?

- A. Right. That's correct.
- Q. And you also recognize, and I'm not putting us down or putting the defense down, but you can always get experts. You can always hire an expert to say anything. And the State does the same thing that the defense does sometimes, and that's hire experts that will help put their side in a better light.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Now, what about -- you would agree with me that, if you have a choice, it's probably better for children to grow up with both parents at home, wouldn't you?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. I guess that depends on the parents because there can be some situations where, you know, nonstop

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fussing and fighting all the time may be worse than a divorce. But most of the time it's better to have both parents around, don't you think?

A. Uh-huh, yes, I do.

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- Q. If that's the case, and if somebody grows up in a home where there's not a dad, either in the home regularly or even -- even present at all, in your mind, does that change that person's responsibility to not go out and commit capital murders because -- because the father wasn't there?
- A. No. It doesn't change my mind. Just because the father was not there, does not mean that that -- that gives that person the right to do that. You know, you would think that there would be a better judgment there.
- Q. You can see how somebody might try to use that as an excuse, especially if charged with a capital crime.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And you've listened to -- just because -- just because you may not view that as important, doesn't mean you wouldn't listen to them and fairly evaluate?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. Just like the drug stuff. You may say that's not an excuse and you -- you still knew better.
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- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. But wouldn't just --
- A. No. I would still listen to all the evidence and the testimony.
- Q. Some people -- the idea of jury service in a capital case is to have an open mind to both life and death. And you recognize that some cases call for a life sentence, and you've said that in your questionnaire, and some cases call for a death sentence?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And you believe that you would be enough in the middle on those issues that you can consider answering the questions on the evidence and let the chips fall where they may from the answers to those questions? Does that make sense to you, what I'm saying?
 - A. Yes, it does.
- Q. In other words, we're not going to say to you directly, Ms. Allen, does this defendant get life or death? And I'm assuming he's been convicted of capital murder, because we have to prove that. Instead what we ask you is, Ms. Allen and 11 other people: Do you find beyond a reasonable doubt that there is a probability that the defendant would commit criminal acts of violence that would constitute a continuing threat to society?

- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. If your answer to that question is no, do you know what that means, if you say no to that?
- A. Is that part of the -- the three questions that we went over when we were in court on Tuesday?
- Q. This is the first of the questions. And if your answer to that is: No, no, we do not find that probability; do you know what that means for the defendant? No, he's not dangerous?
- A. Possibly life in the institution, which you still consider the institution a society, correct?
 - Q. Uh-huh.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. In other words, he gets life and so -- if your answer to that question is no, it's a life sentence.
 - A. Correct.
- Q. Automatic. And everybody goes home except the defendant, and he goes to prison with his life sentence.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. If you answer that answer yes, yes, the State has proved a probability acts of violence that would make him a continuing threat to society, that can be prison society. I mean, you can look at it and say: Is he dangerous in prison society? But you don't have to limit it to that. You can say would he be dangerous to

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our society? I mean, walking around the corporate offices of Ugly Duckling or in the ice cream store where we go sometimes after work, that kind of thing.

- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Is he probably going to be a danger to society wherever he might be in society? If your answer to that question is yes, then we have one more question for you, actually two more maybe. But I'm not going to -- I'm not going to talk about the other question. Not to hide anything from you, but it's complicated and takes longer than you want or anybody else wants to hear me talk.

This is the mitigation question. Whether taking into consideration all of the evidence, that means like the first part of the trial and anything in the second, including circumstances of the offense, defendant's character and background and his personal moral culpability, taking everything into account, everything that you hear, the question becomes: Is there something in this case so powerful that even though he's a capital murderer and even though he has been found probably dangerous in the future, is there something so great that a life sentence --

MR. GOELLER: I'm sorry, Mr. Schultz. I hate to interrupt in mid-sentence. Judge, I'd have to object to "so powerful and so great." I think that

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THE COURT: All right. I'll sustain the objection. If you could answer the question a different way.

MR. SCHULTZ: Yes, sir. I apologize for being a burden shifter on that issue.

MR. GOELLER: No apology necessary.

- Q. (BY MR. SCHULTZ) The actual term of the question is sufficient circumstances to warrant a life sentence.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. We don't have any definition of sufficient. I guess it could be a little if you want a little. It could be a lot if you want a lot. If has to be sufficient. It has to be enough to satisfy you. And the idea is that there may be circumstances where a dangerous or a dangerous person still shouldn't get the death penalty for some reason.

Some examples, I think of these things

saying?

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- A. Yes, I do follow what you're saying.
- Q. Maybe you or I would say, well, it's tough if your dad wasn't around. But I know a lot of people that didn't have a dad around. And maybe there were people that have dead dads that couldn't be around or I've known people that had dads in the penitentiary, and they turned out okay. And life is not always fair, but I don't find that mitigating. Somebody else might find that mitigating. And my dad was real nice. And if I didn't have a dad, maybe that would be really big. So everybody is free to do what they want on that question.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. There's no -- there's, there's no control.

 Does that seem to you to be something that you could work with, that question, and listen to all the evidence, either from us or from them if they want to produce evidence and decide: Is a life sentence the right thing to do under all the evidence?
- A. That is a decision that I think I could make. I'm pretty sure I could make with all the evidence presented to me.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. If a life sentence would be the way to go or -- or the actual death.

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that kind of illustrate what we're talking about. Maybe the person was a war hero.

- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Saved a lot of lives. Loved his country, did good things. And then later on for some reason he got hooked up on drugs or he just turned mean. And maybe a jury would look at all that, and say, well, you know, his military career was so distinguished that we've got to say that's mitigating. That because of how he behaved in the Navy, for example, that that would be sufficient that we'll give him the break of a life sentence.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Even though under most circumstances somebody would get -- would get a death sentence. Do you see how that could work?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And it doesn't sound like maybe you are the person, but there might be some people that say drugs are special, and they are mitigating. And I think if somebody did a crime on drugs that would not get the death penalty in my mind, do you know?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. We can say we disagree, but we can't say that's wrong, and that's their choice. Do you follow what I'm

- Q. Okay. And you feel that you, depending on what's proved to you, you could do either one and go out of the courtroom and know you had done the right thing?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. A couple questions about your questionnaire. And a lot of times on this questionnaire, I mean, we hit people cold, and there may be things that they say or think at the time that, when we talk about it, it's different. You indicated that the best argument in opposition of the death penalty is young and then mentally disabled; is that right? And that was kind of your idea at the time, right?
- A. Yeah. And the reason why I said young was due to the fact I'm not sure it was on TV, the trial that was on TV about the student that went in and killed his teacher?
 - Q. Uh-huh.
 - A. With a person --
 - Q. Was he a 13-year-old?
- A. I think he was around 13. Due to the fact that he's so young, and he has so much of life to live; yes, he did a wrong act. But I'm not sure if he was, I'm not sure if death was the right way to go. Mentally disabled, the reason why I put that is because not all the time they know the difference between right and

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- Q. Right. I'm with you on that. On the young question, first of all, you have had a chance to look at the defendant, and you've had a chance to look at him on Tuesday, and you certainly can do that. There's certainly nothing wrong with looking at anybody here if you want to. I guess young is a relative term.
 - A. It is.
- Q. And he certainly looks young to me. But on the other hand, maybe to an 18-year-old he wouldn't. You know, that kind of thing?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. When you talk about young, at what point -- at what age do you think age doesn't make any real difference then?
 - A. I would say probably 16.
- Q. I mean, you wouldn't have a problem with a 27-year-old, for example, that wouldn't be -- I mean, you don't think that's an argument against the death penalty versus a person who is 27 and charged with a death crime, do you?
 - A. If the evidence is there, no.
- Q. Right, right. Okay. You indicated one of the problems that concerns you in the criminal justice system is early parole?
- A. Yes. Because I think we use it as a way to kind of -- because our prison systems are so crowded as it is, and just because of good behavior we would release a person, due to the fact that maybe they still need to be in there. So sometimes, yes, I do have a problem with early parole, especially if they go out, commit the same crime, and then they are back in there. To me that was a waste of time.
- Q. Now, you put down the police officers are overworked and underpaid.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And there might be some of us that have heard of officers in other states or something that maybe make a lot more money than they do here in Texas. But that was right; they are overworked and underpaid.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Now, the burden of proof in a criminal case, you put, is left up to the attorney?
 - A. Right.
- Q. And I want to talk to you about that. And that in many ways, that's a good answer. And it probably correctly states how we do things in the law. The burden of proof of proving somebody guilty of a crime is on the State.
 - A. Uh-huh.

- Q. And it kind of has some other parts to it that say the same thing, like the presumption of innocence.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. For example, when we start this trial the defendant has to be presumed innocent.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And that means, if you are going to be a fair juror, you have to start out saying that, until the State proves something to me, my vote would always have to be not guilty.
 - A. Correct.
- Q. And that makes good sense because if you make the defendants prove their innocence, first of all, that wouldn't be exactly fair. If we do the charge, we ought to be able to prove it. But how could, if you think about it, how could they ever prove that they are innocent? Like if I bring you into court and charge you with stealing my car last week --
 - A. Uh-huh.
- 12:13 20 Q. -- how would you prove you didn't? You know, 12:13 21 that would be real hard. I guess you could get an 12:13 22 alibi, say, well, maybe an alibi witness would do it?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- 12:13 24 Q. But maybe you don't have an alibi. Maybe I 12:13 25 claimed you stole it from in the parking lot when you

were up here last Tuesday. And you have no alibi because you were up here and around. And if I make you prove it -- first of all, I would make you have to come testify and you would have to say, I didn't do it.

- A. Right.
- Q. And there's a problem with that because the law says you don't have to testify in your own trial if you don't want to.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. So what we've done to try to make it simple and try to make it fair to society, is we say that the State charges you with a crime. Then the State has to prove it all by the State's self, and you don't have to help them at all, correct?
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. Does that seem to make sense to you?
 - A. Yes, it does.
- Q. So that having been said, even though the burden of proof is up to the individual attorney in the sense that they have to decide how much proof they want to offer, I mean, I don't have to offer all my proof. I could, I could only offer some of it, if I want to. That's kind of my burden, to only offer some of it. And
- 12:14 24 same thing with the defense, they can decide how much
- 12:14 25 proof they want to offer. And that's their burden to

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make that decision, how much proof they want to offer.

A. Uh-huh.

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- But when we talk about the proof in a criminal case itself, the burden of proving the guilt of the defendant is on the State of Texas. It never shifts. Is that fair to you because it is to me.
 - A. Yes.
- Now, maybe I know what you are thinking. And maybe you're thinking, you know, if he's innocent, why didn't he offer some evidence of that?
 - A. Correct.
- Q. I mean, that's -- that's human nature to feel that way. But sometimes as a juror, you have to do something different from human nature. And that could be following -- following the instructions of the Judge. All right? And the Judge will instruct you the defendant doesn't have to offer evidence if he doesn't want to.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. That's his right. It's your right too, by the way, and mine and our grandkids' right. It's everyone's right in America. Are you with me so far?
 - A. Yes, I am.
- And what that means is, you can't put that on the scales of justice. In other words, it's not a bonus

Q. Why I ask that question is because on your questionnaire, you were asked a question: If someone is accused of capital murder, he should have to prove his innocence. That's one of these strongly agree, agree. you know, that kind of thing?

- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Now, that we've talked, what would your answer to that question be now?
- A. My answer to that question would be, I would feel that the State would have to prove his -- would have to prove his -- prove that he's guilty. Because you are innocent until proven quilty.
- Q. Right. And the fact that -- these were almost, see, these questions are: What is your personal belief regarding the ten statements? And it's okay to have personal beliefs that may differ from some part of our law.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- 12:18 19 Q. That is never the problem. I might be against 12:18 20 the death penalty as a juror.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- 12:18 22 Q. And that's okay as long as I can still vote 12:18 23 those questions in a certain way. Do you follow what I 12:18 24 am saying?
 - A. Yes, I do.

for him. It's not a -- he doesn't get extra points for saving you time by not testifying. It's not like that.

- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. But you -- you can't hold it against him, and you can't say, well, the State's case is pretty good. And since the defendant didn't testify, you must be agreeing with it. You can't do that. You can't consider him for not testifying for any purpose. Can you do that?
- A. Yes, I can. If he chooses not to testify, then I definitely wouldn't hold that against him.
- Q. Okay. Same thing with putting on evidence. If he wants to, if he wants to call witnesses and offer documents and put on evidence through his attorneys, he may do that if he wants to, and that's his right, but he doesn't have to.

And the fact that he doesn't call witnesses or put on evidence, he can't be held against him. He can't say, well, since they didn't give me the other evidence, they must be agreeing with the State's case. In other words, you can't -- it just doesn't hit on it.

- A. Right.
- Q. Can you follow that instruction?
- 12:16 25 Yes, I can.

- Q. You may feel that the death penalty is used a lot more than it is now. And that's okay as long as you are able to give a life sentence if your -- if your view of the evidence requires it.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- And so, even though you answered that in the questionnaire, what was your personal belief, which is fine, because you can have any personal belief that you want to, you would not ever shift the burden to the defendant to prove his innocence? You would never do that?
 - A. No.
- And you would never require him to testify if 12:18 14 he chose not to?
 - A.
 - And you would not punish him for not doing that?
 - And you were asked a question, do persons determine their destiny or fate by choices they make in life? And you put that you agree with that.
 - A. Vh-huh.
 - And you were asked that, kind of following up on that, a person's destiny or fate is determined by the circumstances of their birth and their upbringing and

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you disagreed with that?

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- A. That's correct.
- Q. So that's kind of what we are saying now. If you don't have a father with you growing up, that might make it harder on you, but that doesn't mean that you need to be killing people that you don't like kind of thing?
 - A. Correct.
- Q. And you indicated on your questionnaire, if a person is brought to trial on murder charges, that person is probably guilty, and you disagreed with that when you did the questionnaire. You don't believe that he's probably guilty just because he's charged?
 - A. Right.
- Q. That's the jury's job to decide if he's guilty or not, not the Grand Jury that just cranks out a charge?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. And this is interesting because the question, a defendant is innocent unless proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt, and you strongly agreed with that. So you are right on with that?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. You indicated that you think the death penalty is applied fairly in Texas.
- A. I feel that it is applied fairly because we are one of the bigger states. Therefore, we're going to have more people that we commit to the death penalty. So I guess that's why the eye is kind of on the State of
- Texas. But, yes, I do feel that it is implemented fairly.
- Q. It is interesting because your comment was, yes, it's applied fairly only to convicted criminals who seem to be a danger to society.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Which is interesting because you did that before we even talked about these questions. That's why I know them because that's that danger-to-society question.

You were asked: Do you believe that citizens accused of criminal offenses are given too many rights by the Constitution and State law?

- A. And I put yes.
- Q. Uh-huh.
- A. Yes, I do. Because there are things that are in the prison system that are there for the inmates that are not out there for me. You know, I work everyday to provide for my family. I would love to have an education and do have an education but to move on with that education.

As a taxpayer I have to pay for that. And the system that's provided for them, I'm not sure if it's a cost. Maybe they have to work it off, I'm not sure. But there are things that they get that -- that regular people, that the normal people out in the everyday world do not have the opportunity to get because of maybe they just don't have the finances to do it or whatever.

- Q. Okay. Have you, your spouse, any family members or close personal friends ever been accused, arrested or convicted, including deferred adjudication, conditional discharge, fine, et cetera, of a crime above the level of a traffic ticket? And you indicated a charge of welfare fraud; is that right?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. Could you tell me, and that's over now. Can you tell me just a little bit to see if it even applies?
- A. Basically what I did is I was -- after having my child, went on government assistance. Started work, didn't get my, didn't let them know about the changes in time. So I went to have a trial date and with regards to that and had to pay restitution with regards to that.
- Q. And you don't have to report to the probation officer or anything like that?
 - A. Yes, I did.

- Q. But you -- you are off of that now? You don't have to do that anymore?
 - A. No. I'm still reporting.
- Q. When are you -- how long are you on deferred adjudication for it?
- A. A period of ten years or until it's -- until it's finished.
- Q. Looking -- looking at that situation as a whole, Ms. Allen, do you think it's fair or unfair that the welfare department prosecuted you?
 - A. No. It was fair.
- Q. And why I ask you that question is more than anything else, I want to make sure you wouldn't hold it against the State somehow.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And in this kind of a case, and you don't seem like the kind of person that would, to me?
- A. No. I know I did something wrong. At the time I knew I needed the help. And now that the help was given there, I'm going to go ahead and do my duty to pay back so there's assistance for other people.
- Q. I guess what I'm getting at is, you are not like waiting for a chance to take revenge on a prosecutor?
 - A. No, definitely not.

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What county was that in?
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                   Collin.
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                   Now, your husband is a correctional officer?
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                  Yes, he is.
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                   And what unit is that?
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          is that located?
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- He works at Dawson State Jail in Dallas County.
- Q. I'm not -- I'm not familiar with that. Where
- A. On Commerce, 106 Commerce Street. Right across, it's a two-year State Penitentiary. They only hold them up to two years. Right across the street from Lew Sterrett.
 - Q. How long has he been doing that kind of work?
 - About two and a half years.
 - Do you ever talk with him much about his work?
- Sometimes I do. If he's had a rough day, we'll sit down and talk about it. But, you know, I don't really ask too many questions.
 - Q. Has he ever been injured?
- A. Yes, he has.
 - Q. What happened there?
- 12:27 22 A. He -- I guess they call it a shank and had cut 12:27 23 his hand. He had to go and get stitches.
 - Q. Is he -- do you get the impression that he's real cautious of all the inmates all the time and really

happen to see any other jurors, please don't discuss with them anything that you have been asked.

> (Venireperson Allen not present.) MR. GOELLER: May I address the Court,

Your Honor?

THE COURT: Yes, sir.

MR. GOELLER: It didn't dawn on me until Mr. Schultz was asking her about her prior criminal history that she's currently on deferred felony community supervision in this county. It might be in this court for all I don't know -- for all I know. I'm not sure. But I would say that a person that's on felony probation is not -- although the grounds, 3516 do not state it specifically, she is under indictment for or other legal accusation, for theft or any felony.

Welfare fraud is theft. I mean, they are both a crime of moral turpitude. I'm trying to remember the last time I did a welfare fraud case, and hers is the typical case. You don't tell AFDC or those folks and those agencies that you went back to work or something like that. But I don't think she's a qualified juror in this case. She's -- she's under felony community supervision for a crime of moral turpitude in this court -- I mean, in this county.

MR. SCHULTZ: He raises a point, and I

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watching them all the time?

A. Well, it depends on which floor he's on. I notice that he's real cautious. He's a lot more cautious with us or his immediate family because of where he works as far as security level. Certain inmates, yes, he is cautious about. He's cautious of his surroundings.

- Q. Do you know what his view is on the death penalty? Have you all ever discussed it?
 - A. No, we never have.
- Q. What do you think his view would be? Just knowing him as you do, as a husband.
- A. I think it -- I think his view would kind of be like mine, depending on the situation. If the evidence was there to support it, then that would -- then he would definitely go for something like that.
 - Q. Ms. Allen, thank you very much.

MR. SCHULTZ: We'll pass the juror.

THE COURT: Mr. Goeller?

MR. GOELLER: Judge, I think we need a sub rosa hearing.

THE COURT: All right. I'm going to ask you to step down for a minute.

VENIREPERSON: Okay.

THE COURT: I'm going to tell you, if you

don't know the answer. I don't know what your pleasure was lunchwise, but that might be a time for us to try to -- it seems like, I remember this happening in Dallas four or five years ago, and I think it was Judge Chapman's court. I will be honest with you, I'm not so sure that he's not right. I mean, in my mind it seems like there was someone on deferred adjudication for theft. And I think what had actually happened is the juror got seated and nobody snapped on it.

Because a lot of times these things, depending on what it is, they don't make their way to the computer. And that's exactly what our trouble was here. And it's not -- it's not on our criminal history that we got. And we snap on this just by me going through the questionnaire, and she upped that herself. And I think there will be a clear answer to that. I'm not at all sure he's not correct.

THE COURT: I tell you what. Let's take 45 minutes for lunch and come back at 1:15, And we'll bring up this issue. And if he's wrong, we'll continue with her examination. If he's right, then we'll call Patricia Barr next.

> THE BAILIFF: All rise. THE COURT: See you at 1:15. (Lunch recess.)

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THE COURT: We're back on the record in
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         State of Texas versus Ivan Abner Cantu. Did you all
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         confirm that she is not qualified?
                      MS. FALCO: Yes, Your Honor. We do have
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         case law. She is not qualified.
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                      MR. GOELLER: Yes.
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                      THE COURT: Would you tell Ms. Venora
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         Allen that she is finally excused, and we'll call in
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         Patricia Barr next.
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                       (Venireperson Barr present.)
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                      THE COURT: All right. Are you Patricia
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         Barr?
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                      VENIREPERSON: I am.
                      THE COURT: All right. You recall that on
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         Tuesday I put you under oath?
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                      VENIREPERSON: Yes, sir.
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                      THE COURT: And I asked you to swear that
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         you would give truthful answers to the questions that
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         have been raised and just to remind you that you are
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         still under oath.
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                      VENIREPERSON: All right.
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                      THE COURT: All right. Mr. Schultz?
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                           VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION
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         BY MR. SCHULTZ:
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                  Hi, Ms. Barr.
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Hello.

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A.

Yeah.

questionnaire, recalling that when I asked the question: Is there any reason you couldn't be fair to one side or the other, and you came up and you said it's because of your view on the death penalty. And I know that hasn't changed. And, first of all, I got a sense that it's important to you, and that that's a deeply held belief on your part.

And second of all, your questionnaire, it makes the point as many times that we've asked that question, you make it real clear. And, I mean, if you do this for a living like we do, you sometimes can really tell. But still, we have to go through the process because it's a funny thing, you might think that if a person were totally against the death penalty that somehow automatically that person would just be excused from the jury and that would be the end of it. You would think that's how it worked.

And it's a little more complicated than that for reasons that wouldn't be interesting to you. But the law says it's okay for a person to have opinions that differ from what the law is, as long as they can put those opinions out of their mind -- or if not out of their mind, as long as they don't use those opinions in how they do their work as a juror.

Let me give you an example of what I'm

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In case you didn't hear enough of me last week
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talking about. Let's suppose you were the kind of person that was against a lot of immigration to the U.S. Let's say you were of the opinion that it's not a good idea for people to be coming from India or Pakistan or something like that and taking American jobs. And I know that's not your view, but let's just say it was. Okay? It would be okay for you to hold such a view and be a juror in a case involving someone who had immigrated from that -- from a nation like that as long as you could assure the Judge, well, yes, I don't necessarily believe this defendant should be over in our country because I think we're too crowded now and too many scarce jobs and stuff. But I would never take my personal opinion on what ought to be -- what ought to be our immigration law. I would never use that in his or her case to do an injustice that way. Do you follow what I'm saying?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. So you are qualified. It doesn't matter. Now, maybe the lawyer for that defendant would be concerned that you held those beliefs and that might -- there might be some -- some concern on that lawyer's part or maybe not. But you would still be in the qualified pool. Then you'd be like everybody else. One side or the other could strike you using what we call our

you get to hear some more today. (Laughing.) Q. And I will try to get to the same matter that you tried to talk with us about before. And you understand what we were saying last week; this is something that we have to do this way. It is just the way the law is worded. Sure. A. And it is perhaps unreasonable. THE COURT: Say, let me have the attorneys up here. I'm sorry to interrupt you. (At the Bench.) THE COURT: All right. Sorry about the interruption, ma'am. VENIREPERSON: That's okay. (BY MR. SCHULTZ) Are you nervous? A. Yes. Why? Well, I guess 'cause all you guys are looking at me. I don't know. Q. It's okay. Just people.

Recalling, first of all, apart from your

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discretionary strikes. All right?

A. Uh-huh.

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Q. So to say you are against the death penalty has nothing to do with whether or not you are qualified to be in this jury pool. It might have to do with whether the State might think you are good for this kind of case or not. But if, on the other hand, Ms. Barr, your views are so strong that even trying to do the right thing you would be unable to do it, then that is a different matter because then you have created for me an additional burden that the law doesn't put on me. As a matter of fact, you probably made it impossible for me. So that's where we're going to be discussing for a few minutes.

There are a lot of laws that you probably might not agree with but wouldn't be that big a deal to you. Do you know? For example, maybe you are of the opinion that the drug laws are too easy on drug dealers and stuff, let's just say. Maybe you think that. Well, that probably would not get in your way even in a drug case because you'd take the punishment range that was given to you and you would work within that, and you say okay. And then you come at it. If you thought it ought to be a life sentence but the maximum was 20 years, you maybe would just give 20 years because that's all you

that, so I understand how others could want the death penalty."

I believe that's pretty clear. And you've also said your argument in opposition is, "Taking people's lives is not okay no matter what, except in the case of self-defense." And you've indicated you have moral religious or personal beliefs that would prevent you from sitting in judgment of another human being if it involved a death sentence.

And you indicated that you strongly agree that criminal laws, including sentences and punishment, treat criminal defendants too harshly. And it looks like you probably agree, only to the extent of the death penalty. Maybe not in any other kind of case, you are okay with it all, or do you even think we're too harsh in general?

- A. No. I think that the death penalty is too harsh.
- Q. Okay. I don't like the death penalty. I don't like the death penalty. I don't judge others who do, however. It's simply my belief. I think that people are people. And no matter how bad someone is, he can be forgiven by God and be treated with some respect. If the death penalty says the following about American culture, then we obviously have people who feel that it

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can give. Does that make sense to you?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And when we talk about the death penalty, that's special stuff because that's really big. And I hope you understood from my talk on Tuesday that I consider it big. I can do this work because I represent the State of Texas that has a death penalty. But I don't take pleasure in it, and I don't wake up in the morning saying, aren't you lucky, Bill, because you got a chance to go up and participate, along with some other people, in perhaps killing somebody. I don't think that way. And I know you don't either. And I don't think any of these other people that are up here do. They may favor the death penalty and you don't or they may be like you, but nobody is going to enjoy any part of this process.

When people are against the death penalty, and they indicate as you have on your questionnaire, and I can tell you are an intelligent person who understood the question. I could never under any circumstances return a verdict which assessed the death penalty. And then you explained your opposition in this way. "I have a hard time being that judgmental. I think I would be judged by God if I was part of sending someone to death. However, I have never had someone taken from me like

is the only way to deal with someone who has committed murder.

In your own words, kind of explain to me what -- let's put it this way. There are probably four arguments against the death penalty that we hear of people who are strongly opposed to the death penalty. But probably the big four are as follows: One is strictly a religious view. And it doesn't even have to necessarily be a Christian religion. Although, we tend to think of that in a Christian way, but there are other faiths that are probably equally strong on the subject.

The argument goes like this. The Bible says, "Thou shalt not kill." And it does say except this, that and the other. It doesn't say, except when you really want to or except after a trial or except in time of war or except -- it doesn't even say except in self-defense. It doesn't even say anything about self-defense. And you almost wonder what that means when it says, turn the other cheek and all that stuff. You almost kind of wonder even about self-defense. But I think we all have that human part of us that we do that. But that's one of the reasons; it's because the Bible or Scripture teaches not to kill. And I'm curious, is some of that in your position, would you say?

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A. Yes.

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Q. Is it -- I mean, do you personally read Scripture and teachings to be what you've said that you think God would treat you harshly for doing that very thing? Do you really feel that way?

A. I don't know. My personal belief is, I don't feel like I would be treated harshly by God because I believe that he's a merciful God. But I do believe that I would be judged. And in what way, I don't know, but I --

- Q. Do you feel like you would at least be a disappointment, you feel like?
 - A. Yes, yes.
- Q. There are people in this very room that feel exactly like you do.

Secondly, another reason for opposition is the belief that it's possible for there to be a mistake. However much confidence you have in the criminal justice system and however strong you hope the juries are in demanding proof by the State and all that, there's always the concern that there's a frame-up. There's some eye witness that's not telling the truth. There's an eye witness that's mistaken -- not lying, just mistaken. That somebody is a victim of circumstances.

We all see those TV shows where you come

you any comfort at all?

A. No.

Q. Why not?

A. Because I feel like if I were a part of it, if my vote were indeed a vote towards causing someone to die, it would be the same as if I were holding the needle or shooting a gun. That's just how I feel.

Q. When I explain the special issues, those questions at the punishment phase, and I'm going to for my questions assume that he's been found guilty of capital murder. That doesn't mean that we don't have to prove it. And it doesn't mean that I'm trying to shortchange that, because we ought to have to prove that to everybody's satisfaction. But we get to those special questions in the punishment phase. Did you understand kind of how they work? They are kind of like yes or no questions to the jury. When we had that up on the PowerPoint -- would you like me to go over them again for you?

A. Please.

Q. Real quickly, there will probably be two questions asked of you in this trial. Possibly only one, depends on how it works. The first question is what we call future danger. That question asks the question whether beyond a reasonable doubt there is a

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in. There's a corpse on the floor. And you go over and try to help him. And who comes in but the police when you are leaning over him. Next thing you know, you get blamed. You are trying to help the dead guy. Instead, it looks like you are the killer. Do you know those kind of things?

A. Yes.

Q. So everyone worries about that. They say, well, a death penalty case, once you find that out, it's kind of late. But imagine Timothy McVeigh; we find out he's innocent, for example, now after he's dead. He's been killed. Are you with me on that?

A. Yes.

Q. Is that important to you, do you feel like?

A. Well, certainly I can see -- I guess that's possible that that could happen. And that would be, in my opinion, awful. But I guess it just comes down to the fact that I just couldn't do it. I couldn't, because of my beliefs, because of how strongly I feel. So I don't think I would even have to worry about that because I don't think I could -- I could do that anyway.

Q. When you start dealing with things like death and killing people, does it give you any comfort for me to say you won't be the one that sticks the needle in his arm, so you are really not doing it? Does that give

probability that the defendant would commit criminal acts of violence that would constitute a continuing threat to society.

In other words, is he probably dangerous? is probably a fair, shorthand way of describing that question. And the truth is you have the ability to figure that out, if given evidence about a person, right? I mean, everybody could figure. You could figure that out. I mean, if a person has led a tremendous life all his life, has one single event that happens, and then you understood that event and made --you can't justify it, but it made sense to you.

Kind of like killing the person that killed your child and got away, do you know? Might be a capital murder, depending on how it was done. But that guy's probably not dangerous. He just loved his child and wanted an advantage. And he should never even had to have been in the position of facing such a choice. Does that make sense to you?

A. Yes.

Q. And in the abstract, if this were not -- if this weren't a capital case, I'm absolutely confident that you would be as good as the next person to answer that question. Like, if this were some kind of a lunacy hearing or something where we were trying to decide what

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13:37 1 facility to put the madman into, unrelated to criminal 13:38 2 cases?

A. Uh-huh.

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- Q. You would be just fine with that case. You would look at it and say, well, this guy is dangerous or he's not, you know?
 - A. Right.
- Q. You could answer that question. Are you with me on that?
 - A. Yes, sir.
- Q. The problem in a capital case is that if you answer that question "yes," you are moving along toward it, toward the result being death. Even though you are not saying death, you already know that a yes answer to that question might ultimately result in death. It might not, but it might. And you know that a no answer to that question guarantees a life sentence. Does that make sense to you?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Because under our law, we can never execute somebody who is not a future danger. I mean, it could be Hitler. And if Hitler comes in having killed 6 million people directly or indirectly, maybe, it wouldn't matter. If you are convinced Hitler is not dangerous anymore, the answer to that question has got

sentence, would you answer that question no to make sure that that happened?

- A. I would answer it no as long as I knew it meant that it wouldn't be death. Is that what you are saying?
- Q. If your answer is no, that beats a death sentence.
 - A. No death sentence, right.
- Q. It can't be done if you answer that question no.
 - A. Right, because I'm so against that.
- Q. I understand. And I'm not implying that you are a bad person at all.

THE COURT: You have about three minutes remaining.

MR. SCHULTZ: Yikes. I don't have a watch.

THE COURT: I'm wrong. You have eight minutes remaining. I'm way off. I guess I'm just enjoying the questioning so much I lost track of time. But you have until 1:50, so you have eight minutes.

MR. GOELLER: Would you like a two-minute warning?

THE COURT: When you got scared, you scared me. Go ahead.

Q. (BY MR. SCHULTZ) Would you tend to want to

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to be no, and he gets a life sentence. And that's Texas law. If the defendant has a stroke while he's over in jail waiting for his trial, and he's paralyzed from the scalp down so he can't hurt anybody, you know?

- A. Right.
- Q. He is not dangerous. He may have been an awful killer, but he's not dangerous. So that question would be answered no. I think you'd answer that question to the best of your ability, although I'd be concerned about your strong views of the death penalty that you might be trying extra hard to put a no answer on there in order to make sure there wasn't a death sentence. And only you know yourself enough to know if my wondering about that is correct or not. What do you think?
- A. I know what I know is that if someone were a threat, that I felt were a threat to society -- is this what you want to know? -- then that's what prison, to me, is for. And I would trust the prison system to keep that person away from the outside society as well as the society in prison being a danger to them.
- Q. So in a death penalty case, knowing that if you answer this question no, he gets a life sentence, would you be free to go either way on that question, or would you, because you wanted to make sure he got a life

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answer that question no in order to make sure he beat the death sentence?

- A. Yes. I would want to answer it no, yes.
- Q. Then the next question is, this is the mitigation question. And I got to race through this because my time is going away. What that essentially says is, take all of the evidence into account and see if there is sufficient mitigating circumstances to warrant a life sentence instead of a death sentence.

Now, that's a real invitation. I tell you frankly, Ms. Barr, anybody can answer that question yes and there's -- and there's no way that it can be stopped if you are on the jury because there's not a burden of proof. And it doesn't matter -- if your idea of what mitigates against a death sentence is you are opposed to the death penalty, nobody can, nobody can stop you from answering that question how you want to, if you are on the jury.

What can stop you from being on the jury is your own willingness to be honest, and I know you are, and I know that's the case. As you sit, as you sit there right now, no matter what the questions are, you know and will know how to answer the questions so that a life sentence results. You already know that, don't you?

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A. Yes, sir.

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- Q. Either answer that one question no or answer that second question there, yes. And nobody can make you change your mind, and nobody could ever do that. And even if the Judge instructs you: Consider all the evidence and answer those questions fairly -- there's no way ever you could allow yourself to vote no matter what the evidence in a way that would cause somebody's death; is that fair?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. Would it do me any good to tell you that all you are doing is voting? You are not really saying he gets the death sentence. You are just voting on evidence. Would that do any good?
- A. Well, if it meant that it would cause this person to get the death sentence, I wouldn't want that. But I guess if that's what you mean, I don't know what the difference is.
- Q. Well, what I'm saying is, instead of you yourself saying, go down there and be killed now, you could say to yourself, all I'm doing is answering questions, and I don't have anything to do with the outcome. I'm just answering questions.
 - A. But I would know, wouldn't I?
 - Q. Uh-huh.

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- A. I would know what I was doing and saying.
- Q. So that we're clear, and I'm just -- like I say, I'm just going to get hammered in just a second here -- or perhaps that's gaveled -- there is absolutely no way, if you are on this jury, that this defendant, no matter what, would ever get a vote for death from you; is that true?
 - A. That's correct.
- Q. And it's nothing personal to me or for the lawyers at my table, is it? It's not personal to us?
 - A. No, sir, that's just me. May I say?
- Q. Yeah. We can bring you the world's most charming lawyer, and you would say that's the world's greatest lawyer I've ever seen in my whole life, and he couldn't do it, could he?
 - A. No. sir.
- Q. He couldn't get you? Your mind is made up that in this case, if you are on that jury, there won't be a death sentence; isn't that true?
- A. I could not vote for the death sentence in any case.
- Q. I understand, I understand. And even if somebody tried to explain to you, there's nothing I could say to change your mind about that, is there?
 - A. No, sir.

MR. SCHULTZ: Judge Sandoval, I respectfully challenge this juror for cause.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Goeller?
MR. SCHULTZ: How much time do I have

left?

13:45 6 THE COURT: You have four minutes 13:45 7 remaining.

MR. SCHULTZ: I give it back to you.

VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

BY MR. GOELLER:

- Q. Is it Patricia?
- 13:45 12 A. Yes, sir.
 - Q. The indictment -- let me start off by saying this -- the indictment in this case, do you recall the Judge or any of the lawyers back on Tuesday telling you what capital murder was, at least as far as an accusation in this case?
 - A. In this particular case?
 - Q. Yes.
- 13:45 20 A. I'm not sure I got what it was in this
 13:45 21 particular case. But you talked about robbery and that
 13:45 22 type of thing.
 - Q. Yes. You remember.
 - A. Yes.
- 13:45 25 Q. An intentional killing in the course of, say, a

burglary, you know, breaking into someone's home or a robbery, theft by force, or killing two people. Those are the accusations in this case. Could you find somebody -- if the State proved to you beyond a reasonable doubt that somebody did one of those things, and they proved it to you beyond a reasonable doubt, could you return a verdict of guilty?

- A. Yes. If it did mean the death penalty.
- Q. If what?
- A. If you are not talking about sentencing, yes.
- Q. Right. We're just talking about the first phase.
 - A. Yes. I'm sorry.
- Q. Okay. And only then would you answer those questions, those special issues Mr. Schultz was just discussing with you. To get to those questions, you have to have found that -- let's just say somebody intentionally killed two people. Okay? By one of the paragraphs in this indictment. And then we get to those special issues -- I guess how I would ask the ultimate question to you: Could you answer that first question based on the evidence?

And before you answer that, let me preface -- let me make one more comment. Under our law and federal law, it is all right and it's perfectly

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acceptable that you serve on a jury, a death penalty case jury being an opponent of capital punishment. Do you understand what I'm saying?

A. Yes.

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- Q. I mean, obviously we don't want 12 people, I certainly wouldn't want 12 people, I don't think the State would really want 12 people either that are just very much for capital punishment, and kill everybody that's convicted. Nobody wants that system, right?
 - A. Right.

Q. Hopefully our society and our laws kind of balance out the pick of the people on the jury panel. Okay? I guess the converse of that is somewhat true, too. Our legislature makes these laws. And if we believe in a true republican form of government, that's our voice down in Austin, each of the State reps and the State senators.

And apparently, if we believe in a democracy or at least a republican form of government, the majority of the people believe that capital punishment ought to be an option in this State. Okay?

Well, anyhow, when we look at -- when we look at these, you've already figured out and Mr. Schultz let's you -- has already confirmed what you believed in the first place. You know, based on your

Q. If you were on this jury and the Judge told you that you will answer, and let's assume that you and maybe more than yourself have views like yourself that are against the death penalty, they are opponents of capital punishment and you were on this jury and the Judge said, Ms. Barr, I want you to answer these questions based on the evidence. Could you do that?

- A. Well, yes, I could answer that. May I say something?
 - Q. Yes.
- A. Okay. As far as if the evidence showed that he was a threat to society, that kind of thing?
 - Q. Uh-huh?
- A. Absolutely. But I believe that's what our prison system is for, to put him in prison or put her in prison and hope that the system keeps the society there safe as well.
- Q. I often tell jurors this, or I have been telling them this week or I won't say often because I don't often do these kind of cases, but no matter what type of juror ends up on this jury in this case when we finally get the 12 people that will hear this case, they all have many many years of life experience and different backgrounds, religions and philosophies and personal codes. And I guess that's a good thing. I

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answers, what will be the outcome. Okay? Do you remember Timothy McVeigh?

- A. (Moves head up and down.)
- Q. Do you recall who he was?
- A. He was the guy that -- well, they found him guilty of bombing the --
 - Q. Oklahoma City --
 - A. Oklahoma City.
- 13:49 9 Q. -- Alfred Murrah Federal Courthouse?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. And he went to trial. And I could never really tell whether he wanted to be executed or didn't want to be, but whatever the event was, he was found guilty. He was given a death sentence. Apparently, I think, he stopped his appeal, and he's been executed. What do you think about that?
 - A. What do I think about what he did, as far as how he did that?
 - Q. Well, --
 - A. Or --
 - Q. What do you think about his execution?
 - A. I don't think he should have been executed. I think that he should have been definitely life sentence with very few privileges, absolutely, but not the death penalty.

don't guess; that is a good thing. We want juries to be very diverse or as diverse as possible, I think.

And we don't expect those jurors to come into the courtroom in a vacuum. I mean, the person that is very pro-death penalty that's going to be on this jury, they will view the evidence with that baggage they take in. Just like the person that's against the death penalty. I mean, that's just human nature. That's logic. Okay?

- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. There is no such thing as the absolute quote unquote unbiased, unfettered, right down the middle of the road juror, impossible. There's not a creature out there, I would say.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Anyhow, with that in mind, could you follow the law as the Judge gives you, answer the questions, even though admittedly and candidly, that -- and I think you have conceded that the prospects of the death penalty may affect what your honest judgment is of the facts in this case, but with that aside, and that -- I think that's all right -- could you answer those questions based on the law and the evidence as the Judge gives you?
 - A. If I did answer that question -- well --

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Q. Let me go about it this way.

A. I would have to. I would have to because it's the law, and the Judge is asking me. I would have to say -- I'm sorry -- in other words, is this person a threat to society? I feel that he or she is --

Q. Based on the evidence.

A. -- based on the evidence. But by saying that, does it mean, well, I've already said --

Q. No. No, it doesn't.

A. Right. Okay. Well, if that's what you mean, then certainly I could answer it. I would have to.

Q. And then there are always, and of course if you say, maybe the evidence in this case would be, yes, there is a probability. What does that word mean to you, probability?

A. Likely.

13:53 17 Q. Likely?

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13:53 18 A. Or it could be likely. In other words, is it 13:53 19 likely or, you know --

 $_{\mbox{\scriptsize 13:54}}$ 20 $\,$ Q. I know. It's hard. I wish they would define $_{\mbox{\scriptsize 13:54}}$ 21 $\,$ it.

13:54 22 A. Yeah.

Q. I don't know whether they want us to use Webster's definition --

A. A possibility.

Q. And that evidence could be -- they could just stand up and say, we offer all the evidence you heard in the first part of the trial.

A. Right.

Q. Or they could bring you more witnesses and whatever they want.

A. Right.

Q. But you could answer that based on what you hear from the witness stand in this case. Okay? That doesn't mean by answering that question -- if you answer that question yes, all that means so far is there's either going to be a life or a death sentence. Heaven, there is no automatic sentence, yet. Okay? In fact, there is never an automatic sentence.

A. Okay.

Q. Then we get to this question. And that's -that's a catchall. That's the one last look. That's
for the jury, no matter what they've heard or seen can
impose a life sentence if they so choose or not. Jury
service is odd. You are an individual vote, and you are
entitled to stick to your vote, and you are also part of
12. You may be part of a unanimous verdict. You may
not be. But you have a dual right. It's like being a
citizen of the State of Texas and a citizen of the
United States. You have certain rights that are

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Q. -- to define this. Do you think it's a possibility?

A. Do I think it's a possibility that a person could be found as a threat to society?

Q. No. I mean, do you think -- do you think the word probability in this context, whether there is a probability that the defendant would commit, what do you think probability means? Do you think that's equivalent with possibility?

A. Yes.

Q. Is it just possible?

A. A probability. Well, probability meaning more towards that he could or she could, I would think. Whether there's a probability. Does that make sense?

Q. Yeah, I think so. It's tough. We may come back to that.

A. Okay.

Q. I have a limited amount of time so I -- but you could look at the evidence, listen to testimony. Because the State's got to prove that to you beyond a reasonable doubt, as well. They've got the burden of proof on that. So, obviously, if they've got a burden of proof, you would hope that they would bring you some evidence.

A. Right.

independent of one another.

But anyhow, even though you admit you may look at things, I don't want to use the word skewed, but it's the only word coming to my head right now, skewed towards a life sentence, even though you may do that, would you still follow the law from the Judge and say, base it on the evidence, base your decisions on the evidence in both those cases?

A. I would have to follow the law in what the Judge tells me to do. And --

Q. What Mr. Schultz was getting at, and I'm not trying to be presumptuous --

THE COURT: Mr. Goeller, if you would, give her a chance to finish her answer.

MR. GOELLER: I'm sorry. I didn't mean to step on her.

Q. (BY MR. GOELLER) I obviously talked over you, and I didn't know what you were saying.

A. That's okay. Well, I have a soft voice. I guess what I'm saying is I would -- I'm a very honest person. And I would -- I love my country, and I would definitely have to do what the law told me to do or what the Judge told me to do. Of course, I know that it would be up to me as far as, if I wanted to vote yes or no for the death penalty, if that's what you are saying.

That's my answer. So that, yeah.

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Q. Now, Mr. Schultz's, and I think he's right, if -- he has the right to object to a person who would say, look, I don't care what the evidence says, on both these special issues. I don't care what the evidence says. I know going into this case, I'm going to throw this case for life, no matter what I hear.

And he's right, he would be entitled to not have a juror seated that would say, I don't care what the Judge says. I'm not going to follow the law. I'm not going to base my verdict on the evidence. I'm going to go further and -- but I would submit to you it's okay going in, if you are against the death penalty, that's okay if you look at everything in that light. But it would probably be improper if you said to yourself, despite what the Judge says and his instructions and the evidence and my oath as a juror, I'm going to throw these questions, knowing right now that I'm never ever going to vote to impose the death penalty or allow my votes to perhaps lead to a death penalty. I'm going to disobey my oath as a juror, the Judge's instructions, and I'm going to tell everyone right now I'm going to throw this case for life if I get the opportunity. Are you that person?

A. I'm a person who is telling you right now that

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THE COURT: All right. There was a motion, or you were seeking to strike her or challenge her; is that correct?

MR. SCHULTZ: Yes.

THE COURT: Yes. I'll grant the challenge for cause. You are finally excused, Ms. Barr.

VENIREPERSON: Thank you. May I ask you a question, sir?

THE COURT: Yes, ma'am.

VENIREPERSON: Does that mean I would be going against what you told me to do and against my oath? I guess I don't under --

THE COURT: Truthfully, it's -- words are -- are things that we use in a courtroom to mean at the time what we want them to mean. And I can assure you that everything that you've done is just fine.

VENIREPERSON: Thank you.

THE COURT: And I appreciate your service. VENIREPERSON: Thank you, sir. So I don't

come back?

THE COURT: No, you don't need to.

(Venireperson Barr excused.)

THE COURT: All right. Tell you what, we got to figure out whether we are going to go with

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I would not vote for the death penalty at all because I don't believe that's my job.

- Q. So, you are saying you would -- you would basically violate your oath as a juror?
 - A. No. I don't think so.
 - Q. Well --
- A. You've just said though, if I understand, I'm sorry. I interrupted you.
 - Q. That's okay.
- A. If I understand, if then -- if I did say that, yes, I believe this person is guilty, blah, blah, blah, that my vote, I wouldn't have to vote for the death penalty.
- No. You are right. You don't have to vote for the death penalty.
 - A. I mean --
- Q. Let me ask you this: Would you wait until you heard all the evidence before you made up your mind finally on how you would vote?
- A. Are you talking about being guilty or the vote for the sentencing?
 - Q. Sentencing.
- A. I would not vote for the death penalty no matter what.
 - MR. GOELLER: Okay. Okay. That's all I

Gentle, Jann or William Flaherty. I tell you what, I think we'll do William Flaherty. He is No. 7. So we're picking up No. 7. The next one is William Flaherty, and Mr. Flaherty was No. 7.

MR. SCHULTZ: Ms. Falco will speak for the State, Judge.

(Venireperson Flaherty present.)

THE COURT: Sir, are you William Flaherty?

VENIREPERSON: Yes.

THE COURT: I want to remind you that last Tuesday I placed everyone under an oath to truthfully answer the questions, and I want to remind you you are still under that oath.

VENIREPERSON: Okay.

THE COURT: Please be seated. Ms. Falco? **VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION**

14:03 17 BY MS. FALCO:

- Q. Good afternoon, Mr. Flaherty.
- A. Good afternoon.
- Q. Is it Flaherty?
- Flaherty, yeah. Close enough.
- My name is Gail Falco, and I'm an assistant district attorney in Collin County. And to my right, your left, is Mr. Bill Schultz. He's the first

assistant, and you met him last Tuesday when he spoke.

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And to my left is Ms. Jami Lowry, and she's also an assistant district attorney.

Seated at the other table, closest to me, is the defendant Ivan Cantu. And next to him are his lawyers, Don High and Matt Goeller. They are private lawyers here in Collin County.

A. Okay.

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- Q. And I take it from last Tuesday you don't know any of us; is that correct?
- A. I have never, as far as I can remember, I don't know anybody.
 - Q. None of us look familiar?
 - A. Nope.
- Q. Mr. Flaherty, when you first realized that you were called as a potential juror in a capital murder case, what were your first thoughts?
- A. Well, I thought it was a pretty, potentially a pretty big responsibility. And I was a little surprised. I guess, I had never been called for jury duty before. So I thought, boy, this is an interesting way to be introduced into the world of jury duty. But other than that, you know, I just tried to keep an open mind.
- Q. As far as capital murder goes, this is the only type of trial we actually do individual voir dire where

a little bit more. You know, because if you think about 14:06 1 the whole environment you are in, you have a relatively 14:06 2 short period of time to respond to, you know, that type 14:06 3 of question. There's almost -- not a heck of a lot of 14:06 4 14:06 5 time to prepare. Not a lot of time to reflect. And so, you do a little bit of that after the fact. I've 14:06 6 14:06 7 actually reflected upon that general question or that set of questions and probably most of the other 14:06 8 questions I could remember as well. 14:06 9

- Q. And what has been the result of your reflection?
 - A. I haven't really changed my point of view.
- Q. Now, I did notice in your questionnaire that you said that you haven't always felt that way about the death penalty.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. As you grew into adulthood, your opinion changed.
 - A. Right.
 - Q. Can you explain that to me a little bit?
- A. Yeah. I'm from Massachusetts, if you couldn't tell. And I grew up in a pretty liberal background and, you know, where, you know, Massachusetts is a pretty heavy Democratic state. And if I just kind of think about my parents and what their background was, you

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the State is seeking the death penalty. You have the general voir dire, which kind of gives you the general law and something that's common to everybody that we'll be talking to. And we'll have these individual voir dire sessions where we try to get to know you as best we can in a very limited time --

- A. Right.
- Q. -- because both sides are looking for a juror that can be fair to both sides.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And the State is obviously looking for somebody who will have a fair shot at a death penalty if that's what the evidence shows. And the defense is looking for someone who could be fair at a life sentence, if that's what the evidence shows.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. In looking at your questionnaire, you stated, I believe the death penalty is appropriate in some capital murder cases, and I can return a verdict resulting in death in a proper case.
 - A. Right. Yep.
- Q. Since you filled out the questionnaire, have you had any change in thought since you filled out the questionnaire?
 - A. I haven't really. I probably thought about it

know, they grew up pretty poor. And my -- my grandfather, one of my grandfathers worked for the City. My grandmother worked for the State. And a lot of them back in the old days were pretty connected. You know, the jobs were connected through relationships and voting registration and all that nonsense that used to take place in the City.

And consequently, that whole connection they had, you know, how they grew up, that -- that was really their views. And so, you know, they became my views early on. I would say that, you know, kind of having the save-the-world mentality was something that I had through high school and probably early into college. But I think as I became an adult and I was able to, you know, evaluate things on my own; my views started to change. You know, probably not, you know, not to the radical side, but I think probably a little bit closer to the middle where my original thoughts that, you know, it was totally inappropriate to even consider the death penalty.

I think my views on that changed because I became more my own views as I became more aware of what was happening in the world. You know, I was able to just kind of reflect on, you know, how -- you know, just how different I felt about it. You know, as opposed to

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it's -- it's -- it's wrong to take somebody's life, you know, through, you know, in any fashion. And that's pretty much what my upbringing was. And also, you know, the Church. I'm Catholic. And the Catholic position is, you know, it's very antideath penalty. So it's kind of a modified version of what my background was and to where I am today, which is a more pragmatic approach.

- Q. And are you comfortable, despite your upbringing and maybe what your family's values may be and despite what the Catholic Church may endorse, are you comfortable with your position on it?
 - A. Yes.

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Q. When Mr. Schultz was telling you back on Tuesday, pretty much what the reality of what we were doing here as far as assuming we get a guilty and assuming the questions and the punishment phase are answered in such a way that the defendant gets the death penalty, that sometime in the future he'll be taken down to the death chamber. He'll be strapped to a gurney and injected with a lethal substance.

When he was talking to you about that, obviously it was not for dramatic effect or gore, but let the reality hit home --

- A. Right.
- -- of what we're doing here. And what we're

it's not just you go back there and say life or death, you have certain factors you need to consider and certain questions you need to answer.

- A. Right.
- Do you feel comfortable being involved in a process that could result in a death?
- A. I think I could provided there was the proper, you know, the proper direction. You know, if you just kind of threw folks in a room and said, okay, make up your mind, I don't think that's clean enough, or clear enough. I think you need some very specific direction because it is such a difficult decision to make.
- Right. What -- when you said you thought about what kind of things you would need to make that decision, what kind of things popped into your head that you would need to make that decision?
- A. I think I would need to understand what the law was and what the law says the criteria is.
- Q. Okay. And then obviously the facts of the case, as well. And when you are talking about the criteria, are you talking specifically about the punishment phase or the guilt-innocence phase?
 - A. Well, both, really.
 - Q. And understanding, and we'll cover that just a little bit right now. I mean, if you have any

looking for is people who can participate in that process and kind of get you to think about that. And can you do that? Can you be involved in that process? What were your thoughts as he was

describing that to you?

A. Well, I thought it was pretty powerful. You know, and really gave you a sense of what the gripping reality of it was. And I think it just also, you know, made me think about how much responsibility you have in that particular situation. And so also to think about, hey, what criteria would you need to make that decision. And, you know, as I thought through that, I also thought about some of the things that were being said which led me to think, you know, it's pretty proscriptive in terms of what your thought process needs to be.

And so I think the law, from the way it was described is, you know, can lead you into the right direction. And I think that that probably makes it a little bit easier. You know, if you can rationalize through that, that there is a logical thought process that you need to follow in order to make this decision. And provided you do that, it should make it easier to follow through and make the decision one way or the other.

Q. And so, understanding that, and understanding

questions, just let me know. Obviously, in Texas we have what's called the bifurcated system in the first phase. In the first phase of the trial is the guiltinnocence phase. And in that phase the burden of proof is on the State. Since we're the ones doing the accusing, we have to -- we have to prove that the defendant beyond a reasonable doubt committed the offense of capital murder. And if we do that, and as Mr. Schultz told you, capital murder is -- it's murder plus, plus some aggravating circumstance.

- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Let me stop you right there. As far as that goes, with regard to the various types of capital murder, you heard of murder in the course of robbery.
- Q. Murder in the course of burglary. Do those seem like appropriate type crimes to you to be subject to the death penalty?
- A. I -- I don't think I'm in a position to make that evaluation. I think that's the great thing about the law is that it establishes that for you.
- Q. But would you quarrel with that being subject to the death penalty? Not necessarily --
- 14:13 24 A. I wouldn't.
 - -- it's not automatic.

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A. I wouldn't, no.

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Q. What about killing two or more people in a common course or scheme, that particular offense being subject to the death penalty? Would you be okay with that?

- A. I would be fine with that.
- Q. And assuming we prove to you beyond a reasonable doubt one of those three things, and the defendant is guilty of capital murder, and we move onto the punishment phase.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And that's when you get the questions that Mr. Schultz went over, and I'll start out with the first one. Do you want to briefly read back over that one again? And as -- we typically call that a future dangerousness question.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And given to you in a question form, whether or not you find beyond a reasonable doubt, and with this particular question again, the burden is going to be on the State.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And do you find beyond a reasonable doubt, basically, that the defendant is a future danger?
 - A. Uh-huh.

Q. And looking at that particular question,

there's a lot of words in there that are not defined and the jury won't be given a definition of the words. It

14:14 4 will be up to you --

A. Right.

- Q. -- as a jury, to determine what that means with the first word being probability.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And as Mr. Schultz explained to you, probability can be -- I mean, people that are mathematically minded may say it's a percentage. Some other people may say, well, it means more likely than not to me.
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. What does that word mean to you?
 - A. Both.
 - Q. Okay.
- A. I mean, probability clearly, you know, being somewhat mathematically minded, you know, probability can be anything between zero and a hundred to some degree of probability. But I'd say, but I think in this sense it's probably a high -- a high likelihood. Greater than 50 percent.
- Q. One thing that question does not ask, it doesn't ask with a certainty. Will the defendant commit

a future act? It says whether or not there's a probability.

A. Right.

Q. Okay. So that's one word that would be left up to you as a juror --

A. Yep.

Q. -- to decide what that means and if that's met.

14:15 8 A. Uh-huh.

Q. And another word is criminal acts of violence. Again, that's a phrase that's not going to be defined for you. It's just what you, as a jury, decides are criminal acts of violence. We all agree that rape, sexual assault, murder, those are criminal acts of violence.

But how about, as far as you are concerned, how about destruction to property? If I went out with a baseball bat and started bashing your windshield, would you consider that a criminal act of violence?

- A. I think that's violent.
- Q. Okay. So even though it's property, as opposed to a person, could you see how that might be a criminal act of violence?
- 14:16 24 A. Uh-huh, yes.
- 14:16 25 Q. Okay. How about drug dealing? Some people may

say, well, it doesn't effect anybody but the person taking the drugs. But you could argue, well, it is damaging to that person or it may lead to destructive results, so therefore, it is a criminal act of violence. What is your position on that?

- A. I would probably have to think through that one a little bit more. If you want me to think now, I will have to think for a little while.
 - Q. If you want to think out loud.
- A. Sure, then I'll think out loud. I guess when I just think about violence, it's physical. It's kind of my first thought. And so, how I would associate the first act, even though it was not on a person necessarily. It's violent because I was violently striking out. The act that you just described was selling drugs. And I would say I'm not really sure that -- that I'm unclear. I would have to think through it a little bit more and don't know that I can resolve it right now.
- Q. How about this, or if you just heard of evidence such as drug dealing or maybe -- certain patterns of behavior that may indicate to you whether or not someone could be violent. Maybe that particular act is not violent in and of itself, but are there certain types of crimes or behavior patterns that could indicate

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whether or not someone might be a future danger?

- A. Well, that in conjunction with something else, right?
 - Q. Right.

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- A. So, for example if -- if there's a probability, if we determine there's a probability that somebody might be participating in drug dealing in the future, for whatever reason that would be.
 - Q. Right.
- A. You know, combined with the fact that we've already passed phase one, which is someone has already created some, you know, has engaged in some violent criminal act, murder, which got us to this phase.
 - Q. Right.
- A. I'd say that would have to be something you would consider as well.
- Q. Okay. And then the last word that's frequently -- it's undefined and kind of frequently debated is that word society.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. Again, if you look at the question, it doesn't ask: Can the defendant safely be held in prison? It doesn't ask, you know, prison society. Will he be a danger in prison? It doesn't limit itself to just prison.

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- Right.
- Q. It could be the defendant driving a school bus or a person in the ice cream store where your kids buy ice cream. Is that person a danger to society?
 - A. Right.

A.

- Q. So you see how that can be interpreted?
- A. Yep.
- Q. And doesn't limit itself strictly to the jail population?
 - A. Right.
- Q. And looking at that question, other than obviously the crime itself in which you've already found him guilty, what other types of things would you want to know before answering that question?
- A. I would probably want to know history. You know, in addition to or beyond this particular crime.
 - Q. What type of history?
- A. Just any other criminal acts in the background. You know, and know as much as you can about the crime in question right now, which would indicate whether or not it was, you know, something that was isolated or part of a pattern.
- Q. Okay. With regard to that question, and as I told you earlier, the burden of proof is on the State to prove that to you beyond a reasonable doubt.

A. Yes.

- Q. And if you answer this question "yes," you are still on what we call: in the process of assessing a death sentence. If 10 or more of you decide, no, he is not a future danger, that's an automatic life sentence. But if all 12 of you unanimously agree, yes, he is a future danger, and you are in the process of assessing a death sentence, you move onto the next question. With regard to the question and staying on that, I'm sure you heard or seen or read in the papers, typically psychiatrists might be called in a criminal case.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And I'm sure you can understand the defense could call someone, and assuming they are not talking about a brain disease. They are not talking about a brain tumor or how something might physically manifest inside its body, but just to tell you about a certain pattern of behavior and whether or not someone would be a future danger or not. Do you think the defense, as well as the State, each side could come up with an expert to tell you about that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Do you think if the defense came up and said, well, this pattern of behavior indicates he won't be a future danger. And the State could get somebody to come

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back and say, well, yes, it does indicate a future danger.

- A. I believe that, yes.
- Q. If you were sitting as a juror, do you feel like you could look at all the facts of the case, look at whatever criminal history might be presented to you and make a determination on your own, whether or not a person would be a future danger?
 - A. I would probably have an opinion.
- Q. Okay. Do you feel like you would necessarily need the help of a psychiatrist or a psychologist to help you with that?
 - A. I would be interested.
 - Q. Do you feel like it would be necessary?
 - A. I think it would be.
 - Q. Okay. And why is that?
- A. Because I don't think I'm personally qualified, just on my own, just to evaluate that -- the likelihood one way or the other. I'm not trained that way. I don't really know what types of questions to ask. And I think whenever you have the opportunity to have an expert who has the trained thought process and they can share that with you, how -- what their criteria, what their -- their process is, I think that that's much more

valuable than your walking into something cold and

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trying to establish your own thought process or your own criteria.

- Q. But you said even, just as a juror, not educated in the field of psychiatry or psychology, you could look at the facts of the case. You could look at criminal history, and you would have an opinion?
 - A. I would.

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- Q. And with your opinion, do you think you could answer that question, either yes or no, depending on what the facts show?
 - A. Well, I would answer it.
- Q. Okay. And assuming you do, all 12 jurors answer that question, yes, you move onto the next question, this one at the bottom. And we're kind of skipping over that party's question, and we've kind of been skipping over that, assuming it's not necessarily going to be an issue at the end of the trial. But if you did answer yes to that first question, you would definitely move on to this second or this next question, if you want to take a moment just to read over that.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. In this question, we typically refer to it as the mitigating question.
 - A. Okay.
 - Q. With regard to this question there is no burden

facts. That is a misstatement of the law. I specifically cite Morgan v. Illinois.

THE COURT: Sustained.

Q. (BY MS. FALCO) I'll rephrase it. It's based on the evidence that you hear in the courtroom, not a juror's emotional state.

MR. GOELLER: Same objection, Your Honor. It's a personal, it's a reasonable, individual juror basis for answering that question. It's clear, there is no guidance in fact, law, evidence. It's an individual vote on the issue, not solely due to fact. But again, I'd cite Morgan v. Illinois; Randall Bell Owens v. State of Texas regarding telling the juror he cannot use emotions or feelings.

THE COURT: The instruction asks whether, taking into consideration all of the evidence, right, including other things. And so, I'll tell you what, I'll go ahead and ask the prosecutor to -- ask it one more time.

Q. (BY MS. FALCO) And you understand that's to be based on the evidence that you hear, both at the guiltinnocence phase and the punishment phase. Looking at the evidence presented in the trial, whether there is sufficient evidence that rises to the level of warranting a life sentence. Do you understand that?

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on either the State or the defense. Neither side has the responsibility of bringing you any evidence with regard to that question. With regard, obviously this question asks you to take into consideration all the evidence to warrant a life sentence.

THE COURT: Sustained. Would you ask it a different way?

Q. (BY MS. FALCO) You answer that based on the facts, on what the facts show. The facts are -- if there is sufficient evidence to rise to the level to warrant a life sentence, then the answer to that question would be yes. But it's based purely on the facts, not --

MR. GOELLER: Objection. I don't mean to interrupt in mid-sentence, but it's important. I object to her comment that it must be based purely on the

A. I'm getting a little confused.

Q. What that question is asking -- there's no burden of proof on either side. We don't have a responsibility of presenting any evidence to you. The defense doesn't have any responsibility of presenting any evidence to you.

- A. Can I play it back to you?
- Q. Yes.
- A. Are you saying that there is no responsibility for the defense or for the prosecution to present specific evidence that would address this particular question. In that -- in the event that that doesn't happen, that both parties ignore this question, then it's the obligation of the juror to draw his or her conclusion based upon the balance of the evidence that was presented during just the normal course of the trial.
 - Q. Yes, yes. And so do you understand that?
- A. Yes.

In looking at that question, the focus mostly is on the defendant as far as the defendant's moral character, the defendant's behavior. The only place a victim's background may come into play is when it says take into circumstances all the facts of the case.

How important to you is the victim's

evidence and decide if there's sufficient mitigating Necessarily what that question is asking you is to base it on the evidence alone. This is not a time for the jury to come back and go, you know what? I just don't want him to get the death penalty. MR. GOELLER: Objection. Judge, I strenuously object to that last comment by the prosecutor. That is not the law on that third special issue.

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character or background when Mr. Schultz was talking back on Tuesday about whether it was a nun that had been killed versus a drug dealer? Does that make a difference to you?

- A. I think it does.
- Q. In what way?

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- A. Well, the crime is the crime. I mean, there's no question about that.
- Q. Let me ask you, I guess, this way. Does it make a difference how dangerous a person is depending on who he kills?
- A. No. I don't think -- I don't think that does, no. I think, you know, I think just by virtue of the fact that you are capable of killing somebody says that you've done that.
- Q. Does it make a person any better or worse depending on who he killed?
- A. I think -- I think if you are a murderer, you are a murderer, for lack of a better way of putting it. Could you possibly have less sympathy for one person versus another? I think you could.
- Q. Right, right. Okay. With regard to that question, that mitigating question, and again the word mitigating is not defined for you, either. What does that mean to you, mitigating?

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A. It means to lessen.

Q. And that's probably what most people would say, to lessen or reduce defendant's moral blameworthiness is, I guess, another legal phrase used. With regard to that, what some people may say is mitigating, other people may say aggravating. Some people may say drugs. Some people may say they heard that a person committed a crime when they were high on drugs. Well, that's not normally his personality. He probably wouldn't have done it except for the drugs; therefore, that's mitigating because that's not him. He's not normally like that.

Another person may say, as a society we're told: You don't do drugs. You don't do drugs. And the reason you don't do drugs is because this is what happens. So that's aggravating because he knew better. So not only is he a killer, but he's a doper, too. So it's aggravating. Do you understand that?

- A. Yes.
- Q. So you can see it two ways? One piece of evidence can be seen as mitigating to one person and aggravating to another?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And with regard to this particular question, as I told you, there is no burden of proof on this

question. But if -- if all 12 jurors decide, no, there is not sufficient evidence to warrant a life sentence, that is a death sentence. You've already found the defendant guilty. You've already answered that future dangerous question yes.

You've gotten to this question. The jury finds, no, there is not sufficient evidence. The 12 of you decide, no, that's a death sentence. If 10 or more jurors decide yes, there is sufficient evidence to warrant a life sentence, then that's an automatic life sentence.

Mr. Flaherty, do you feel that you could, if you had already found the defendant quilty, and you'd already answered that first question yes and the jury gets to this next question, do you feel comfortable if the evidence so showed, answering that question no. knowing that a death sentence would result?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, with regard to that last question, I -- Iassume most people that are on trial, especially if they are on trial for their life, you understand nobody wants to die. Nobody wants to be subjected to the death penalty. Nobody wants to die. Would you expect a person to show that they are different now? They are changed now. They are no longer the person they were

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when they committed the murder. Would you expect to see that kind of behavior or that kind of evidence?

- A. With more than a 50 percent probability, yes.
- And how would you as a juror be able to tell what was sincere and what was just a show for the jury? What kind of things would you be looking at?
- A. You know, I think I'd probably just have to evaluate the specific situation. It's really too hard for me to say. I think it's: How sincere can somebody be? Right?
 - Q. Right.
- A. I think that's difficult to tell. You know, if you think about some of the famous cases, I mean, who were -- I mean, there were some pretty sincere folks out there who were just, you know, good liars. Right?
- Q. Right. How do you feel about evaluating somebody's credibility or knowing whether they are lying or not?
 - A. I could give it my best shot.
- Q. And with regard, kind of getting back on the victims a little bit, does it make a difference to you? Let's suppose I went in, and I decided to rob a drugstore. And I went in, and I killed the clerk there in the drugstore. Didn't know him, and I've never seen him before, killed him. Didn't know how it impacted the

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family or anything like that, and I left.

As opposed to, I go in the drugstore where my best friend growing up is working. I used to go over to that house everyday. Mom made me punch and cookies everyday. I go in there and kill the clerk, knowing how it's going to devastate the family. Does that make a difference to you?

- A. No. I don't think it does.
- Q. Why not?

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- A. Because it's murder, still the same.
- Q. As we've been sitting here, have you had a chance and Tuesday as well -- I know you were sitting on the front row, had an opportunity to look at the defendant.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And in looking at the defendant, what impression do you get?
 - A. I really don't have one.
- Q. And just from looks, anything that stands out about looks?
 - A. He looks pretty young, but so do I.
- Q. And you do, Mr. Flaherty. With regards to looks, does youth factor in at all, into your decision whether or not someone gets the death penalty? Are you more compassionate, less compassionate, or does it not

you remember that page where it asks you questions, and it strongly agrees to strongly disagrees, and it went through a series.

- A. That was a tough page.
- Q. I'm going to talk to you about that tough page.
- A. Okay.
- Q. Specifically, I'm going to talk to you about where it says, genetic, circumstances of birth, upbringing, and environment should be considered in determining the proper punishment of someone convicted of a crime. And you said agreed?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Tell me what your thoughts are on that as far as what exactly are you thinking about when you hear those things, and what comes into play when you are assessing punishment.
- A. Well, I think that question is, you know, getting to the point of what was it, you know, what type of opportunities brought somebody to, you know, to this potential decision that they made. Are there mitigating circumstances that led them down this path? But I thought that your colleague or your boss had a pretty interesting -- actually I kind of rethought through this and said, should somebody be -- should someone's -- should someone's upbringing, should that be a

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consideration for how they've come to turn their life in

And so if it's a situation where somebody killed another person, I'm not so sure it should be. So I might rethink my answer to that question to become more neutral to disagree.

- Q. Okay. And what made you change your mind? What about that made you think?
- A. Well, I just thought about it more logically to say, what really does make sense? I think the two questions that were posed, one was, hey, do you know anybody that, you know, grew up and was born into a great family? And I don't know how you define that, but a well-to-do family, let's say, that had all of the best opportunities presented to them, and they turned out, you know, to not succeed or to become criminals or whatever. And the answer to that question is, yes.

Now, do I know of people who grew up with less opportunity? You know, they were born into difficult circumstances. Maybe a single mom, you know, in the tough part of town or whatever in the ghetto or the slums. And do I know anybody with that background who became successful? And the answer to that question was, "Yes, I do." And so, then it's, hey, is it necessarily, you know, your background that creates your

matter?

- A. I don't think age -- I think once you become a mature adult -- and how would I define that? I think it's different for everybody. Some people just, they never become a mature adult, and other people are mature when they are very young. You know, mid-teens, early teens even.
- Q. If someone is a sufficient age, they know right from wrong?
 - A. (Moving head up and down.)
- Q. And would it make a difference what age they were?
 - A. No.
 - Q. If they knew right from wrong?
- A. Well, provided it was -- I think, I think the law probability defines, you know, minimally what that is. If there was a definition by the law that says that, you know, this person has not achieved the legal age to be considered, then it is certainly something that you should take into consideration.
- Q. And assuming that's not a factor, someone in their mid to late 20s, does that make a difference to you?
 - Q. One thing in looking at your questionnaire, do

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14:35 24 A. No.
14:35 25 Q. One thing in looking at vo

whatever direction they've turned out?

And so if it's a situation where someboo

14:37 6 more neutral to disagre 14:37 7 Q. Okay. And what 14:37 8 What about that made vo

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future, or is it the person that creates the future? And I think that that logic made a heck of a lot of sense to me that said that it really is the person, and you make the choices.

- Q. So you would shift off that a little bit?
- A. I think I would.

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- Q. And same with a drug user. Let's say you had someone who had been drug dependent, or you heard they had been using drugs for years and years and that kind of led up ultimately to the crime you found him guilty of. But now they are telling you, I don't do drugs anymore, and I'm clean, and I'm not going to do them. And if I get what I want out of this, I'm not going to do it anymore. What do you think about that?
- A. I'm not sure I'd give that a lot of credibility. You know, given that, this is the event. If this is the event that changed things, it's really hard to say, hey, the epiphany, I'm at the point now where this most recent event is now going to change my life for the better going forward. It's just hard to believe something like that. It can happen, though.
- Q. But the credibility would be a little bit jaded based on its timing?
- A. Right. I think so. That's one of those things where I would say the sum probability, but probably less

A. You know, I really don't know much about it. I know that shortly after he got married, his wife's uncle went to prison for a year or two.

Q. And you don't question it, or you don't have any qualms about what happened or any sense of right or wrong as far as him going to jail or anything about that?

- A. Well, it was probably right.
- Q. With regard to yourself, you indicated that there was two incidences with yourself?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Anything about those situations that would, that you thought you were treated unfairly by the system or particularly had a bad experience with either the law enforcement?
 - A. No.
 - Q. Anyone involved with the State at all?
- 14:42 18 A. No
 - Q. How recently was your brother's civil case?
 - A. Let me see, it started when he was a senior in high school. He was a year younger than me. It was 1975, 1976, so it was quite some time ago. It dragged through the system for quite some time. I would say probably 10 years after that. So '85, probably 15, 16 years.

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than 50 percent.

- Q. When we were talking a little bit earlier about, obviously most people don't want to die. And they are going to present themselves in the best light as possible. And that would include, I mean, would you expect, necessarily, to see family members of a person accused of a crime getting up and getting emotional about what was going on or whether or not their child was convicted or their brother was convicted? Would you anticipate?
- A. I wouldn't be surprised by that. I don't know. I guess I would expect that.
- Q. How would that affect you if you heard that type of evidence?
- A. Well, if it's just the evidence, if that's the only evidence that, you know, that family members are going to miss them. I don't know that that's going to be compelling enough.
- Q. Mr. Flaherty, going through your questionnaire, you indicated you knew of a person in jail or prison, Mr. Joseph DeLuka. Is that a family member or friend?
- A. That's my -- that's my brother's -- that's my brother's wife's uncle.
- Q. Anything about that situation that you thought was unfair, or he was treated poorly by the system?

- Q. Anything about that situation that -- I mean, obviously that was civil. It didn't appear to involve the police.
- A. It was a fist fight between a couple of kids. One kid got the better of the other, and the kid who was, took a little bit of a beating had some dental work he needed to have taken care of, and they ended up splitting the bill. Only it was tough for my brother because it happened -- I think it was settled ten years after it happened originally. And, you know, he was a kid when it happened. If it got settled right away, my dad would have paid. Ten years later he had to pay with interest, so.... I guess that was a kind of something off the system that moved a little bit more slowly than my brother would have liked to.
 - Q. Financially anyway.
- 14:44 17 A. Yes
- 14:44 18 Q. You had a situation where you were a victim?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- 14:44 20 Q. Robbed at knife point in 1982?
- 14:44 21 A. Right.
 - Q. Was that in Massachusetts or was that here?
 - A. Yeah, Massachusetts.
- 14:44 24 Q. Did they ever catch the person who did it?
 - A. Never.

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Q. Was that a lack of law enforcement looking or just a lack of evidence, or do you know why?
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- A. Couldn't tell you. It was in Boston, in Roxbury. I don't know how familiar you are with Boston.
 - Q. I was born there. I didn't live there long.
- A. Okay. It's one of the rougher areas of town. One of the more crime-ridden areas. And so my crime was, you know, although it was pretty important to me at the time, I don't think it was at the top of anybody's list. But I don't think it was easy to solve either.
- Q. Did he just display the knife? Did he cut you with a knife?
 - A. No. He just displayed it, yeah.
- Q. And you also wrote that more recently your brother's godson was murdered?
 - That was about five weeks ago.
 - Q. And where did that occur?
- A. That occurred in Massachusetts. He was car jacked and -- and -- and he was stabbed to death. Tied to a tree and stabbed to death. Yeah, it would be my brother's -- my sister-in-law's sister's son, 19 years old. You may have heard of it. It was a -- it was a multiple murder case up in New England, so...
- Q. Okay. Was it the same area that you were in when you were robbed at knifepoint, or a different area?

me a little bit?

- A. Yes. This is -- this is our annual operating plan. And the time frame runs from just about now until Thanksgiving. And it's, you know, it's usually just a time of year when we establish our strategies and financial plans for the next year. And my title is director of finance, and so I'm usually pretty involved in the process. You know, more from overseeing the process than anything.
- Q. And if you were, kind of how this works you are here today, obviously, and if you are selected, you actually go back to your job and live your normal life until we are ready to start the jury and until we pick the jurors. It could be up to two, up to three weeks of trial.

If you are selected, would that be such an issue weighing so heavily on your mind that you would get frustrated with the trial and you might take it out either on the State or on the defense if you were selected or called to be here?

- A. No.
- Q. You feel like you can still listen to the evidence and be fair to both sides?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. And you probably state what most people

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- A. Well, I was in the city. This was actually pretty --
 - Q. Separate?
- A. Probably about 30 or 40 miles out. It was a very suburban area, uh-huh.
- Q. Anything about either one of those situations where you were the victim or the more recent situation, anything about those situations that would keep you from being fair and impartial in this case?
 - A. I don't think so.
- Q. Do you feel like you could keep those separate when you are listening to the facts of this case in making a determination of whether or not this defendant's guilty?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. They haven't caught the person that murdered your --
 - A. They have.
 - Q. They have?
- A. In fact, he confessed, so. Well, according to the newspapers he confessed.
- Q. You state on one of the very last pages: Is there any reason that you don't want to serve as a juror? You say the time commitment comes at a crucial juncture this year for my job. Can you explain that to

obviously don't want to be here, and everyone would probably rather be doing their own job and earning a living and not get behind?

A. Right. Well, the good news is there's an end to the process. So whether I'm participating or not, it's going to end at Thanksgiving. That's the annual operating plan.

MS. FALCO: Thank you, Mr. Flaherty. I pass this juror.

THE COURT: Mr. Goeller?
VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

BY MR. GOELLER:

- Q. Hi, Mr. Flaherty.
- A. Hello.
 - Q. It's William Logan Flaherty?
- 14:48 16 A. That's right.
 - Q. That's about as Irish as it gets.
- 14:48 18 A. It's pretty Irish.
 - Q. I've got mostly Irish in me, too. Although, my last name doesn't indicate it. Do you know any folks in New York that run a bar called Flaherty's?
- 14:49 22 A. I don't.
 - Q. Did you watch CNN the day Desert Storm started?
 - A. I don't recall.
 - Q. Way back when?

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I don't remember.
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- There was a famous shot of an A6 going off with a couple 500 pounders. And one of the reservists actually worked at this bar called "Flaherty's." And they put "From Flaherty's to Sadam." It was -- it was a pretty big deal.
- A. Well, I can tell you that I have a few family members that wish that they had a bar named Flaherty's, but fortunately, we haven't gone that way.
- Q. Well, if you are ever in New York, I'll tell you where to go.
 - A. Okay.
- Q. All right. On your juror questionnaire, I think you were given a choice. Rate from 1 to 9 how strongly you feel about the death penalty or capital punishment. Do you recall what you circled?
- A. I would guess 6 or 7. I might have said 9, though.
- 14:50 19 Q. Yeah, I think you did say 9. Yeah, you are a 14:50 20 9. Tell me why, and in all -- this is tough stuff for 14:50 21 anybody involved.
- 14:50 22 A. Right.
- 14:50 23 Q. It's -- I try to keep it as light as I possibly 14:50 24 can.
- 14:50 25 A. Yep.

But you know how this is.

A. Sure.

- Q. I got to get down to brass tacks and be real serious about it. Tell me -- and I preface all my questions with -- if you recall what I said a week ago, there are no right or wrong answers.
- A. Uh-huh.
- I have a very limited amount of time to try to get to know you well enough to try to protect that kid.
 - A. Sure.
- Or give him a fair shot. 14:50 11 Q.
- 14:50 12 Yeb. A.
- 14:50 13 And I guess they are really one and the same, 14:50 14 protect and give him a fair shot.
 - A. Right.
 - As in any case. Whereas, Mr. Schultz said they want to strap him to a gurney and give him the same chemical a vet puts down a dog with. That's how we do it in Texas. Tell me what went into your thought process when you put 9 down.
 - A. Well, I think it was more a matter of, you know, do I believe that it's -- that it's not inappropriate? That's probably another way of putting it. And how strongly do I believe that, as opposed to, you know, did I think that burglaries, common burglars

14:51 1 should be put to death? It's more, I thought through 14:51 2 it, and I don't think it's an appropriate sentence. And I feel strongly that it's not, you know, that punishment 14:51 3 14:51 4 that we have, that it's not inappropriate. 14:51 5

- Q. Capital punishment?
- Right. Because I'm from Massachusetts, and they don't have the death penalty in Massachusetts.
- Q. Right. Or do they have it, but they just -the governor's vowed never to use it?
- 14:52 10 A. No. I think they have it. And the only reason 14:52 11 why I know this is because of the case that I just 14:52 12 mentioned where my sister-in-law's nephew was murdered. 14:52 13 They said if they tried him on State charges, then they 14:52 14 didn't have capital punishment, and so they were 14:52 15 actually considering --
- 14:52 16 Q. Federal?
- Under some federal law. 14:52 17 A.
- 14:52 18 Federal type of suit?
- 14:52 19 Right, uh-huh.
- 14:52 20 Q. You go to Prince of Peace?
- 14:52 21
- 14:52 22 Q. Okay. Who is the priest out there?
- 14:52 23 Father Jim.
- 14:52 24 Jim Collin, Father Ballint?
- 14:52 25 I forget his last name.

Q. Retired Air Force guy?

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I think you stated, either in response to 14:52 3 Ms. Falco's questions or in your questionnaire, 14:52 4

14:52 5 there's -- apparently you do not believe in the Church's 14:53 6

- position on capital punishment? 14:53 7
 - A. Right.
 - Q. Can you tell me why? And then just take as much time as you need. I'd just be curious.
- 14:53 10 A. Yeah. There's a lot of things that the Church 14:53 11 preaches that I don't necessarily follow. You know, as 14:53 12 an example, I'm divorced. And that's not acceptable in 14:53 13 a Catholic Church, yet I'm still a member of the Church. 14:53 14 And, you know, provided I can still worship in the way that I choose, then, you know, it doesn't mean, 14:53 15 necessarily I have to follow 100 percent of what, you 14:53 16 14:53 17 know, what the Church's rules are.
 - Q. Right.
 - A. And I find that to be reasonable and acceptable. I'm not sure I answered your question. Did I?
 - Q. No, you didn't.
 - A. Well, ask it again.
 - Q. Yeah. I've never known really what the Church's position is on divorce and remarriage. If you

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divorce a protestant and remarry a Catholic --

- A. Well, divorce is acceptable. It's remarriage that's not.
- Q. Yeah. But I think there's even ways to reconcile that. I'm not quite sure how.
- A. Well, you can have an annulment, which I don't have.
- Q. But I think -- I think there are a lot of Catholics who have probably divorced, remarried, and never missed a beat. I don't think any priest or any Bishops care one way or another, as far as that goes. But on capital punishment, have you thought about why you disagreed with the Church's position?
 - A. No.

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- Q. Could you -- could you think a minute for me?
- A. Well, I think it's more a matter of I just made up my own mind.
- Q. Okay. Why do you -- and I guess that's what I'm trying to get at.
 - A. Yeah.
- 14:54 21 Q. I know I'm asking questions -- I'm answering 14:55 22 questions and asking questions with more questions.
 - A. Yeah, yep.
 - Q. What's the bottom line with Mr. Flaherty as far as why he believes capital punishment is appropriate in

proponent for -- she thought he should have been killed a long time ago, and then we wouldn't be where we are now. So there are people out there that would advocate for capital punishment in nonhomicide cases, maybe burglary or rape or robbery or who knows.

Have you -- are you -- are you a proponent of capital punishment because of parole or only 40 years? Or is it --

- A. You mean as the exclusive reason?
- Q. Yeah. What's your bottom line? Is it because some crimes are so heinous you think that's society's answer, or are there other things that factor into that or factored into your decision to be a proponent of it?
- A. I think it's -- I think it's a couple of things. I think first is you do consider the crime and you consider the, you know, the likelihood that this could repeat. So it's punishment certainly. Just, I guess, protection second. I mean, how often have you seen in the news where someone was released from prison and they, you know, on bail or whatever and they go out and murder somebody?
- Q. Yeah. It happens probably more than anybody would care to admit.
- A. It doesn't happen with everybody. It probably happens in a relatively small percentage of the cases,

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certain cases?

- A. I think it's a matter of just, you know, being aware of some severe heinous crimes in which, you know, it would just seem to me as though life in prison, it just isn't necessarily the proper and just punishment, you know, provided that was an option.
- Q. Yeah, yeah. Do you know what -- you probably don't. Only you'd have to be a lawyer and be in this business to know. In Texas, life confinement for capital murder -- I almost said capital moida -- capital murder is a minimum 40 calendar years in the penitentiary. No parole possibility within that period. So somebody that's 27, 28, 29, they are going to be 70 before they could ever hope to get out. Death is -- death is death. I mean, we know how that works.

A lot of people -- and we've had -- we've had people tell us part of the reason I am a proponent of capital punishment is because people are paroling out and getting an opportunity to kill again, or I never want it. We had a woman just talk about this George Rivas thing.

- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. He was in the penitentiary for something other than a homicide. I don't know what he's in there for. I don't think he's in there for murder. And she was a

but it happens from time to time.

- Q. Are you comfortable knowing that if somebody were given a life sentence for 40 years that at least their -- their potential criminal behavior to free society is probably going to end?
 - A. I would say -- for 40 years?
- Q. Yeah.
- A. I would say the probability is high, but not entirely.
- Q. Right. You mean, assuming, let's say somebody paroles when they are 70.
 - A. Right.
- Q. Let's say a 28-year-old or call it 30 years old. If they receive life on capital murder, they could not -- they would become parole eligible when they are 70. No guarantee they would get out.
 - A. Right.
- Q. Either the governor or the Board of Pardons and Paroles can make that decision. But do you think 70-year-olds are much of a risk to society?
- A. I think they are less of a risk than 30-year-olds.
- Q. Right. Do you think that's generally true? That, as we age our chances of committing violent crime probably diminishes proportionately with each year we

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A. Well, the only thing I can't really answer there -- I mean, I can only speak from my own personal experience. And at this point, you know, I haven't personally committed any violent crimes. But, you know, my behavior -- my personal behavior is much more subdued today than it was 20, 25 years ago.

- Q. And when -- you'd probably agree when we read the newspaper of murders, carjackings, liquor store holdups, all sorts of bad things that go on out there, we're generally dealing with people between 14 and 28, it seems. That's what we're reading in the newspaper anyhow. We don't hear a whole lot of 65 and 70-year-old men doing carjackings and -- do you agree? It's pretty much a younger man's?
 - A. Well, that's what you see. That's right.
- Q. Why do you think that is? For the same reasons that, just personally you -- you are not a criminal. But you've mellowed over the years, as we all have.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. That word probability on that first special issue, Mr. Flaherty?
 - A. Yeah.
- Q. I know you do have a finance and therefore -- you have a finance background?

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A. Yeah.

Q. Yeah. Naturally, you are mathematically -- probably the way you look at things a little bit by numbers because that's what you do for a living. That's how you make your living.

A. Right.

- Q. What do you think that term probability means, say percentage? Or did you already answer that question? Did you tell Ms. Falco it was more than 50 percent in that context?
- A. Yeah. I would say, yeah. Because I think what she defined it was, I think she laid it out pretty well to say that people look at this differently. People who are mathematically inclined would probably immediately go the route I went that said that, okay, probability is somewhere between 0 and 100 or 0 and 1. And other folks might establish it as. Kind of, you know just the likelihood that, you know, it will happen or it won't happen.
 - Q. Would you agree with me that that question --
- A. That's not exactly what she said, but that's as close as I can remember.
- Q. That's good enough. Would you agree with me that that question really asks you to look to the future? When we say, would commit? Probability, would

commit, continuing threat? Is that a look into the future?

- A. I think it is, yep.
- Q. Okay. When we get to that question, you've already found that somebody intentionally killed in this case either a burglary or robbery or a double homicide, killing two people?
 - A. Right.
- Q. And we know that the options at that point for a jury -- well, whether they are for a jury or not, the only two things that could happen to a person convicted of capital murder is life or death. Right? We know life means at least 40 calendar years in the penitentiary. With that in mind, what do you think the legislature was thinking when they used this word society? Do you think they are probably more thinking of prison?
 - A. Do I think they were thinking more prison?
 - Q. Yeah.
- A. If I was going to guess with my probability, is I would think it would be external society as a whole.
 - Q. Knowing --
- 15:03 23 A. That's what I would guess that they were 15:04 24 thinking.
 - Q. But we know they've already put a scheme

together where to get to this question, we know it's a minimum 40 calendar years in the penitentiary.

A. Uh-huh,

Q. By default.

A. Right.

- Q. Because if this -- if the jury were not able to answer that question unanimously or --
 - A. Right.
- Q. -- unanimously answered it, well, at least 10 out of 12 jurors -- by the way, we're talking 40 years life if that question is not answered yes, unanimously. All right? So I got to believe, or would you agree with me that society's really got to be in prison, is another way to look at it?
- A. I would say that that's another way to look at it.
- Q. Okay. Which way do you look at it? Which makes more sense to you? Society -- I think Ms. Falco used the example of guy driving a school bus, a guy driving -- somebody going into an ice cream store, but if we know before you get to that question that it's 40 calendar years coming, minimum --
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. -- what's society really mean? What makes more sense to you, prison, or running around Park Boulevard

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- A. I don't know. I guess, let me ask you a question: Did -- you know, whoever it is that created this particular law -- I don't know who it is.
 - Q. Legislature in Austin.
- A. Legislature in Austin. Okay. Did they have the answer to that question first before --
 - Q. Yes.
- A. -- they solved this? Okay. So they knew that this meant minimum 40 years?
 - Q. Yeah.
- A. I didn't realize this would be the quiz for today, so I hadn't really thought through this that much. Let me think about this.
- Q. Do you see, there are a couple different points. I don't have to --
- A. Well, the question would somebody be a lesser threat to society outside of prison than inside prison?
 - Q. Yeah.
 - Is that what you are asking?
- That was going to kind of be my next series of questions.
- A. So I'm getting ahead of you. I'm sorry about that. My boss just wants to strangle me when I do that.
 - Q. Trust me when I tell you the Judge is glad that

and so paying the ultimate price for the lessons he passed on to his student, so to speak.

Doesn't make life any -- I guess we don't put a price tag on life. I mean, life is sacred. Although, the reality of it is every single day all of us, in one form or fashion, do place a price tag or the value, try to associate value with the human life. Somebody like yourself, you have children, right?

A. Uh-huh.

Q. You are a professional. If something God forbid were to happen to you and a wrongful death suit was brought against somebody, a drunk driver or somebody that was negligent in bringing about your early demise. a jury probably down the road or an insurance company and some lawyers are going to try to figure out how to compensate your children. Okay?

A drug dealer, maybe somebody that doesn't have children. Somebody that's really been a drain on society for the most part, a judge or a jury will probably put a different price tag on how to compensate his relatives versus you. Do you see what I'm saying? Do you know what I'm talking about?

A. I think I follow you, but I don't know if I'm really getting the point. I think I'm following your thought process, so...

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you are thinking ahead, too. We have a limited amount of time we can spend with you. But in any event, you can see where -- you can see my point of view, if I'm kind of advocating that society is prison.

Do you think prisons generally do a good job of controlling people?

- A. You know, I really don't know. And I say that because you have prison riots and et cetera. I would say generally though, they probably do. I've seen TV shows that talk about the prison system and the progress that they've made over time, but people do get killed in prison.
- Q. Yeah, they do. That second special issue that we're talking about, there was some discussion back on Tuesday, and there was some discussion today about, I suppose the quality of the victim of the deceased, something of that nature. Do you see a difference?

Let me give you a couple different situations. Let's say a deceased is a very significant drug dealer and actually ended up getting the person -an accused or the defendant, not in this case, but consider a hypothetical case, actually got that defendant involved in narcotics traffic and got him in the business. Got him hooked, so to speak, and then things go wrong one day, and the master or the teacher,

Do you think people, based on what they do in this life and what they are all about give off to the rest of us a sense of their worth and quality? Let me ask it this way: Who is the person -- I think you put in your questionnaire some people you admire the most. All right?

- A. I respect.
- Q. I'm sorry?
- Respect. The word was respect. A.
- Respect. Why do you respect those people?
- A. Well, I didn't have a lot of time to pick them out, but I think I respect them probably because they -they perform extraordinarily, I think, in difficult situations and/or they are successful leaders of folks. And over time have made very good decisions. I think the two men were Bill Gates and Jack Welch. Both very successful businessmen, probably of the two most successful U.S. corporations. And then I think one of the women was Hillary Clinton.
 - Q. Right.
- A. And I think Hillary has performed very gracefully under an extreme amount of -- just difficult circumstance.
 - And the other one, was that Kathryn?
- Kathryn Graham. A.

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- Q. Of The Washington Post?
- A. Yep.

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- Q. Okay. Mike Wallace. I didn't care for him much. Is that the 60 Minutes?
 - A. Yeah.
 - Q. Tell me why.

A. Well, I'm not a -- I'm not a big fan of the media. And, you know, I think generally in the media, I think the media -- he seems, particularly he seems to be a media person who focuses on himself as opposed to, you know, whatever it is that he's following. He's more interested in being a celebrity. Plus, I didn't have a lot of time to really think about it.

Q. In your questionnaire in regards to giving an argument against the death penalty, I believe you wrote: No one should stand in the position to judge who should die since there are other sentences that ensure the protection of the personal physical public -- general public -- I'm sorry, general public -- than even the severe -- I couldn't read the rest of your writing.

These have been photocopied so many times. But do you recall making that statement?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Tell me what you mean by that.
- A. I think I just mean generally that no one

have an education, and you are a very articulate, so it makes it easy on us. I keep coming back to that second page because I -- the way I read that, and I may be reading between the lines.

- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Those two questions are the most important to me. Your best argument for it and your best argument against it. Your argument for it is it's the ultimate punishment for the ultimate crime.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. That's self-explanatory. If murder or capital murder is the ultimate crime, well, capital punishment is the ultimate punishment.
 - A. Yeah.
 - Q. Almost eye for an eye?
 - A. Yep
- Q. Your second answer to opposition to the death penalty, when I read that and that's why I asked you those questions beforehand, I -- I get the feeling, and I hope I'm right about this. That to you, if you had found somebody guilty of capital murder, that you are -- knowing that we don't have natural life solitary?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. That the death penalty is going to be your vote, if you found somebody that's -- you've already

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should be standing in a position to judge whether or not somebody should live or die if there is, you know, equal protection, just full protection that all of society will be fully protected from this individual.

So, it would be, you know, as an example, you know, the argument -- and, you know, granted it's not my argument, but --

- Q. Right.
- A. But the argument would be that if -- if the convicted capital murderer could, you know, be in solitary confinement for the rest of their natural life without any access to society.
- Q. How do you feel about that? I mean, do you think that's about the only good option to the death penalty? Solitary for natural life?
- A. I would say if -- if there was no death penalty and that was the other, and I think that I could live with that as an alternative, uh-huh.
- Q. Okay. And when -- and I thank you in advance for filling out this questionnaire because it saves us a lot of time. As a lawyer, when I -- when I go through this questionnaire, and all your answers are consistent, they are all -- they are logical. They make sense.

Obviously, you are different than a lot of people that we see, because you have an education -- you

found that they've intentionally --

- A. Right.
- Q. Let's say in this case killed two people?
- A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Or burglary or robbery, in the course of that?
- A. Yep.
- Q. And nobody is going to play games here. The State wouldn't have indicted a double homicide if they didn't have two deceased. I'm not allowed to talk about the facts, but Ms. Falco's not going to jump up and say that's not true because it is true. Two people are deceased.

How they got that way, I guess that's why we're going to have a trial. But I guess the bottom line for me is whether you, from our standpoint, are qualified or should sit on this jury.

- A. Right.
- Q. I know you are going to appreciate me asking this.
 - A. Sure.
- Q. Knowing what you know about the law and the prison system now, would it be fair to say that we're really not going to get a fair consideration of that question from my client's point of view?
 - A. From me?

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Q. Right.

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A. No. I don't think that's fair to say that at all.

Q. Tell me why.

- A. Because I think I'm -- not to -- not to talk about my own moral character, but I think I'm a pretty fair person.
- Q. And I'll tell you that everybody that comes in this courtroom tells us they want to be fair. I mean, it's not natural. It's like when a judge qualifies a jury panel, you have to be of sound mind and good moral character.
 - A. Yep.
- Q. I don't know if Judge Sandoval has ever had a group of people that stood up and said, whoa, not me.
 - A. I'm sure, yeah.
- Q. But jury selection in a capital case, if I -you know, if Ms. Falco would have asked one question in the beginning saying, here's the law on capital punishment and here are the special issues, and could you be fair?

And then she passes you to me, and I say, are you sure you could be fair? And we did that with 200 people, and we'd get 200 people saying yes, yes. So fair doesn't figure into it for me personally.

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Uh-huh. A.

Because everyone wants to be fair, can be fair. The bottom line here is I'm trying to reconcile what I see as a conflict for me that, other than, if we're not going to have capital punishment or a death sentence in a case, and we don't have natural life solitary --

A. Uh-huh.

- Q. -- how am I going to get a fair shot out of you on that second special issue, or the first special issue, for that matter?
 - A. What was the first one again?
 - Q. A future dangerousness, probability of.
- A. Okay, yeah. Well, let me answer this first one, and then if you want me to go back to the second
 - Q. You understand where I'm coming from?
 - A. Yeah. I understand completely.
- Q. I tell people this -- before you answer that. If -- if somebody were sitting in this chair, if it was your son or daughter or loved one, somebody you loved very much, you would want a lawyer wanting to know a bottom line.
- A. Absolutely. Right. Yeah, I think that, you know, I think defining this, albeit somewhat ambiguously, I think that's one of the points that both

sides have made. This is somewhat of an ambiguous point. Can you take that level of ambiguity and, you know, apply it to this particular rule? And how would you -- how would you come to that conclusion? And how would you come to your decision?

And I think I'd probably just take a systemic approach that says, you know, what does this mean and then seeing what the mitigating circumstances are, you know. What are they? Because although, you know. Ms. Falco said earlier that this is not necessarily, you know, up to anybody to present those mitigating circumstances. My sense is that there will be a presentation of those.

Q. Yeah.

And if forced to, I could make a judgment without it. However, I would just, you know, I would do the best in my own capability to evaluate that mitigating set of circumstances that are presented. It's almost -- you know, there are folks in different lines of work. And trust me on this, this -- I answered that question truthfully when you said, did I really want to sit on this? And the answer is "no."

Q. Who would?

15:21 24 Right. A.

I mean, there are people that have actually

circled "yes," and I've got to really wonder about them. But --

- A. You know, and I deal in ambiguity everyday. So just in terms of how effectively do I do it? Well, you know, usually I think just following a certain framework. We've been pretty successful, but --
- Q. That -- that second special issue is, you know, if you read it, it's a final look back. It's a way for the jury to make sure a life sentence is carried out if that's what they want.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. As Ms. Falco told you -- and I will tell you the same -- there's no burden of proof. Anything could be mitigating, everything could be mitigating. A juror could think nothing is mitigating. It's a free for all of a question.
 - A. Right.
- Q. Some people would say the fact that the deceased was a dope dealer, a deceased in a hypothetical case was a dope dealer, that, you know, says all of the evidence, including circumstances of the offense. A lot of times a jury wants to know, I think, why did this killing take place? You know, the typical liquor store job. A guy goes in, he just wants money or liquor. You

know? Kills the clerk. Drug deal gone bad.

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So I think the circumstances of the offense, that may take into account what was the deceased all about? Good guy, bad guy? Hard working guy working a second shift at 7-Eleven after his regular 40-hour-week job because his wife's going to have a baby, and he gets murdered.

Some jurors may say, that's a really sympathetic victim. Versus a dope dealer who deals dope and gets people hooked on dope. Maybe people wouldn't have so much sympathy. That's one way to look at it: youth, age. Was a person cold and calculating? Timothy McVeigh: Year of planning in advance, renting Ryder trucks, getting 7,000 pounds of fertilizer and ammonia to put in it, and detonation and timing devices, and casing a joint, and knowing there's a day care in that federal building. You know, all that kind of thing.

- A. Right.
- Q. That long-term premeditation versus maybe a spur of the moment. All those things can maybe figure in.
 - A. Yep.
- Q. And I -- I believe you when you say you could consider all that and you could make a call on that. And I also hear you saying that you would like somebody to bring me some evidence. And I, you know, I think you

A. Well, that depends on what you are looking for in a juror.

Q. Explain. Tell me.

A. Well, I think you want somebody who is going to be on the jury that's going to evaluate, you know, what they understand to be the facts.

Q. Okav.

A. But then also, you know, have the opportunity to listen to, during deliberations, to what the other jurors might have picked out of the facts that you haven't yourself. It's part of my experience is, you know, I typically weigh pretty heavily on my own point of view. And I tend to discard more folks who have a similar point of view to me because I've already gone through probably that same thought process. And I tend to focus on people who have a different point of view than me, and really think hard about, you know, why is it that they think the way they think? What is it that I've missed that they see?

What, either what facts or why are they -why are they viewing something differently than me, and take that into consideration. And then I'll weigh that through my own thought process and maybe, you know, if necessary, adjust my conclusion or -- or not adjust it.

Q. And there was one question you didn't answer,

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will. I can't say what will be said because I don't know what they are going to do, and they don't know what I'm going to do. I haven't seen a capital case yet where everybody just sat down at the punishment phase and said, the jurors are going to figure it out. That's not going to happen. I think you'll get evidence.

But, even though you can answer, and you stated you can answer that question. I'm trying to reconcile how you would answer that with your -- your previous comment that you are really disposed -predisposed to grant the death penalty now that you know there is no natural life solitary confinement. You see the struggle I'm having?

- A. Yeah, but I don't know that that's what I said. I think you said, you know, in what circumstance do you think there should be no death penalty? That's how I read that. Your argument against not having one at all.
 - Q. Okay.
 - Sorry. I probably didn't make myself clear.
- Q. No. And I may not have heard you right. It's getting on. So I don't have a worry then?
 - A. I really don't know.

Let me ask you this: If you were -- if you were sitting where I am, would you want you on this

and we've had at least two or three jurors that didn't answer it because it was kind of confusing. But it says: Regarding your jury service, circle one that applies to you. I can tell pretty easily when a person is telling a lie. Or, when I make up my mind, I rarely change it. I can frequently be influenced by the opinions of others. Or, I always follow my own ideas, rather than do what others expect of me.

A. I don't think I answered it because I didn't like any of the choices.

- Q. None of the above. Okay. All right. But I think you've -- I think you just answered it for me. If I hear what you are saying, you like to listen to opposing viewpoints and weigh it and hash it out in your mind and maybe give an exchange and --
 - A. Right.
- Okay. Okay. The -- I hate to bring this up.
- Not everybody says that about me. That's what I say about me, though. I'm just joking.
 - Q. I know. The -- the distant relative that was murdered recently.
 - A. Yep.
 - Did you know the person?

I probably last saw him 10 or 11 years ago. So 15:27 24 15:28 25 he was -- he was 19 when he was murdered. So he was 9

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MR. GOELLER: Can I have second? THE COURT: Yes.

- Q. (BY MR. GOELLER) I think we talked about most of the clauses in this paragraph, consideration of all the evidence. I think that's a look at everything.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And I think you can look at, you know, in maybe a hypothetical case if the deceased was a dope dealer, you know, how did he end up dying? Did he have some blameworthiness in it himself, maybe? Circumstances of the offense, character and background. And then there's this phrase, personal moral culpability. Okay? What does that mean to you?
 - A. Well, I haven't given that much thought.
 - Q. That's a tough one?
 - A. Yeah, that's very tough.
- Q. Some people would think, does it mean, well, did he do it? Was he morally culpable of the killing? Well, that would make no sense. That would be -- that's just illogical because to get here, you've already found he intentionally, you know, before we get to any of these, you've already had to find beyond a reasonable doubt he intentionally did, you know, say a double homicide.
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- A. Right.
- Q. A burglary or an agg. robbery type of homicide. So, no, it doesn't mean, did he do it?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. It must mean something past or post offense. Do you think it might have something to do with responsibility or remorse, personal moral culpability if convicted, or if it becomes pretty apparent that somebody did engage in that conduct? How do they morally face it? Do you remember when -- did you follow that McVeigh thing at all?
 - A. A little bit.
- Q. Do you remember the thing that -- outside of the actual killing itself or the bombing that killed all those people, the thing that hacked off the most people, and rightly so, do you remember what he said in that interview before they executed him?
 - A. I really don't remember.
- $\ensuremath{\mathbb{Q}}.$ Well, there was a day care in that federal courthouse.
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Q. A children's day care. They asked him, you know, you might have taken out some FBI agents and some federal law enforcement types that you had a bone to pick with. What about the kids? You knew there was a

- day care in that building. Why did you kill the kids?
 Well, to be honest with you, those -- those kids, they
 were just collateral consequences of my -- you know,
 pretty cold. Really an awful thing to say.
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. Would you agree with me that he had no personal moral culpability, or what he said was: I could care less.
 - A. If that's what -- is that your definition of personal moral culpability? I guess I really don't have a clear one to myself.
 - Q. Any thought on what it might mean? We know it's the defendant's -- it's personal to the defendant. We know it's morals and morality and culpability.
 - A. Well, you know, I probably would study this a little bit, but I guess it would be, you know, even though he knew it was wrong, he did it anyway.
 - Q. Right.
 - A. And even though he knew it was this serious, he did it anyway.
 - Q. Okay. Of course if we're talking, those are two different issues. You will have logically had to have found he knew it was wrong.
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. Do you believe that phrase may mean he knew how

serious it was, yet he went ahead and did it anyway?

- 15:32 3 I probably -- because it is so important --
 - Q. Yeah.
 - A. -- I would make sure that I had -- I would have to make sure I had a clear understanding of it.

A. You know, I would -- honestly, I have to think.

- Q. Well, that's part of the problem. The Judge won't let you go do any research on it. You can't call up -- I think in your questionnaire you state you know some lawyers or you associate with lawyers?
 - A. Uh-huh.
 - Q. What kind of lawyers, by the way?
- 15:33 13 A. Just --
- 15:33 14 Q. Probably tax guys.
 - A. Tax and --
 - Q. HR people?
 - A. Civil and, yeah, HR folks, right.
 - Q. Well, they won't -- they won't have a clue.

 Okay, when it comes to that. Because the lawyers who specialize in this business disagree, but it's not further defined. It's not further defined.
 - A. Well, I think it's a matter of for me -- well, I think I probably do have some other opportunities to, on my own, without consulting anyone. I mean, is it necessarily -- necessary to consult somebody, do you

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- Q. I think this Judge will tell you, don't consult anybody. He'll probably tell you not to talk to anybody about this case or do any independent investigation or anything like that.
 - A. I'm just looking for some direction.
- Q. I know. I wish we could give you more. I'd love to. But the problem is with that you may consult a book that says personal moral culpability is X, Y, Z. And another juror may consult another book and say, no. it's A, B, C. And the problem is then we get into -then you go into the jury box saying, well, I have some special knowledge about this because I looked it up. And then half of the jurors are going to go, wow. Okay. Mr. Flaherty is in the know.
 - A. Right.
- Q. And then problem is, if you have more than one person that did that, it would cause all kinds of problems --
- A. But it might, though, but back to my earlier point is, if someone has a different viewpoint than what I do, then I value that. I would like to hear how they draw that conclusion. As opposed to having nobody really have thought through personal moral culpability to define it in some way and then have everybody kind of

state. Maybe as little as five years of probation, no jail time, if someone were to rape, you know, maybe an 8-year-old girl.

- A. Uh-huh.
- The option is there. And we get jurors all the time, we get qualified jurors. Say, in that case, you'd have to be able to say, I would fairly consider the entire range of punishment from probation. No penitentiary time, maybe up to life.
 - A. Right.
- Q. Confinement. And it may be a fiction. We ask jurors, would you really fairly consider it? And we spend a lot of time talking to people about: Would you really fairly consider it? Would you consider the minimum range of punishment? What do you think about that?
- A. Well, one of the things you would have to do is try to interpret what that would mean. Right. Just kind of define what that range could possibly be for. And so, you know, if in your situation and in your situation you described, it was between 5 and 99 years, I mean, this probably, different circumstances around 5 versus 99. And so then I think, you know the job you have is to define, hey, what could that range possibly be? And then once you -- once you determine that, then

just sitting around in the room, trying to figure it

Q. Right. Do you recall that Judge Sandoval talked to you a little about lesser included offenses? Murder, let's just talk about murder. In any capital murder case, there's the potential there that a juror may find somebody not guilty of capital murder but quilty of murder.

out, gee, what the heck does that mean?

- A. Okav.
- Q. And murder is still the intentional taking of a human life. You know what murder is. Our law provides that a person can receive as little as five years in the penitentiary and as many as 99 years or life. I don't know if there's really much of a difference between life and 99. It sounds good down in Austin when the legislature meets, I suppose.

What do you think about five years for somebody that killed, a potential killing?

- A. I think it depends upon the circumstances.
- Q. You think it's fact driven?
- A. Well, because the option exists, one of the things you have, that I'd have to think about, why does that option exist?
- Q. Right, right. It's -- it's like a first-time child rapist. The option exists for probation in this

evaluate the situation and say, hey, where do I think this fits in relation to that range?

- Q. Okay. All right. That's fair enough. Regarding that mitigation issue, mitigation evidence has been defined as anything and everything. As you, after between Tuesday and today, and I don't think -- I don't know how much of an opportunity you've had to think about this, probably not in specifics, maybe in general terms you knew you were coming back. But as you sat up there today, is there anything that you can think of that is just per se in your book not mitigating?
- A. Can you -- can you rephrase that? I'm not sure I understand what you mean.
- Remember Ms. Falco was talking to you a little bit about youth?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- Background, character, where you grew up. I don't know if she mentioned all of these, but some typical or I should say some very common things, maybe the way you were raised, drugs, your environment, two family home, busted family.
 - A. Right.
- All those kind of things may be considered mitigating by some folks?
 - A. Uh-huh.

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- Q. Other folks wouldn't. Is there a category of or a genre of mitigation, evidence -- I shouldn't use the word evidence, mitigation type factors that you know don't square with you or you put no stock in them? And you may have listened to a trial or read a newspaper article. And maybe you read that during the penalty phase the defendant or his attorneys offered evidence of a broken home or sexual abuse when he was young or something like that, and you just said to yourself, you know, hold on, that's not right. I don't think that's mitigating at all. Any class of factors come to mind that you would -- that you know as you sit there today?
 - A. That would just discount completely?
 - Yeah.
- A. I can't really point to one because my sense is that the mitigating circumstance or circumstances are considerable. So to just say, hey, there's one thing that I could ignore or doesn't cut it with me, it's -you know, you are limiting yourself by doing that.
- Q. Okay. Okay. Mr. Flaherty, do you have any questions of me or any questions of -- of Ms. Falco or of the Judge about anything, whether to do with the actual facts or the circumstances of the law or your service or tentative -- very tentative trial start times, duration, all that kind of thing?

That's my personal opinion. You know? Are you a McVeigh saying, hey, those kids, that was collateral consequences, or are you truly remorseful about your actions? Have you thought about it? Have you thought about the consequences of your actions? That's, to me, logically, that's the only way I can think of that question. I can't think of any other way to do that.

I think remorse has a lot to do with that.

But the Judge, I can tell you, will not give you an instruction. It will not be further defined. I take that back. I can't tell you. I can't box him in. It's not fair because he's the ultimate lawgiver. I don't anticipate the Judge will further define that. Just so you, because we have a general legal -- some general legal rules in Texas.

Unless our codes and the legislature says this is the meaning of this word, the Judge will tell you to give ordinary meaning to its term. And what that really means is what you individually and what you 12 people in the jury box give it. Do you see what I'm saying?

Judge can say, I'll tell you what a habitation is. A habitation is a dwelling designed for the overnight accommodation of persons. He'll tell you that all day long because the legislature lets him do

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Are those appropriate questions? Oh, yeah?

A. I guess it's unfair for me to ask you to define personal moral culpability.

Q. No, it's not unfair. And I believe it's linked to remorse, and I believe it's linked to -- if it's proven that a person did it, how they take the responsibility, so to speak. And I say it's that way because logically, I don't think -- I can't think of anything else. It has nothing to do with whether the person did it because you've already found that. There is no morality involved in -- if the State has to prove that somebody killed two people, you know, getting back to what Mr. Schultz talked about.

A. Right.

In the first part of the trial, I don't think it makes a difference whether you murdered the nun sitting in the convent praying versus Adolf Hitler. I mean, I agree with them. Murder is murder in the first phase of the trial. Morality doesn't figure into it. Morality of the defendant doesn't figure into it in the first phase of the trial. Did he do it? Yes or no, beyond a reasonable doubt. So then when you get to that second phase, maybe you start looking at the moral culpability.

it. But that phrase, I don't think you are going to get anymore help on it. So, I don't think I'm wrong, but I can't tell you I'm the definitive source of that phrase.

A. Right. Well, can I ask Ms. Falco, can you help me with this?

MS. FALCO: I can tell you, the only thing that you will get in a charge regarding any help with that is you'll be told that you can consider mitigating evidence to be evidence that a juror might regard as reducing the defendant's moral blameworthiness. So that -- that would be the only help I could give you regarding that. Is moral blameworthiness, which again, is another legal word with no definition.

VENIREPERSON: So you are not going to take a stab at defining personal moral culpability?

MR. GOELLER: Her or me?

VENIREPERSON: No. You have or already. I understand pretty clearly what your point of view is. MR. SCHULTZ: Do you want me to respond to

it?

THE COURT: All right. Don't see any reason why not.

MR. SCHULTZ: You know, it might mean motive. You might find a situation where the father of a dead child goes and seeks out the killers of his

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children, and that might arise to capital murder. And you might get the answers to the special issue that gets you all that way. And yet the moral culpability might get very blurred depending on what the motives are.

If you murder somebody out of mercy killings, there might be all sorts of circumstances that meet the definition of capital murder. You might even be a dangerous person, but maybe the moral culpability would be different.

But it's a hard concept because I agree with Mr. Goeller. How can it mean, if you've intentionally committed a capital murder, how would you not be morally culpable for what you did? It's not like an accident or self-defense or mistake because those would never be capital murder.

It may well be. Motive may be it. It may be remorse. That probably plugs in some other way. But it must mean something because it's asked again. It must mean something other than intentional act. And I don't know how you could ever have a moral capital murder. I don't know how that could be. But I guess it must mean that there could be such a thing. I don't know.

VENIREPERSON: Uh-huh.

MR. SCHULTZ: I don't know what would make

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when you went there, or had it become totally secularized?

THE COURT: Was it still a Catholic school

VENIREPERSON: It was Jesuit, which is Catholic.

THE COURT: All right.

- Q. (BY MR. GOELLER) In a death penalty case, in these two special issues, assuming you found somebody guilty of capital murder, do you see yourself as the person that would err on the side of caution? In other words, a life sentence, if you had some problems with all these questions?
- A. Yeah. I guess there's no definition on that; is that right?
- Q. Right. I'm just thinking. I'm not talking about legal, just gut feeling?
- A. Yep. No, I hear you. I think it's -- I think, how do I take on my logical position to everything and apply it to the situation that you just assess. And I would say, logically, I would probably go with the, you know, with the -- with the earlier decision, which is quilty beyond a reasonable doubt. And, you know, if I was really struggling, I would probably resort to that thought process which says, if I'm really on the fence, I would probably err on the side of life versus death.

it moral.

THE COURT: Did you go to Catholic school? VENIREPERSON: I did.

THE COURT: So, before you ever walked in the courtroom you became familiar with the term mitigation. Right?

VENIREPERSON: Yes.

THE COURT: So while the other 199 jurors were floundering around, you knew what mitigating was? VENIREPERSON: I had a very strong sense for what it was. Yeah. It is not a term that I use everyday.

THE COURT: How about culpability? Anyway, is there any other question from either side? VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION (Cont'd)

BY MR. GOELLER:

- Q. Just very briefly, based on the Court's question. How many years did you spend in Catholic school?
- A. Four years high school. Five years in middle school, nine; and then two years of college.
 - Q. Most of school?
 - Mostly.
 - Q. What school?

15:47 25 A. Boston College.

Q. I think the Judge will give you an instruction that any doubt you would have, you would resolve in favor of the defendant. That may not square well with some people. But to me, it sounds like that makes sense to you, and it ought to be the right thing to do. And the Judge will actually give you that instruction in both phases.

If you have any doubt in the first phase, as to whether somebody is quilty or not, you would resolve that doubt in favor of the defendant and find him either not guilty or consider some lesser type of offense. And I think the Judge would give you the same instruction regarding the first special issue, that probability of future dangerousness. Any doubt on that, you would resolve in the defendant's favor and answer that question no.

Of course that last one that's up there, no burden, we just know it has to be a unanimous no to resolve a death sentence. But that's about all we can tell you. Okay.

MR. GOELLER: Thank you, sir. That's all. THE COURT: Tell you what, do you want him to step down?

15:50 24 MR. GOELLER: Yes. Could I have a sub 15:50 25 rosa hearing?

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say?

THE COURT: Okay. Do you want to step down just a minute, and we'll call you in in a few minutes. Let me ask you: Are there other jurors in there? If you would, don't discuss with them anything that you have heard or seen.

VENIREPERSON: Okay. Thanks. (Venireperson Flaherty not present.) THE COURT: Does anybody have anything to

MS. FALCO: This juror is acceptable to the State, Your Honor.

MR. GOELLER: We'd submit the juror as a peremptory strike.

THE COURT: All right. No. 7, Mr. Flaherty is stricken for cause by the defendant. Anyway, go ahead and would you tell him that he's finally excused?

Let's go ahead and take a break for five minutes, but not too much more than five minutes, and we'll come back at a little bit after four o'clock.

MR. SCHULTZ: Who is going to be next, Judge?

THE COURT: Yes. It's going to be Gentle, Jann.

(Break.)

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THE COURT: Ma'am, are you Jann Gentle? VENIREPERSON: Yes.

THE COURT: I just want to remind you, you were placed under oath last Tuesday to give truthful answers to the questions you are asked. Do you remember that?

VENIREPERSON: Yes.

THE COURT: And you are still under oath.

Mr. Schultz, are you going to go first?

MR. SCHULTZ: I will, Judge, thank you.

THE COURT: She's No. 22.

VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

BY MR. SCHULTZ:

- Q. Ms. Gentle, it is good to see you again. I bet you are delighted to be back for some more.
- A. Delighted. I can barely hear over my heart beat, so bear with me.
 - Q. Are you nervous?
 - A. Yes.

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Q. Well, the good part about doing this individually, is that there aren't any right or wrong answers, and it's pretty relaxed. There won't be a lot of objections, or both sides are kind of looking at the same things maybe just from a different perspective. So it's not, you know, it's not -- it's not going to be bad

at all, I can assure you.

I think many of the things that we talked about on Tuesday certainly apply here today. Hopefully, everything we talked about applies, but we want to focus more on this whole death penalty issue that we're dealing with in this phase, rather than the overall talking about the trial itself.

I'm sure you recall when we were doing our mass voir dire, most of the 65 of you on Tuesday, when I asked everybody to take a moment and look at the defendant and to realize that this was the real thing.

And number one, I hope you realize that that wasn't entertaining or amusing to me or anything about that at all, because that's not the purpose for which I did it. But it's been my belief that it's a lot easier to give yourself honest answers on what you can do in these kinds of cases if you realize this isn't just the kind of over-coffee kind of a conversation.

Like, if you are home and you see some awful crime that's happened, and you're maybe saying to a relative or a husband or somebody, well, we need to start using the death penalty for some of these crimes because that's easy to say when we're talking about what they ought to be doing, what somebody else ought to be doing. I think for most people, it's a lot different

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when the they becomes you. Does that make sense to you?

A. Oh, absolutely.

Q. If I'm watching television, and I see somebody that's pushing us around or taking over our embassy or something like something like that, it maybe easier from the comfort of my living room to say we ought to send some strike bombers over to that area and take care of some issues. But I'm not the one flying those planes, and it's not my kid that's up in that airplane. It's not my brother, and it's a whole lot different when you are the one that gets called upon to do it.

That's why I did it. And it was as sincere as I know how to be because, I'll be frank, I don't wake up in the morning thrilled to be able to come to court and be part of a process that may result in the death and the execution of anybody. I do it because, No. 1, it's my profession. No. 2, I really represent the people in the State of Texas who, through their legislature, have a death penalty. And we do this fairly and honorably and without apology.

That having been said, I can also understand how everybody could feel a little bit better if trying this case and having a fair reading on the evidence resulted in a life sentence, rather than a death sentence. Does that make sense to you?

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Q. I've never sat where you sit. So I can only kind of guess what I'd think. But I think I would say I will do my duty as a juror the best way I know how. I don't want to be doing this. I don't really want any part of it. I don't guess I'm any better than anybody else that gets this kind of duty. And so I will do it if called upon. But I hope when I look at the evidence real fairly and clearly and look at every bit of it, if in fact he is found guilty of capital murder, I hope there's something in there that leads toward a life sentence because that feels more comfortable to me. Does that make sense to you?

A. Yes.

Q. And, you know, as a prosecutor I'm not -- I'm not afraid of thinking like that. In fact, to be honest with you, if you were somebody that I thought was callous to human life, I don't know that I would feel so thrilled about having you on a jury because I got feelings the same as anybody else about all of this.

All of that having been said, you have indicated that you are not in favor of the death penalty. Am I right about that?

- A. I don't like it.
- Q. Well, let's do it this way.

murder cases. That ought to be automatic. That's their view. And yet, if called upon, they could still vote the way that a life sentence would follow because they follow the law in keeping an open mind. And you circle it on which of these best describes your feelings.

Although, I do not believe that the death penalty should ever be imposed, as long as the law provides for it, I could assess it under the proper set of circumstances. Is that still your answer?

- A. If it's the law, yeah.
- Q. Why I ask that question, has any member of your family ever been in the military service, to your knowledge?
- A. Yes. Me. 16:13 14
 - And what -- when were you in the service?
- 16:13 16 '81 to '86.
- 16:13 17 Q. And what did you do?
- Computer stuff. 16:13 18 A.
- Q. I'm assuming that you, with your basic 16:13 19 16:13 20 training?
- 16:13 21 A. Yes.
- 16:13 22 And I'm assuming you at least had small arms 16:13 23 training if not other types; is that right?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. The same time, I would guess with that computer

A. I wouldn't say I was in favor of it. I think I -- I answered that that I'm not sure that it's a deterrent to the crime.

- Q. So when asked are you in favor of the death penalty? The answer that you circled was no.
 - A. Okay, because it's not yes, so...
- Q. I got you, I got you. And that's okay because there are many people who would say the same thing. There ought to be a better way. And yet they don't have such a core passion about the issue that they would be prevented from voting in favor of the death sentence. And because some people don't view it in the moral, in the strictly moral sense, and so they may view it in a wisdom sense or an economic sense or a risky sense.

It's like, well, what if they make a mistake and we've executed somebody? What if Timothy McVeigh ends up -- we find out ten years from now he ends up being innocent? We probably know he isn't because right before the end he was bragging about it. But what if? And so, that's not a moral issue with people. It's more of a practical issue. So people can be opposed to the death penalty and still do it and do it fine.

Just like there's some people that believe that the death sentence should always be imposed in

direction that you were taking, I guess that you didn't deal with a lot of heavy ordnance?

A. No.

- But that's only a guess. That's only my guess, and I would not think that in the computer area of the military that you would have ever dealt with conscientious objectors. Because, I mean, what would they object to in the computer area?
 - A. Uh-huh.
- But you do recognize that there are people who for moral or religious reasons profess to be unable to kill, to bear arms and actually kill an enemy. Do you know about that?
 - A. (Moves head up and down.)
- Q. And so the military makes exceptions and allows them to do nonkilling type jobs, including serving very gallantly as medics. And that's been a very common area for them. I bet most of those people, who make that claim, if you were to ask them, okay. We've listened to what you have to say.

Now, the general has ordered you to go, carry this rifle, and go into combat. I don't know, but I'd bet a large percentage of them would refuse. Say, no. I'm not going to do it because this isn't cowardice. I would be more than happy to be unarmed and be a medic

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right in the line of fire with everybody else. I don't mind that, but I'm not going to take up arms against another human being, and they would refuse. And they wouldn't refuse it, most any other kind of order. They wouldn't refuse an order to go to New Jersey or someplace they don't want to go. Any kind of order they would obey. But on that big an issue, it means so much to me, I can't do it.

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And I wonder how that relates in the death penalty sense that, if you genuinely are -- are you opposed to the death penalty on moral grounds, or is that for religious grounds? Or tell me where you are coming from on that.

- A. Not religious grounds per se. I just don't --I don't think it's any more right for the State to kill somebody than it is for an individual to do so.
- Q. Okay. Do you see it in many ways as equivalent to the same crime he's being tried for? Do you see it as a maybe dressed-up form of murder ourselves, as a society? Would you go that far?
- A. No. I don't see it the same way, but in the end it's the same.
- Q. Okay. I was curious. Now, I guess it makes sense to me. How you can say on the one hand that you are opposed to it and wish we didn't have it. You think

And people, you are not the first person we've ever talked to about this issue. That's kind of what this whole process is designed for. But I guess what I'm saying is -- only you can answer this for yourself -- but I don't know that telling the Judge or telling us that you could never vote in such a way as to cause the death penalty, if that's where you are with it all. I don't know that that has anything to do with your duty because I don't think you can order someone to do what they can't do anyway, you know? Does that make sense?

- A. (Moves head up and down.)
- So, if you can do it, if you can do it, it is fine. But when you say, I'm torn between the law that you obviously care about greatly and your personal beliefs about the death penalty, I mean sometimes that happens.

THE COURT: Say, Ms. Gentle, I'm going to ask you to answer these questions audibly because the court reporter is taking down answers. I suppose she could take down "juror nods head." So that's kind of ambiguous. So if you would say in words whatever the answers are in words. All right.

Q. (BY MR. SCHULTZ) Thank you, Judge. Now, so far where we are right now is the defendant is merely

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it doesn't do us good. It's not very nice for us to be doing such a thing. But if it's the law, you could still vote in a way that it could occur? Am I right on that?

- A. I think I could.
- Q. Well, we'll talk about it.
- A. I think I'm torn between my sense of duty and what I want.
- Q. Let me tell you some things about that duty that you have. And ultimately, you'll see your own duty for what you have to do. I don't know that a judge would ever order you to be fair. I mean, I've never --I've been doing this for 20 something years now, and I've never had occasion to see any trial judge ever order somebody to be fair. Because, I mean, how would you do that anyway? That wouldn't make any sense.

So if someone's honest answers to the questions are, I can't do this or I can't to that, not because I'm disobedient or a bad person or trying to put myself above the law. But I can't do it, and there's no way I can say that I can do it when I could. I don't know how that disregards your duty because you -- the biggest duty you've got as a juror in this case is probably to be honest with your answers and let the chips fall wherever they fall.

charged with capital murder. And the fact that he's been charged, the Judge will at some point tell you is not evidence of guilt. It would be like if I brought a lawsuit against you claiming you, you know, cut down a big old Christmas tree that had been growing forever, and it was very lovely.

And that would be an accusation, and it would still have to be proved. And until that's proved you would be presumed innocent. And so is the defendant. He's presumed innocent of this charge of capital murder. We have a burden of proof.

He doesn't have to show anything. He doesn't have to offer any evidence. He doesn't have to testify. And none of that may be held against him by anybody by the jury. Are you fine with that?

- A. I believe that, yes.
- Okay. That's the same right you and I have. The State is going to do the accusing, the State ought to have to do the proving. It's that simple. Let's assume then, after all the evidence that's presented, that you were convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that he is guilty of the crime of capital murder. Would you be able to vote according to the evidence guilty of capital murder, if that's what we showed to you? A. Yes.

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- Q. Even though you know that you are going to have to start to deal with the death issues at the second phase, perhaps one part of you would want to find some way to not convict him of capital murder so that you wouldn't have to deal with that issue, but you'd still do it even thought it weren't pleasant to you. If we prove it, you would find him guilty of capital murder?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And then we go to the second phase of the trial. He's no longer presumed innocent because he's convicted. He's been proved guilty, so we don't have that to contend with.

Now, we go to special questions or special issues, they are sometimes called, of which there are perhaps one, perhaps two, depending on what happens with number one. Actually perhaps even three, but we're pretty much against him that the second one isn't ever going to apply.

The first question you deal with is the probability that the defendant would commit criminal acts of violence that would constitute a continuing threat to society. And you get asked that question, in terms of, can you find that beyond a reasonable doubt? And if you can, the answer to that question should be yes.

If you can't find that beyond a reasonable doubt, then the answer to that question would of course be no. Now, as you sit there now, you already know what the effect of answering that question no is, don't you? If that question is answered no, what's that mean?

- A. That you want to impose the death penalty.
- Q. Go ahead. If that question is answered by the jury, no, he is not a continuing threat to society.
- A. Oh, no, I'm sorry. I got it backwards. I'm really nervous.
 - Q. Don't be. It's easy. It's not hard.

THE COURT: Could I point something out, Ms. Gentle, I've got to commend you on your sense of humor, on the bottom of page 12. A man who gets no respect is Rodney Dangerfield.

VENIREPERSON: It's the only thing that came into my mind. That's the only thing I could think was his voice saying, "I don't get no respect."

THE COURT: That was the only answer that I want to clarify. I just want to encourage you to relax because these -- I think the lawyers told you there aren't any right answers, and there aren't any wrong answers. Just answer from the heart, and we'll move on. Maybe you will be a juror, maybe you won't.

VENIREPERSON: Yes.

THE COURT: Go ahead, Mr. Schultz.

- Q. (BY MR. SCHULTZ) So if there's a no answer to that question, what does that mean in practical terms for a death penalty case?
 - A. That if he's not a threat then --
 - Q. Then what would be get?
 - A. He would get life imprisonment.
- Q. Absolutely. We'd talk in terms of no automatic sentence, that's true. But a no answer to that question is an automatic life sentence. I guess that's makes sense if the thing that the society is looking at closely is his probability of being a danger in the future. Then if he's not, I guess the thinking is the need for the death penalty is either nonexistent or way down the priority list, and so that's why the life sentence occurs.

Would you be able to answer that question "yes" if you were convinced beyond a reasonable doubt that he was going to be a continuing threat to society? Could you do that?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Even though that is moving along in the direction of a death sentence that could result? That would not be an automatic death sentence, but that is

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certainly moving that way?

A. Yes, I think so.

Q. Okay. If -- if and only if you answer that question yes, along with 11 other people, do you get to this next issue. Because, again, if 10 or more vote "no" on that first question, the trial is over. Everybody goes home except the defendant. He goes to prison for a life sentence.

This is the second question here: Whether taking into consideration all of the evidence including the circumstances of the offense, the defendant's character and background and the personal moral culpability of the defendant, there are sufficient mitigating circumstances to warrant a sentence of life, rather than death be imposed.

Tell me, if you would, how you understand that question? What do you understand it's looking at and trying to do?

- A. To be clear about which it should be, if there's only two choices.
- Q. All right. We only get to that question if there's a yes answer on the future danger, the continuing-threat-to-society question. And then that question seems to direct you to look one more time at the evidence including the defendant's character and

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background that you probably already heard of, you know. Don't you think? Don't you think that's what it seems to be asking you to do? Taking into consideration all the evidence, including defendant's character and background?

- A. Uh-huh, yes.
- Q. Do you agree that's what it's asking you to do?
- A Yes

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Q. And then it's asking you to, after you consider all of the evidence, including those things, to decide whether a life sentence or a death sentence is appropriate by looking for this mitigating evidence that it talks about. Mitigate means lessening evidence. Stuff that makes, not an excuse, not a defense, maybe not even an explanation, but something that you believe in your conscience lessens the need for a death sentence. Okay? That's what it's asking.

And everybody's different about what that might mean. And nobody's idea is any better than anybody else's. Let's talk about drugs, for example. There might be some people who would say that if you commit a capital murder while you are on drugs, I mean, like hard drugs, illegal drugs, they might see that as mitigating because, if he had not been taking the drugs maybe he wouldn't have done the capital murder. Do you

people come from such a background.

And we all probably have known people that grew up in a house where the parents were married for 50 years and they turned out not so great. People -- people can do what people are going to do. And yet a broken home is not considered ideal for kids. Would you agree with that? It's not ideal?

A. Yes.

Q. And there might be some people who would say that's mitigating, if you come from a broken home. Who knows what scars that might put on you. And so that fact all by itself, I believe, as a juror is sufficient mitigating evidence to knock out a death sentence and make it a life sentence. Do you understand what I'm saying?

A. Yes.

Q. I'm not saying you think that. And maybe you do, maybe you don't. That's not even my question. I'm just saying that people on the jury are free to fashion what they believe is proper mitigating evidence. And we could go on for a period of time.

Some people say youth. Some people say if you are young, that's very mitigating because I guess we all might have more for a young person than an old person maybe. I don't know, maybe not. When we talk

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see how some people could think that way?

- A. Yes.
- Q. Other people might say, why that's not mitigating because, when you take those drugs, you already know that it affects you and makes you dangerous. And if you choose to take drugs, that's extra bad. It's worse than just doing it on your own because you've engaged in something that makes you very very dangerous. And so they might think that's aggravating. They might think that even makes it worse. Can you understand how their viewpoint would be that way?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And it doesn't hardly matter for our purposes which one seems to make more sense. The idea is the same evidence, to one person might be mitigating and to another person might be aggravating. Are you with me?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Some other examples, growing up in a divorced home. I think most people would agree that it's not ideal for children to grow up in a divorced home. It's not what we would hope our children would have. And yet the reality is that that's frequent in our society, number one. And many functional loving high-achieving

about young, some people might say, at least you got to be a teenager. If you are going to qualify for the young mitigation defense, some people might say, well, when you are 27 years old and you are still doing capital murders, it's not exactly reasonable to claim that you did it because of your youth and that's somehow mitigating.

If you had done this back when you were 16 or 17, we might think that was important, but not at age 27. Does that make sense?

A. Yes.

Q. And again I'm not -- you might be somebody that says, once you are old enough to know right from wrong, what's the difference in 16 or 50, in terms of your blameworthiness, or you might not? You might see it differently. And some people might say that mitigating evidence could come in the form of some type of religious conversion.

They might say, well, we know he was a dangerous person that committed a capital murder, but since he's been in the jailhouse and waiting his trial, he's become converted to Christianity, and he says he's a new person now. All right?

Some people might say that's mitigating, that if somebody is -- and if they have faith in those

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sorts of things, they are very important to you. They might say, you know, that's a mitigating circumstance that makes the life sentence appropriate rather than the death sentence.

And other people might say, well, number one, it doesn't take any genius to realize that that might be something that you could hook a jury with, claiming that you have made this conversion. There you are sitting in the jailhouse waiting for your death penalty trial. What's the problem with claiming to be reborn? Who is going to know anyway?

You might say, even if it's true, how is that mitigating against the death penalty when all this other stuff has occurred that way? Do you follow what I'm saying?

A. Yes.

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Q. All I'm saying is, your intuition on that is as good as anybody else in terms of what's mitigating.

Many people might say, you know, if I get as far as that question, that capital murder of two people in the course of a burglary or robbery perhaps and I found that that person is probably dangerous to our society, he's walking around the streets loose, he's a danger to us. If I make that finding, it would take an enormous amount of mitigating evidence for me to ever say that's

Q. And then the question becomes, can you fairly consider all of the evidence and answer those questions either in a way that would cause a death sentence or cause a life sentence to occur by looking at the evidence and giving a fair hearing on the evidence. Could you do that?

- A. I think so.
- Q. Okay. Well, then that's -- then that's -- if you can do those things, then it sounds like you are in. It sounds like you have the tools that would require it. You don't have to like it or even favor the law as long as you can be fair to both sides. Do you think you would fairly evaluate the evidence that the defense presented in this case and look at it critically and fairly, if they produce evidence?
 - A. Yeah, yes.
- Q. Would you do that for us? If we present evidence, are you sure? I mean, you would give us a fair hearing on our case and fairly consider our proof in favor of a death sentence if he's found guilty of capital murder? Can you do that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. And now what challenges do you feel you would have in serving as a juror? Do you think your objection to the death penalty would be a challenge that you would

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sufficient to not get the death sentence. They might say, everybody's got troubles. Everybody's had misfortunes in their life. If this is all that the defense is pointing to to mitigate against the death sentence, that's not even close. You know, some people could say that, and that would be right for them.

Other people might say, it doesn't take so much. And that's why there aren't any more definitions on that question than there are.

All we are entitled to, we being the State of Texas, is a juror that honestly tells us that he or she can follow all of the requirements that the law imposes on them as a juror. And that might mean to presume somebody innocent because the law requires you to be able to do that.

That might mean to, if he heard something in trial, and the Judge rules that that shouldn't have been said or shouldn't have been done in trial, and he instructs you to disregard, that is, don't count that evidence on the scales of justice that you be able to do that. He'll never tell you, forget what you heard, because he'll never do that. He'll say, don't consider it as evidence. Don't use that on the scales of justice. You could do that, couldn't you?

A. Yes.

have to work on to overcome?

A. The prospect of being involved in any way. Even sitting here today is very scary.

- Q. I know it would have to be, but you could still do it?
- A. That's where I fight my battle in my head between duty and want. Do I want to? No.
- Q. I know that, I know that. It's where the not wanting to can substantially interfere, big time interfere with a fair hearing on the evidence. I don't get a sense from you that you are going to have any problem listening to the approach that the defense will take in this case.

I don't know you other than just the little bit that we've talked about and also the questionnaire. But I don't have any reservations saying that your problem is not voting for a life sentence. That's not what's going to cause you the trouble. Am I right about that?

- A. Yes.
- Q. The problem and the challenge for you is going to be voting in a way that will cause a death sentence. That's where you are going to have to constantly refocus yourself looking at the evidence. Is that fair?

A. Yes. And also wondering how I'll live with

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Q. All right. Okay. What I meant before when I said, I don't know that you can say that it is a dereliction of your duty if it's something that you don't think you can fairly do. The Judge isn't going to order you to get on the jury and find a certain way. The Judge couldn't do that. And even if he could, he would never -- he wouldn't do that.

No one would ever say, Ms. Gentle, you get on that jury, and instruct you how to vote, for example. He would never tell you that you have to vote for a death sentence or a life sentence.

He would tell you to let the evidence direct your answers. If you tell him you can't do that, I mean, people say that all the time about some aspect of our law. That's not uncommon. People everyday come into these courtrooms and say, I could never give somebody probation for a sexual assault on a child.

The law requires they be able to consider it in certain cases, depending on the eligibility of the defendant for probation, which is most of them. But they say, no way. I mean, how can I do that? I understand how awful that is. I know what that means. Either sadly, many times they have had some personal experience with it. Even if they haven't had that, they

of bad person are you? I'll put you in jail until you can do better. It's never anything like that. It's, if you can't do it, you can't do it, and that's simple. And I guess all I'm saying is, you know you wouldn't -- if you can do it, and you are the only one that knows it. If you can give me, Ms. Falco, and Ms. Lowry, if you can assure us that you can fairly consider our evidence, you don't have to favor what we're trying to do

In other words, you don't have to say, it's a great thing I think you guys are doing. That's not required. But you have to say, I may not like doing it, and I may not want to talk with you afterwards though, and have dinner with you afterwards, and we'll talk about this as a big group. You don't have to do that. But you understand that we're entitled.

We're decent people just like the defense are decent lawyers. We're entitled to a fair trial. And the State's entitled to a fair trial. It's your state too. You know that. If you are not the person who can give that to us, all you got to do is say it. And I know what you are saying and I admire -- I admire you for what you are saying. But I have a -- I get this feeling that you are not sure you could ever vote for a death sentence. I might be missing it.

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know what that means. They've known people that it's happened to.

They'd say, no disrespect to you, Judge, I'd do anything in the world. I'd serve three years on a trial if I had to serve three years on a trial if -- it's not that. There's no way I would ever even consider giving somebody probation for such an awful crime. And just thanks for your courtesy. And that's the end of it. It's not like you get in trouble. It's not like you get interpreted as some bad person or something. Some people can't do that kind of law.

If you had a child maybe that died from an overdose of drugs, maybe there's no way you could give a dope dealer a fair trial. I mean, how could you? I mean, he's that class of person that cost your child her life, let's say. How could you ever be a fair juror to that dope dealer? You couldn't. That's just how you are wired. That's your experience. That's your beliefs.

No one gets mad at you for saying, there's no way in the world I could give that guy a fair trial. Judge, I'd try, but trying isn't going to do it. Are you with me on that?

- A. Yes.
- Q. He isn't mad. He isn't going to say, what kind

A. If that's the only way to keep that individual from killing someone else, I don't like it, but I wouldn't want them to kill somebody else.

Q. The law doesn't seem to limit the death penalty to actually killing somebody else. You are pretty much right on track with what you are saying because it doesn't quite go to the point of saying: Do you find that he will be a continuing threat to kill another person? But what it does say is: There is a probability the defendant would commit acts of violence that would constitute a continuing threat to society.

So you understand how, if he's going to hurt other people, the law contemplates that that might be a continuing threat to our society, not kill him necessarily, but just hurt them. Does that make sense to you?

- A. Yes, but that's pretty broad. Hurting can be a punch in the arm.
- Q. Well, then if that's what he's doing, maybe that's not a continuing threat to society of the kind of magnitude that maybe that's not the kind of acts of violence that we're talking about. I'm just saying, if you limit it only to he's going to kill again, what about sexual assaults? What about, you know, severe beatings that don't rise to that level?

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All I'm saying is that it has to be -- it has to be of such a magnitude that would convince you that he's going to be a continuing threat to our society. And if you were convinced that you could do it, is that what you are saying? You could vote for a death sentence?

- A. I believe so, at this moment.
- Q. When asked the question: "What makes a person dangerous?" you put down, "ignorance or lack of a nurtured childhood." Is lack of a nurtured childhood, in your mind, an excuse for capital murder?
- A. No. I think I spoke to you about that Tuesday that I would be sympathetic to that soul. But no, it's not an excuse.
- Q. Because I bet you know some people who didn't have a nurtured childhood, and they did okay. And, again, we probably all know people that seemed to have had a nurtured childhood, and they haven't done so well. Right?
 - A. Yes.

that mean?

Police officers are a noble profession, heroes in your book. Burden of proof in a criminal case is the responsibility of the prosecutors. That's exactly right. The duty of prosecutors is to prove guilt. Criminal defense attorneys I would think is a difficult

homemaker and watch the clouds roll by. I'm very happy. So this is really heavy stuff for me. Q. It is for us, too. I mean, we may share a

laugh or two, or we may get glib about it, but it is heavy stuff. And it ought to be, it ought to be for us, too. I mean, you don't want people in this office, in the DA's office -- you indicated you trust Collin County's criminal justice system. You don't want people running that, or this wouldn't be important stuff, too. I know you wouldn't.

A. The emotional tear. I'm just a simple

Only thing I say about lawyers -- this isn't my day to defend criminal defense lawyers. But let me say, I never heard anyone ask a doctor, how could you stitch up that guy that you knew was guilty? You never ever hear about how the dentist: How could you fix that guy's toothache when you know he's guilty? The lawyers become the brunt of all the anger on the system. We're just doing our profession the same as the doctors.

- A. No, I don't feel anger. I just wonder how they cope with that.
- Q. I bet like a doctor saving someone pretty mean and awful. Maybe the same way. It's a profession. It's what you believe in. And if you do your profession right, then we're all good for it. You know what I

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position based on their morals and ethics. What does

A. That I think, I don't know for sure, but I think a lot of times they know for sure that they are defending someone who is guilty, but they still have to defend them as if they were innocent. I think that would be difficult.

- Q. Do you think it's unfair to come down on defense lawyers for -- let's assume you are right. Let's assume, not in this case, let's assume that a defense lawyer is representing somebody that he believes or she believes or even knows to be guilty. Do you think it's fair for people to say: How could you do that sort of thing? Do you think that's a fair thing for the lawyers?
- A. You mean accusing them, how could you do that? 0r --
- Q. Uh-huh, or even thinking it. Because, I mean, you are not the first person who has ever suggested that. How could somebody defend somebody they know is quilty?
- A. Well, I mean, I do wonder why any of you choose the profession that you are in under the kind of stress and, you know.

MR. GOELLER: It's a good question.

mean?

Uh-huh. Yes. 16:48 2 A.

> Q. Okay. You trust the system in Collin County. Criminal laws treat criminal defendants too harshly. You don't agree with that. You think they treat them fairly, I guess; is that right?

- A. A lot of those questions I couldn't answer because I'm not educated enough to really know for sure.
- Q. These are just kind of attitudinal things, kind of what you think. If someone is accused of capital murder, he should have to prove his innocence, and you know that's not right because you disagree with that. Persons determine their destiny or fate by choices they make in life, and you strongly agree with that.

Let's think about it for a second. Let's assume a person is guilty of capital murder. It starts out presumed innocent. But let's assume he proven to be guilty. Do you believe the reason that he's in court and been found guilty is because he made choices in his life? It's not -- it's not your fault or my fault or society's fault. You don't think that, do you?

- A. That person might have made the choices, but they may have been ill equipped to make the right choices.
 - Q. Do you have anything in mind? You mentioned on

Tuesday a retarded person. That's a very good point. But what if it's not a retarded person? How would they be ill equipped to avoid committing a capital murder?

- A. Someone addicted who can't make proper choices because they are under the influence of something.
 - Do you think that lessens their responsibility?
 - A.

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- You indicated that unless force fed or Q. unknowingly drugged, drinking or drugs is a personal choice. And that's still your position?
 - A. I'll clarify that.
- Q. Okay.
 - A. Prior to your addiction, it's a choice.
- Q. So even though you are reluctant to serve, you will serve, and you will be fair to both sides?
 - A. I believe so.

MR. SCHULTZ: A moment, please, Judge? THE COURT: Yes.

- Q. (BY MR. SCHULTZ) Do I understand that you have a trip coming up maybe in October or some type of --
 - A. Yes.
- 16:53 22 Vacation. Is that a fall break kind of a trip, 16:53 23 or what is that?
 - A. It's my husband's 40th birthday.
 - And is it going to be an out-of-town trip?

kind of -- just give me some idea, if that were to happen, how that would affect you?

- A. I would rather be on the beach under a cabana sipping an umbrella drink.
 - Q. But we all probably would.
 - A. Yes.

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- But you know what I'm asking. What -- how is that -- what is that going to do in terms of your jury service?
- A. It's not as important as some of the other things I'm thinking right now.
 - Q. About this case, you mean?
- A. Yeah. About how -- I hope I can speak without blubbering. About how to live with those decisions afterwards and how that will affect my life. And I'm thinking selfishly, how it's going to affect me as well.
 - Q. You mean, I understand. Nobody --
- A. I'm a wimp, as you can see. I'm shaking like it's 20 degrees in here.
- Q. That's your term. That's not mine. If you do the right thing and you are true to your oath -- and I know you don't like doing it, but why would -- why do you say it would be hard to live with yourself after?
 - A. Because it's still involves a person's life.
 - Right. Do you think that -- don't you think

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- A. Aruba.
- Have you -- is the date fixed? Like, have you bought the tickets?
 - We have tickets. We have passports, yes.
 - And how long is that trip going to be?
 - A. A week.
- Q. I bet you know my next question and that is, odds are you are going -- I'm guessing, odds are we'll be through with the trial. What time in October is it?
 - A. First week.
- Q. That's getting close. I mean, I'm just telling you. And you might remember it, I know I read about some feelings when I said that I know everybody's got things going on in their lives that are important. When I said, well, they can't be as important as this kind of a case, no matter almost what it is. I guess, maybe a major medical thing where you've got to have like surgery right then. That can be.

And other than that, I don't know how anybody could come up with something as important as a man fighting for his life, which is kind of where we are with this right now, you know? And so in the event that you are selected to serve on this jury, and in the event that we come up in October and it's still going on, what's that going to mean for you as a juror? Tell me

other people on the jury are going to be like you with those same kind of feelings?

- A. I hope so.
- Okay. If that's the case, I mean every time you hear about a death penalty case, 12 people going through that just like you might have to, right? We do hundreds of these a year across the State of Texas and it's not, it's not joyous. There's nothing about it that's, that I can see that would be fun.
 - A. I think some people might be tougher than I am.
- Q. All right. But that doesn't disqualify you either. I mean, that's just you, and you might be tougher in a different area. And that's the pretty part of the jury system. But even if -- even if you are called upon to vote for a death sentence by the evidence, you can do it, right? You are sure you can do it?
 - A. I believe so, today.
- Q. You think it's something like -- are you saying that -- I'm taking you at your word. But I got to know what you are going to be like in three weeks not, because right now you don't have to do anything if you are seated.

You just go home until the Judge calls you again. But I need some idea from you what you are going

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to be like in three weeks when this trial starts because then it's too late for me. If I've got somebody that's not going to fairly hear my case, we're doomed at the outset.

- A. What I thought Tuesday was like you were saying, talking over coffee and your opinions and filling out that questionnaire and being in a hurry to do it because I had to get home. It's not that my complete beliefs have changed, but I mean, I have had a lot of time to think, and his face has been ingrained in my brain. And I haven't slept a lot, so I think I could do it, but I think I would be scared and maybe pee on the floor doing it.
- Q. Okay. Well, I mean, I'm the one that invited you to look at him. So I'm comfortable with his face being ingrained in your mind. That's okay. As long as you are telling me that you could do it. If I prove it to you, that you could do it.

MR. GOELLER: Judge, I'm sorry. I've got to object to the question -- that last question phrased, that if he proves it, she can do it. I don't know if he's talking about first phase, second phase. I don't know if he's talking about first special issue, second special issue. That question leads to all sorts of problems regarding my anticipated voir dire.

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Q. (BY MR. SCHULTZ) If I prove all of it, if I prove all that the law requires me to prove, I don't have to worry about anything with you?
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- A. I don't think I can say that as black and white as you want. No. I don't think I can say that I couldn't possibly change my mind because I don't know all the gray areas.
- Q. I'm not talking about the evidence because you recall the evidence like you see it. Do you see yourself coming back in three weeks and saying, you know, I made a terrible mistake. I don't think I can give you a fair trial on a death penalty case? Can you see you changing -- can you see yourself changing that way?
 - A. Not being able to be fair?
 - Q. Yes.
 - A. No.
- Q. So you'll still be able to vote for it, if proven to you through? Because you mentioned that maybe when you came back that you might be different, you know, but you won't be unfair. You'll still be able to do all that the law would require you to do; is that right?
 - A. Yes, I believe so.

MR. SCHULTZ: Pass the juror.

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THE COURT: You are objecting to

vagueness?

 $\ensuremath{\mathsf{MR}}.$ GOELLER: Yes. In the form of the question.

THE COURT: Sustained.

Q. (BY MR. SCHULTZ) If I prove to you all of the things that the law requires me to prove in order for a death sentence to result, that includes his guilt for starters. That includes his propensity for future violence and the lack of mitigating evidence in such an amount, in such a quantity that a death sentence is inappropriate. If I prove all of that to you, I can get the votes that would result in a death sentence from you?

MR. GOELLER: I'm sorry, Mr. Schultz. I don't mean to interrupt. I object to that question as well as the way he phrased the mitigating special issue in such a quantity, and it's less than the converse. It says, is there a sufficient circumstance or circumstances? So I object to the way he phrased the question. It's misleading. It places indirectly an additional burden on the defendant.

THE COURT: Overruled. I'll let you -- let you correct whatever you see.

MR. GOELLER: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: All right.
VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION

BY MR. GOELLER:

- Q. Good afternoon, ma'am. My name is Matthew Goeller. Were you -- were you ever on the Manitowoc? USS Manitowoc, or anything like that? Were you ever ship deployed?
 - A. They didn't do that with women then.
 - Q. Yeah. I guess you are right.
- A. No sea duty.
- Q. Were you ever in Newport?
 - A. Connecticut?
- Q. Rhode Island.
 - A. No. I haven't been to Newport.
 - Q. You live in what city?
- 17:02 16 A. Sachse.
 - Q. You look familiar somehow. Do I look familiar to you at all?
 - A. No, but I get that a lot. I guess I have common features. A lot of people say that, that I --
 - Q. No. I didn't mean it that way. Ma'am, if the Court would allow, I'm going to let Mr. High talk to you. He's actually got your -- I got out of order. He's got your questionnaire, and I'm going to turn it over to my partner.

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THE COURT: All right.
VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION (Cont'd)
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BY MR. HIGH:

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- Q. And I'm Mr. High. I appreciate you coming in today. And I know that you are not enjoying this too much, and I won't take as long as Mr. Schultz. But I've got a few questions for you, if that's okay. Tell me about your -- I take it you are a homemaker?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Tell me about a normal day for you. Tell me the kind of activities you are involved in.
- A. I live the kind of life everybody else wishes they lived. I lay by the pool, I train my dogs, I play with my dogs, I go to the gym. I, you know, look at recipes and magazines and watch Oprah maybe.
- Q. How do I sign up?
- A. I watch -- I lay on the grass and watch the clouds go by and contemplate why I'm here.
- Q. Excellent. So this -- this is a far cry from your daily life?
 - A. Yeah.
- Q. If I flip pages, that's a good thing. Okay? Tell me how you signed up for the Navy. That's kind of a curious thing. What caused you to do that?
 - A. I don't think I want to tell you that whole

Manhasset is also on Long Island, yes. 17:06 1

- Q. So that would have been 1981. And you were 22, 17:06 2 17:06 3 23, something like that?
 - A. 21.

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- Okay. And is that how old you were when you went through boot camp?
 - A. 22, yeah.
- Did you have any people in boot camp quit, just Q. drop out?
 - A. Yes. I think so, in the beginning.
- Did you go through boot camp with other females?
- A. Yes. But there were also males in the boot camp, but obviously we weren't in the same places. We saw each other on work duty and that sort of stuff, but we didn't sleep in the same place.
- Q. Did you go through your training for the most part with other females?
 - A. Yes.
- 17:07 20 Q. And if someone were to drop out, it would be 17:07 21 another female?
- 17:07 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And you would be, you would know about that? I 17:07 23 17:07 24 guess, would you know about it or --
 - A. Well, in the beginning you don't really know

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story. But just, I was in school and not wanting to do that anymore and sort of lacking direction. And my mother, in all her wisdom, sent the postcard from the TV Guide in, and I got a call from a recruiter.

Well, you are going to hear the whole story. And he sounded really cute, so I went to meet him, and he was a good recruiter. He had me pretty convinced that it would be a good thing. And as it turns out, it was. I got great duty, and I met my husband. So that was all wonderful.

- Q. So he was a very good salesman?
- A. Yes. And I'm easy, I guess, for cute salesmen. Well, I was 21, you know. That's different.
 - Were you in school at the time or had you --Q.
 - A. Yes.
- 17:06 16 Q. -- quit school?
 - No. I was no school.
 - Where were you in school?
- 17:06 19 New York Institute of Technology.
- 17:06 20 So you lived up in New York?
 - Queens.
- Queens. So that's the city? 17:06 22
- 17:06 23 Outside Long Island.
- 17:06 24 Yeah. Manhasset, that's on --
- 17:06 25 No. I was living in Douglaston at the time.

too many people, and there are 80 people in the company. So, yeah, a few people dropped out, but you didn't

17:07 2 realize who it was or what happened. They just kind of 17:07 3

17:07 4 disappeared.

- 17:07 5 Q. And you didn't get an explanation for it from your recruiting officer?
 - Not that I recall.
 - That's been so long ago?
 - A. Yeah.
- 17:07 10 Q. And I guess were they using the term AWOL back 17:07 11 then?
- 17:07 12 A. Yeah, sure. People that didn't show up for 17:07 13 boot camp.
- And also people that were not -- went away on 17:07 14 17:07 15 weekend leave?
 - A. And never came back, yeah.
- 17:08 17 And do you have any particular views about 17:08 18 those people. I mean, at that time did you think, gee, 17:08 19 they are a deserter, or they are bad people that, or did

you view it more maybe they just changed their mind. 17:08 20

- Maybe it's something that they didn't want to do after 17:08 21
- 17:08 22 all. Maybe they met a cute recruiter, and they didn't
- 17:08 23 belong here in the first place?
- 17:08 24 A. No. I come back to the wimp factor. I would 17:08 25 be thinking that I can't believe they didn't obey the

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authoritative figure because I'm a very well-trained dog, and I would do everything he told me to do.

Q. I can somewhat relate, and I think most of the folks in here can, too. We went through law school, and the first couple of weeks they treated it kind of like a boot camp, and they say somebody on your left or on your right is not going to be here next week, and that's true. And that happened, and maybe I was a wimp, too. I stuck around, you know. So, all right. Let me move onto the next thing.

You mentioned that you've undergone some counseling for depression and coping. That is, being a child of an alcoholic?

A. Yes.

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- Q. And I don't want to get real, real personal with you, but I got to get somewhat personal. Is that an ongoing problem with you, or have you already dealt with that issue?
 - A. I've dealt with it, and my father's dead.
- Q. There's some unanswered questions about the church, synagogue or place of worship. Does that apply to you at all?
 - A. No.
- Q. So you don't attend a church, synagogue or place of worship?

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- A. No, I don't.
- Q. You were raised in the Presbyterian faith?
- A. Yes. But I'm not baptized or confirmed or -- I had to go to Sunday school.
 - Q. You say you had to go to Sunday school?
 - A. Yeah, that's it. Can I add to that?
 - Q. To the -- to the church thing?
- A. Yeah. I don't think my belief system, my personal belief system is any less valid than somebody that goes to church five times a week.
- Q. Absolutely not. Why don't you tell me about it.
- A. That's all. I saw you marking and I thought, well, I hope he's not marking me off as a heathen because I'm not.
- Q. I'll be glad to let you look at it. I certainly didn't say that. I don't guess I did anything. But if you'd like to tell me about it, I would be glad to hear about it.
- A. Well, no. That's very personal, what you believe and where you are going.
- Q. I understand. I wrote down "not baptized or confirmed." Just what you said, right next to "Presbyterian."
 - A. That's not my fault. That's my parents.

THE COURT: Your parents?

VENIREPERSON: My parents. They got lazy. I was the third child. They just never got around to it, so. I don't think it counts for anything.

THE COURT: It sounds like a rank of sort of discrimination.

- Q. (BY MR. HIGH) I've just got a couple more questions. And I want to go over with you the first special issue. Take another look at it, whether there's a probability that the defendant would commit criminal acts of violence that would constitute a continuing threat to society. And I want to ask you what this word here means, probability?
 - A. Maybe, possibility, probably.
 - Q. Probably?
 - A. A more likely than a possibility.
- Q. All right. We've heard every kind of answer you can imagine in here. I tend to agree with you. More likely, the likelihood. More likely than not. We've heard 50 percent, 51 percent, you know, 52 percent. Three quarters, majority of the time. Do you feel comfortable with that explanation? More likely?
 - A. More than likely.
- Q. Okay. You understand before you get to this question, you would have already found the defendant

guilty of capital murder. There would already be a

finding of guilt in capital murder before we got to this question.

A. Yes.

- Q. And with respect to the options available, it's going to be either life in prison or death, or at least for someone found guilty of capital murder. You understand that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. Okay. And obviously if they don't get death, then they are going to get life in prison. Do you understand that?
 - A. Yes.
- Q. So we know for a fact that if they don't get death, they are going to be living somewhere, and that's where they are going to be living, most likely, is prison. And does this have any meaning to you? Society, I think there was some discussion on Tuesday about prison society. Did you have any problem with that?
 - A. Yeah. To be honest, I didn't really think of society as being within the prison walls. But after he talked about it, I did think about it.
- Q. Okav
 - A. Including the other prisoners and the people

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- Q. Fair enough. And I'm the same with you. Before I started working on this case, I had the same perception until I started studying and learning about the offense of capital murder. Is it outrageous though to you now that you are enlightened with respect to what could happen to a capital murder defendant? Either they go to prison for life or they go to the death chamber. To consider whether they would be violent in a prison society, is that outrageous to consider, or does that make some sense to you?
 - A. It makes sense to me.
- Q. There's the second question. And it's awfully long in that it's a lawyer's type question, isn't it?
- A. Yes. And I'm frankly kind of brain-dead because I can't think past my vibrations.
- Q. I understand. We'll go through it together. I think Mr. Schultz has already gone through it. And he went through it very nicely, very gently. I'm going to do the same. This is the question that you will get at the end of the trial, assuming there's a finding of capital murder, that the defendant's guilty of capital murder. Assuming there's a finding that, yes, he's a --he's a danger, there's a probability that he's going to commit acts of violence, that he would be a continuing

of the defendant. Can you see that?

- A. Yes.
- Q. And the personal moral culpability of the defendant.
 - A. I'm not sure I know what culpability is.
- Q. Okay. Fair enough. I want to ask you about that. You guessed it. There's no definition in the law for personal moral culpability. Now, the culpability is discussed somewhat in the law. And that -- that's with respect to a person's criminal responsibility tied to a particular crime, whether they are culpable or not. Whether they are criminally responsible or not. Okay? It's a type of responsibility.
 - A. Criminally responsible as opposed to what?
- Q. As opposed to someone who is not criminally responsible.
 - A. I guess I don't have a grip on that.
- Q. Okay. So does that phrase personal moral culpability mean anything to you when you hear it first go around, or is it just confusing to you?
- A. Yeah. I'm more confused now than I was a minute ago.
 - Q. That's fair enough.
- A. I get the personal moral part. I'm still not clear about culpability. Do you have a dictionary?

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Mr. Schultz phrased it, this is the look-back question, where you get a chance to take one last look at the defendant and say, there's mitigating circumstances sufficient whereby we think we need to save his life. Okay? It's a look back, it's a chance to look back, get a last look at the defendant and make a decision.

Several things it discusses within this question. It talks about considering all the evidence. You are going to hear evidence. You'll hear evidence in the guilt-innocence phase of the trial. You'll hear about the killings. You'll hear about he's charged with a double homicide. You may hear about a robbery. You may hear about a burglary, all those things we discussed last Tuesday.

You are going to hear about the facts of the case which you haven't heard anything today because we can't talk about them with you today. Okay? But you'll hear it before you have to answer this question.

You'll have a real good feel for what happened, and presumably you would have found him guilty. But you are also going to hear such things as his character and his background. And I'm going to get to that next phrase, and the personal moral culpability

Q. Yeah, but I don't think it would be really fair to get a dictionary out and read it to you.

A. That would help me.

- Q. Let me ask you this: Have you ever heard of the concept of remorse?
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Okay. Personal guilt, you are aware of that?
 - A. Yes
- Q. Have you ever done something in your life that you felt so badly about it you were just overwhelmed with personal guilt?
 - A. Sure.
- Q. Maybe even, you didn't respect yourself anymore for having done that. Maybe you said something, did something that you wish you could take back. You've done that, haven't you?
- A. Didn't lose respect, but I wish I had put my foot in my mouth instead, yeah.
- Q. Sure. And I assume -- I mean, we're all human beings. You know, there's going to be a whole range of criminal defendants. Some feeling of guilt for what they did, and others feeling no guilt whatsoever. Sort of like the Timothy McVeighs of the world, who felt no personal guilt whatsoever, remorse whatsoever, did he? He's just kind of in your face. He was that kind of

threat to society. You say yes.

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Whereas other folks who -- who accept responsibility, who accept their guilt, who feel remorse, who feel bad about what they did. I guess I'm not trying to explain, but I'm trying to give you a feel of my understanding of what this means. Does that help you at all? Personal moral culpability?

A. Yes.

Q. Now, I don't want you to get the impression that our side is going to give you a definition of that, because I don't think we have one in the law that we can supply you with. And I don't want you to think that the State's going to give you a definition or that the Judge is going to give you a definition at the end of the trial. Okay?

I think you are going to have to figure that out for yourself as the trial proceeds. Maybe we'll have some smart people on the jury that know what it means. Maybe more smarter than myself. Okay? But the legislature anyway, they gave us -- they gave us this definition, the folks in Austin. They gave us this whole paragraph question that we're going to have to live with it. Okay?

So I guess my best explanation is remorse, guilt, the way a criminal defendant would feel. Let's

would still want a lawyer to help you with your case, wouldn't you?

- A. Well, I don't know. I've never been guilty of such a crime. I don't know.
 - Q. Let's just assume --
 - A. I just want to --
- Q. I can't imagine that scenario. But let's just assume that you were charged with it.
- A. Yes. I would probably want everything that the law allows.
- Q. Okay. And you would certainly want a lawyer to at least advise you and talk to you and counsel you and explain what could happen to you and what your next step should be, and also shed some light. If the district attorney made a plea bargain recommendation to you, whether it was a reasonable one, one that you should accept, et cetera?
 - A. Sure.
- Q. Okay. Obviously, not every case -- not every case is going to result in a trial. Are you aware of that?
- A. I think I'm aware of it, but I don't know the 17:25 22 17:25 23 specifics of how it works.
 - Q. Would you be surprised if I told you that 95 percent of all cases are resolved with a plea bargain,

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assume that that's the definition. Would you feel like, if you were sitting as a juror on this case, that you could consider remorse or the way the defendant feels as a mitigating circumstance that would mitigate against a death sentence and possibly create a situation where you'd vote for life imprisonment? Do you want me to restate it?

- A. Would I be sympathetic to that?
- Would you at least listen to it?
- A. Of course.
- Q. All right. I do have one more thing I want to talk to you about, and that's with respect to defense attorneys. I'm sure you understand that someone who is charged with a felony offense is at a severe disadvantage if they don't have a lawyer to help them.
 - A. Yes.
- Q. I'm sure if you were charged with a felony offense, you would want --
 - A. Yes.
- Q. -- a lawyer to at least level the playing field, wouldn't you?
 - A. Yes.
- Okay. And let's assume that you were guilty of a felony offense, would that change your opinion? I mean, even though you were guilty, my goodness, you

- some sort of an agreement?
 - A. Yeah, I would be surprised. I didn't know it was that large of a percentage.
- Q. Okay. And that criminal defense attorneys have a lot to do with that because they -- they have to negotiate with the D.A. And sometimes they have to negotiate with their client and try to -- try to reach an acceptable resolution on a case load on the cases. Okay? I'm just trying to enlighten you. There are those cases that you just cannot reach an agreement on.
 - A. Is there negotiating in a capital murder?
- Q. Well, I'm not sitting here telling you that we can negotiate a capital murder.
 - Okay. A.
- Q. That's not -- that's not real common at all. Okay. But you can negotiate a capital murder if the D.A. is willing to recommend a life sentence. Incidentally, do you know who is seeking the death
- penalty on this case?
 - A. (Indicating.)
- Q. That's right, the district attorney. Do you know who makes the decision to seek the death penalty?
 - A. The State.
 - The District Attorney.
- And them.

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- Q. That's right. Well, it's not them actually. They are assistant district attorneys. They work for the District Attorney. Do you know a gentleman by the name of Tom O'Connell?
 - A. I think I saw his picture downstairs.
- Q. All right. That's right. He's the elected District Attorney for Collin County. And he's the one -- you've heard the phrase, the buck stops here. He's the one that has to make the tough decision of whether or not to seek the death penalty. And he's the one that's decided in this case to seek the death penalty. So back to your --
 - A. He alone?

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Q. He alone. That doesn't mean that our client's going to get the death penalty because that's up to the jury. They have to decide that. He's the one that's seeking it. Back to -- back to negotiating, you know, we got off -- as defense attorneys, we can push for a life sentence, but if they choose not to extend it to us, then we wind up in court here. Okay?

Here's my point. Here's my point. If -obviously, you are not going to hold it against us as
criminal defense attorneys because we're going to do our
job and represent our client to the best of our ability.
You are not going to be upset with us if we do that, are

the police. But it's been my experience in this county that that's never been an issue, no matter how bad the case is. And I think the Judge will probably tell you the same.

VENIREPERSON: Are the specifics of our -our names and our addresses and who we are disclosed to
anybody except you?

MR. GOELLER: I don't think so. I don't know what's public record. First of all, it's a crime for anybody to contact you in the immediate future. It's an absolute crime. I mean, no one wants to go to the penitentiary over trying to tamper with the jury or doing anything.

It is so nonexistent I can't even tell you or remember a case where somebody did something with a juror. And I'm talking about between Ms. Falco and Ms. Lowry and Mr. High and I, and Mr. Schultz, I don't know if they have any -- can recollect something involving a juror. But I'll bet you that there's in this room, between the Judge and all of us, there's got to be close to 80, 90, a hundred years' worth of legal experience. And I've never heard of it in this county.

I don't know if that makes you feel any better, but it should because there's -- people aren't going to have an issue with you personally, no matter

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you?

A. Of course not. I'm sympathetic for you.

Q. All right. Did I hit on anything that you need to clarify with me or anything that you want to speak more fully about? Do you have any other questions for me that you would like to ask me or tell me?

A. I have a couple questions that any one of you could answer. Like --

- Q. I'll take a shot at it.
- A. Like, how are we, as jurors, protected from, say, his family being angry with our decision and coming after us? Are we protected in any way?

MR. GOELLER: Ma'am, those are questions that are probably best answered by the Judge. I can tell you, in my experience and in having been involved on both sides of the bar in several homicide cases, bad cases, I don't think we've ever had a situation.

VENIREPERSON: Well, I saw that movie, The Juror, which is all Hollywood, I understand. But still, you know, I want -- I'm still back to what he was talking about. Thinking about how this is going to affect. I'm thinking selfishly, how is this going to affect my life?

MR. GOELLER: Like I said, there are certainly no one -- no one could guarantee you anything,

what happens. I don't think -- I don't think you need to be concerned about that. And that's an honest opinion, and I think an honest answer.

THE COURT: Do you have any other questions?

VENIREPERSON: Yes. Can I ask you? When you talk about: Don't discuss the case, obviously not the specifics, the names or that, but I share my feelings with my spouse. I don't think I could not say what's -- I mean, he would -- I'm going to be a basket case if this were the situation. And I won't be sleeping much. And I don't think I can not tell him how I feel.

THE COURT: Well, ma'am, the fact of the matter is, you must not tell him how you feel because you shouldn't discuss the case with anyone. Because if you tell him how you feel, there would be a natural inclination for him to make some response. Right? And at that point you are discussing the case. So this is something that you alone must decide without his feelings because, see, he can't hear the evidence.

VENIREPERSON: Uh-huh.

THE COURT: Now, in fact, even if he were on the jury, which I suppose would be a possibility, you still couldn't discuss it.

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responsibility, but it's something that 12 people are ultimately going to have to do. Do you have any other questions?

VENIREPERSON: No.

THE COURT: All right. Are there any

17:34 21 other questions from either side?

MR. HIGH: We pass the juror. 17:34 22 17:34 23

MS. FALCO: No, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Do you want her to step down?

MR. GOELLER: If we could, very briefly.

MR. COURT: Let me ask you to step down

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          for just a minute, then we'll call you back in.
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                       (Venireperson Gentle not present.)
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                      MS. FALCO: State's peremptory strike
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                      THE COURT: All right. Would you tell
         Ms. Gentle that she is finally excused in this case.
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         The State has stricken her.
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THE BAILIFF: Yes, Your Honor. (Court adjourned.)

REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 2 THE STATE OF TEXAS 3 COUNTY OF COLLIN I, Barbara L. Tokuz, CSR, RMR, CRR, Deputy Official Court Reporter in and for the 380th Judicial District Court of Collin County, State of Texas, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing contains a true and correct transcription of all portions of evidence and other proceedings requested in writing by counsel for the parties to be included in this volume of the 10 Reporter's Record, in the above-styled and -numbered 11 cause, all of which occurred in open court or in 12 chambers and were reported by me. 13 14 I further certify that this Reporter's Record of the proceedings truly and correctly reflects the exhibits, 15 16 if any, offered by the respective parties. 17 WITNESS MY OFFICIAL HAND this the 11th day of 18 February, 2002. 19 20 Barbara L. Tokuz, CSR #4615, RMR, CRR

Deputy Official Court Reporter

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