

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT NO. 130

HON. EDWARD A. HINE, JR., JUDGE

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9004

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

NO. A253156

LESLIE VAN HOUTEN,

Defendant.

REPORTERS' DAILY TRANSCRIPT

Thursday, March 31, 1977

Volume 4

Pages 499 to 681, incl.

APPEARANCES: (See Volume 1.)

EMANUEL J. SANZO, C.S.R. No. 1267

- and -

LOIS R. JOHNSON, C.S.R. No. 812

Official Reporters

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1 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1977, 10:13 A.M.

2 DEPARTMENT NO. 130

HON. EDWARD A. HINZ, JR., JUDGE

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4 (Appearances as heretofore noted.)

5  
6 THE COURT: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

7 People versus Van Houten.

8 Let the record show the defendant is present,  
9 represented by counsel, the People are represented by counsel,  
10 the prospective jurors that were in the box as of our recess  
11 last evening are present.

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1 All right. At the recess we had finished with  
2 Juror No. 4, and we are ready for Mr. Moreno, No. 5.

3 Mr. Moreno, have you heard or do you know anything  
4 about this case or about defendant's past actions, conduct,  
5 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
6 the newspapers, magazines, or books, seen on television or  
7 heard on the radio?

8 MR. MORENO: Only what came out in the paper at that  
9 time; news -- I should say the headlines.

10 THE COURT: That was back in '69 and early '70s?

11 MR. MORENO: Right about that time.

12 THE COURT: All right.

13 Have you seen the TV movie or read any books about  
14 this matter?

15 MR. MORENO: I have not.

16 THE COURT: Have you seen anything in the news media  
17 in the last few months about this case?

18 MR. MORENO: I have not.

19 THE COURT: All right.

20 Can you put to one side whatever you might have  
21 read, seen, or heard about this matter and judge the defendant's  
22 guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be received in  
23 this trial?

24 MR. MORENO: Yes, I can.

25 THE COURT: As a result of anything you have read, seen,  
26 or heard about this case or about the defendant, have you  
27 formed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of this  
28 defendant?

1 MR. MORENO: No, I have not.

2 THE COURT: Would you allow yourself to be influenced  
3 by any publicity you have read, seen, or heard about this case  
4 or about the defendant?

5 MR. MORENO: No.

6 THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in  
7 this matter, can you assure the court that you will decide  
8 this case solely on the evidence to be received in this  
9 courtroom?

10 MR. MORENO: Yes.

11 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

12 Mr. Morgan, have you heard or do you know anything  
13 about this case or about defendant's past actions, conduct,  
14 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
15 the newspapers, magazines, or books, seen on television or  
16 heard on the radio?

17 MR. MORENO: The only thing I know is back in '69 and  
18 '70, when they were having the trial, I followed it pretty  
19 closely; yes, sir.

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1 THE COURT: All right.

2 Have you read the book or seen the T.V. movie  
3 about this matter?

4 MR. MORGAN: No, sir.

5 THE COURT: Did you follow this in the newspapers back in  
6 those days?

7 MR. MORGAN: Yes.

8 THE COURT: And also you have seen T.V. reports concerning  
9 the matter?

10 MR. MORGAN: Yes, sir.

11 THE COURT: All right.

12 Now, can you put to one side whatever you might  
13 have read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the  
14 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence that will  
15 be introduced in this trial?

16 MR. MORGAN: Truthfully, I don't think I'd be a fair  
17 and impartial juror for this case.

18 THE COURT: Are you saying, then, that based upon what  
19 you have read, seen or heard you have formed an opinion --

20 MR. MORGAN: Yes, sir.

21 THE COURT: -- as to the guilt or innocence of the  
22 defendant?

23 MR. MORGAN: Truthfully, yes, sir.

24 THE COURT: Well, of course that's what we want you to  
25 be.

26 And would this opinion you have formed require  
27 some evidence to overcome the opinion?

28 MR. MORGAN: Yes, sir, very much evidence.

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1 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

2 Mr. Murphy, have you heard or do you know anything  
3 about this case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct,  
4 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
5 the newspapers, magazines or books or seen on television or  
6 heard on the radio?

7 MR. MURPHY: Yes, I do.

8 THE COURT: When was that?

9 MR. MURPHY: I saw the movie, I read the book  
10 "Helter Skelter," as well as followed the newspapers at the  
11 time.

12 THE COURT: All right.

13 Now, the T.V. movie was apparently on at two  
14 different times, once just a few months ago and once, say,  
15 more than a year ago.

16 Which time did you watch it?

17 MR. MURPHY: I saw it three times.

18 I also saw it when it was blacked out from the  
19 L.A. area because of the elections.

20 THE COURT: So you have seen it altogether three times.

21 MR. MURPHY: Yes, I have.

22 THE COURT: Would you be able to put to one side whatever  
23 you might have read, seen or heard about this case, and judge  
24 the defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
25 received in this trial?

26 MR. MURPHY: No, I would not.

27 THE COURT: Are you telling me that based upon what you  
28 have read, seen or heard in this matter, that you have formed

1 an opinion concerning the defendant's guilt or innocence?

2 MR. MURPHY: Yes.

3 THE COURT: And would it require some evidence to  
4 overcome your opinion?

5 MR. MURPHY: Yes, it would.

6 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

7 Mrs. Nabeta, have you heard or do you know anything  
8 about this case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct,  
9 beliefs or associations, including anything you might have  
10 read in the newspapers, magazines or books or seen on television  
11 or heard on the radio?

12 MRS. NABETA: Well, I followed the trial when it was  
13 going on, and I watched the latest television program.

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1 THE COURT: All right. That's the T.V. program  
2 ~~Halter Skalter?~~

3 MRS. NABETA: Da-hum.

4 THE COURT: That was just a few months ago?

5 MRS. NABETA: I didn't read the book, though.

6 THE COURT: It was just a couple of months ago, when you  
7 saw it?

8 MRS. NABETA: Yes.

9 THE COURT: And you saw the two parts on two different  
10 nights?

11 MRS. NABETA: Yes.

12 THE COURT: Can you put to one side whatever you might  
13 have read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the  
14 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
15 received in this courtroom?

16 MRS. NABETA: I don't think so, I --

17 THE COURT: Well, based --

18 Excuse me; go ahead.

19 MRS. NABETA: I formed an opinion during the trial, and  
20 this last program I watched --

21 THE COURT: Well, let me ask you this now:

22 As you sit there now, based on anything you have  
23 seen, read or heard about this case do you have an opinion  
24 concerning the defendant's guilt or innocence?

25 MRS. NABETA: Yes, I do.

26 THE COURT: All right. And would it require any evidence  
27 to overcome this opinion you have?

28 MRS. NABETA: Quite a bit.

1 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

2 Miss Omachi, have you heard or do you know  
3 anything about this case or about the defendant's past actions,  
4 conduct, beliefs or associations, including anything you have  
5 read in the newspapers, magazines or books or seen on  
6 television or heard on the radio?

7 MISS OMACHI: Yes, sir. I saw the movie *Halter Skelter*  
8 the first time it was aired on television.

9 I have not read the book.

10 And I read the papers when it first came out.

11 THE COURT: Back in the late '60's and early '70's?

12 MISS OMACHI: Um-hum.

13 THE COURT: Can you put to one side whatever you might  
14 have read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the  
15 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence that would  
16 be introduced in this trial?

17 MISS OMACHI: Yes, sir.

18 THE COURT: As a result of anything you have read, seen  
19 or heard about this case, have you formed any opinion as to the  
20 defendant's guilt or innocence?

21 MISS OMACHI: No, sir, no opinion.

22 THE COURT: Would you allow yourself to be influenced by  
23 any publicity you have read, seen or heard about this case?

24 MISS OMACHI: No.

25 THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in  
26 this case, can you assure the Court that you will decide this  
27 case solely on the evidence to be received in this trial?

28 MISS OMACHI: Yes, sir.

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THE COURT: All right; thank you.

Would you pass the microphones, please.

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1 Mrs. O'Reilly, have you heard or do you know  
2 anything about this case or about defendant's past actions,  
3 conduct, beliefs or associations, including anything you have  
4 read in the newspapers, magazines, or books, seen on television  
5 or heard on the radio?

6 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes. I followed the account in the  
7 paper, and I saw the latest television account.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 Could you hold the microphone up just a little more?  
10 Thank you.

11 Now, based on whatever you might have read --

12 Well, let me ask you this: Can you put to one  
13 side whatever you might have read, seen, or heard about this  
14 case and judge the defendant's guilt or innocence solely on  
15 the evidence to be introduced in this trial?

16 MRS. O'REILLY: I would try. I would -- I believe I  
17 could.

18 THE COURT: Do you have some doubt in your mind about  
19 that?

20 MRS. O'REILLY: Only that I don't have the background  
21 that clearly in mind.

22 THE COURT: You don't have what, ma'am?

23 MRS. O'REILLY: The story as I read it previously. I do  
24 not recall the details that well.

25 THE COURT: Well, let me ask you again, now, are you  
26 saying that you would not be able to put to one side whatever  
27 you have heard, read, or seen about this case?

28 MRS. O'REILLY: I think I could.

1 THE COURT: Well, you understand that it is important  
2 that each juror decide this case solely on the evidence to be  
3 presented in this courtroom?

4 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes.

5 THE COURT: And, of course, we want to select jurors  
6 who have an open mind concerning this matter and would not be  
7 thinking about or taking into consideration anything you might  
8 have seen in the news media.

9 Do you understand that?

10 MRS. O'REILLY: That's right; that's right.

11 THE COURT: All right.

12 Now, as a result of anything you have read, seen,  
13 or heard about this case or about the defendant, have you  
14 formed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of this  
15 defendant?

16 MRS. O'REILLY: No, I haven't.

17 THE COURT: Would you allow yourself to be influenced by  
18 any publicity you have read, seen, or heard about this case  
19 or about the defendant?

20 MRS. O'REILLY: No.

21 THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in  
22 this matter, would you decide this case solely on the evidence  
23 to be received in this case?

24 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes, I would.

25 THE COURT: Thank you.

26 Miss Ortiz, have you heard or do you know anything  
27 about this case or about defendant's past actions, conduct,  
28 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in

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1 the newspapers, magazines, or books, seen on television or  
2 heard on the radio?

3 MISS ORTIZ: Yes. In late '69 and '70, I followed the  
4 newspapers, not closely but I did.

5 I read part of the "Helter Skelter," the book,  
6 and I've seen part of the movie Helter Skelter both times they  
7 were aired.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 Now, could you put to one side whatever you might  
10 have read, seen, or heard about this case and judge the  
11 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
12 introduced in this trial?

13 MISS ORTIZ: Yes, I could.  
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1 THE COURT: As a result of anything you have read,  
2 seen, or heard about this matter, have you formed any opinion  
3 as to the defendant's guilt or innocence?

4 MISS ORTIZ: No, I have not.

5 THE COURT: And would you allow yourself to be influenced  
6 by any publicity you have read, seen, or heard about this  
7 case or about the defendant?

8 MISS ORTIZ: No.

9 THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in  
10 this matter, would you decide this case solely on the evidence  
11 to be received in this trial?

12 MISS ORTIZ: Yes, I would.

13 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

14 Mrs. Overton, have you heard or do you know  
15 anything about this case or about defendant's past actions,  
16 conduct, beliefs or associations, including anything you have  
17 read in the newspapers, magazines, or books, or seen on  
18 television or heard on the radio?

19 MRS. OVERTON: The only thing I remember is back in '69  
20 when it happened.

21 I didn't follow the trial. I didn't read about it  
22 in the paper. I haven't seen the movie or read the book.

23 THE COURT: All right.

24 Now, would you be able to put to one side whatever  
25 you might have read, seen, or heard about this case and judge  
26 the defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to  
27 be received in this trial?

28 MRS. OVERTON: Yes, I could.

1 THE COURT: As a result of anything you have read, seen,  
2 or heard about this case or about the defendant, have you  
3 formed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of this  
4 defendant?

5 MRS. OVERTON: No.

6 THE COURT: And would you allow yourself to be influenced  
7 by any publicity you have read, seen, or heard about this case  
8 or about the defendant?

9 MRS. OVERTON: No.

10 THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in  
11 this matter, will you decide this case solely on the evidence  
12 to be received in this trial?

13 MRS. OVERTON: Yes, I would.

14 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

15 Counsel approach the bench, please, and could we  
16 have the court reporter.

17 (The following proceedings were held  
18 at the bench:)

19 THE COURT: All right. Do we have any challenges for  
20 cause?

21 MR. KEITH: Yes, Your Honor.

22 Mrs. Bette Manuele --

23 THE CLERK: What was the name?

24 MR. KEITH: Manuele, Juror No. 1.

25 THE COURT: Number 1.

26 MR. KEITH: Mrs. Cleotilde Martinez, No. 2; James Morgan,  
27 Number --

28 MR. KAY: Six.



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THE COURT: Six, yes.

MR. KEITH: -- 6; Julius Murphy --

MR. KAY: Seven.

MR. KEITH: -- No. 7 --

THE COURT: Seven.

MR. KEITH: -- and Mrs. Nabeta, 8.

THE COURT: Is there any --

MR. KAY: No. The only one I'd object to out of that is Mrs. Manuele, because she did not say she'd require any evidence to dispel her opinion.

THE COURT: I'll allow you to inquire of Mrs. Manuele, and we can see after that where we are.

1 MR. KAY: Okay. I don't object to the others. It was  
2 pretty clear.

3 THE CLERK: Manuele is the only one?

4 THE COURT: We'll leave it for the time being until  
5 counsel have had a chance to talk to her.

6 MR. KAY: Okay, thank you.

7 MR. KEITH: Thank you.

8 (The following proceedings were held  
9 in open court:)

10 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, the following  
11 jurors are excused from further service upon this case. We  
12 appreciate your attendance in this matter. You are to report  
13 to the fifth floor jury room.

14 The following are excused: Juror No. 2,  
15 Mrs. Cleotilde Martinez. Thank you.

16 Mr. James W. Morgan. Thank you, sir.

17 Mr. Julius S. Murphy and Mrs. Terry Nabeta. Thank  
18 you. You are now excused.

19 THE BAILIFF: Would you step this way, please.

20 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Keith, you may proceed to  
21 ask questions relating to publicity.

22 MR. KEITH: Thank you, Your Honor.

23 Ladies and gentlemen, as you are aware, at least  
24 I think you are aware, my name is Maxwell Keith. I represent  
25 Miss Van Houten, and His Honor, Judge Hinz, has permitted  
26 myself and Mr. Kay, the prosecutor, to ask additional questions  
27 of you, above and beyond the questions he has asked, to  
28 determine your state of mind towards Miss Van Houten with

1 respect to the publicity aspects of the case.

2 I'm sure you all realize that the case, particularly  
3 back in 1969 and 1970, received massive publicity. And since  
4 that time there has been a book written about the case called  
5 "Helter Skelter" and a television movie called Helter Skelter,  
6 which was purportedly adapted from the book.

7 So I'll start with Mrs. Manuele, if you will take  
8 the microphone, please.

9 You told His Honor that you do have an opinion  
10 about the guilt or innocence of Leslie; is that correct?

11 MRS. MANUELE: That is correct.

12 MR. KEITH: And that opinion is derived from your having  
13 read the book "Helter Skelter" and from seeing the television  
14 motion picture by the same name and from following the first  
15 trial; is that a fair statement?

16 MRS. MANUELE: That is right.

17 MR. KEITH: Have you also read anything about this case  
18 or Miss Van Houten, other than the book and having seen the  
19 television motion picture, and I'll include in it reading,  
20 hearing, talking, seeing, whatever, over and above the book  
21 and the movie?

22 MRS. MANUELE: No, other than newspaper articles.  
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1 MR. KEITH: Has that been newspaper articles within the  
2 last year or so?

3 MRS. MANUELE: No.

4 MR. KEITH: Just newspaper articles when the first trial  
5 was going on?

6 MRS. MANUELE: Right.

7 MR. KEITH: Do you have --

8 I believe you told His Honor that you read  
9 everything that had to do with the case.

10 MRS. MANUELE: That's right.

11 MR. KEITH: At least that's what my notes indicate.

12 Correct me if I am in error.

13 MRS. MANUELE: That's correct.

14 MR. KEITH: So you were of course aware of the outcome  
15 of the first trial.

16 MRS. MANUELE: That is correct.

17 MR. KEITH: Do you have any knowledge gleaned from  
18 newspaper accounts or television accounts as to why  
19 Miss Van Houten is here today awaiting trial?

20 MRS. MANUELE: Yes, I have.

21 MR. KEITH: All right.

22 Did you read that in the newspapers, as to why  
23 she is here, or see it on a television news program?

24 MRS. MANUELE: Yes.

25 MR. KEITH: Have you ever seen Miss Van Houten on  
26 television within the last few months?

27 MRS. MANUELE: No.

28 MR. KEITH: Is your opinion a strong one?

1 MRS. MANUELE: Yes, it is.

2 MR. KEITH: And would it --

3 You see, as I'm sure you realize, we'd like to  
4 have -- more than "like to have"; we insist -- by "we" I'm  
5 not limiting it to myself or Miss Van Houten.

6 Everybody that has anything to do with this matter  
7 insists on jurors that are impartial and openminded.

8 And if you have an opinion already, you have already  
9 prejudged the case.

10 And some people can lay aside their opinions,  
11 because nobody is criticizing you for having an opinion; but  
12 some people have such strong opinions in a case like this that  
13 it would require evidence, as His Honor told everyone, to erase  
14 that opinion.

15 And that's what I wanted to find out in your  
16 situation, whether you'd have to listen to evidence before you  
17 could disabuse yourself of any opinion you might have, if you  
18 ever could.

19 MISS MANUELE: I don't think I ever could.

20 MR. KEITH: All right; thank you.

21 Now, Mr. McDermott, if you would take the  
22 microphone, please.

23 You also followed the trial, the first trial in the  
24 newspapers, according to my notes.

25 Is that a fair statement?

26 MR. McDERMOTT: I don't know. You say "followed it."  
27 I didn't follow it that closely.

28 I was aware, you know, it was being reported as

1 part of reading the daily papers, and stuff.

2 MR. KEITH: What you are telling me and the Court is  
3 you took no particular significant interest in that first  
4 trial.

5 You simply followed it, read about it because --

6 MR. McDERMOTT: It was there.

7 MR. KEITH: It was there; all right.

8 MR. McDERMOTT: Yes, sir.

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1 MR. KEITH: And did you become aware of the outcome of  
2 the first trial as a result of being exposed to newspaper  
3 and perhaps television coverage?

4 MR. McDERMOTT: Specially I don't think I was aware of  
5 it until the time of the election for District Attorney.

6 I was aware of -- that's when I became aware of it  
7 because it was -- much was made of the outcome of the trial  
8 as a result of Mr. Bugliosi's campaign for District Attorney.

9 MR. KEITH: I see.

10 So you have heard, either in person or through  
11 the media, certain campaign oratory by Mr. Bugliosi that  
12 delved into the facts of the so-called Manson case.

13 MR. McDERMOTT: I don't know about delving into the  
14 facts, but it made much of the fact of the verdict of the first  
15 trial.

16 MR. KEITH: So --

17 Do you have any opinion as to why Miss Van Houten  
18 is here today standing trial?

19 MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir, I don't.

20 MR. KEITH: You don't know anything about what may have  
21 happened in the appellate courts?

22 MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir, I don't.

23 MR. KEITH: Then, it came as a surprise to you to see  
24 her here, bearing in mind --

25 MR. McDERMOTT: Very much so.

26 MR. KEITH: -- bearing in mind that you had heard  
27 Mr. Bugliosi extol his prosecutorial abilities, I suppose.

28 MR. McDERMOTT: Yes, sir.



1 MR. KEITH: You also saw a television movie entitled  
2 Helter Skelter, at least part of it, is that correct?

3 MR. McDERMOTT: That's correct.

4 MR. KEITH: And I'm sure His Honor asked you, but I  
5 neglected to write it down.

6 Did you see that television motion picture within  
7 the last two or three months, or was it almost a year ago when  
8 you saw it?

9 MR. McDERMOTT: That's something I was thinking about.

10 I really can't recall because it was a small portion  
11 of it that I saw, and as I say, I was in between engagements.

12 MR. KEITH: I remember now. It was yesterday.

13 You had guests, and you were doing things to make  
14 your guests comfortable, and you really didn't pay that much  
15 attention to the show.

16 MR. McDERMOTT: Well, I don't think --

17 MR. KEITH: Are you the gentleman that --

18 MR. McDERMOTT: No; I don't think I had guests.

19 I was in the middle -- the portion I saw was a  
20 few minutes when I happened to be at home between engagements.

21 I was arriving from somewhere, and I remember it  
22 was on, somebody from my apartment was watching it.

23 I had a roommate who I think was watching it, and  
24 for the minute, for the time I was there, before I left for  
25 the next engagement, that's what I saw of it.

26 MR. KEITH: For the next engagement. Are you an actor?

27 MR. McDERMOTT: No.

28 MR. KEITH: All right. This isn't the time to inquire



1 into your occupation.

2 That will be done at a later time; so I'm not  
3 going to do that.

4 But -- I shouldn't have even asked that question.

5 You did tell us, though, you didn't want to be on  
6 this case.

7 MR. McDERMOTT: That's correct.

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1 MR. KEITH: I remember that statement.

2 Does that have anything to do with what you have  
3 seen and heard about it?

4 MR. McDERMOTT: None, no, sir.

5 MR. KEITH: This is strictly a personal reason or  
6 reasons, I presume.

7 And again, this is not the time to go into it,  
8 but I just want to find out now if there is any relationship  
9 between Miss Van Houten as an individual --

10 MR. McDERMOTT: No.

11 MR. KEITH: -- and as a defendant in this case, and what  
12 you may have heard about her and your state of mind as to not  
13 wanting to be on the case.

14 MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir. It's --

15 MR. KEITH: You don't have to tell us. I'm not going to  
16 ask you.

17 MR. KAY: I won't object.

18 MR. KEITH: Well, maybe the court will.

19 All right; let us know, if the court doesn't --

20 MR. McDERMOTT: Okay. Mostly, I have a two-week-old  
21 son, and this is a very new and wonderful experience for me.

22 And I am jealous of the time and energy that it  
23 takes me to be away from my home and my new baby.

24 And that's the personal reason I was talking about.

25 MR. KEITH: All right.

26 Do you feel you couldn't give your full attention  
27 to deciding this case, if you were selected as a juror, because  
28 of your jealousy over not being able to be with your new baby

1 more?

2 MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir, I don't feel so.

3 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that Miss Van Houten would be  
4 prejudiced because you really don't want to sit in this case,  
5 and if you did wind up sitting in this case you might be  
6 hostile towards her?

7 MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir.

8 MR. KEITH: The same would apply to the prosecution,  
9 too.

10 You don't think subconsciously you might take it  
11 out on one or the other of us?

12 MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir, I don't believe so. I know  
13 why I'm here.

14 MR. KEITH: Have you ever discussed this case with any  
15 friends or relatives of yours or co-workers that may have read  
16 the book or seen the television motion picture?

17 MR. McDERMOTT: I must have at sometime in the past.

18 I mean, I'm sure it came up over coffeebreaks, or  
19 what have you, as the trial was going on.

20 I have no specific recollections of, you know, of  
21 a discussion.

22 MR. KEITH: I should have limited it to the last year or  
23 so.

24 MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir.

25 MR. KEITH: Because I can't imagine -- unless something  
26 really vivid occurred -- that you would recollect whether or  
27 not you discussed the case at the time of the first trial.

28 MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir.

1 MR. KEITH: You probably did.

2 But you don't remember anything exciting.

3 MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir.

4 MR. KEITH: That somebody told you or you told somebody  
5 else. Is that correct?

6 MR. McDERMOTT: That's correct.

7 MR. KEITH: You are sure now as you sit in the jury box  
8 and have had a chance to ponder, perhaps, that you have no  
9 preconceived idea about the facts of the case or about the  
10 likelihood of Miss Van Houten being more guilty than innocent.

11 MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir.

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MR. KEITH: Or -- you are being absolutely honest with me,

are you?

MR. McDERMOTT: Yes, sir.

MR. KEITH: And you haven't been influenced by what you

have read in the newspapers or any of Mr. Bugliosi's speeches

MR. McDERMOTT: No.

MR. KEITH: You are sure of that.

MR. McDERMOTT: Yes, sir.

MR. KEITH: Have you seen or heard Mr. Bugliosi speak

once or more than once?

MR. McDERMOTT: I heard him speak, I believe it was, on

the radio, a radio talk show at the time he was running for

District Attorney.

MR. KEITH: Have you ever seen him on a television

talk show?

MR. McDERMOTT: Not that I recall.

MR. KEITH: Have you ever seen him speak in person about

this case?

MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir.

MR. KEITH: Has anybody ever talked to you about

Mr. Bugliosi within the past few years, concerning his

relationship to the so-called Hanson case?

MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir.

MR. KEITH: Do you believe that anything you may have

seen or heard or read in some way has poisoned the presumption

of innocence which Miss Van Houston now is clothed with?

MR. McDERMOTT: I don't believe so.

MR. KEITH: You understand, of course, she is presumed

1 innocent. That's basic American juxta prudencia.

2 MR. McDERMOTT: Yes, sir.

3 MR. KEITH: You don't feel that that presumption is  
4 impaired by anything that you have been exposed to over the  
5 past years.

6 MR. McDERMOTT: No, sir.

7 MR. KEITH: Thank you.

8 Would you pass the microphone to Mr. McKinley,  
9 please.

10 Mr. McKinley, have you read, seen or heard anything  
11 about Leslie Van Houten in the last four or five years?

12 Apparently you did realize there had been a first  
13 trial because you read something about it.

14 MR. MCKINLEY: Yes.

15 MR. KEITH: But since then have you been exposed to  
16 Leslie's name or read anything about her or read anything about  
17 Manson or heard or seen any of these things?

18 MR. MCKINLEY: The only thing that I have really heard  
19 at all is that she was -- had changed her attitude altogether;  
20 and that's about it.

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1 MR. KEITH: Did you read about that change in a  
2 newspaper?

3 MR. MC KINLEY: I think my wife read about it and was  
4 saying something to me about it.

5 I didn't read it myself, no.

6 MR. KEITH: Would that have been in the Los Angeles  
7 Times, or don't you know?

8 MR. MC KINLEY: No, it would be in the Star News,  
9 Pasadena.

10 MR. KEITH: Pasadena Star News?

11 MR. MC KINLEY: Uh-huh. That's where I imagine she  
12 read it.

13 Of course, she has some magazines, too, and that  
14 sort of thing. I don't know where she --

15 MR. KEITH: Have you ever seen Leslie on television?

16 MR. MC KINLEY: No.

17 MR. KEITH: Has your wife talked to you about Miss Van  
18 Houten or the so-called Manson case in the past?

19 MR. MC KINLEY: No. We --

20 Oh, we discussed it at the time of trial or  
21 something.

22 MR. KEITH: That was a poor question. I should try to  
23 develop a time frame so our discussion can be more meaningful.

24 Let us say in the past year or so.

25 MR. MC KINLEY: No, we haven't.

26 MR. KEITH: Did you ever read anything in the newspapers  
27 or see anything on television as to why Leslie is here now --

28 MR. MC KINLEY: No.

1 MR. KEITH: -- standing trial?

2 MR. MC KINLEY: No, sir; I haven't.

3 MR. KEITH: And were you aware of the outcome of the  
4 first trial?

5 MR. MC KINLEY: Yes, I know how --

6 MR. KEITH: Do you remember her name as having been a  
7 defendant in the first trial?

8 MR. MC KINLEY: Yes, I do remember the name.

9 MR. KEITH: And like Mr. McDermott, does it come as a  
10 surprise to you to see her here?

11 MR. MC KINLEY: Very much so, yes.

12 MR. KEITH: You have no idea as to what happened over  
13 the intervening years that has entitled her to a new trial?

14 MR. MC KINLEY: No, I haven't any idea.

15 MR. KEITH: Bearing in mind you are aware of the result  
16 of the first trial -- oh, maybe you weren't. I'd better ask  
17 you that question.

18 MR. MC KINLEY: Yes, I was aware of that.

19 MR. KEITH: All right.

20 Bearing that in mind, do you feel that that  
21 awareness is going to influence you in the event you are  
22 selected as a trial juror in this trial?

23 MR. MC KINLEY: No, sir; I don't. I feel I'd have an  
24 open mind on it. She's innocent until she's --

25 MR. KEITH: Do you feel you can erase from your mind the  
26 result that you know about that occurred at the end of the  
27 first trial without listening to evidence?

28 MR. MC KINLEY: Oh, no.



1 Well, I --

2 MR. KEITH: If you don't understand my question --

3 MR. MC KINLEY: I didn't understand the question.

4 MR. KEITH: All right. I'll clarify it.

5 You have an awareness as to the outcome of the  
6 first trial.

7 MR. MC KINLEY: Yes.

8 MR. KEITH: All right.

9 You don't have an awareness as to why Leslie has  
10 been granted a new trial?

11 MR. MC KINLEY: No.  
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1 MR. KEITH: All right.

2 My question is, did you form an opinion as to her  
3 guilt or innocence when you became aware many years ago, as  
4 a result of the first trial --

5 MR. MC KINLEY: No, I didn't form any opinion on it.

6 MR. KEITH: What you are telling us is you weren't that  
7 attentive to the first trial, so it didn't really register.

8 MR. MC KINLEY: That's right.

9 MR. KEITH: You had no deep-lasting feelings about the  
10 result of the first trial?

11 MR. MC KINLEY: No, sir.

12 MR. KEITH: You just knew it as a fact.

13 MR. MC KINLEY: That's right.

14 MR. KEITH: And had you more or less forgotten about the  
15 first trial until you were called as a --

16 MR. MC KINLEY: Yes, sir.

17 MR. KEITH: -- prospective juror on this case?

18 MR. MC KINLEY: That's right.

19 MR. KEITH: Do you know whether or not your wife -- or  
20 strike that.

21 Has your wife imparted to you any of her opinions  
22 and impressions that may influence you?

23 MR. MC KINLEY: No. No, she hasn't.

24 MR. KEITH: Or any friends or relatives?

25 MR. MC KINLEY: No, sir.

26 MR. KEITH: Thank you very much, Mr. McKinley. Could you  
27 pass the microphone to Mr. Moreno, please.

28 Mr. Moreno, my notes indicated that your position

1 is substantially the same as Mr. McKinley's, that you read  
2 some headlines in 1969 and '70, and that you read those  
3 headlines because they were there and you could hardly avoid  
4 it; but since that time you haven't read, seen, or heard  
5 anything about the case, Manson case?

6 MR. MORENO: That's correct. I haven't followed it at  
7 all.

8 MR. KEITH: You haven't seen Miss Van Houten on television,  
9 I take it?

10 MR. MORENO: Nope.

11 MR. KEITH: Were you aware of the outcome of the first  
12 case?

13 You are now, I'm sure. But before you sat down  
14 here, were you aware of it?

15 MR. MORENO: I never really read it. It might have  
16 been in the papers when I go by the stand. That's about it.

17 MR. KEITH: You weren't interested in it?

18 MR. MORENO: I wasn't interested, no. I was studying  
19 for school.

20 MR. KEITH: How old were you then in '69?

21 MR. MORENO: Thirty-nine.

22 MR. KEITH: And you never read the book or saw --

23 MR. MORENO: Never read the book.

24 MR. KEITH: -- or saw the movie version of the book?

25 MR. MORENO: No, I have not.

26 MR. KEITH: Have you ever heard the phrase "helter-  
27 skelter" before?

28 MR. MORENO: Yes, I have, but I never associated it with --

6-6  
1 MR. KEITH: But did you ever associate that phrase with  
2 Charles Manson?

3 MR. MORENO: No, sir.

4 MR. KEITH: You have heard his name before?

5 MR. MORENO: Yes, I have.

6 MR. KEITH: And you learned something about him and what  
7 he was supposed to have done in the past?

8 MR. MORENO: I just heard there was a family, and I didn't  
9 pay much attention.

10 MR. KEITH: Do you have an open mind now about Miss Van  
11 Houten?

12 MR. MORENO: Yes. I'd just go by whatever is presented.  
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1 MR. KEITH: Do you have any kind of an opinion or  
2 belief as to her guilt or innocence at the present time?

3 MR. MORENO: No, sir; I do not.

4 MR. KEITH: You are sure of that?

5 MR. MORENO: Right.

6 MR. KEITH: Positive?

7 MR. MORENO: Positive.

8 MR. KEITH: Can you promise me, as you have promised the  
9 court, that you wouldn't let anything that you may have been  
10 exposed to in the last, through the news media, influence your  
11 judgment about Miss Van Houten if you are selected as a trial  
12 juror?

13 MR. MORENO: I'm absolutely sure.

14 MR. KEITH: Could you be kind enough to pass the micro-  
15 phone to Miss Omachi.

16 Am I pronouncing your name correctly?

17 MISS OMACHI: Yes, sir.

18 MR. KEITH: Let's see. You did see the television  
19 motion picture Helter Skelter?

20 MISS OMACHI: Yes, sir.

21 MR. KEITH: And how long ago was that? Was it within  
22 the last three months or within the last year?

23 MISS OMACHI: When it first came out.

24 MR. KEITH: That would have been sometime in 1976?

25 MISS OMACHI: I don't know.

26 MR. KEITH: Whenever?

27 MISS OMACHI: Whenever.

28 MR. KEITH: And it was in two parts. Did you see both

1 parts or just one part?

2 MISS OMACHI: I think I saw both.

3 MR. KEITH: Did it leave any impression on you?

4 MISS OMACHI: Then it did, I guess.

5 MR. KEITH: What impression did it leave on you?

6 MISS OMACHI: Can you be more specific?

7 MR. KEITH: I was trying to get you to talk.

8 MISS OMACHI: Oh.

9 MR. KEITH: All right, I'll be more specific.

10 Did it leave any impression on you at all, or did  
11 you just completely erase from your mind what you saw on  
12 television because you didn't care for it or you thought it  
13 was a dull show or whatever?

14 MISS OMACHI: No, it wasn't dull.

15 MR. KEITH: You enjoyed it?

16 MISS OMACHI: (No response.)

17 MR. KEITH: Did it scare you?

18 MISS OMACHI: Yeah, I guess.

19 MR. KEITH: Did you form any opinion of Mr. Manson as the  
20 result of seeing the television motion picture?

21 MISS OMACHI: Yes.

22 MR. KEITH: Did you form any --

23 Now, Miss Van Houten in that television motion  
24 picture was portrayed by an actress, wasn't she?

25 MISS OMACHI: I would suppose so.

26 MR. KEITH: Well, do you remember?

27 MISS OMACHI: I don't remember what her part was.

28 MR. KEITH: You don't remember her being portrayed by

1 anyone?

2 MISS OMACHI: I don't remember what her part in that  
3 movie -- I mean, I don't know exactly who or what she did.

4 MR. KEITH: All right.

5 You didn't read the book "Helter Skelter"?

6 MISS OMACHI: No.

7 MR. KEITH: And did you follow the case at the first  
8 trial with some special interest, or did you just read about  
9 it because it was played up a lot?

10 MISS OMACHI: I just saw the headlines, and I don't  
11 remember anything in particular about it.

12 MR. KEITH: You didn't take any special interest, then,  
13 at that time in the first case?

14 MISS OMACHI: I don't think so.

15 MR. KEITH: Do you know why Miss Van Houten is here for  
16 a new trial?

17 MISS OMACHI: No, sir.

18 MR. KEITH: You haven't read, heard, or seen anything  
19 about the reason why she has been granted a new trial?

20 MISS OMACHI: No, sir.

21 MR. KEITH: Did it surprise you, then, as it has others,  
22 to see her here awaiting trial?

23 MISS OMACHI: Yes, sir.

24 MR. KEITH: Have you read, heard, or seen anything through  
25 the media, news media, about her other than having seen the  
26 television motion picture?

27 MISS OMACHI: Well, I guess I saw her picture in the  
28 paper.

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1 MR. KEITH: Did you read any accompanying article?

2 MISS OMACHI: No, I just --

3 MR. KEITH: Would that have been the Los Angeles Times?

4 MISS OMACHI: Times.

5 MR. KEITH: Had you forgotten about seeing the television  
6 motion picture Helter Skelter until you came here and started  
7 being asked --

8 MISS OMACHI: Yes.

9 MR. KEITH: -- asked questions about it?

10 MISS OMACHI: Yes.

11 MR. KEITH: Do you remember anything about that film  
12 at all?

13 In other words, being reminded of it, has your  
14 memory been refreshed at all about what you saw?

15 MISS OMACHI: Well, I try not to think about it.

16 MR. KEITH: You try not to think about it?

17 MISS OMACHI: Yeah, I don't think about it.

18 MR. KEITH: All right.

19 Do you feel, in the event you are selected as a  
20 trial juror in this case, that what you saw and remember you  
21 saw in that movie might enter your thoughts and color your  
22 impartiality?

23 MISS OMACHI: No, sir.

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1 MR. KEITH: Can you promise me it wouldn't?

2 MISS OMACHI: Yes, sir.

3 MR. KEITH: I can't seem to get out of you whether you  
4 liked the television movie or disliked it, or whether you were  
5 indifferent to it, or whether it scared you or fascinated you.  
6 Apparently really none of these things.

7 MISS OMACHI: Well, I see enough movies that it didn't.

8 MR. KEITH: Pardon me?

9 MISS OMACHI: I see a lot of movies, but that's not one  
10 of the classics.

11 MR. KEITH: Your impression was and is that the  
12 television version of Helter Skelter was not something that  
13 stayed in your mind because it was -- let's say, it lacked  
14 artistic merit.

15 MISS OMACHI: Yes, sir.

16 MR. KEITH: Pardon me?

17 MISS OMACHI: Yes, sir.

18 MR. KEITH: Don't let me put words in your mouth now.

19 MISS OMACHI: I just --

20 MR. KEITH: You are shy, you see, and I don't want you  
21 to say something because I say it.

22 We have to know your reactions to the exposure  
23 you have had; and speak right up. Okay?

24 You realize that Leslie is presumed innocent at  
25 the present time?

26 MISS OMACHI: Yes, sir.

27 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that having seen that movie would  
28 in some way contaminate your ability to abide by that rule of

1 law, the presumption of innocence?

2 MISS ONACHI: No, sir.

3 MR. KEITH: And as His Honor has told you, we are  
4 entitled to and we demand -- because the law gives us that  
5 right -- to have openminded, impartial, fair jurors.

6 You feel you can be such --

7 MISS ONACHI: Yes, sir.

8 MR. KEITH: -- despite anything you may have read, seen  
9 or heard about this case?

10 MISS ONACHI: Yes, sir.

11 MR. KEITH: Thank you.

12 Could you pass the microphone.

13 Let's see. Mrs. O'Reilly?

14 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes, sir.

15 MR. KEITH: You saw the television motion picture  
16 Helter Skelter?

17 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes. I saw the first half, the latest  
18 production.

19 I didn't watch the second night.

20 MR. KEITH: That would have been within the last two or  
21 three months?

22 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes, quite recently.

23 MR. KEITH: You watched the first segment, did you say?

24 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes.

25 MR. KEITH: And had you seen it before, that television  
26 motion picture?

27 MRS. O'REILLY: No.

28 MR. KEITH: Did you read the book "Helter Skelter"?

1 MRS. O'REILLY: No.

2 MR. KEITH: Has anybody talked to you about the book  
3 "Helter Skelter," any friends, relatives or co-workers?

4 MRS. O'REILLY: No, I can't recall that.

5 MR. KEITH: Has anybody talked to you about the Manson  
6 case in general within the past year or so?

7 MRS. O'REILLY: No. It hasn't been discussed recently.

8 I recall reading the reason for this trial:  
9 the disappearance of the attorney.

10 And the time hadn't occurred to me. I was  
11 surprised to find that this was the time of the trial.

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1 MR. KEITH: Did you read or hear -- read and hear  
2 about the case and see television reports about it during the  
3 first trial?

4 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes, I read the paper accounts of it,  
5 headlines.

6 MR. KEITH: Did you read accounts of the first trial  
7 other than just the headlines?

8 In other words, did you dig deeper into the matter  
9 and read the whole article or articles?

10 MRS. O'REILLY: Probably in Time Magazine. It was more  
11 condensed; something of that sort.

12 MR. KEITH: Did you take any special interest in  
13 following the first trial?

14 MRS. O'REILLY: I wouldn't say special interest.

15 MR. KEITH: Did you have what you might term just an  
16 ordinary interest about the first trial?

17 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes; it was pretty remarkable.

18 MR. KEITH: As a result of your exposure to the first  
19 trial in the news media, did you form an opinion after that  
20 first trial was over as to the guilt or innocence of any of  
21 the defendants there?

22 MRS. O'REILLY: I think at the time I felt they were  
23 more victimized by the leader of the group, Manson.

24 MR. KEITH: And do you still entertain that opinion now?  
25 Or have you more or less forgotten about the case?

26 MRS. O'REILLY: I have forgotten it, but I haven't had  
27 anything happen to change that much.

28 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that having seen at least one

1 segment of the television show has derogated from -- that's  
2 not the right word. I have got to think of a better word.

3 You had the opinion at the end of the first trial  
4 that the other defendants were victimized by Manson; right?

5 MRS. O'REILLY: Under his influence.

6 MR. KEITH: All right.

7 MRS. O'REILLY: And put in the position by him.

8 MR. KEITH: All right.

9 You did see the first part of the television show --

10 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes.

11 MR. KEITH: -- Helter Skelter.

12 And after seeing that did you feel Manson had  
13 victimized these kids?

14 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes, I think so.

15 MR. KEITH: Or did the --

16 MR. KAY: Well, I'm going to object to the use of the  
17 word "kids."

18 MR. KEITH: All right; "youngsters."

19 MR. KAY: Well, I'm going to object to that.

20 MR. KEITH: "People."

21 THE COURT: All right; let's go ahead.

22 MR. KEITH: Now, you have told His Honor you have no  
23 opinion about the guilt or innocence of Leslie at the present  
24 time; is that correct?

25 MRS. O'REILLY: That's correct.

26 MR. KEITH: And that you wouldn't be influenced by anything  
27 you have seen, read or heard if you were selected as a trial  
28 juror in this trial; is that correct?

1 MRS. O'REILLY: That's correct.

2 MR. KEITH: Do you feel you could be fair to her and  
3 the prosecution?

4 MRS. O'REILLY: I feel that. I would certainly try.

5 MR. KEITH: And do you feel that you could be openminded?

6 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes, sir.

7 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that the presumption of  
8 innocence which, as the expression goes, Miss Van Houten stands  
9 clothed in is in some way contaminated or tainted or tarnished  
10 by your previous exposure?

11 MRS. O'REILLY: No. I think the defendant is entitled  
12 to a fair trial.

13 MR. KEITH: Thank you.

14 Could you pass the microphone to Mrs. Ortiz.

15 THE COURT: Mr. Keith, this might be an appropriate time  
16 to take a short recess.

17 Ladies and gentlemen, at this time we will recess  
18 for 10 minutes, until a quarter past -- I guess it's 12  
19 minutes -- until a quarter past 11:00.

20 Bear in mind during this recess you are not to  
21 discuss this case amongst yourselves or with anyone else, and  
22 you are not to form any opinion concerning this matter or  
23 express any opinion concerning this matter until the case is  
24 finally given to you.

25 Further, it would be inappropriate for you to read,  
26 see or hear any accounts of this matter in the news media.

27 The Court will be in recess until a quarter past  
28 11:00.

1 All jurors, the defendant and counsel are ordered  
2 to return at that time.

3 The Court is in recess.

4 (Recess.)  
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1 THE COURT: People versus Van Houten.

2 Let the record show the defendant is present and  
3 represented by counsel; the People are represented by counsel;  
4 the jurors are in their respective places.

5 You may resume, Mr. Keith.

6 MR. KEITH: Miss Ortiz, I didn't ask you any questions  
7 yet, did I?

8 MISS ORTIZ: No, you didn't.

9 MR. KEITH: All right. Let's see.

10 You apparently read part of the book entitled  
11 "Helter Skelter"?

12 MISS ORTIZ: Yes, I did.

13 MR. KEITH: How far did you get into it, if I may ask?

14 MISS ORTIZ: About two-thirds of the book.

15 MR. KEITH: I see.

16 And is there some reason why you discontinued  
17 reading it?

18 MISS ORTIZ: I lost interest in it.

19 MR. KEITH: All right.

20 Did you feel that the book lacked perhaps literary  
21 merit?

22 MISS ORTIZ: I don't know.

23 MR. KEITH: All right.

24 Did you feel that Mr. Bugliosi -- or was there  
25 something about Mr. Bugliosi's writing that bothered you or --

26 MISS ORTIZ: Well, the last part of the book wasn't  
27 that interesting, and I just got to the point where I didn't  
28 see an interest in it any more.



8-2  
1 MR. KEITH: Did you get to that part of the book --  
2 that would have been the second half of the book, I believe --  
3 that concerned the first trial itself?

4 MISS ORTIZ: I never got into the trial parts of the  
5 book.

6 MR. KEITH: All right.

7 So what you read was the investigatory parts of  
8 the book --

9 MISS ORTIZ: Right.

10 MR. KEITH: -- what went on before any trial.

11 MISS ORTIZ: Yes.

12 MR. KEITH: Do you remember reading Miss Van Houten's  
13 name in the book?

14 MISS ORTIZ: Miss -- yes, I do recall the name, but not  
15 what part she took in it.

16 MR. KEITH: All right.

17 And you also saw a part of the television motion  
18 picture?

19 MISS ORTIZ: Yes, I did.

20 MR. KEITH: And did you see that about a year ago or  
21 more recently?

22 MISS ORTIZ: I saw it both times, a year -- about a year  
23 ago and about three months ago when it came out again.

24 MR. KEITH: Did you see the entire television motion  
25 picture?

26 MISS ORTIZ: No, I didn't.

27 MR. KEITH: What part did you see?

28 MISS ORTIZ: I saw the first two hours of it.

1 MR. KEITH: And you saw the same two hours twice?

2 MISS ORTIZ: Yes.

3 MR. KEITH: Having seen that same two hours twice, did  
4 that leave you with an impression or opinion about Miss Van  
5 Houten's guilt or innocence?

6 MISS ORTIZ: No. She's -- that is not the name that  
7 sticks in my mind; so, no, it doesn't.

8 MR. KEITH: Did any particular name stick in your mind?

9 MISS ORTIZ: Yes.

10 MR. KEITH: Would that have been Mr. Hanson?

11 MISS ORTIZ: Not so much -- his name just sticks in my  
12 mind whenever I hear about the case or anything about it. His  
13 name automatically comes up in my mind.

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1 MR. KEITH: What other name stuck in your mind?

2 MISS ORTIZ: Susan Atkins.

3 MR. KEITH: All right.

4 And did you read about the case when it first  
5 happened back in 1969?

6 MISS ORTIZ: I followed it very closely. Mostly on TV,  
7 the news -- when the news came out at dinnertime.

8 And I would see it in the newspaper, but I wouldn't  
9 read the whole article in the newspaper.

10 MR. KEITH: I take it you had some particular interest  
11 in the matter?

12 MISS ORTIZ: Yes. It was an interesting case that was  
13 going on then.

14 MR. KEITH: And were you aware of the outcome of that  
15 first case?

16 MISS ORTIZ: Yes, I was.

17 MR. KEITH: Did you form an opinion at that time, when  
18 you became aware of the outcome, as to Miss Van Houten's guilt  
19 or innocence?

20 MISS ORTIZ: At that time I did, yes.

21 MR. KEITH: All right.

22 And has something occurred since to cause that  
23 opinion to dissolve?

24 MISS ORTIZ: I thought about it. After I read the book  
25 and I saw part of the movie, my thoughts did change, yes.

26 MR. KEITH: When you say your thoughts changed, do you  
27 mean to tell us that you now have a different opinion --

28 MISS ORTIZ: I have a doubt.

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1 MR. KEITH: -- or no opinion at all?

2 MISS ORTIZ: I have doubts.

3 MR. KEITH: Are you telling us you have doubts about  
4 Miss Van Houten's participation or the extent of it?

5 MISS ORTIZ: I have doubts about her participation in  
6 it.

7 MR. KEITH: Do you have any opinion -- I might as well  
8 ask Mr. Kay's question -- about her mental state --

9 MISS ORTIZ: No.

10 MR. KEITH: -- back in 1969 at the time this tragedy  
11 occurred?

12 MISS ORTIZ: As I recall, she does not -- her name --  
13 I can't place her as to what part she took in it; so, no, I  
14 don't have an opinion on that.

15 MR. KEITH: Your doubts don't rise to an opinion, I take  
16 it?

17 MISS ORTIZ: They don't.

18 MR. KEITH: Do you think your exposure in some way is  
19 in some way going to affect your impartiality in the event you  
20 are selected as a trial juror?

21 MISS ORTIZ: No, I do not.

22 MR. KEITH: You don't believe you will be influenced in  
23 any way whatsoever by what you have seen, read, or heard about  
24 Manson or the possible participation of Miss Van Houten?

25 MISS ORTIZ: No. I would need proof, evidence.

26 MR. KEITH: What created the doubts in your mind; was it  
27 the book or the television show or both or simply your thinking  
28 about the case?

B-6

1           MISS ORTIZ: No. I was more into the book than I was  
2 into the program, the television program, and it -- the article  
3 shows that they weren't themselves at the time; that they were  
4 always taking some sort of dope or in that nature. So --

5           MR. KEITH: You used the expression "article."

6                     Do you mean by that, are you using that inter-  
7 changeably with "book"?

8           MISS ORTIZ: Yes, the book. That's what I'm using it  
9 with.

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1 MR. KEITH: Now, were you aware, until you came into  
2 court Monday, that Miss Van Houten must have been granted a  
3 new trial?

4 MISS ORTIZ: I had heard about it, that she was granted  
5 a new trial.

6 MR. KEITH: So you weren't surprised to see her sitting  
7 here?

8 MISS ORTIZ: I was surprised when I walked in.

9 MR. KEITH: Oh, in that sense you were surprised to be  
10 called as a juror on this case?

11 MISS ORTIZ: Right, right.

12 MR. KEITH: But you had realized that she had been  
13 granted a new trial?

14 MISS ORTIZ: Yes.

15 MR. KEITH: And you learned that from the newspaper or  
16 television reports, I presume?

17 MISS ORTIZ: Yes, I did.

18 MR. KEITH: Have you read any articles about Miss Van  
19 Houten in the recent past?

20 MISS ORTIZ: No, I have not.

21 MR. KEITH: Have you seen her on television in the  
22 recent past?

23 MISS ORTIZ: No, I have not.

24 MR. KEITH: I don't have any further questions of  
25 Miss Ortiz.

26 Would you be kind enough to pass the microphone to  
27 Mrs. Overton.

28 Mrs. Overton, my notes seem to indicate you really

8-8  
1 didn't pay any particular attention to the first case at all.

2 MRS. OVERTON: No, I did not; that's correct.

3 MR. KEITH: Were you living in this area in 1969 and '70?

4 MRS. OVERTON: Yes, I was. I was too involved getting  
5 ready for my wedding. I didn't care about anything.

6 MR. KEITH: All right.

7 Since that time have you been exposed to any news  
8 media accounts of the so-called Manson case?

9 MRS. OVERTON: No, because that -- I heard that a new  
10 trial was coming up.

11 MR. KEITH: Did you hear that from friends or did you  
12 see it in the newspapers or see it on television or what?

13 MRS. OVERTON: I heard it on TV.

14 MR. KEITH: All right.

15 Now, have you ever seen or heard Mr. Bugliosi talk --

16 MRS. OVERTON: No, I have not.

17 MR. KEITH: -- about this case?

18 Have you ever heard his name before?

19 MRS. OVERTON: Yes, I have.

20 MR. KEITH: Other than it's been bandied about here, but  
21 before coming here?

22 MRS. OVERTON: Yes. I've heard his name before related  
23 to the trial.

24 MR. KEITH: But you have never heard or seen him speak  
25 about this case?

26 MRS. OVERTON: No.

27 MR. KEITH: Or Manson in general?

28 MRS. OVERTON: No.

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1 MR. KEITH: You had no occasion to see the television  
2 motion picture called Helter Skelter?

3 MRS. OVERTON: I wasn't interested in it.

4 MR. KEITH: All right.

5 And, of course, you didn't read the book?

6 MRS. OVERTON: No, I did not.

7 MR. KEITH: Has anybody, close friends, relatives,  
8 coworkers, husband, you name it, talked to you about the  
9 so-called Manson case within the recent past?

10 MRS. OVERTON: Not in the recent past, no.

11 When it first came about back in '69, early '70,  
12 there was conversation; but I really didn't care to discuss  
13 it --

14 MR. KEITH: All right.

15 MRS. OVERTON: -- because I didn't know anything about it.

16 MR. KEITH: When you came into court Monday, did you  
17 recognize the name Leslie Van Houten?

18 MRS. OVERTON: Yes, I did.

19 MR. KEITH: And did you recognize her as -- what? That  
20 you had heard the name before?

21 MRS. OVERTON: Part of the Manson family.

22 MR. KEITH: So you did at least remember that much about  
23 your previous exposure.

24 MRS. OVERTON: Yes, I did.

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1 MR. KEITH: Let's see; she had been purportedly a  
2 member of the Manson family.

3 MRS. OVERTON: That's correct.

4 MR. KEITH: Is that about the extent of your knowledge  
5 about her?

6 MRS. OVERTON: That's the extent of it.

7 MR. KEITH: Do you believe, Mrs. Overton, since you  
8 recognize her name and her person as being a purported member  
9 of the Manson family, that that won't influence you in some  
10 manner in adjudging her guilt or innocence?

11 MRS. OVERTON: I don't think it will at all, no.

12 MR. KEITH: You don't have an opinion now --

13 You can assure me you don't have an opinion now  
14 about her and about her involvement, if any.

15 MRS. OVERTON: I can assure you now.

16 MR. KEITH: All right.

17 I don't have any further questions.

18 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

19 MR. KAY: Shall we approach the bench?

20 THE COURT: Yes, will counsel approach the bench.

21 [The following proceedings were held

22 at the bench:]

23 MR. KEITH: The only one -- challenge I have is  
24 Mrs. Marnie.

25 MR. KAY: Yes; it's quite clear now.

26 THE COURT: All right; I will excuse her and then you  
27 can commence.

28 MR. KAY: Okay.

1 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

2 (The following proceedings were held in  
3 open court in the presence of the  
4 prospective jurors.)

5 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, the  
6 following juror is excused:

7 Thank you for your attendance upon the court.

8 That's Mrs. Betta A. Manuela. Thank you, ma'am.

9 You are to report to the 5th floor jury room.

10 All right, Mr. Kay, you may inquire on the issue  
11 of publicity.

12 MR. KAY: Thank you.

13 Mrs. Ortiz, from listening to Mr. Keith's  
14 questions of you, it sounded to me a little bit like you did  
15 have some opinions about this case.

16 You said that you have some doubts in your mind  
17 about Miss Van Houten's participation at this time because you  
18 felt that these people were always taking dope and were not  
19 themselves.

20 So I take it you have formed some opinion as to  
21 Miss Van Houten's mental state while she was a member of the  
22 Manapon family. Is that right?

23 MRS. ORTIZ: Yes, that's right.

24 MR. KAY: Now, would you require the prosecution to put  
25 on evidence in this case to dispel that opinion in your mind?

26 MRS. ORTIZ: Yes, I would require that.

27 MR. KAY: And I take it that that opinion that you have  
28 is a pretty firm opinion from reading the book and seeing

1 the movie.

2 MRS. ORTIZ: Yes.

3 MR. KAY: And I take it that --

4 well, let me ask Mrs. O'Reilly.

5 You told Mr. Keith that you had an opinion that  
6 the followers were victimized by Mr. Manson.

7 Do you have an opinion as to the relative degree  
8 of responsibility, if any, of Mr. Manson and Miss Van Houten  
9 for the LaBianca murders? Do you have an opinion as to that?

10 MRS. O'REILLY: (no response.)

11 MR. KAY: You don't have to tell me what it is. I just  
12 want to know if you have an opinion.

13 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes, I guess I do.

14 MR. KAY: And in order to change that opinion, would you  
15 require the prosecution to put on evidence to dispel that  
16 opinion in your mind?

17 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes.

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1 MR. KAY: And because of that opinion, do you feel  
2 that Miss Van Houten is less likely to be guilty of the  
3 charges of the LaBianca murders?

4 MRS. O'REILLY: I -- I don't know that I could say --  
5 possibly, yes.

6 MR. KAY: Mrs. Ortiz, the prosecution has a burden in  
7 this case of proving Miss Van Houten's guilt beyond a reasonable  
8 doubt.

9 But over and above that, we also have the burden  
10 of proving beyond a reasonable doubt that she had the mental  
11 capacity to commit a willful, deliberate, premeditated murder.

12 And I really appreciate your candor with  
13 Mr. Keith and with myself.

14 And I take it because of your views -- and  
15 realizing the burden that the prosecution has in this case --  
16 that you feel that you probably wouldn't be able to give  
17 the prosecution a real fair trial in this case, would you?  
18 Is that your feeling?

19 MRS. ORTIZ: I don't know; I guess it is, yes.

20 MR. KAY: And Mrs. O'Reilly, realizing that the burden  
21 that the prosecution has of proving that Miss Van Houten had  
22 the mental capacity to commit a willful, deliberate,  
23 premeditated murder of the first degree, with your opinion that  
24 the followers of Manson were victimized by Mr. Manson, do you  
25 feel that you could really truthfully, honestly,  
26 wholeheartedly give the prosecution a fair trial in this case?

27 MRS. O'REILLY: (No response.)

28 MR. KAY: I mean, only you know; I can't look into you.

1 MRS. O'REILLY: I think I could.

2 She is presumed innocent at the beginning of this  
3 trial and ---

4 MR. KAY: Well, I understand that. But, you see, not  
5 only is Miss Van Houten entitled to a fair trial; the  
6 prosecution is also entitled to a fair trial.

7 MRS. O'REILLY: Right.

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1 MR. KAY: We are entitled to an equally fair trial as  
2 Miss Van Houten.

3 Mr. Keith has been very concerned, and rightfully  
4 so, about the question of whether or not prospective jurors  
5 in this case could give Miss Van Houten a fair trial.

6 She is entitled to a fair trial. She is presumed  
7 innocent at the outset of the case.

8 But the prosecution also has certain burdens, too:

9 We have to prove her guilt beyond a reasonable doubt  
10 and to a moral certainty, not only her guilt but the degree of  
11 her guilt.

12 And in this case the prosecution has the burden of  
13 proving that, in order for Miss Van Houten to be convicted of  
14 a willful, deliberate, premeditated murder, we have to prove  
15 that she had the mental capacity to commit a willful,  
16 deliberate, premeditated murder.

17 Now, with your feeling about the fact that you say  
18 that your opinion is that Mr. Manson victimized his followers,  
19 do you feel that you could give the prosecution a fair trial on  
20 that issue?

21 Or do you have some opinion? You know what you  
22 think.

23 MRS. O'REILLY: I believe I could give a fair judgment.

24 MR. KAY: Do you think we would have to put on evidence  
25 to dispel your opinion about the fact that you believe  
26 Miss Van Houten might have been victimized by Mr. Manson, before  
27 you changed that opinion?

28 MRS. O'REILLY: I should think the events of the trial



1 would bring that out.

2 MR. KAY: But are you going to require us to put on  
3 evidence to erase that opinion?

4 What I want to know is, can you just forget about  
5 that opinion right now and lay that aside, and just kind of  
6 go into the trial with kind of a blank, open mind, and not  
7 thinking anything, just lay your opinions aside and base  
8 whatever decisions you make about anything in the case, based  
9 on the evidence that comes from the witness stand?

10 Or are you going into the trial feeling, "well,  
11 I think Miss Van Houten was probably victimized by Mr. Manson,  
12 and the prosecution, they are going to have to put some  
13 witnesses up there to testify that she wasn't before I would  
14 be convinced of that"?

15 Do you feel that way?

16 MRS. O'REILLY: No, I don't.

17 I really think I could make an assessment of the  
18 trial as it is here.

19 MR. KAY: Well, do you think, because of your feeling  
20 that Miss Van Houten was victimized by Mr. Manson, that she's  
21 less likely to be guilty of the charges of the LaBianca  
22 murders?

23 MRS. O'REILLY: That's -- No; I think everyone has to  
24 take some responsibility for their own actions, whether they  
25 are under an influence or not.

26 MR. KAY: Well, do you think that the participants in  
27 the so-called Tate-LaBianca murders must have been crazy at the  
28 time of their participation in those murders, must not have

1 known what they were doing or been mentally unbalanced?

2 I mean, have you formed an opinion as to that?

3 MRS. O'REILLY: You'd probably have to be unbalanced  
4 to participate in anything of that sort.

5 MR. KAY: Well, now, having an opinion of that, and  
6 again realizing, what I told you the prosecution's burdens  
7 are in this case -- that we not only have to prove her  
8 guilt or innocence, but we have to prove the degree of her  
9 guilt, and that is, that she had a certain mental capacity  
10 to commit a first degree murder -- do you really think you can  
11 give the prosecution a fair trial in this case?

12 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes, I do.  
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1 MR. KAY: You think you can just lay aside your  
2 opinions about the relationship of Mr. Manson and  
3 Miss Van Houten, and decide the case based on the evidence  
4 in this courtroom?

5 MRS. O'REILLY: Yes, I do.

6 MR. KAY: Do you have an opinion as to Miss Van Houten's  
7 mental state at the time of the LaBianca murders?

8 MRS. O'REILLY: No. That hasn't -- no, I really don't.

9 MR. KAY: Have you read any articles about  
10 Miss Van Houten in this year?

11 MRS. O'REILLY: No. Only the fact of her being granted  
12 a new trial.

13 MR. KAY: Because her attorney disappeared?

14 MRS. O'REILLY: That was it.

15 MR. KAY: Now, have you seen her on T.V. at all?

16 MRS. O'REILLY: No.

17 MR. KAY: Have you seen Mr. Keith on T.V.?

18 MRS. O'REILLY: No.

19 MR. KAY: Have you ever heard Mr. Keith talk about  
20 Miss Van Houten --

21 MRS. O'REILLY: No.

22 MR. KAY: -- in the newspapers or in magazines, radio?

23 MRS. O'REILLY: No.

24 MR. KAY: You haven't, I take it?

25 MRS. O'REILLY: I wasn't aware he was involved at all.

26 MR. KAY: Because of your opinion about the relationship  
27 of Mr. Manson and his followers, do you think that you would  
28 be likely not to convict Miss Van Houten of the

LaBianca murders?

MRS. O'BRIEN: I couldn't say.

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1 MR. KAY: Well, do you think that that would have an  
2 important bearing on whether or not you could convict her?

3 MRS. O'REILLY: Actually, I thought of the group only as  
4 a group. I didn't separate any of the members and specifically  
5 pay attention to them.

6 MR. KAY: So you don't have any real opinion as to her  
7 particular mental state?

8 MRS. O'REILLY: Not individually.

9 MR. KAY: Is your opinion that anybody that was a member  
10 of the Manson family must have been crazy?

11 MRS. O'REILLY: Not crazy.

12 MR. KAY: Do you think that anybody who was a member of  
13 the Manson family must have been mentally unbalanced?

14 MRS. O'REILLY: No, not unbalanced.

15 MR. KAY: Mr. McDermott, have you formed any opinion as  
16 to Miss Van Houten's mental state at the time of the LaBianca  
17 murders?

18 MR. MC DERMOTT: No, sir.

19 MR. KAY: Have you formed any opinion as to the relative  
20 degree of responsibility, if any, for the LaBianca murders, of  
21 Charles Manson or Miss Van Houten?

22 MR. MC DERMOTT: No, sir; I don't believe so.

23 MR. KAY: Or any of the other defendants that are in  
24 the indictment that Judge Hinz read to you yesterday?

25 MR. MC DERMOTT: No, sir.

26 MR. KAY: And realizing what the prosecution's burden  
27 is in this case, not only to prove the guilt or innocence of  
28 Miss Van Houten beyond a reasonable doubt but to prove the

1 degree of her guilt or innocence beyond a reasonable doubt,  
2 do you think you could give the prosecution a fair trial?

3 MR. MC DERMOTT: Yes, sir; I do.

4 MR. KAY: Even if we kept you here for three months?

5 MR. MC DERMOTT: Yes, sir.

6 MR. KAY: Mr. McKinley, what about you, sir, have you  
7 formed any opinion as to Miss Van Houten's mental state at  
8 the time of the LaBianca murders?

9 MR. MC KINLEY: No, no.

10 MR. KAY: Have you formed any opinion as to her mental  
11 state at any other time?

12 MR. MC KINLEY: No, I haven't.

13 MR. KAY: Have you formed an opinion as to the mental  
14 state of anybody who participated in the so-called Tate-LaBianca  
15 murders at the time of their participation?

16 MR. MC KINLEY: No, I haven't.

17 MR. KAY: Do you think that, realizing what our burden  
18 is, you can give us a fair trial?

19 MR. MC KINLEY: I do.

20 MR. KAY: Any question about that at all in your mind?

21 MR. MC KINLEY: None at all.

22 MR. KAY: Okay.

23 And I take it that you yourself haven't read any  
24 articles about Miss Van Houten this year; is that right?

25 MR. MC KINLEY: No, I haven't.

26 MR. KAY: Have you seen her on TV?

27 MR. MC KINLEY: No, sir.

28 MR. KAY: And your wife told you about an article that

1 she had read about Miss Van Houten?

2 MR. MC KINLEY: That's right, yes.

3 MR. KAY: And from what your wife told you, did you form  
4 any opinion about Miss Van Houten's mental state?

5 MR. MC KINLEY: No, I haven't. None at all on that.

6 MR. KAY: Your wife told you something, but you didn't  
7 form any opinion based on what she told you?

8 MR. MC KINLEY: No, no.

9 MR. KAY: Okay.

10 Mr. Moreno, do you think that you can give the  
11 prosecution a fair trial in this case?

12 MR. MORENO: Yes, sir.

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1 MR. KAY: Not only to the question of guilt or innocence  
2 but the degree of guilt?

3 Do you think you can give us a fair trial on the  
4 degree of guilt?

5 MR. MORENO: Yes, I'm sure the evidence -- well --

6 MR. KAY: Excuse me, I didn't hear that.

7 MR. MORENO: I'm sure it will come out in the court.

8 MR. KAY: In other words, you will keep an open mind,  
9 and whatever decision, if you are selected as a juror, whatever  
10 decision you will make, you will base that only on the  
11 evidence that you hear in this courtroom?

12 MR. MORENO: Yes, sir.

13 MR. KAY: Do you know who Linda Kasabian is?

14 MR. MORENO: No.

15 MR. KAY: Have you ever heard the name Tex Watson?

16 MR. MORENO: No.

17 MR. KAY: Have you ever heard the name Squeaky Fromme?

18 MR. MORENO: I think I heard Squeaky something-or-other.

19 MR. KAY: Okay.

20 Could you pass the microphone back to Miss Omachi.

21 Miss Omachi, do you think you can give the  
22 prosecution a fair trial in this case?

23 MISS OMACHI: Yes.

24 MR. KAY: Not only on the question of guilt or innocence,  
25 but the degree of guilt?

26 MISS OMACHI: Yes.

27 MR. KAY: Do you have an open mind on Miss Van Houten's  
28 mental capacity or state of mind on August 10th, 1969?

1 MISS OMACHI: Yes.

2 MR. KAY: Have you formed any opinion as to the relative  
3 degree of responsibility, if any, of Mr. Manson and Miss Van  
4 Houten or any of the other named defendants for the LaBianca  
5 murders?

6 MISS OMACHI: No.

7 MR. KAY: Could you pass the microphone down to  
8 Mrs. Overton.

9 Mrs. Overton, have you formed any opinion as to  
10 Miss Van Houten's mental state at the time of the LaBianca  
11 murders?

12 MRS. OVERTON: No.

13 MR. KAY: Have you formed an opinion as to her mental  
14 state at any time in her life?

15 MRS. OVERTON: No, I never thought about it.

16 MR. KAY: Do you think that the people, from what you  
17 know about the case, do you think whoever participated in the  
18 so-called Tate-LaBianca murders must have been crazy or mentally  
19 unbalanced at the time of their participation?

20 MRS. OVERTON: I thought maybe they weren't quite in the  
21 right direction, but I really never gave it that much thought.

22 MR. KAY: Do you think you could keep an open mind on  
23 the question of mental state and mental capacity and base your  
24 decision on that from the evidence you hear from the witness  
25 stand?

26 MRS. OVERTON: Yes, I could.

27 MR. KAY: Do you know who Linda Kasabian is?

28 MRS. OVERTON: I've heard the name.



1 MR. KAY: What do you know about her?

2 MRS. OVERTON: Nothing.

3 MR. KAY: Have you heard the name Tex Watson?

4 MRS. OVERTON: Yes.

5 MR. KAY: What do you know about him?

6 MRS. OVERTON: Nothing.

7 MR. KAY: Have you heard the term "halter-skelter" as it  
8 was used by the Hanson family?

9 MRS. OVERTON: Just related to the book. I know the  
10 book was -- that's the name of the book.

11 MR. KAY: Without asking you what it means, do you know  
12 the meaning, any special meaning that the Hanson family might  
13 have given it?

14 MRS. OVERTON: No.

15 MR. KAY: Okay. I don't have any further questions,  
16 but I'd like to approach the bench.

17 THE COURT: Would counsel approach the bench, and could  
18 we have the court reporter, please.

19 (The following proceedings were held  
20 at the bench:)

21 MR. KAY: Well, I challenge Miss Ortiz for cause.

22 I don't think I quite made it with Mrs. O'Reilly,  
23 but Miss Ortiz clearly said she couldn't give the prosecution  
24 a fair trial and she'd made up her mind and we'd have to put  
25 on evidence.

26 THE COURT: Any objection?

27 MR. KATH: Naturally I object, but --

28 THE COURT: All right.



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MR. RHITH: -- it's quite clear.

THE COURT: All right, thank you.

MR. KAY: Thank you, Judge.

1 (The following proceedings were held  
2 in open court:)

3 THE COURT: All right. The following juror is excused  
4 from further service upon this case: Miss Sylvia O. Ortiz.

5 Thank you for your attendance.

6 The remainder of the jurors will be taken to  
7 Department 106.

8 Bear in mind during this recess, as at all  
9 recesses, you are not to discuss this case amongst yourselves  
10 or with anyone else. You are not to form any opinion concerning  
11 this matter or express any opinion concerning this matter  
12 until the case is finally given to you.

13 Furthermore, you must not allow yourselves to  
14 read, see, or hear any publicity in the news media about this  
15 matter.

16 All right. The jurors can be taken down to 106.  
17 We'll recess until 1:30. At 1:30 we'll have the next group  
18 brought in.

19 Defendant and counsel are ordered to return at  
20 1:30.

21 Thank you.

22 (At 11:50 a.m. a recess was taken until  
23 1:30 p.m. of the same day.)  
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1 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1977, 1:50 P.M.

2 DEPARTMENT NO. 130

HON. EDWARD A. HINZ, JR., JUDGE

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4 (Appearances as heretofore noted.)

5  
6 THE COURT: People versus Van Houtan.

7 Let the record show the defendant is present,  
8 represented by counsel, the People are represented by counsel,  
9 and a group of 12 jurors are now seated in the jury box.  
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1 Ladies and gentlemen, at this time I'd like to call  
2 your names to be sure that we have the appropriate people in  
3 the correct places.

4 I'd like to start, ma'am, with you in the first row.

5 Are you Mrs. Rita M. Pagan?

6 MRS. PAGAN: Yes.

7 THE COURT: Then Frank L. Palmer?

8 MR. PALMER: Yes.

9 THE COURT: Janice H. Peacha?

10 MS. PEACHA: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Mrs. Eula G. Peeples?

12 MRS. PEEPLES: Yes.

13 THE COURT: Winfield A. Peterson?

14 MR. PETERSON: Right.

15 THE COURT: Mrs. Lillian R. Pica or Pica?

16 MRS. PICA: Yes.

17 THE COURT: Is it Pica?

18 MRS. PICA: Pica.

19 THE COURT: Pica.

20 Victor Pitkivitch?

21 MR. PITKIVITCH: Right.

22 THE COURT: Mr. Hideyoshi Nakamura?

23 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.

24 THE COURT: Jane Baker?

25 MS. BAKER: Yes.

26 THE COURT: Mrs. Minnie Lee Randall?

27 MRS. RANDALL: Yes.

28 THE COURT: Richard B. Reed?

1 MR. REED: Yes.

2 THE COURT: And Richard E. Rice?

3 MR. RICE: Yes.

4 THE COURT: Glad to see you recovered from the flu.

5 MR. RICE: Me, too.

6 THE COURT: Thank you.

7 All right. In this matter the purpose of this  
8 session is to inquire of the jurors concerning the matter of  
9 publicity.

10 The court will first ask each of you questions.  
11 Then the defense attorney, Mr. Keith, then Mr. Kay, the deputy  
12 district attorney.

13 First, however, I want to summarize and read  
14 excerpts from the indictment.

15 The indictment in this case is in several counts  
16 only three of which concern the defendant before this court.

17 The first of those three counts is Count VI. The  
18 indictment states that

19 Charles Manson, Charles Watson,  
20 Patricia Krenwinkel, Linda Kasabian, Susan  
21 Atkins, and the defendant before this court is  
22 accused by the Grand Jury of the County of Los  
23 Angeles, State of California, by this indictment  
24 of the crime of murder in violation of section  
25 187, Penal Code of California, a felony,  
26 committed prior to the finding of this indictment  
27 and as follows:  
28

1                   That on or about the 10th day of  
2 August, 1969, at and in the County of Los Angeles,  
3 State of California, Charles Manson, Charles Watson,  
4 Patricia Krenwinkel, Linda Kasabian, Susan Atkins  
5 and the defendant before this court did willfully,  
6 unlawfully, feloniously and with malice aforethought  
7 murder Leno A. Labianca, a human being.

8                   Count VII states that Charles Manson,  
9 Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel, Linda Kasabian,  
10 Susan Atkins and the defendant before this court are  
11 accused by the Grand Jury of the County of Los Angeles,  
12 State of California, by this Indictment of the crime  
13 of murder, in violation of Section 187, Penal Code  
14 of California, a felony, committed prior to the  
15 finding of this Indictment, and as follows:

16                   That on or about the 10th day of  
17 August, 1969, at and in the County of Los Angeles,  
18 State of California, Charles Manson, Charles Watson,  
19 Patricia Krenwinkel, Linda Kasabian, Susan Atkins  
20 and the defendant before this court did willfully,  
21 unlawfully, feloniously and with malice aforethought  
22 murder Rosemary Labianca, a human being.

23                   Count VIII -- the third count we are  
24 dealing with in this courtroom -- states that  
25 Charles Manson, Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel,  
26 Susan Atkins, Linda Kasabian and the defendant before  
27 this court are accused by the Grand Jury of the County  
28 of Los Angeles, State of California, by this

1 Indictment of the crime of conspiracy to commit murder,  
2 in violation of Section 182.1 and 187, Penal Code  
3 of California, a felony, committed prior to the  
4 finding of this Indictment, and as follows:

5 That on or about the 5th through the  
6 10th day of August, 1969, at and in the County of  
7 Los Angeles, State of California, Charles Manson,  
8 Charles Watson, Patricia Krawinkel, Susan Atkins,  
9 Linda Kasabian and the defendant before this court  
10 did willfully, unlawfully, feloniously and knowingly  
11 conspire, combine, confederate and agree together  
12 and with other persons whose identity is unknown  
13 to commit the crime of murder, a violation of  
14 Section 187, Penal Code of California, a felony.

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1                   That pursuant to and for the purpose  
2 of carrying out the objects and purposes of the  
3 aforesaid combination, agreement and conspiracy,  
4 they committed the following Overt Acts at and  
5 in the County of Los Angeles:

6                   Overt Act No. I:

7                   That on or about August 9, 1969,  
8 Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel, Susan Atkins,  
9 and Linda Kasabian did travel to the vicinity of  
10 10050 Cielo Drive in the City and County of  
11 Los Angeles.

12                   Overt Act No. II:

13                   That on or about August 9, 1969,  
14 Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel and  
15 Susan Atkins did enter the residence at 10050  
16 Cielo Drive, City and County of Los Angeles.

17                   Overt Act No. III:

18                   That on or about August 10, 1969,  
19 Charles Manson, Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel,  
20 Susan Atkins, Linda Kasabian and the defendant before  
21 this court did travel to the vicinity of 3301 Waverly  
22 Drive, City and County of Los Angeles.

23                   Overt Act No. IV:

24                   That on or about August 10, 1969,  
25 Charles Manson, Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel  
26 and the defendant before this court did enter the  
27 residence at 3301 Waverly Drive, City and County of  
28 Los Angeles.

1           The defendant has entered a plea of not guilty  
2 to each of these three counts.

3           Now, at this time I would like to direct questions  
4 to each of you, and I would like to start with Mrs. Regan.

5           Do you have the microphones there, please?

6           MRS. REGAN: Yes.

7           THE COURT: Thank you.

8           Have you heard or do you know anything about this  
9 case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct, beliefs  
10 or associations, including anything you have read in the  
11 newspapers, magazines or books, or seen on television or heard  
12 on the radio?

13          MRS. REGAN: Yes, I have.

14          THE COURT: And have you seen anything recently about  
15 this matter?

16          MRS. REGAN: No.

17          THE COURT: Have you read the book "Helter Skelter"?

18          MRS. REGAN: Yes.

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1 THE COURT: And did you see the television movie?

2 MRS. PAGAN: Yes.

3 THE COURT: And it is my understanding that that was  
4 shown once rather recently and once a year or so ago.

5 Did you see it on both occasions?

6 MRS. PAGAN: Last year.

7 THE COURT: About a year ago?

8 MRS. PAGAN: Yes.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 And did you read any newspaper accounts or see any  
11 television reports in the late 1969 and early '70s concerning  
12 this matter?

13 MRS. PAGAN: No, not really.

14 THE COURT: Have you seen anything recently in the media  
15 about this matter?

16 MRS. PAGAN: No.

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 Can you put to one side whatever you might have  
19 read, seen, or heard about this matter or about the defendant  
20 and judge the defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the  
21 evidence to be produced in this courtroom?

22 MRS. PAGAN: I don't think I can.

23 THE COURT: Are you saying that you have formed an  
24 opinion based on what you have read, seen, or heard about the  
25 defendant's guilt or innocence?

26 MRS. PAGAN: Yes.

27 THE COURT: Is this state of mind or this opinion you  
28 have such that it would take some evidence to dispel what your

1 present opinion is?

2 MRS. PAGAN: Yes.

3 THE COURT: All right. I appreciate your answers.

4 Would you hand the microphone, please, to the  
5 next juror.

6 Mr. Palmer, have you heard or do you know anything  
7 about this case or about defendant's past actions, conduct,  
8 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
9 the newspapers, magazines, or books, seen on television or  
10 heard on the radio?

11 MR. PALMER: I know very little.

12 THE COURT: All right. Have you read the book or seen  
13 the TV movie?

14 MR. PALMER: No, I haven't.

15 THE COURT: Did you read the accounts of this matter in  
16 1969 and early '70s?

17 MR. PALMER: During that time I was first getting married,  
18 and the news media didn't bother me.

19 THE COURT: All right.

20 Now, can you lay to one side whatever you might  
21 have read, seen, or heard about this case and judge the  
22 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
23 presented in this courtroom?

24 MR. PALMER: Yes, I can.

25 THE COURT: Now, based on whatever you might have read,  
26 seen, or heard about this case, have you formed any opinion as  
27 to the guilt or innocence of the defendant?

28 MR. PALMER: No, I haven't. I haven't formed any opinion.

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1 THE COURT: Now, would you allow yourself to be influenced  
2 by any publicity you might have read, seen, or heard about  
3 this case or about the defendant?

4 MR. PALMER: No, I won't let it influence me.

5 THE COURT: All right.

6 Now, can you assure the court that if you are  
7 chosen as a trial juror in this matter that you will decide  
8 this case solely on the evidence to be received in this  
9 courtroom?

10 MR. PALMER: Yes, I will.

11 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

12 Would you pass the microphone, please.

13 Is it Miss or Mrs.?

14 MISS PEACHA: Miss Peacha.  
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1 THE COURT: Miss Peacha, have you heard or do you know  
2 anything about this case or about defendant's past actions,  
3 conduct, beliefs or association, including anything you have  
4 read in the newspapers, magazines, or books, seen on television  
5 or heard on the radio?

6 MISS PEACHA: Yes, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: And when was that?

8 MISS PEACHA: This was in the original -- in 1969 I read  
9 the newspaper accounts at that time.

10 THE COURT: All right.

11 Have you read the book about this matter?

12 MISS PEACHA: No, Your Honor.

13 THE COURT: And have you seen the TV movie about it?

14 MISS PEACHA: No, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Have you seen anything recently in the news  
16 media about this case or about the defendant?

17 MISS PEACHA: No, Your Honor.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 Could you put to one side whatever you might have  
20 read, seen, or heard about this case and judge the defendant's  
21 guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be produced in  
22 this courtroom?

23 MISS PEACHA: I do not know, Your Honor.

24 THE COURT: You have some question in your mind?

25 MISS PEACHA: I have some doubts.

26 THE COURT: Well, are you saying that as a result of  
27 what you might have read, seen, or heard about this case that  
28 you have formed an opinion as to the guilt or innocence of

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the defendant?

MISS PEACHA: Yes, Your Honor, somewhat in my mind.

THE COURT: All right.

And this is based on what you have read, seen, or heard about the matter?

MISS PEACHA: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right.

Now, is this opinion of yours such that it would take some evidence to dispel your opinion?

MISS PEACHA: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right, thank you.

Would you pass the microphone, please.

Mrs. Peeples, have you heard or do you know anything about this case or about defendant's past actions, conduct, beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in the newspapers, magazines, or books, or seen on television or heard on the radio?

MRS. PEEPLES: Just about the original case in 1969.

THE COURT: All right.

And you haven't seen the TV movie or read the book "Helter Skelter," I take it?

MRS. PEEPLES: No, I haven't.

THE COURT: Have you seen anything recently in the news media about this case or about the defendant?

MRS. PEEPLES: No, I haven't.

THE COURT: Could you put to one side whatever you might have read, seen, or heard about this case and judge the defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be produced



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in this courtroom?

MRS. PEEPLES: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: All right.

As a result of anything you have read, seen, or heard about this case or about the defendant, have you formed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of this defendant?

MRS. PEEPLES: No, I have not, Your Honor.

14-7

1 THE COURT: Would you allow yourself to be influenced  
2 by any publicity you have read, seen, or heard about this  
3 case or about the defendant?

4 MRS. PEEPLES: No, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: All right.

6 And if you were chosen as a trial juror in this  
7 matter, can you assure the court that you would decide this  
8 case solely on the evidence to be received in this courtroom?

9 MRS. PEEPLES: Yes, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

11 Would you pass the microphone, please, to  
12 Mr. Peterson.

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13 Mr. Peterson, have you heard or do you know about  
14 this case or about defendant's past actions, conduct, beliefs  
15 or associations, including anything you have read in the  
16 newspapers, magazines, or books, seen on television or heard  
17 on the radio?

18 MR. PETERSON: Yes, I have.

19 THE COURT: All right. And when did that occur?

20 MR. PETERSON: At the time of the crime I read the  
21 newspaper accounts of it.

22 THE COURT: All right.

23 Have you read the book or seen the TV movie called  
24 Helter Skelter?

25 MR. PETERSON: I intentionally did not.

26 THE COURT: All right.

27 Have you read any newspaper accounts or seen  
28 anything in the news media about this matter in the last few

1 months?

2 MR. PETERSON: No, I haven't.

3 THE COURT: All right.

4 Could you put to one side whatever you might have  
5 read, seen, or heard about this case and judge the defendant's  
6 guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be produced in  
7 this courtroom?

8 MR. PETERSON: I'm afraid I couldn't.

9 THE COURT: Are you saying that based on what you have  
10 read, seen, or heard that you have formed an opinion as to  
11 the guilt or innocence of the defendant?

12 MR. PETERSON: Yes, I have.

13 THE COURT: All right.

14 And is this opinion such that it would take evidence  
15 before you could dispel that opinion you have?

16 MR. PETERSON: I don't believe there is any evidence  
17 that could be brought here that would change my mind.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 In other words, what you are telling me is you have  
20 completely made up your mind about it.

21 MR. PETERSON: Yes, I have.

22 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

23 Mrs. Pica, have you heard or do you know anything  
24 about this case or about defendant's past actions, conduct,  
25 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
26 the newspapers, magazines, or books, seen on television or  
27 heard on the radio?

28 MR. PICA: No, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: You haven't read or heard anything about  
2 this case?

3 MRS. PICA: No, I have not.

4 THE COURT: Have you ever heard the name Charles Manson?

5 MRS. PICA: Yes.

6 THE COURT: And did you hear that name before you came  
7 into court?

8 Or was this the first time, when I read the parts  
9 in the indictment?

10 MRS. PICA: I had heard the name.

11 THE COURT: Have you seen anything recently in the news  
12 media about this case or about the defendant?

13 MRS. PICA: No, Your Honor.

14 THE COURT: And I take it, then, you haven't read the  
15 book or seen the T.V. movie called Helter Skelter.

16 MRS. PICA: I have not read the book or seen the movies.

17 THE COURT: Can you put to one side whatever you might  
18 have read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the  
19 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
20 produced in this courtroom?

21 MRS. PICA: Yes, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: All right.

23 As a result of anything you have read, seen or  
24 heard about this case or about the defendant, have you formed  
25 any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of this defendant?

26 MRS. PICA: I have not formed any opinion. I have read  
27 nothing on this.

28 THE COURT: All right.

1                   Would you allow yourself to be influenced by any  
2 publicity you have read, seen or heard about this case or  
3 about the defendant?

4           MRS. PICA: I would not allow myself to be influenced.

5           THE COURT: All right.

6                   If you are chosen as a trial juror in this matter,  
7 can you assure the court that you would decide this case  
8 solely on the evidence to be produced in this courtroom?

9           MRS. PICA: Yes, Your Honor.

10          THE COURT: All right; thank you.

11                   The bailiff will take it back to Mr. Pitkiwitch.

12                   Mr. Pitkiwitch, have you heard or do you know  
13 anything about this case or about the defendant's past actions,  
14 conduct, beliefs or associations, including anything you have  
15 read in the newspapers, magazines or books, seen on television  
16 or heard on the radio?

17          MR. PITKIWITCH: Yes; back in '69 I read it and heard  
18 about it on T.V., news.

19          THE COURT: Have you seen anything in the recent months  
20 about this matter in the news media?

21          MR. PITKIWITCH: I have heard some, yes, sir.

22          THE COURT: Did you read the book or see the T.V. movie  
23 called *Heiter Skeltet*?

24          MR. PITKIWITCH: No.

25          THE COURT: All right.

26                   Could you put to one side whatever you might have  
27 read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the defendant's  
28 guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be produced in

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1 this courtroom?

2 MR. FRICKIVITCH: I don't think so, no.

3 THE COURT: Are you saying that as a result of what you  
4 might have read, seen or heard about this case or about the  
5 defendant, that you have formed an opinion as to the guilt or  
6 innocence of the defendant?

7 MR. FRICKIVITCH: I think so.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 You say you think so. I take it you have some  
10 doubt about that.

11 MR. FRICKIVITCH: Well, I'll say I have formed an opinion,  
12 yes.

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1 THE COURT: All right.

2 Is this opinion such that it would take some  
3 evidence to dispel this opinion you have?

4 MR. PITKIVITCH: Yes.

5 THE COURT: In other words, I'm sure you understand it  
6 is important that the jurors in this case come into the case  
7 with an open mind if they are going to be on the jury.

8 And it is inappropriate, of course, for a juror  
9 to be biased either for or against the defendant based on what  
10 they have read, seen or heard in this matter.

11 So I take it what you are saying is that you have  
12 your mind -- you have formed an opinion in your mind as to  
13 the defendant's guilt or innocence that would require evidence  
14 to dispel; is that correct?

15 MR. PITKIVITCH: That's right.

16 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

17 Mr. Nakamura, have you heard or do you know  
18 anything about this case or about the defendant's past actions,  
19 conduct, beliefs or associations, including anything you have  
20 read in the newspapers, magazines or books, seen on  
21 television or heard on the radio?

22 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes. It's hard to say no to that  
23 question.

24 THE COURT: And when did this occur?

25 MR. NAKAMURA: I don't exactly know, but it's probably  
26 about 1969, I suppose.

27 THE COURT: It's been a number of years, I take it?

28 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.



1 THE COURT: Have you seen anything recently, say, within  
2 the last six months or a year, in the media about this matter?

3 MR. NAKAMURA: No, I haven't seen anything. I just  
4 heard the trial -- I mean that the jury was going to be picked.

5 THE COURT: Have you seen the T.V. movie or read the book  
6 called "Halter Skelter"?

7 MR. NAKAMURA: No.

8 THE COURT: Could you put to one side whatever you might  
9 have read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the  
10 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
11 presented in this courtroom concerning this matter?

12 MR. NAKAMURA: I believe so, yes.

13 THE COURT: All right.

14 As a result of anything you have read, seen or  
15 heard about this case or about the defendant, have you formed  
16 any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of this defendant?

17 MR. NAKAMURA: No.

18 THE COURT: All right. Would you allow yourself to be  
19 influenced by any publicity you have read, seen or heard about  
20 this case or about the defendant?

21 MR. NAKAMURA: This is a difficult question to answer;  
22 but I suppose you could say no.

23 THE COURT: In other words, what I am trying to find out  
24 is whether, if you were chosen as a trial juror, you could  
25 put anything you might have read, seen or heard --

26 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.

27 THE COURT: -- out of your mind, and decide this case  
28 solely on the evidence.

1 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes, I think so.

2 THE COURT: All right. You say you think so.

3 Do you have some question about that in your  
4 mind?

5 MR. NAKAMURA: Just like any other problem. You know,  
6 you're so wrong so often, you're not always sure what to do.

7 THE COURT: If you are chosen as a trial juror in this  
8 matter, can you assure me you would decide this case solely  
9 on the evidence to be presented in this courtroom?

10 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.

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1 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

2 Is it Miss Baker?

3 MRS. BAKER: Mrs.

4 THE COURT: Mrs. Baker.

5 Mrs. Baker, have you heard or do you know anything  
6 about this case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct,  
7 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
8 the newspapers, magazines or books, seen on television or heard  
9 on the radio?

10 MRS. BAKER: Only what I read and saw in '69.

11 THE COURT: You are talking about a number of years ago,  
12 I take it.

13 MRS. BAKER: Yes, 1969.

14 THE COURT: I take it, then, you haven't seen anything  
15 in the last few months about this matter.

16 MRS. BAKER: No, I haven't, Your Honor.

17 THE COURT: Did you read the book or see the T.V. movie  
18 called *Halter Skelter*?

19 MRS. BAKER: No, Your Honor.

20 THE COURT: All right.

21 Could you put to one side whatever you might have  
22 read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the defendant's  
23 guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be produced at  
24 this trial?

25 MRS. BAKER: Yes, Your Honor.

26 THE COURT: As a result of anything you might have read,  
27 seen or heard about this case, have you formed any opinion as  
28 to the defendant's guilt or innocence?

1 MRS. BAKER: No, Your Honor.

2 THE COURT: All right.

3 Would you allow yourself to be influenced by  
4 any publicity you might have read, seen or heard concerning  
5 this matter?

6 MRS. BAKER: No, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: All right.

8 And if you are chosen as a trial juror in this  
9 matter, can you assure the court that you will decide this  
10 case solely on the evidence to be produced in this courtroom?

11 MRS. BAKER: Yes, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Thank you.

13 Mrs. Randall, have you heard or do you know anything  
14 about this case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct,  
15 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
16 the newspapers, magazines or books, seen on television or  
17 heard on the radio?

18 MRS. RANDALL: No.

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1 THE COURT: And when did this occur?

2 MRS. RANDALL: Well, when the trial, when it began.

3 THE COURT: All right.

4 Have you seen the television movie or read the  
5 book called "Halter Skalter"?

6 MRS. RANDALL: I seen the movie -- I saw the movie,  
7 but I didn't read the book.

8 THE COURT: Now, do you recall about how long ago it  
9 was that you read -- that you saw the T.V. movie?

10 MRS. RANDALL: Last year, it seems to me.

11 THE COURT: About when?

12 MRS. RANDALL: Whenever it was. I can't remember that.

13 It was last year.

14 THE COURT: You saw it about a year ago, then?

15 MRS. RANDALL: Yes.

16 THE COURT: All right.

17 MRS. RANDALL: The movie was on T.V.

18 THE COURT: Well, I understand; it's been on twice,  
19 once within the last two or three months, and then once over  
20 a year ago.

21 Do you recall --

22 MRS. RANDALL: It seemed to me it was just last year.  
23 I'm not sure.

24 But whenever it was on T.V. I saw it.

25 THE COURT: All right.

26 MRS. RANDALL: It came in two -- it was two nights of it.

27 THE COURT: Yes.

28 MRS. RANDALL: I remember that.

1 THE COURT: All right.

2 Are you saying this was about 12 months ago?

3 MRS. RANDALL: I don't think it was 12 months ago that  
4 I saw it.

5 THE COURT: Could it have been as recently as three  
6 months ago?

7 MRS. RANDALL: It could have been a little more recent  
8 than three months ago, whenever I saw it; I'm not sure.

9 But I do know I did see the movie Charles Manson.

10 THE COURT: All right.

11 MRS. RANDALL: On T.V. It was two nights.

12 THE COURT: Have you see anything other than possibly  
13 the movie within the last six months concerning this case?

14 MRS. RANDALL: On T.V., in the news media.

15 THE COURT: Did you read something about it in the  
16 newspapers, say, in the last 90 days?

17 MRS. RANDALL: I think I did.

18 THE COURT: All right. Now, would you be able to put  
19 to one side whatever you might have read, seen or heard about  
20 this case, and judge the defendant's guilt or innocence solely  
21 on the evidence to be produced at this trial?

22 MRS. RANDALL: Yes, I could.

23 THE COURT: All right. As a result of anything you  
24 might have read, seen or heard concerning this case, have  
25 you formed any opinion as to the defendant's guilt or innocence?

26 MRS. RANDALL: No, I haven't.

27 THE COURT: All right.

28 Would you allow yourself to be influenced by any

1 publicity you might have read, seen or heard about this case  
2 or about the defendant?

3 MRS. RANDALL: No, I would not.

4 THE COURT: And if you were chosen as a trial juror in  
5 this matter, can you assure the court that you would decide  
6 this case solely on the evidence to be produced in this  
7 courtroom?

8 MRS. RANDALL: I sure would.

9 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

10 Mr. Reed, have you heard or do you know anything  
11 about this case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct,  
12 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read  
13 in the newspapers, magazines or books or seen on television  
14 or heard on the radio?

15 MR. REED: I do.

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1 THE COURT: And when did that occur?

2 MR. REED: Well, the original case, plus the last three  
3 or four months there have been articles in the paper.

4 THE COURT: Did you read the book or see the T.V. movie  
5 called Helter Skelter?

6 MR. REED: No, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: Have you seen any television accounts of this  
8 matter in the last, say, three months?

9 MR. REED: I believe I have.

10 THE COURT: And can you put to one side whatever you  
11 might have read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the  
12 defendant's guilt or innocence solely --

13 MR. REED: No.

14 THE COURT: -- on the evidence to be produced in this  
15 courtroom?

16 MR. REED: I doubt it very much.

17 THE COURT: I'm sorry; I couldn't hear you.

18 MR. REED: I say I doubt it very much that I could.

19 THE COURT: Are you saying that based on what you may  
20 have read, seen or heard about this case, that you have formed  
21 an opinion as to the defendant's guilt or innocence?

22 MR. REED: Somewhat, yes.

23 THE COURT: Is this opinion of yours such that it would  
24 take some evidence to dispel this opinion you have?

25 MR. REED: No; I think I have pretty much formed my  
26 opinion.

27 MR. KEENE: I'm sorry; I didn't hear that.

28 THE COURT: He said, "I think I pretty much formed my

1 opinion."

2 MR. REED: Formed my opinion.

3 THE COURT: All right.

4 I understand that you formed an opinion. I don't  
5 want to know which way.

6 But you say you have formed an opinion concerning  
7 the defendant's guilt or innocence; is that correct?

8 MR. REED: That's correct.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 Is this opinion such that it would require one  
11 side or the other to produce some evidence to dispel that  
12 opinion?

13 MR. REED: No, I don't think so.

14 THE COURT: You think that you could put anything that  
15 you know about this case out of your mind, and decide this  
16 case solely on the evidence to be produced in this courtroom?

17 MR. REED: No.

18 THE COURT: In other words, you are saying that you would  
19 allow yourself to be influenced by some of the publicity --

20 MR. REED: There is always that possibility, yes.

21 THE COURT: Well, I realize, of course, there is a  
22 possibility; but I'm trying to find out about your state of  
23 mind.

24 The important thing is that some people don't have  
25 any opinion concerning the guilt or innocence and --

26 MR. REED: All right.

27 THE COURT: -- others have an opinion, but they can set  
28 it to one side and decide this case solely on the evidence to

1 be presented in this courtroom.

2 And there are some that have such a strong opinion  
3 that they can't, in essence, set it aside; and it would be up  
4 to one side or the other to produce some evidence to convince  
5 them, first, that their opinion was wrong, before you could  
6 sit down with an open mind and decide the case.

7 MR. REED: Well, no, I don't think I could change my  
8 mind.

9 THE COURT: You don't think you could change your mind?

10 MR. REED: No.

11 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

12 Mr. Rice, have you heard or do you know anything  
13 about this case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct,  
14 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
15 the newspapers, magazines or books or seen on television or  
16 heard on the radio?

17 MR. RICE: Yes, I do.

18 THE COURT: And when did that occur?

19 MR. RICE: Well, I followed the original news accounts  
20 on T.V., and I completed the book "Helter Skelter" last  
21 summer, in addition to seeing the movie the first time it was  
22 on T.V.

23 THE COURT: All right.

24 Can you put to one side whatever you might have  
25 read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the defendant's  
26 guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be introduced  
27 at this trial?

28 MR. RICE: That would be very difficult for me to do.

16-1

1 THE COURT: Are you saying that based on what you have  
2 read, seen, or heard concerning this matter that you have  
3 formed an opinion as to the defendant's guilt or innocence?

4 MR. RICE: Yes.

5 THE COURT: And is that such that it would require some  
6 evidence to dispel that state of mind?

7 MR. RICE: It would take a considerable amount of evidence  
8 to change my mind.

9 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

10 Will counsel approach the bench, please.

11 (The following proceedings were held

12 at the bench.)

13 THE COURT: All right. Do we have any challenges?

14 MR. KEITH: Yes, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: Okay. Let's hear them.

16 MR. KEITH: Mrs. Pagan.

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 MR. KEITH: Miss Peacha.

19 THE COURT: Yes.

20 MR. KEITH: Mr. Peterson.

21 THE COURT: Yes.

22 MR. KEITH: Victor Pitkivitch.

23 THE COURT: Yes.

24 MR. KEITH: Richard Reed and Richard Rice.

25 THE COURT: All right.

26 Any objections?

27 MR. KAY: Pretty clear. No.

28 THE COURT: Yes, okay. I'll excuse those.

16-2

1 MR. KAY: Looks like we might have to get some more  
2 jurors in here the first part of next week, because we are  
3 getting down pretty low.

4 THE COURT: We will just have to see. When we are done,  
5 we are done.

6 MR. KAY: We are down to 61 now.

7 THE COURT: Is that right?

8 MR. KAY: Yes.

9 (The following proceedings were held  
10 in open court:)

11 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, the following  
12 jurors are excused from further service upon this case. We  
13 appreciate your attendance upon the court. You are to report  
14 to the jury room on the fifth floor.

15 As I call your first names, you can head to that  
16 far end of the jury box and you will receive your tickets to  
17 return to the fifth floor.

18 All right. The following jurors are excused:  
19 Mrs. Rita M. Pagan, Mrs. Janice M. Peacha, Winfield A.  
20 Peterson, Mr. Victor Pitkivitch, Mr. Richard B. Reed, and  
21 Mr. Richard E. Rice.

22 All right, Mr. Keith, you may examine on the issue  
23 of publicity.

24 MR. KEITH: Thank you, Your Honor.

25 Ladies and gentlemen, my name is Maxwell Keith.  
26 As you probably know, I represent Miss Van Houten, the defendant  
27 in this case. The court has kindly offered both counsel,  
28 myself, and Mr. Kay, the prosecutor, an opportunity to talk to

16-3

1 you further, you survivors, that is, further about your state  
2 of mind regarding the massive publicity which attended this  
3 case, or, rather, the original case back in 1969, '70, and  
4 extending on into 1971, as a matter of fact; and also to talk  
5 to you about any exposure you may have had to the media since  
6 that time.

7 And I make particular reference to a book entitled  
8 "Helter Skelter" authored by a former prosecutor of the  
9 so-called Manson case and a television show that was purportedly  
10 adapted from that book that has played on two occasions in  
11 Los Angeles County and throughout the nation.

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1 I'll start with Mr. Palmer.

2 My notes indicate that your exposure was minimal.

3 MR. PALMER: Yes.

4 MR. KEITH: I take it you have heard the name Charles  
5 Manson, as virtually everybody else in the world has.

6 MR. PALMER: Yes, I have heard the name.

7 MR. KEITH: And you didn't follow the first trial at all,  
8 I gather?

9 MR. PALMER: No, I didn't.

10 MR. KEITH: Were you aware of the outcome of that trial  
11 through the media?

12 MR. PALMER: I knew very little. I don't even -- I'm  
13 not sure --

14 MR. KEITH: You didn't care about it?

15 MR. PALMER: I wasn't following it, no.

16 MR. KEITH: And had you ever heard the name Leslie Van  
17 Houten before you appeared in court Monday?

18 MR. PALMER: I think I've heard the name mentioned  
19 occasionally on the news, but I didn't pay that much attention.

20 MR. KEITH: Did you know whether or not she had or ever  
21 purported to have or alleged to have had any connection with  
22 Mr. Manson other than through the reading of the indictment  
23 earlier this afternoon?

24 MR. PALMER: I don't have any idea if she was involved  
25 or not.

26 MR. KEITH: All right.

27 What you are telling me is you may have heard her  
28 name but it did not ring a bell with you as to any connection



16-5  
1 with any particular former trial or any persons, including  
2 Manson?

3 MR. PALMER: My knowledge on it is very limited.

4 From what I heard there was -- something happened  
5 during the first trial about a lawyer or somebody passing on,  
6 and so she gets a retrial.

7 And that's all I know pertaining to this one.

8 MR. KEITH: When did you find out about that?

9 MR. PALMER: Oh --

10 MR. KEITH: Did you find out about that in the last few  
11 days or did you hear about that some months ago?

12 MR. PALMER: I'm not sure when.

13 There is, like, you hear something about Manson  
14 trial and something where somebody passed away and somebody  
15 was going to be retried.

16 I think I heard that on the news last week some-  
17 time before I came down here.

18 MR. KEITH: I see. And the fact that she apparently  
19 had an earlier trial and is here for retrial, does that  
20 influence you any in connection with having an opinion as to  
21 her guilt or innocence?

22 MR. PALMER: No, it doesn't. That means she didn't get  
23 to finish her first one.

24 MR. KEITH: Pardon me?

25 MR. PALMER: It means that she didn't get to finish the  
26 first trial.

27 MR. KEITH: All right.

28 You do not know anything about the appellate



16-6

1 processes of the State of California, do you?

2 MR. PALMER: I know very little.

3 MR. KEITH: Or do you even know what I mean when I use  
4 the term "appellate processes"?

5 MR. PALMER: I'm not sure I do. You should probably  
6 define it for me.

7 MR. KEITH: I just wanted to know if you knew. I don't  
8 want to spend the time defining it. That might take more  
9 time than the concept warrants.

10 Do you feel that Miss Van Houten, who at the  
11 present time is entitled to a presumption of innocence --

12 Do you understand that?

13 MR. PALMER: I understand that you are innocent --  
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MAY 1964

1 MR. KEITH: You understand you are innocent until proven  
2 guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

3 Do you have that feeling about her as she sits  
4 before the court now and before you, bearing in mind there had  
5 been an earlier trial and, however, as you put it, it wasn't  
6 finished and she is here for another trial.

7 MR. PALMER: Well, we'll be weighing everything on the  
8 evidence presented at this time, and so she's innocent until  
9 proven guilty.

10 MR. KEITH: That's the way you feel about her?

11 MR. PALMER: Yes.

12 MR. KEITH: And that belief is not in some way contam-  
13 inated by any -- what little exposure you did have to the  
14 original trial some years ago.

15 Is that a fair statement?

16 MR. PALMER: Yes.

17 MR. KEITH: Would you like to pass the microphone to  
18 Mrs. Peoples, please.

19 Now, Mrs. Peoples, to ask you a few additional  
20 questions, you did read about the original case?

21 MRS. PEEPLES: Yes, I did.

22 MR. KEITH: And did you follow that first trial closely  
23 in the newspapers or some other forms of media such as --

24 MRS. PEEPLES: No, I didn't.

25 MR. KEITH: -- television, radio --

26 Pardon me?

27 MRS. PEEPLES: No, I did not; because at that time my  
28 husband was quite ill, and I was spending all my time with him.

So --

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2 MR. KEITH: Did you live in this part of the country --

3 MRS. PEEPLES: Yes.

4 MR. KEITH: -- at that time?

5 MRS. PEEPLES: Yes.

6 MR. KEITH: And you spent most of your time taking care  
7 of your husband, and I'm sure you weren't too interested in  
8 what went on in the courtrooms?

9 MRS. PEEPLES: That's right.

10 MR. KEITH: Had you ever heard the name Leslie Van Houten  
11 before Monday, this Monday, when you came here?

12 MRS. PEEPLES: I probably have, but I don't remember her.

13 MR. KEITH: When you came in here Monday, did you  
14 associate her with any trial or any particular person or any  
15 particular tragic event?

16 MRS. PEEPLES: No, I didn't.

17 MR. KEITH: The name meant nothing to you on Monday?

18 MRS. PEEPLES: No, it didn't.

19 MR. KEITH: Now, has your memory been refreshed at all  
20 by His Honor's reading of the indictment?

21 MRS. PEEPLES: Yes, it has.

22 MR. KEITH: And do you now remember her as having been  
23 tried before?

24 MRS. PEEPLES: No, I don't.

25 MR. KEITH: Do you remember her as having had any  
26 association or purported to have had any association with one  
27 Charles Manson?

28 MRS. PEEPLES: I don't remember the name. I recall there

1 were several, but I don't recall.

2 MR. KEITH: You don't remember her name?

3 MRS. PEEPLES: No.

4 MR. KEITH: You, like everybody else, I'm sure, remember  
5 the name Manson.

6 MRS. PEEPLES: The Manson, yes.

7 MR. KEITH: And do you know what he is supposed to have  
8 done?

9 MRS. PEEPLES: Yes.

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1 MR. KEITH: Do you know whether or not he was convicted  
2 of any offenses?

3 MRS. PEEPLES: Yes, he was.

4 MR. KEITH: And do you know whether anybody else was  
5 convicted along with him?

6 MRS. PEEPLES: I think there was three others. I'm not  
7 sure.

8 MR. KEITH: All right.

9 Do you know anything about a new trial being  
10 granted one of the people allegedly involved with Manson?

11 MRS. PEEPLES: No, I don't know anything about that.

12 MR. KEITH: Do you have an opinion now as to the guilt  
13 or innocence of any of the people that may have been involved  
14 with Manson in the crimes of which he was convicted?

15 Do you understand my question?

16 MRS. PEEPLES: Have I formed an opinion?

17 MR. KEITH: Yes, about anybody else that may have been  
18 involved with him in those offenses.

19 MRS. PEEPLES: No, I have not formed an opinion.

20 MR. KEITH: You have an opinion about Manson, I'm sure.

21 MRS. PEEPLES: Yes.

22 MR. KEITH: Do you have an opinion about anyone who may  
23 have been associated with him at that time? And by "that time,"  
24 I'm talking about 1968, '69.

25 MRS. PEEPLES: Well, actually, no, I don't have an  
26 opinion about those people.

27 MR. KEITH: One way or another?

28 MRS. PEEPLES: No, because I did not follow it that

16-11  
1 closely, really.

2 MR. KEITH: All right.

3 But let's assume, for the sake of discussion now,  
4 that Miss Van Houten, that Leslie, had been involved with  
5 Manson back in 1968 and '69.

6 Would that crucify her in your opinion?

7 MRS. PEEPLES: Oh, no, it wouldn't.

8 MR. KEITH: Based on what you have heard and read about  
9 this case?

10 MRS. PEEPLES: No, it wouldn't.

11 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that the presumption of innocence  
12 with which she now sits, stands, or whatever you want to say,  
13 clothed, in the expression that the courts use sometimes,  
14 is somehow tarnished because of any exposure you may have had  
15 through the television news or other media about Manson?

16 MRS. PEEPLES: Well, I feel that a person is innocent  
17 until proven guilty.

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1 MR. KEITH: What you are telling me is that as far as  
2 Miss Van Houten is concerned you will espouse the presumption  
3 of innocence, you will abide by it, you will agree with it;  
4 you feel she is entitled to it, and nothing you may have heard,  
5 read or seen about this case changes that viewpoint.

6 MRS. PEPPLES: That's right.

7 MR. KEITH: Would you like to pass the microphone.

8 Mrs. -- Oh, boy; I don't know whether it is  
9 "Pica" or "Pica."

10 MRS. PICA: You are right the first time.

11 MR. KEITH: Mrs. Pica, did you live in Los Angeles  
12 County or in the State of California in the late '60s and  
13 early '70s?

14 MRS. PICA: Yes, I did.

15 MR. KEITH: Were you living in this County then?

16 MRS. PICA: In Los Angeles County?

17 MR. KEITH: Yes.

18 MRS. PICA: Yes.

19 MR. KEITH: And you didn't hear anything about the case?

20 MRS. PICA: No.

21 MR. KEITH: Have you ever heard the name Manson?

22 MRS. PICA: I have heard the name Manson, yes.

23 MR. KEITH: And have you heard of his name in  
24 connection with certain crimes that occurred back in the '60s,  
25 or '69?

26 MRS. PICA: No; I just gathered it was murder, just  
27 from --

28 MR. KEITH: And you have heard the name Manson just from --



1 because -- well, you might say because everybody else has  
2 heard the name.

3 MRS. PICA: Yes.

4 MR. KEITH: You paid no special attention or any  
5 attention at all to finding out about him or what he may or  
6 may not have done.

7 MRS. PICA: That's right.

8 I never investigated or checked or became  
9 interested in anything about him.

10 MR. KEITH: Have you ever heard the name Laelle Van Houten  
11 before you came to court Monday?

12 MRS. PICA: No.

13 MR. KEITH: So you don't know anything about her at all.

14 MRS. PICA: Never heard her name.

15 MR. KEITH: You have never heard of her name in  
16 connection with the name Manson. I take it, until the  
17 indictment was read?

18 MRS. PICA: True.

19 MR. KEITH: Do you read any newspapers at all?

20 MRS. PICA: No, I do not.

21 MR. KEITH: Do you see television at all?

22 MRS. PICA: Just programs. I do not watch the news.

23 MR. KEITH: Had you ever heard of a book called  
24 "Helter Skelter" until today?

25 MRS. PICA: Yes, I vaguely remember hearing that name.

26 But I did not know the book had to do with Manson.

27 MR. KEITH: I see.

28 And obviously you didn't see the television show



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bearing the name name.

MRS. PICA: That's right.

MR. KEITH: Inasmuch as you haven't read or heard anything about the case, obviously you have no opinion about it.

MRS. PICA: That's right.

MR. KEITH: And you couldn't be influenced by something you have never been exposed to, I gather.

MRS. PICA: That's right.

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FBI - MEMPHIS

1 MR. KEITH: So, are you coming into this case with a --  
2 if you are selected as a trial juror -- with an open mind?

3 MRS. PICA: Absolutely.

4 MR. KEITH: You feel you can be fair and impartial to  
5 Leslie if you are selected as a juror?

6 MRS. PICA: Yes.

7 MR. KEITH: Is there anything, vis-a-vis, the case --  
8 You realize this case did have originally a horrendous  
9 amount of publicity.

10 MRS. PICA: I realize that because --

11 MR. KEITH: But you missed it all.

12 MRS. PICA: Right.

13 MR. KEITH: And you realize that probably because of  
14 what you have heard in the courtroom today.

15 Or had you realized that from other sources?

16 MRS. PICA: No, just -- Well, the fact that I heard the  
17 name Manson, it would have had to have been a big case.

18 But --

19 MR. KEITH: That's because you don't know anything about --

20 MRS. PICA: Right.

21 MR. KEITH: You don't read newspapers.

22 MRS. PICA: Right.

23 MR. KEITH: Do you read magazines?

24 MRS. PICA: No.

25 MR. KEITH: Do you read Times Magazine?

26 MRS. PICA: No.

27 MR. KEITH: You don't read any magazines at all?

28 MRS. PICA: No, very rarely.

1           if I am in the beauty shop or somewhere, you know,  
2 waiting.

3           MR. KEITH: You pick up a Cosmopolitan.

4           MRS. PICA: Possibly. But I'm hardly there.

5           MR. KEITH: Okay.

6           MRS. PICA: Can you believe it?

7           MR. KEITH: No -- Yes, I do. I'm just --

8                   (Laughter.)

9           MR. KEITH: Mr. Nakamura, I believe.

10          MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.

11          MR. KEITH: You are the investigator for the space  
12 program?

13          MR. NAKAMURA: Oh, yeah, right. A little small project.  
14 It didn't have enough money --

15          MR. KEITH: I thought you were going to be on your way  
16 to the moon shortly.

17          MR. NAKAMURA: We have been there.

18          MR. KEITH: All right.

19                   Now, you read about the case when it happened,  
20 back in '69.

21          MR. NAKAMURA: Mostly I heard about it because I --

22          MR. KEITH: You heard about it from television?

23          MR. NAKAMURA: Mostly listening to the news.

24          MR. KEITH: Did other people talk to you about the case?

25          MR. NAKAMURA: Yes. It's been pretty well publicized,  
26 and probably I read an article or two while I'm flying on the  
27 airline going back to Washington.

28          MR. KEITH: When was this?

1 MR. NAKAMURA: Like ---

2 MR. KEITH: In '69, '70?

3 MR. NAKAMURA: Yeah.

4 MR. KEITH: '71.

5 MR. NAKAMURA: That's right.

6 MR. KEITH: Have you been exposed to any media coverage  
7 of the case or Leslie Van Houten individually within the last  
8 year or so?

9 MR. NAKAMURA: Not within the last year or so, but I  
10 am aware of the trial, and I was of the opinion it was over  
11 with.

12 MR. KEITH: You were surprised to see that ---

13 MR. NAKAMURA: Coming back again, right.

14 I was of the opinion it was over with.

15 MR. KEITH: Now, were you aware that she was a defendant  
16 at the first trial?

17 MR. NAKAMURA: Um-hum.

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1 MR. KEITH: And were you aware of the outcome of that  
2 trial?

3 MR. NAKAMURA: In the case that --

4 MR. KEITH: The first case. I just say --

5 MR. NAKAMURA: Not in detail.

6 Yeah, I am aware that someone was convicted, and  
7 so forth.

8 MR. KEITH: You didn't have to say that.

9 Okay, you are aware of what happened.

10 I am not asking whether you are aware of all of  
11 the facts --

12 MR. NAKAMURA: No.

13 MR. KEITH: -- at this time.

14 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.

15 MR. KEITH: But you were aware of the outcome.

16 MR. NAKAMURA: To the extent that, you know, I thought  
17 she was off.

18 I thought she was at the time. I mean, that's  
19 my recollection.

20 MR. KEITH: Is it your recollection that Leslie was  
21 acquitted?

22 MR. NAKAMURA: Yeah, or something to that effect, yeah.

23 Like I say, I wasn't paying too much attention to  
24 it.

25 MR. KEITH: So do you think that she's done something  
26 wrong since that time --

27 MR. NAKAMURA: No.

28 MR. KEITH: -- and that's why she is here?

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1 MR. NAKAMURA: No; I understand it.

2 MR. KEITH: You were surprised undoubtedly to see her  
3 here Monday when you walked in the courtroom is that right?

4 MR. NAKAMURA: (No response.)

5 MR. KEITH: You have to answer Yes or No, or whatever.

6 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.

7 MR. KEITH: All right.

8 And when you came in Monday and saw her you had no  
9 realization as to why she was here.

10 MR. NAKAMURA: Oh, I don't believe that's true.

11 I mean, I'm not always right; so I said to myself  
12 I must have had my facts wrong.

13 MR. KEITH: All right.

14 Are you telling us that on Monday, when you saw  
15 her, you formed an opinion that your belief that she had  
16 been acquitted might have been erroneous? Is that a fair  
17 statement?

18 MR. NAKAMURA: Yeah, I think so.

19 Obviously it is; it had to be erroneous, or else  
20 I wouldn't be here.

21 MR. KEITH: As a result of realizing that your opinion  
22 was erroneous, now do you have an opinion, now do you have an  
23 opinion, based on what you have heard, read and seen about the  
24 case, that she's more likely guilty than innocent?

25 MR. NAKAMURA: I don't think that's true.

26 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that because of what may or may  
27 not have happened at the first trial where she was a  
28 defendant, that she in your mind, in your mind has the cards

1 stacked against her?

2 In your mind, not generally speaking, but in your  
3 mind alone.

4 In other words, do you harbor a belief that she  
5 is going to have to make an awfully good showing before you  
6 decide to do anything more than what may have been done in the  
7 first case?

8 MR. NAKAMURA: No.

9 MR. KEITH: Do you feel she's presumed to be innocent  
10 now?

11 MR. NAKAMURA: Yeah.

12 MR. KEITH: Do you honor that presumption of innocence  
13 now?

14 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes, sir; it's a good honor.  
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1 MR. KEITH: Pardon me?

2 MR. NAKAMURA: It's a good honor.

3 MR. KEITH: And you have no opinion now about her guilt  
4 or innocence?

5 MR. NAKAMURA: As I was telling the judge, it's difficult  
6 to say because I read a lot of things.

7 But I think the answer is no.

8 MR. KEITH: When you say you have read a lot of things,  
9 you are talking about six, seven years ago.

10 MR. NAKAMURA: Yeah, right.

11 I retained some of it; I lost most of it.

12 MR. KEITH: You have the frame of mind and the ability,  
13 I presume, to set aside, just as the judge asked you to do,  
14 if you can, anything you may have read or heard about Leslie.

15 Can you do that?

16 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.

17 MR. KEITH: You are sure of that. You promise me you can  
18 do that?

19 MR. NAKAMURA: That's the way I make a living.

20 As an engineer, you know, you look at the facts and  
21 form whatever opinion based on whatever facts you have got.

22 MR. KEITH: All right. We will get into that --

23 I mean, I don't know whether the facts in this case  
24 fall into the precise category that engineers like.

25 MR. NAKAMURA: They don't fall very precise there, either.

26 (Laughter.)

27 MR. KEITH: Very good. I will stop there.

28 Let's see. It's Mrs. Nakax, I believe. Is that

1 correct?

2 MRS. BAKER: Yes, it is.

3 MR. KEITH: And you have seen articles and read articles  
4 about this matter back in 1969; correct?

5 MRS. BAKER: Read the headlines, and that was all.

6 MR. KEITH: You didn't make any special effort to follow  
7 the case in the newspaper, I presume?

8 MRS. BAKER: No, I didn't.

9 MR. KEITH: Or on television.

10 MRS. BAKER: Just, you know --

11 MR. KEITH: Just in passing.

12 MRS. BAKER: Um-hum.

13 MR. KEITH: Because it was there, you were exposed to it.

14 MRS. BAKER: Uh-huh.

15 MR. KEITH: But you didn't form or have a consuming  
16 interest in Charles Manson.

17 MRS. BAKER: No, I didn't.

18 MR. KEITH: Or the case that was tried many years ago.

19 MRS. BAKER: No, I wasn't.

20 MR. KEITH: And you haven't seen the television show,  
21 and you haven't read the book.

22 Have you heard or read or seen anything else about  
23 the case in the last couple of years?

24 MRS. BAKER: No, I haven't.

25 MR. KEITH: Have you ever seen Iselle Van Houten on  
26 N.Y.C.?

27 MRS. BAKER: No, I haven't.

28 MR. KEITH: Have you ever read anything about her in the

1 past year or so?

2 MRS. BAKER: No, I haven't.

3 MR. KEITH: Or heard anything on the radio at all?

4 MRS. BAKER: Maybe Saturday -- I only read the headlines.

5 MR. KEITH: All right.

6 MRS. BAKER: And I think I read that either -- it was  
7 Saturday that they were going to pick a jury for the new trial.

8 MR. KEITH: That's all you know, though.

9 MRS. BAKER: Yeah.

10 I had a garage sale; I was busy. So I didn't  
11 bother to read it.

12 MR. KEITH: I hope it was successful.

13 MRS. BAKER: It wasn't for me; it was for a friend.

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1 MR. KEITH: I still have the same sentiment.

2 (Laughter.)

3 Had you heard the name Leslie Van Houten before  
4 you came to court Monday?

5 MRS. RAKER: Saturday I asked my husband who she was.

6 MR. KEITH: Well, that's a dumb question, because you  
7 just told me you had read --

8 Now, before that, were you aware of who she was?

9 MRS. RAKER: No, I wasn't.

10 MR. KEITH: All right.

11 Did you have any recollection of her being in  
12 another trial until we've been talking about it this afternoon?

13 MRS. RAKER: I mostly remember the Manson name; the  
14 others went in one eye and out the other.

15 MR. KEITH: You don't remember the names of any of the  
16 other people that may --

17 MRS. RAKER: Only --

18 MR. KEITH: -- have been --

19 MRS. RAKER: -- what I've heard.

20 MR. KEITH: We've got a little problem, Mrs. Raker, and  
21 it is part my fault.

22 We can't both talk at the same time, because the  
23 young lady has to take down everything we say.

24 MRS. RAKER: I'm sorry.

25 MR. KEITH: It's my fault as much as yours, so we've got  
26 to be careful. Only so the record is clear.

27 So now I forgot what I was asking you.

28 But you -- now I remember.

18-2

1                   When you saw her name in the newspaper Saturday,  
2 did that refresh your recollection in any way about any past  
3 experiences she may have had in court or experiences with  
4 Manson or other persons associated with him?

5           MRS. RAKER: No, it didn't.

6           MR. KEITH: Is your memory refreshed now, as a result of  
7 this conversation we've been having and the conversations with  
8 the other jurors, about any participation she may have had  
9 in another trial?

10          MRS. RAKER: No, it hasn't. I didn't really follow it.  
11 I just read the first and passed it off.

12          MR. KEITH: I understand.

13                   Has anybody ever talked to you about Manson and  
14 his so-called family as a result of perhaps having read the  
15 book "Helter Skelter" or seen the television show by the same  
16 name?

17          MRS. RAKER: No, they haven't.

18          MR. KEITH: Has anybody in your family discussed Manson  
19 with you?

20          MRS. RAKER: No, they haven't.

21          MR. KEITH: I take it none of your friends or members of  
22 your family were particularly interested in this either, or,  
23 if they were, they didn't talk to you about it.

24          MRS. RAKER: They weren't interested.

25          MR. KEITH: Do you have any idea as a result of anything  
26 you may have read or seen as to why Leslie is here today  
27 awaiting trial, after a jury is selected, of course.

28          MRS. RAKER: Just what I heard.

1 MR. KEITH: Just what you heard here in the courtroom?

2 MRS. RAKER: Since I've been here; that's right.

3 MR. KEITH: Does what you have heard in the courtroom  
4 affect your ability to be fair towards her?

5 MRS. RAKER: No, because --

6 MR. KEITH: But -- Pardon me?

7 MRS. RAKER: Because a person is innocent until proven  
8 guilty.

9 MR. KEITH: You feel that is a proper rule of law, do  
10 you not?

11 MRS. RAKER: Yes, I do.

12 MR. KEITH: And you don't feel that Leslie should not be  
13 entitled to that fundamental principle of law because of any  
14 past involvement she may have had that you may have read about?

15 MRS. RAKER: No.

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1 MR. KEITH: Could you pass the microphone to  
2 Mrs. Randall, please.

3 Well, Mrs. Randall, you did see the television  
4 movie entitled Helter Skelter?

5 MRS. RANDALL: Yes.

6 MR. KEITH: And you are not quite sure, though, when you  
7 saw it?

8 MRS. RANDALL: I'm not quite sure.

9 It is amazing, isn't it?

10 MR. KEITH: Well, not necessarily.

11 MRS. RANDALL: But I did see it. I saw it. It was in  
12 two nights.

13 MR. KEITH: All right. And you saw both nights?

14 MRS. RANDALL: Yes.

15 MR. KEITH: And do you remember anything about it, what  
16 you saw?

17 MRS. RANDALL: It was horrible.

18 Well, I remember --

19 MR. KEITH: What did you say?

20 MRS. RANDALL: I remember --

21 MR. KEITH: Before that.

22 MRS. RANDALL: I don't know. What did you ask?

23 MR. KEITH: Maybe you didn't say anything.

24 Go ahead.

25 Do you remember anything about what you saw?

26 MRS. RANDALL: Yes, I remember.

27 MR. KEITH: Do you remember a trial scene?

28 MRS. RANDALL: A trial scene, yes, sir.



1 MR. KEITH: Do you remember the name Leslie Van Houten  
2 in the television motion picture?

3 MRS. RANDALL: I can't say I remember it specifically,  
4 that name, but if she was in the television movie, then I  
5 remember I heard it.

6 MR. KEITH: Do you remember some court scenes in the  
7 television movie?

8 MRS. RANDALL: The court scenes must have been in the  
9 second segment.

10 MR. KEITH: I believe so.

11 MRS. RANDALL: And I didn't see all of the second segment,  
12 because I was going to choir rehearsal. But I did see the first  
13 part. I saw all of the first part.

14 MR. KEITH: You realize, of course, that these are all  
15 television actors and actresses ---

16 MRS. RANDALL: Yes.

17 MR. KEITH: --- portraying real people?

18 MRS. RANDALL: Well, yes.

19 MR. KEITH: And as a result of seeing the television  
20 motion picture entitled Helter Skelter, did you form any  
21 opinion about any of the persons who appeared in the trial  
22 scenes other than the judge and the prosecutor and the  
23 defense counsel? In other words, the defendants?

24 Did you form any opinion about their guilt or  
25 innocence?

26 MRS. RANDALL: No, I didn't, really.

27 MR. KEITH: Did you read about the Manson case during  
28 the first trial at all?

1 MRS. RANDALL: I read about it, and I saw it on TV.

2 MR. KEITH: All right.

3 And did you follow the case with any particular  
4 interest at that time?

5 MRS. RANDALL: I followed the case to see how it was  
6 going to turn out, more or less.

7 MR. KEITH: All right.

8 MRS. RANDALL: On TV I followed it, not paperwise, because  
9 I didn't have time to read all the papers.

10 MR. KEITH: Did you find out how that case turned out?

11 MRS. RANDALL: Not all.

12 MR. KEITH: What do you mean, "Not all"?

13 MRS. RANDALL: Well, here is what I mean: I didn't follow  
14 it to the very last. I know they were convicted.

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1 MR. KEITH: All right.

2 And do you remember any of the names of the people  
3 that were convicted other than Manson? Everybody knows about  
4 him.

5 MRS. RANDALL: Yes. I remember some of the names of  
6 the peoples that were connected with him.

7 MR. KEITH: All right.

8 Now, you realize Miss Van Houten, of course, is a  
9 defendant in this case before the court now.

10 Does that refresh your recollection as to whether  
11 she was one of the people --

12 MRS. RANDALL: Yes.

13 MR. KEITH: -- involved in the case originally?

14 MRS. RANDALL: Yes, it does.

15 MR. KEITH: All right.

16 And, therefore, I presume you are aware that she  
17 was convicted.

18 MRS. RANDALL: Yes.

19 MR. KEITH: And do you have any idea or knowledge, from  
20 reading or watching television, as to what she is doing here  
21 now?

22 MRS. RANDALL: Well, she is trying to prove innocent.

23 MR. KEITH: Does she have to prove herself innocent?

24 MRS. RANDALL: Well, yes, I think she does.

25 MR. KEITH: And why do you think that?

26 MR. KAY: Well, I'm going to object. That's not the time  
27 for that inquiry.

28 THE COURT: Well, let's take that up at a later time.

1 MR. KEITH: All right. That's well taken. Excuse me.

2 Maybe I'll get at it this way: You know from your  
3 reading and from seeing television and from seeing the  
4 television movie entitled Helter Skelter she was convicted,  
5 isn't that right?

6 MRS. RANDALL: Yes.

7 MR. KEITH: And as a result of that exposure, you have  
8 formed an opinion, have you not, as to her guilt or innocence?

9 MRS. RANDALL: No, I have not formed an opinion as to  
10 whether she was guilty or innocent.

11 MR. KEITH: Are you sure about that?

12 MRS. RANDALL: I am definitely sure about that --

13 MR. KEITH: Why would she have --

14 MRS. RANDALL: -- because of the fact that she --

15 I saw the movie and I read the papers and I most  
16 certainly have looked at TV on this matter. As a matter of  
17 fact, I followed the TV. But --

18 MR. KEITH: During the first trial?

19 MRS. RANDALL: During -- right, during --

20 MR. KEITH: Okay.

21 MRS. RANDALL: Especially I followed TV more than I read  
22 the papers.

23 MR. KEITH: I know, because you didn't have time to  
24 read the papers.

25 MRS. RANDALL: That's right.

26 And I couldn't say whether she was guilty though.

27 MR. KEITH: You don't have any opinion on that subject?

28 MRS. RANDALL: No, I don't have an opinion.

8-9  
1 MR. KEITH: If you don't have an opinion now about her  
2 guilt or innocence, why does she have to prove her innocence  
3 to you?

4 MRS. RANDALL: Well, because for her sake she has to  
5 prove her innocence.

6 MR. KEITH: Well, I'll get into that later.

7 I thought maybe you had an opinion that would take  
8 evidence on her part to erase from your mind; but you do not  
9 have an opinion.

10 MRS. RANDALL: I do not have an opinion.  
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1 MR. KEITH: You don't have any opinion one way or  
2 another?

3 MRS. RANDALL: No.

4 MR. KEITH: Do you think you could be fair to the  
5 prosecution?

6 MRS. RANDALL: Yes, I do.

7 MR. KEITH: Do you think you could be fair to her, after  
8 having seen the television -- to Miss Van Houten after having  
9 seen the television motion picture Helter Skelter?

10 MRS. RANDALL: Yes.

11 MR. KEITH: What does "helter-skelter" mean to you in  
12 the sense that Manson used it, if you know?

13 MRS. RANDALL: Well, it's hard to say, really, the  
14 meaning.

15 MR. KEITH: Do you remember?

16 MRS. RANDALL: I don't say I remember everything on the  
17 picture, but I remember some of the things that was done and  
18 said in the movie.

19 MR. KEITH: You don't remember how Manson used the term  
20 "helter-skelter"; is that what you're telling us?

21 MRS. RANDALL: Was it the writing on the --?

22 MR. KEITH: Okay. I don't have anything further.

23 MRS. RANDALL: I'm sorry, I --

24 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Kay.

25 Mr. Kay, I notice it's five minutes to 3:00. Why  
26 don't we take our afternoon recess. I think the jurors and  
27 everybody else would like a chance to stretch.

28 At this time, ladies and gentlemen, we are going

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to recess. Bear in mind during this recess that you are not to discuss this case amongst yourselves or with anyone else, and you are not to form any opinion concerning this matter or express any opinion concerning this matter until the case is finally given to you.

Furthermore, you must not allow yourselves to read, see, or hear anything in the news media about this.

Court will be in recess until ten minutes past 3:00. All jurors, defendant, and counsel are ordered to return at that time.

Court is in recess.

(Recess taken.)

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REASABLE  
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1 THE COURT: People versus Van Houten.

2 Let the record show the defendant is present,  
3 represented by counsel, the People are represented by counsel,  
4 the jurors are in their assigned places.

5 MR. KAY: you may inquire as to publicity.

6 MR. KAY: Thank you, Your Honor.

7 MR. PALMER: do you read any newspapers?

8 MR. PALMER: No, I didn't.

9 MR. KAY: No, do you?

10 MR. PALMER: No, I don't.

11 MR. KAY: Do you read any magazines?

12 MR. PALMER: Very few.

13 MR. KAY: Do you watch the news on T.V.?

14 MR. PALMER: I don't currently have a television.

15 MR. KAY: Do you listen to the news on the radio?

16 MR. PALMER: Yes, I do.

17 MR. KAY: All right.

18 Have you ever heard Mr. Keith on radio talking about  
19 Miss Van Houten?

20 MR. PALMER: No, I haven't.

21 MR. KAY: Have you ever heard anyone on the radio talking  
22 about Miss Van Houten?

23 MR. PALMER: Not recently.

24 MR. KAY: Not this year?

25 MR. PALMER: All I have heard was a couple of the  
26 glimpses (sic) that was on the news. It said something about  
27 a retrial.

28 MR. KAY: Do you know who Linda Kasabian is?

19-2

1 MR. PALMER: I think I have heard the name, but I  
2 couldn't -- it's something to do with this case, I think.

3 MR. KAY: That's all you know, though.

4 MR. PALMER: That's all I know.

5 MR. KAY: Do you know who Tex Watson is?

6 MR. PALMER: I don't think I ever heard of that one.

7 MR. KAY: What about Squeaky Fromme?

8 MR. PALMER: I have heard of that one.

9 MR. KAY: In this case Mr. Keith was very interested in  
10 questioning the members of the jury about the fact that  
11 Miss Van Houten is presumed innocent at the outset of the  
12 trial, which is true, and she is entitled to a fair trial.

13 But also the prosecution is entitled to a fair  
14 trial.

15 In this case we have the burden, not only of  
16 proving Miss Van Houten's guilt as to the charge of murder  
17 beyond a reasonable doubt, but we also have the burden of  
18 proving the degree of her guilt.

19 Now, what that means is we have to prove beyond a  
20 reasonable doubt that she had the mental capacity to commit  
21 a willful, deliberate, premeditated murder of the first degree.

22 Realizing that, have you formed any opinion as to  
23 whether or not the people who participated in the so-called  
24 Tate-Labianca murders must have been crazy or mentally  
25 unbalanced at the time of their participation in those murders?

26 MR. PALMER: Well, I don't know that many details on  
27 the murder, so I don't have an opinion one way or the other  
28 at the present time.

1           MR. KAY: Have you formed any opinion about  
2 Miss Van Houten's mental state at the time of the LaBianca  
3 murders?

4           MR. PALMER: I don't have any idea what it is.

5           MR. KAY: Do you have any idea what her mental state  
6 is today? Have you formed any opinion?

7           MR. PALMER: No, no opinion.

8           MR. KAY: So, I take it, realizing the burden that the  
9 prosecution has in this case, you feel that you could give the  
10 prosecution a fair trial?

11          MR. PALMER: Yes, I can.

12          MR. KAY: Okay. Thank you very much.

13                    Could you please pass the microphone down to  
14 Mrs. Peoples?

15                    Do you read any newspapers?

16          MRS. PEOPLES: Yes, I do.

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1 MR. KAY: Which one? One or ones.

2 MRS. PEEPLES: The Long Beach Press Telegram.

3 MR. KAY: So I take it you live in the Long Beach area.

4 MRS. PEEPLES: I live in Paramount.

5 MR. KAY: Have you read any articles about Miss Van Houten  
6 in the Long Beach Press Telegram this year?

7 MRS. PEEPLES: No, I haven't.

8 MR. KAY: Have you seen Mr. Keith on television or heard  
9 him on the radio or read about him in the newspapers talking  
10 about Miss Van Houten?

11 MRS. PEEPLES: No, I haven't.

12 MR. KAY: Do you read Los Angeles Magazine?

13 MRS. PEEPLES: No. I take Ladies Home Journal.

14 MR. KAY: That's the only magazine you take?

15 MRS. PEEPLES: Yes.

16 MR. KAY: Do you read the Christian Science Monitor?

17 MRS. PEEPLES: No, I don't.

18 MR. KAY: Now, have you formed any opinion as to whether  
19 or not the participants in the so-called Tate-LaBianca murders  
20 must have been crazy or mentally unbalanced at the time of their  
21 participation?

22 Have you formed any such opinion?

23 MRS. PEEPLES: No, because I didn't follow it that  
24 closely.

25 MR. KAY: And realizing the burden the prosecution has,  
26 not only of proving Miss Van Houten's guilt beyond a reasonable  
27 doubt, but proving the degree of her guilt, and we have to  
28 establish that she had the mental capacity to commit a first

1 degree murder, do you feel you can give us a fair trial?

2 MRS. PEEPLES: Yes, I feel that I will.

3 MR. KAY: Thank you.

4 Could you pass the microphone down to Mrs. Pica.

5 Mrs. Pica, have you formed any opinion as to  
6 Miss Van Houten's mental state at the time of the LaBianca  
7 murders?

8 MRS. PICA: No, because I don't know anything about the  
9 murders.

10 MR. KAY: Okay. Have you formed any opinion as to  
11 Miss Van Houten's mental state at any time, even today?

12 MRS. PICA: No.

13 MR. KAY: Have you formed an opinion as to whether or  
14 not those who participated in the Tate-LaBianca murders were  
15 crazy or mentally unbalanced --

16 MRS. PICA: I --

17 MR. KAY: -- at the time of their participation?

18 MRS. PICA: I'm sorry.

19 I haven't given it any thought.

20 MR. KAY: Do you listen to the news on the radio at all?

21 MRS. PICA: No.

22 MR. KAY: You don't listen to -- you don't watch the  
23 news on T.V.?

24 MRS. PICA: No.

25 MR. KAY: Or read it in the newspapers?

26 MRS. PICA: No.

27 MR. KAY: And you never even heard the name of  
28 Leslie Van Houten before you came into this courtroom?

1 MRS. WICK: I have not heard her name before Monday.

2 MR. KAY: Okay.

3 Thank you very much.

4 Could you pass the microphones down to Mr. Nakamura.

5 Mr. Nakamura, in answer to one of Mr. Keith's  
6 questions -- well, I'm not sure whether it was the court's  
7 question or Mr. Keith's question -- but you did state that you  
8 had heard some recent publicity.

9 MR. NAKAMURA: Oh, only, you know, I turned the radio  
10 on and I listened to the news, KFWB.

11 One of those all-day all-night news. In two minutes you  
12 get the world.

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1 MR. KAY: I know; I listen to KPWB. In 20 minutes or  
2 22 minutes.

3 MR. NAKAMURA: Yeah, 22 minutes.

4 MR. KAY: Have you heard Mr. Keith on KPWB talking about  
5 Miss Van Houten?

6 MR. NAKAMURA: No.

7 MR. KAY: Have you ever heard anybody on KPWB or any  
8 place else talking about Miss Van Houten's mental state at  
9 any time in her life?

10 MR. NAKAMURA: No.

11 MR. KAY: Have you formed any opinion as to  
12 Miss Van Houten's state of mind, whether or not she may or may  
13 not have been mentally ill at the time of the Labianca murders?

14 MR. NAKAMURA: Initially I had a reaction they must be  
15 crazy, out of their minds, doing something like that, because  
16 it was pretty well publicized. It was a fairly bizarre  
17 situation.

18 But that's all.

19 MR. KAY: You are saying that was the initial reaction  
20 on your part.

21 MR. NAKAMURA: Yeah.

22 MR. KAY: But realizing, as I told Mr. Palmer, at the  
23 outset what the burdens are on the prosecution in this case,  
24 that we have the burden of proving that Miss Van Houten had  
25 the mental capacity to commit a willful, deliberate,  
26 premeditated murder of the first degree, and we have to prove  
27 that beyond a reasonable doubt, understanding that do you feel  
28 that you can give the prosecution a fair trial?

MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.



20-1  
1 MR. KAY: All right.

2 Do you think you can put aside your so-called  
3 initial reaction and determine the question of Miss Van Houten's  
4 state of mind on August 10th, 1969, from the evidence you  
5 hear in this courtroom?

6 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.

7 MR. KAY: Any question at all about that in your mind?

8 MR. NAKAMURA: Well, in the sense that I've never gone  
9 through it before, so --

10 MR. KAY: You have never gone through a trial before?

11 MR. NAKAMURA: No, I never gone through a trial before,  
12 so --

13 MR. KAY: But I mean are you willing to keep an open mind --

14 MR. NAKAMURA: Sure.

15 MR. KAY: -- on the subject --

16 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.

17 MR. KAY: -- and listen to the evidence and then -- because  
18 you don't know specifically what Miss Van Houten may or may not  
19 have done on August 10th, 1969.

20 Is that fair to say?

21 MR. NAKAMURA: Yes.

22 MR. KAY: So you do not know --

23 MR. NAKAMURA: Not specifically.

24 MR. KAY: You do not know specifically what her state  
25 of mind was at that time, do you?

26 MR. NAKAMURA: No, no.

27 MR. KAY: Okay.

28 Would you pass the microphone down to Mrs. Raker.

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1 Ma'am, have you formed any opinion as to whether  
2 or not the participants in the so-called Tate-LaBianca murders  
3 must have been crazy or mentally unbalanced at the time of  
4 their participation in those murders?

5 MRS. RAKER: No, I didn't.

6 MR. KAY: Okay.

7 Have you formed any opinion about Leslie Van Houten's  
8 state of mind in August of 1969?

9 MRS. RAKER: No, I haven't.

10 MR. KAY: Do you have any opinion as to her state of  
11 mind as she sits over here today?

12 MRS. RAKER: No.

13 MR. KAY: Which newspapers do you read?

14 MRS. RAKER: We get the L. A. Times.

15 MR. KAY: And did you read any articles this year in  
16 the L. A. Times purporting to be an interview with Leslie Van  
17 Houten?

18 MRS. RAKER: No, I didn't.

19 MR. KAY: Did you read any articles at all in the Times  
20 about Leslie Van Houten this year?

21 MRS. RAKER: Only I think Saturday when they talked about  
22 picking the jury, and that was just a headline. I didn't --

23 MR. KAY: You just read the headline; you didn't read  
24 the article?

25 MRS. RAKER: No, I didn't.

26 MR. KAY: Do you watch news on TV?

27 MRS. RAKER: No.

28 MR. KAY: Not at all?

20-3

1 MRS. RAKER: No, only sports.

2 MR. KAY: Do you listen to the news on the radio?

3 MRS. RAKER: I listen to K -- I call it Killjoy.

4 MR. KAY: KGIL?

5 MRS. RAKER: No, KJ --

6 MR. NAKAMURA: -- OI.

7 MRS. RAKER: KJOI.

8 MR. KAY: That's an FM station?

9 MR. NAKAMURA: FM stereo.

10 MRS. RAKER: Stereo.

11 MR. KAY: Yes, right. They don't play news.

12 Do you take the Los Angeles Magazine?

13 MRS. RAKER: No, I don't.

14 MR. KAY: Do you read the Christian Science Monitor?

15 MRS. RAKER: No, I don't.

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UNRECORDED

CONFIDENTIAL

1 MR. KAY: Have you read anything about Leslie Van Houten  
2 this year other than that brief article that you --

3 MRS. BAKER: No, I haven't.

4 MR. KAY: -- read the headlines of?

5 Have you ever seen Mr. Keith on TV or heard him  
6 on the radio or anything talking about Miss Van Houten?

7 MRS. BAKER: No, I haven't.

8 MR. KAY: And realizing what our burden of proof is in  
9 this case, what I told Mr. Palmer and Mr. Nakamura, do you  
10 feel that you can give us a fair trial?

11 MRS. BAKER: Yes, I do.

12 MR. KAY: Do you feel you can keep a completely open mind  
13 as to Miss Van Houten's mental state at the time of the  
14 LaBianca murders?

15 MRS. BAKER: Yes, I do.

16 MR. KAY: All right, thank you. Will you please pass the  
17 microphone to Mrs. Randall.

18 Mrs. Randall, in answer to a question from either  
19 Mr. Keith or the judge, I believe you stated that you had read  
20 about the case in the last 90 days.

21 Do you remember, was that in the Los Angeles Times?

22 MRS. RANDALL: Did I tell you --

23 I don't remember saying that.

24 MR. KAY: Well, I wrote that down. It seemed -- Maybe  
25 you didn't say it, but I wrote that down here.

26 Is that incorrect? You haven't read about it in  
27 the last 90 days?

28 MRS. RANDALL: I have read about it here and there.

20-5

1           You see, we don't take a daily paper. At the time  
2 that the case was, we were taking the Examiner.

3           MR. KAY: Uh-huh.

4           MRS. RANDALL: And I read most of the articles but not  
5 all of them. I depended on the TV.

6                   And now we pick up a Los Angeles Times --

7           MR. KAY: Okay.

8           MRS. RANDALL: -- every so often.

9           MR. KAY: Have you read any articles about Miss Van  
10 Houten in the Los Angeles Times this year?

11           MRS. RANDALL: I can't remember reading any articles,  
12 but I've heard about it on TV and I heard about it on the  
13 news.

14           MR. KAY: Okay.

15                   Have you heard Mr. Keith, seen him on TV or heard  
16 him on the radio news?

17           MRS. RANDALL: I can't remember hearing -- saying that  
18 I've seen him on TV.

19           MR. KAY: Have you heard anybody on TV or heard them on  
20 radio talking about Miss Van Houten and what her mental state  
21 may or may not have been back at the time of the LaBianca  
22 murders?

23           MRS. RANDALL: I heard them talk about Miss Van Houten,  
24 but I haven't heard them discuss her mental state.

25           MR. KAY: Basically she was just up for retrial?

26           MRS. RANDALL: She was just up for retrial.

27           MR. KAY: Okay.

28                   Now, realizing --

20-6

1           Let me ask you this: Have you formed any opinion  
2 as to Miss Van Houten's mental state at the time of the  
3 LaBianca murders back in August of '69?

4           MRS. RANDALL: No, I didn't form any opinion.

5           MR. KAY: Okay.

6           Have you formed an opinion as to whether or not  
7 anyone who participated in the Tate-LaBianca murders must have  
8 been crazy or mentally unbalanced?

9           MRS. RANDALL: No, I can't say that I did.

10          MR. KAY: Okay.

11          Do you feel you can keep an open mind on that  
12 subject?

13          MRS. RANDALL: Yes.

14          MR. KAY: Do you feel you can give the prosecution a  
15 fair trial in this case?

16          MRS. RANDALL: Yes.

17          MR. KAY: Okay, thank you very much.

18          I have no further questions.

19          THE COURT: Are there any challenges?

20          MR. KEITH: No, Your Honor.

21          MR. KAY: No.

22          THE COURT: All right. This group will be taken down  
23 to 106.

24          Bear in mind during this recess again that you are  
25 not to discuss this case amongst yourselves or with anyone  
26 else, you are not to form any opinion concerning this matter  
27 or express any opinion concerning this matter until the case  
28 is finally given to you.

20-7

1                   In addition, you must not allow yourselves to  
2 read, see, or hear any accounts of this matter in the news  
3 media.

4                   Thank you.

5                   All right. The bailiff will take you down to 106,  
6 and we'll have another group brought in.

7                   (The remaining prospective jurors exited  
8 the courtroom, and a new group of  
9 prospective jurors was escorted in.)

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1 THE COURT: All right, ladies and gentlemen, I want  
2 to ask your names so that we are sure we've got the right  
3 people in the right places. I'd like to start here with the  
4 juror in the first seat, first row.

5 Are you Mrs. Ethel C. Richey?

6 MRS. RICHEY: Yes, sir.

7 THE COURT: And then Florence A. Rohan?

8 MS. ROHAN: Right.

9 THE COURT: Milton Earl Rudge?

10 MR. RUDGE: Right.

11 THE COURT: Curtis E. Salley?

12 MR. SALLEY: Yes.

13 THE COURT: Mrs. Edna M. Saunders?

14 MRS. SAUNDERS: Yes.

15 THE COURT: Mrs. Elatha M. Settle?

16 MRS. SETTLE: Yes.

17 THE COURT: Vipin R. Shah?

18 MR. SHAH: Yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: Ervin W. Sinor?

20 MR. SINOR: Sinor.

21 THE COURT: Sinor, excuse me.

22 Raffaella M. Smith?

23 MS. SMITH: Yes.

24 THE COURT: James Swan?

25 MR. SWAN: Yes.

26 THE COURT: Mrs. Carolyn M. Thrall?

27 MRS. THRALL: Yes.

28 THE COURT: And Joni C. Titus?

1 MS. TITUS: Yes.

2 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

3 Ladies and gentlemen, at this time we have the  
4 opportunity to ask you questions concerning the matter of  
5 publicity.

6 The court will first ask you questions concerning  
7 this matter, then Mr. Keith will have an opportunity to ask  
8 you questions on behalf of defendant Leslie Van Houten, then  
9 Mr. Kay will have an opportunity to ask you questions. He's  
10 the deputy district attorney.

11 This matter is before the court on an indictment  
12 charging a number of counts. Only three of the counts are  
13 the concern of this present defendant and the court.

14 The first count is Count VI of the indictment,  
15 and states in part that

16 Charles Manson, Charles Watson,  
17 Patricia Krenwinkel, Linda Kasabian, Susan  
18 Atkins, and the defendant before this court are  
19 accused by the Grand Jury of the County of Los  
20 Angeles, State of California, by this indictment  
21 of the crime of murder in violation of section  
22 187, Penal Code of California, a felony, committed  
23 prior to the finding of this indictment and as  
24 follows:

25 That on or about the 10th day of  
26 August, 1969, at and in the County of Los Angeles,  
27 State of California, Charles Manson, Charles  
28 Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel, Linda Kasabian,

1 Susan Atkins, and the defendant before this  
2 court, did willfully, unlawfully, feloniously,  
3 and with malice aforethought, murder Leno  
4 LaBianca, a human being.

5 Count VII states in part that  
6 Charles Manson, Charles Watson,  
7 Patricia Krenwinkel, Linda Kasabian, Susan  
8 Atkins, and the defendant before this court,  
9 are accused by the Grand Jury of the County of  
10 Los Angeles, State of California, by this  
11 indictment of the crime of murder in violation  
12 of section 187, Penal Code of California, a  
13 felony, committed prior to the finding of this  
14 indictment and as follows:

15 That on or about the 10th day of  
16 August, 1969, at and in the County of Los Angeles,  
17 State of California, Charles Manson, Charles  
18 Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel, Linda Kasabian,  
19 Susan Atkins, the defendant before this court,  
20 did willfully, unlawfully, feloniously, and with  
21 malice aforethought, murder Rosemary LaBianca,  
22 a human being.

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1                   **Count VIII states Charles Manson,**  
2                   **Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel, Susan Atkins,**  
3                   **Linda Kasabian and the defendant before this court**  
4                   **are accused by the Grand Jury of the County of**  
5                   **Los Angeles, State of California, by this indictment**  
6                   **of the crime of conspiracy to commit murder, in**  
7                   **violation of Section 182.1 and 187, Penal Code of**  
8                   **California, a felony, committed prior to the finding**  
9                   **of this indictment, and as follows:**

10                   **That on or about the 9th through the 10th**  
11                   **day of August, 1969, at and in the County of**  
12                   **Los Angeles, State of California, Charles Manson,**  
13                   **Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel, Susan Atkins,**  
14                   **Linda Kasabian and the defendant before this court**  
15                   **did willfully, unlawfully, feloniously and knowingly**  
16                   **conspire, combine, confederate and agree together**  
17                   **and with other persons whose true identity is**  
18                   **unknown to commit the crime of murder, a violation**  
19                   **of Section 187, Penal Code of California, a felony.**

20                   **That pursuant to and for the purpose**  
21                   **of carrying out the objects and purposes of the**  
22                   **aforsaid combination, agreement and conspiracy,**  
23                   **the defendants committed the following Overt Acts**  
24                   **at and in the County of Los Angeles:**

25                   **Overt Act No. I:**

26                   **That on or about August 8, 1969,**  
27                   **Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel, Susan Atkins,**  
28                   **and Linda Kasabian did travel to the vicinity of**

1 10050 Cielo Drive in the City and County of Los Angeles.

2 Overt Act No. II:

3 That on or about August 8, 1969,  
4 Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel and Susan Atkins  
5 did enter the residence at 10050 Cielo Drive, City  
6 and County of Los Angeles.

7 Overt Act No. III:

8 That on or about August 10, 1969,  
9 Charles Manson, Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel,  
10 Susan Atkins, Linda Kasabian and the defendant before  
11 this court did travel to the vicinity of 3301 Waverly  
12 Drive, City and County of Los Angeles.

13 Overt Act No. IV:

14 That on or about August 10, 1969,  
15 Charles Manson, Charles Watson, Patricia Krenwinkel  
16 and the defendant before this court did enter the  
17 residence at 3301 Waverly Drive, City and County of  
18 Los Angeles.

19 To each of these three charges the defendant has  
20 entered a plea of not guilty.

21 Now, at this time I want to direct questions to  
22 each of you.

23 I want to start first with Mrs. Richey.

24 Ma'am, have you heard or do you know anything  
25 about this case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct,  
26 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
27 the newspapers, magazines or books, seen on television or heard  
28 on the radio?

1           MRS. RICHEY: Well, the names are familiar, but I didn't  
2 follow the case in the newspaper or T.V.

3                   I wasn't that interested.

4           THE COURT: All right.

5                   I take it that you were aware there were  
6 newspaper and T.V. news reports back in 1969 and the early  
7 '70s concerning this matter.

8           MRS. RICHEY: Yes.

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1 THE COURT: Have you seen anything recently in the  
2 news media concerning this case?

3 MRS. RICHEY: No, sir, I haven't.

4 THE COURT: Have you ever read the book or seen the T.V.  
5 movie called Helter Skelter?

6 MRS. RICHEY: No, sir.

7 THE COURT: All right.

8 Could you put to one side whatever you might have  
9 read, seen or heard about this case or about the defendant,  
10 and judge the defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the  
11 evidence to be introduced in this trial?

12 MRS. RICHEY: I believe I honestly could.

13 THE COURT: All right.

14 As a result of anything you might have read, seen  
15 or heard about this case or about the defendant, have you  
16 formed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the  
17 defendant?

18 MRS. RICHEY: No, sir.

19 THE COURT: Would you allow yourself to be influenced  
20 by any publicity you have read, seen or heard about this case  
21 or about the defendant?

22 MRS. RICHEY: I don't believe I would be.

23 THE COURT: Do you have some question about that?

24 MRS. RICHEY: No, I haven't.

25 THE COURT: All right.

26 And if you were chosen as a trial juror in this  
27 case, can you assure the court that you will decide this  
28 case solely on the evidence to be presented in this courtroom?



1           **MRS. RICHEY:** Yes.

2           **THE COURT:** All right, thank you.

3                        Would you hand the microphone over, please.

4           **Mrs. Bohan,** have you heard or do you know anything  
5 about this case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct,  
6 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
7 the newspapers, magazines or books, seen on television or  
8 heard on the radio?

9           **MRS. BOHAN:** I was aware of it at the time it happened,  
10 but I didn't pay that much attention to it.

11           **THE COURT:** So I take it that back in '69 and the early  
12 '70s you were aware it was in the newspapers.

13           **MRS. BOHAN:** Yes, sir.

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1 THE COURT: And there were T.V. news reports concerning  
2 the matter.

3 MRS. ROHAN: Yes, sir.

4 THE COURT: Have you seen anything in recent months  
5 connected with this defendant or this case?

6 MRS. ROHAN: No, sir.

7 THE COURT: I take it, then, you haven't read the book  
8 or seen the T.V. movie called Helter Skelter.

9 MRS. ROHAN: No, sir.

10 THE COURT: Could you put to one side whatever you might  
11 have read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the  
12 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
13 produced in this courtroom?

14 MRS. ROHAN: As a result of anything you might have read,  
15 seen or heard about this case, have you formed any opinion  
16 about the defendant's guilt or innocence?

17 MRS. ROHAN: No, sir.

18 THE COURT: Would you allow yourself to be influenced  
19 by any publicity you might have read, seen or heard about this  
20 case or about the defendant?

21 MRS. ROHAN: No, sir.

22 THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in this  
23 matter, can you assure the court that you would decide this  
24 case solely on the evidence to be presented in this courtroom?

25 MRS. ROHAN: Yes, sir.

26 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

27 Would you pass the microphones over, please.

28 Mr. Rudge, have you heard or do you know anything

1 about this case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct,  
2 beliefs or associations, including anything that you have  
3 read in the newspapers, magazines or books, seen on television  
4 or heard on the radio?

5 MR. RUDGE: Not any more than the things that you have  
6 mentioned already today. That's all I really know about the  
7 case.

8 THE COURT: Well, I take it from what you are saying,  
9 you were aware of newspaper --

10 MR. RUDGE: I was aware of it, but I never really paid  
11 that much attention to the front page news, or whatever, what  
12 was going on that much.

13 THE COURT: Have you read the book or seen the T.V.  
14 movie called --

15 MR. RUDGE: No, I haven't.

16 THE COURT: -- Helter Skelter?

17 Have you seen anything in the news media the last  
18 few months about this case or about the defendant?

19 MR. RUDGE: No.

20 THE COURT: Could you put to one side whatever you might  
21 have read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the  
22 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
23 presented in this courtroom.

24 MR. RUDGE: Yes.

25 THE COURT: Now, as a result of anything you have read,  
26 seen or heard about this case or about the defendant, have you  
27 formed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the  
28 defendant?

1 MR. RUDGE: No.

2 THE COURT: Would you allow yourself to be influenced by  
3 any publicity you might have read, seen or heard about this  
4 case.

5 MR. RUDGE: No.

6 THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in  
7 this case, can you assure the court that you would decide this  
8 case solely on the evidence to be presented in this courtroom?

9 MR. RUDGE: Yes.

10 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

11 Mr. Salley, have you heard or do you know anything  
12 about this case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct,  
13 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
14 the newspapers, magazines or books, seen on television or heard  
15 on the radio?

16 MR. SALLEY: No, sir.

17 I know that -- a couple of newspaper articles is  
18 about all I have seen on it.

19 At the time this is alleged to have happened  
20 unfortunately I was working and going to school nights, and I  
21 didn't get much chance to look at newspapers.

22 THE COURT: Now, those newspaper articles that you have  
23 seen or are aware of, about when did you see those or when  
24 were you aware of them?

25 MR. SALLEY: It must have been some time after '69 or  
26 '70; in that area somewhere.

27 THE COURT: You haven't seen anything in the last few  
28 months about this case or about the defendant?

1 MR. SALLEY: No, sir.

2 THE COURT: Have you read the book or seen the T.V.  
3 movie called Helter Skelter?

4 MR. SALLEY: No.

5 THE COURT: All right.

6 Could you put to one side whatever you might have  
7 read, seen or heard about this case, and judge the  
8 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
9 produced in this trial?

10 MR. SALLEY: Yes.

11 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

12 As a result of anything you have read, seen or  
13 heard about this case or about the defendant, have you formed any  
14 opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the defendant?

15 MR. SALLEY: No.

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1 THE COURT: And would you allow yourself to be influenced  
2 by any publicity you might have read, seen or heard about this  
3 case or about the defendant?

4 MR. SALLEY: No.

5 THE COURT: If you are chosen as a trial juror in this  
6 matter, can you assure the court that you would decide this  
7 case solely on the evidence to be presented in this courtroom?

8 MR. SALLEY: Yes, I could.

9 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

10 Mrs. Saunders, have you heard or do you know  
11 anything about this case or about the defendant's past actions,  
12 conduct, beliefs or associations, including anything you have  
13 read in newspapers, magazines or books, seen on television or  
14 heard on the radio?

15 MRS. SAUNDERS: No, I haven't. I haven't read anything  
16 about it.

17 I knew about it -- I mean heard about the case in  
18 '69.

19 I read during that time, but, you know, I --

20 THE COURT: You haven't read the book or seen the T.V.  
21 movie called Helter Skelter?

22 MRS. SAUNDERS: No, I haven't.

23 THE COURT: Have you seen anything in the news media in  
24 the last few months about this case or about the defendant?

25 MRS. SAUNDERS: No, I haven't.

26 THE COURT: Would you be able to put to one side  
27 whatever you might have read, seen or heard about this matter  
28 or about the defendant, and judge the defendant's guilt or

1 innocence solely on the evidence to be presented in this  
2 courtroom?

3 MRS. SAUNDERS: Yes.

4 THE COURT: And as a result of anything you might have  
5 read, seen or heard about this case or about the defendant,  
6 have you formed any opinion as to her guilt or innocence?

7 MRS. SAUNDERS: No, I haven't.

8 THE COURT: Would you allow yourself to be influenced  
9 by any publicity you might have read, seen or heard about  
10 this case or about the defendant?

11 MRS. SAUNDERS: No.

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1 THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in  
2 this matter, will you assure the court that you would be able  
3 to decide the case solely on the evidence to be presented in  
4 this courtroom?

5 MRS. SAUNDERS: Yes.

6 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

7 Now, Mrs. Settle, have you heard or do you know  
8 anything about this case or about the defendant's past actions,  
9 conduct, beliefs or associations, including anything you have  
10 read in the newspapers, magazines or books, seen on television  
11 or heard on the radio?

12 MRS. SETTLE: I heard about it, and I saw it on  
13 television; but I did not follow it that closely.

14 I didn't follow it at all, as a matter of fact.

15 And I read it in the newspapers once or twice; and  
16 that was about all.

17 I saw the movie on television, part of it, and that  
18 was it.

19 THE COURT: All right. When you say you have seen  
20 news accounts about the matter, you mean news accounts back  
21 in '69 and the early '70s?

22 MRS. SETTLE: Yes, then.

23 THE COURT: Have you seen any news accounts or news  
24 media reports in the last few months?

25 MRS. SETTLE: No, nothing.

26 THE COURT: And you saw, you say, part of the T.V. movie  
27 *Heitar Skeltar*?

28 MRS. SETTLE: Yes.

1 THE COURT: Do you recall about when it was that you saw  
2 that?

3 MRS. SETTLE: No; I can't even remember anything about  
4 the movie, to be honest about it.

5 THE COURT: Did you see that movie, say, in the last  
6 three months; or would it have been over a year ago?

7 MRS. SETTLE: I don't remember.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 As I am informed, the program was one that took  
10 two nights to show.

11 Did you see it both nights or just one?

12 MRS. SETTLE: No, just one night.

13 THE COURT: All right.

14 Do you recall whether you saw the first night or  
15 the last night of it?

16 MRS. SETTLE: I think it was the first night. I believe  
17 it was on a Sunday; I'm not sure.

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1 Now, would you be able to put to one side  
2 whatever you might have read, seen, or heard about this case  
3 and judge the defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the  
4 evidence to be produced in this trial?

5 MRS. SETTLE: Yes.

6 THE COURT: And as a result of anything you might have  
7 read, seen, or heard about this matter, have you formed  
8 any opinion as to the defendant's guilt or innocence?

9 MRS. SETTLE: No, I haven't.

10 THE COURT: Would you allow yourself to be influenced  
11 by any publicity you might have read, seen, or heard about  
12 this case or about the defendant?

13 MRS. SETTLE: No.

14 THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in this  
15 matter, can you assure the court that you will decide this  
16 matter solely on the evidence to be received in this case?

17 MRS. SETTLE: Yes.

18 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

19 Mr. Shah, have you heard --

20 Am I pronouncing your name correctly?

21 MR. SHAH: Shah, yes.

22 THE COURT: Shah, thank you.

23 Have you heard or do you know anything about this  
24 case or about defendant's past actions, conduct, beliefs or  
25 associations, including anything you might have read in the  
26 newspapers, magazines, or books, seen on television or heard  
27 on the radio?

28 MR. SHAH: No, sir.

1 THE COURT: And were you aware of any news media  
2 accounts of this matter back in 1969 and early '70's?

3 MR. SHAH: Not at all.

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 Were you living in Los Angeles County at that  
6 time?

7 MR. SHAH: Correct.

8 THE COURT: And have you read the book or seen the TV  
9 movie called Helter Skelter?

10 MR. SHAH: No.

11 THE COURT: Have you seen any news media accounts of  
12 this case or about the defendant in the last few months?

13 MR. SHAH: Not at all.

14 THE COURT: All right.

15 I take it, then, that you just haven't heard or  
16 seen any publicity about this matter; is that correct?

17 MR. SHAH: Yes.

18 THE COURT: So that you wouldn't have any problem  
19 putting aside whatever you might have read, seen, or heard  
20 in deciding the defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the  
21 evidence to be produced in this trial?

22 MR. SHAH: Uh-hum.

23 THE COURT: Is that yes?

24 MR. SHAH: Yes.

25 THE COURT: Now, as a result of anything you might have  
26 read, seen, or heard about this case or about the defendant,  
27 have you formed any opinion as to the defendant's guilt or  
28 innocence?

MR. SHAH: No, sir.

THE COURT: And would you allow yourself to be influenced by any publicity you might have read, seen, or heard about this case?

MR. SHAH: No, sir.

THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in this matter, can you assure the court that you will decide this case solely on the evidence to be received in this courtroom?

MR. SHAH: Yes.

THE COURT: All right, thank you.

Mr. Sinor: Is that correct?

MR. SINOR: Sinor, long I.

THE COURT: Mr. Sinor, have you heard or do you know anything about this case or about defendant's past actions, conduct, beliefs or associations, including anything you might have seen in the newspaper, magazines, or books, heard on television -- seen on television or heard on the radio?

MR. SINOR: I did not read the book, but I did see the last part of Helter Skelter on TV.

THE COURT: The TV program?

MR. SINOR: Yes.

THE COURT: And was that, say, within the last two to three months or was that over a year ago?

MR. SINOR: No. Better than a year ago.

THE COURT: All right.

You say you saw the first half?

MR. SINOR: Last half.

1 THE COURT: Last half?

2 MR. SINOR: I was working nights, midnight to 8:00 at  
3 that time, and I didn't see the whole movie, just the last  
4 part.

5 THE COURT: All right.

6 And were you aware of newspaper accounts and  
7 media reports in 1969 and early '70's?

8 MR. SINOR: No, sir, I did not keep up with them.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 You say you have not read the book?

11 MR. SINOR: No, I have not read the book.

12 THE COURT: You haven't read the book. All right.

13 Would you be able to put to one side whatever  
14 you might have read, seen, or heard about this matter and  
15 judge the defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the  
16 evidence to be introduced in this trial?

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1 MR. SINOR: Yes, sir.

2 THE COURT: And as a result of anything you might have  
3 read, seen, or heard about this matter or about the  
4 defendant, have you formed any opinion as to her guilt or  
5 innocence?

6 MR. SINOR: No.

7 THE COURT: And would you allow yourself to be  
8 influenced by any publicity you might have read, seen or  
9 heard about this case or about the defendant?

10 MR. SINOR: I really don't know, Your Honor. I have  
11 a personal feeling about that.

12 THE COURT: Well, let me ask you this --

13 MR. SINOR: Can I explain?

14 THE COURT: Well, let me ask you first, you think you  
15 might be influenced by something you have read, seen, or  
16 heard about this matter?

17 MR. SINOR: Not on the matter, no; but a personal  
18 feeling towards it due to hardships in my life, you know.

19 It could, yes, it could -- I would think -- in  
20 my mind.

21 THE COURT: What you are saying is that the publicity --

22 See, what we want to get to now is the matter  
23 of publicity.

24 MR. SINOR: Yeah.

25 THE COURT: When we get around to selecting the jury,  
26 after we've gone through the publicity part with everybody,  
27 we'll have the jurors come in, and there will be an inquiry  
28 into other matters; but what we want to focus on right now



1 is the matter of publicity.

2 And I'm sure you understand that it is important  
3 that each juror that sits on this case be ready to sit with  
4 an open mind and that what we don't want are people to sit  
5 on the jury who, because of publicity, have an opinion about  
6 the matter that is going to affect the outcome.

7 MR. SINOR: Publicity-wise, no, I could sit on the  
8 jury with no bias or opinions.

9 THE COURT: All right. In other words, you would have  
10 an open mind about the matter, and you could set to one side  
11 whatever you might have read, seen, or heard about the case?

12 MR. SINOR: Yes, right, about the case, yes.

13 THE COURT: Or about the defendant?

14 MR. SINOR: Right.

15 THE COURT: Now, is there some other way that publicity  
16 might affect you in this matter?

17 MR. SINOR: No, not publicity, no.

18 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

22A 19 Mrs. Smith, have you heard or do you know anything  
20 about this case or about defendant's actions, conduct,  
21 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
22 the newspapers, magazines, or books, or seen on television,  
23 or heard on the radio?

24 MRS. SMITH: Well, I read the newspaper in '69, and I  
25 watched the news.

26 THE COURT: All right.

27 Have you seen the TV movie called Helter Skelter  
28 or read the book by the same name?

1 MRS. SMITH: No.

2 THE COURT: Have you seen any news media accounts of  
3 this matter in the last few months?

4 MRS. SMITH: Just that the defendant was coming up for  
5 a retrial about three weeks ago.

6 THE COURT: All right.

7 Would you be able to put to one side whatever  
8 you might have read, seen, or heard about this matter and judge  
9 the defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence  
10 to be introduced at this trial?

11 MRS. SMITH: Yes, sir.

12 THE COURT: And as a result of anything you have read,  
13 seen, or heard about this matter or about the defendant,  
14 have you formed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of  
15 the defendant?

16 MRS. SMITH: No.

17 THE COURT: Would you allow yourself to be influenced  
18 by any publicity you might have read, seen or heard about  
19 this case or about the defendant?

20 MRS. SMITH: No, sir.

21 THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in  
22 this matter, can you assure the court that you would decide  
23 this case solely on the evidence to be received in this case?

24 MRS. SMITH: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

26 Mr. Swan, have you heard or do you know anything  
27 about this case or about defendant's past actions, conduct,  
28 beliefs or associations, including anything you might have

1 read in newspapers, magazines, or books, or seen on television  
2 or heard on the radio?

3 MR. SWAN: No, sir.

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 Were you aware of news media coverage in this  
6 matter in 1969 and in the early '70s?

7 MR. SWAN: No, sir.

8 THE COURT: Were you living in Los Angeles County at  
9 that time?

10 MR. SWAN: Yes, sir.

11 THE COURT: And have you seen any news media accounts  
12 of the matter at any time?

13 MR. SWAN: No, sir.

14 THE COURT: Did you read the book "Helter Skelter"?

15 MR. SWAN: No, sir.

16 THE COURT: And did you see the movie by the same name?  
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1 MR. SWAN: No, sir.

2 THE COURT: All right.

3 Have you ever heard the name before coming into  
4 court -- have you ever heard the name Charles Manson?

5 MR. SWAN: No more than in the newspaper.

6 THE COURT: You read that in the newspaper?

7 MR. SWAN: No, I just seen the headline of it. That's  
8 all.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 And did you ever hear that name in any TV or  
11 news reports of the matter?

12 MR. SWAN: No, sir.

13 THE COURT: All right.

14 Could you put to one side whatever you might have  
15 read, seen, or heard about this matter and judge the  
16 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
17 introduced in this trial?

18 MR. SWAN: Yes, sir.

19 THE COURT: And as a result of anything you have read,  
20 seen, or heard about this case or about the defendant, have  
21 you formed any opinion as to the guilt or innocence of the  
22 defendant?

23 MR. SWAN: No, sir.

24 THE COURT: And would you allow yourself to be  
25 influenced by any publicity you might have read, seen, or  
26 heard about this case or about the defendant?

27 MR. SWAN: Yes, sir.

28 THE COURT: You say you would allow --

1 MR. SWAN: No, sir.

2 THE COURT: Let me ask the question again here. We  
3 may have gotten mixed up.

4 Would you allow yourself to be influenced by  
5 any publicity you have read, seen, or heard about this case  
6 or about the defendant?

7 MR. SWAN: No, sir.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 Now, if you are chosen as a trial juror in this  
10 matter, can you assure the court that you would decide this  
11 case solely on the evidence to be received in this courtroom?

12 MR. SWAN: Yes, sir.

13 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

14 Mrs. Thrall, have you heard or do you know  
15 anything about this case or about defendant's past actions,  
16 conduct, beliefs or associations, including anything you  
17 have read in newspapers, magazines, or books, seen on  
18 television or heard on the radio?

19 MRS. THRALL: Yes, sir.

20 THE COURT: And when was that?

21 MRS. THRALL: At the time this problem first happened,  
22 we followed it very closely at home, and I would like to be  
23 excused from the case.

24 THE COURT: Well, let me ask you, since that time have  
25 you seen any news accounts of the matter?

26 MRS. THRALL: Yes. There was an article several weeks  
27 ago that Charles Manson may come up for parole in 1978, and  
28 we discussed that at home.

1 THE COURT: You saw a news account about something like  
2 that?

3 MRS. THRALL: Right.

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 And you understand that it is important that  
6 this case be decided on the evidence that is presented in  
7 the courtroom, don't you?

8 MRS. THRALL: Yes, I do.

9 THE COURT: Because newspaper accounts don't necessarily  
10 have -- there is not an opportunity for one side or the other  
11 to cross-examine or to challenge anything that is said in  
12 the newspaper.

13 So it is important that this case be decided  
14 solely on the evidence that is presented in this courtroom  
15 where both sides can hear the evidence, can cross-examine,  
16 and can present their side of the matter as to any issue or  
17 not, depending on what they want to do.

18 You understand that?

19 MRS. THRALL: I do.

20 THE COURT: All right.

21 Now, could you put to one side whatever you might  
22 have read, seen, or heard about this case and judge the  
23 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
24 produced in this trial?

25 MRS. THRALL: No, I couldn't, Your Honor.

26 THE COURT: All right.

27 What you are saying, then, is that you have  
28 formed an opinion as to the defendant's guilt or innocence

1 based on this publicity you have seen or heard?

2 MRS. THRALL: Not entirely. My son is a Los Angeles  
3 policeman.

4 THE COURT: Well, let me -- ma'am, what we want to do  
5 now, listen very carefully to these questions. We want to  
6 just ask concerning the publicity matter. We'll -- there  
7 will be an opportunity later on, as the jury is selected,  
8 to inquire into other matters. But right now, we just want  
9 to focus on publicity, and I want to find out what effect  
10 any publicity has had on you, if you can tell us, and to  
11 the best that you can.

12 Now let me ask you again: Just based on publicity,  
13 have you read, seen, or heard -- that you have read, seen,  
14 or heard -- have you formed any opinion as to the guilt or  
15 innocence of the defendant?

16 MRS. THRALL: Yes, I have.

17 THE COURT: All right.

18 Now, is this opinion you have such that it would  
19 require evidence by one side or the other to dispell this  
20 opinion?

21 MRS. THRALL: I don't think --  
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1 THE COURT: Well, let me put it this way:

2 You have no opinion concerning the defendant's  
3 guilt or innocence; is that correct?

4 MRS. TIRALL: That is correct.

5 THE COURT: All right. And in this opinion such that  
6 it would take some evidence to overcome your opinion?

7 MRS. TIRALL: I don't think any evidence is going to  
8 change my opinion.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 In other words, it would take a whole lot of evidence  
11 to change your opinion.

12 MRS. TIRALL: Yes, sir.

13 THE COURT: At best.

14 MRS. TIRALL: Yes, sir.

15 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

16 Is it Miss or Mrs. Titus?

17 MRS. TITUS: Mrs.

18 THE COURT: Mrs. Titus.

19 MRS. TITUS: Yes, sir.

20 THE COURT: Have you heard or do you know anything about  
21 this case or about the defendant's past actions, conduct,  
22 beliefs or associations, including anything you have read in  
23 the newspapers, magazines or books, seen on television or heard  
24 on the radio?

25 MRS. TITUS: Yes, I have heard about it.

26 THE COURT: And when was that?

27 MRS. TITUS: During the trial.

28

1 THE COURT: Back in '69 and early '70s?

2 MRS. TITUS: Right.

3 THE COURT: Have you seen any news accounts or news  
4 media reports of this matter in the last few months?

5 MRS. TITUS: No, I haven't.

6 THE COURT: Have you read the book "Helter Skelter"?

7 MRS. TITUS: No, I didn't.

8 THE COURT: Have you seen the T.V. movie Helter Skelter?

9 MRS. TITUS: No.

10 THE COURT: All right.

11 Could you put to one side whatever you might have  
12 read, seen or heard about this matter, and judge the  
13 defendant's guilt or innocence solely on the evidence to be  
14 introduced in this trial?

15 MRS. TITUS: Yes, I could.

16 THE COURT: And as a result of anything you might have  
17 read, seen or heard about this case or about the defendant,  
18 have you formed any opinion as to the defendant's guilt or  
19 innocence?

20 MRS. TITUS: No, I have not.

21 THE COURT: Would you allow yourself to be influenced by  
22 any publicity you might have read, seen or heard about this  
23 case or about the defendant?

24 MRS. TITUS: No.

25 THE COURT: And if you are chosen as a trial juror in  
26 this matter, can you assure the court that you will decide this  
27 case solely on the evidence to be received in this trial?

28 MRS. TITUS: Yes, I will.

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THE COURT: All right; thank you.

Will counsel approach the bench, please.

(The following proceedings were held  
at the bench:)

THE COURT: Is there any challenge for cause?

MR. BROWN: Mrs. Thrall.

THE COURT: Any objection?

MR. BROWN: No.

THE COURT: All right.

While we are at the bench, out of the three five  
gangs we got 62 that have passed out of 72. We are getting  
about seven out of every dozen.

It appears that we will have in the order of about,  
oh, 51 or '2, or something like that.

So what we have done, we have ordered a panel of  
50 for Monday afternoon at 1:30.

1 MR. KAY: Okay.

2 THE COURT: And we will --

3 MR. KEITH: Start all over again.

4 THE COURT: -- we will start on the hardship, and then  
5 go into --

6 MR. KAY: That sounds reasonable.

7 THE COURT: If we should end up with all 11 of these  
8 and all six, we might have to adjust our numbers a little bit;  
9 but I doubt it.

10 MR. KEITH: We are still going to need 50 because we have  
11 to have alternates.

12 MR. KAY: Yes, I think we will still need 50, and it  
13 will probably save time over the long run because I know a  
14 lot of the voir dire questions I ask, I might ask a long  
15 question the first time, and the next time would be, "Did  
16 you hear that question?"

17 THE COURT: Yes; we want them all in the courtroom.

18 So what I will do is excuse this juror, and have  
19 them come back tomorrow morning at 10:00 o'clock.

20 MR. KAY: Monday morning.

21 THE COURT: Excuse my Monday morning at 10:00 o'clock.

22 (The following proceedings were held in  
23 open court in the presence of the  
24 prospective jurors.)

25 THE COURT: All right.

26 Ladies and gentlemen, the following juror is  
27 excused from further service upon this case.

28 We appreciate your attendance upon the court in this

1 matter.

2 The juror excused is Mrs. Carolyn M. Thrall.

3 Mrs. Thrall, you are to report to the 5th floor

4 jury room.

5 All right. We are going to recess at this time  
6 until Monday morning.

7 The bailiff at this time will take you down to  
8 Department 106, and I will then admonish the group at that  
9 time.

10 The defendant and counsel are ordered to return  
11 Monday, April 4, 1977 at 10:00 a.m.

12 Have a good weekend, and we will see you then.

13 All right; thank you.

14 (Recess.)

15 (The following proceedings were held in  
16 Department 106 in the absence of the  
17 defendant and both counsel.)

18 THE COURT: Good afternoon, ladies and gentlemen.

19 At this time we are going to recess in this matter  
20 until Monday morning, April 4, 1977.

21 You are to return to this department, 106, at  
22 9:45 Monday morning.

23 Bear in mind during this recess, again, that you  
24 are not to discuss this matter amongst yourselves or with  
25 anyone else, and you are not to form any opinion concerning  
26 this matter or express any opinion concerning this matter  
27 until the case is finally given to you.

28 Furthermore, you must not allow yourself to

1 read, see or hear any publicity concerning this matter, any  
2 reports in the newspapers, magazines, books, television,  
3 radio or any other source.

4 Have a good weekend. We will see you Monday  
5 morning.

6 Thank you.

7 (At 4:12 p.m. an adjournment was taken  
8 until Monday, April 4, 1977 at 10:00 a.m.)  
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