

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT NO. 130

HON. EDWARD A. HINZ, JR., JUDGE

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9007

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
Plaintiff,

vs.

NO. A253156

LESLIE VAN HOUTEN,

Defendant.

REPORTERS' DAILY TRANSCRIPT

Wednesday, April 6, 1977

Volume 7

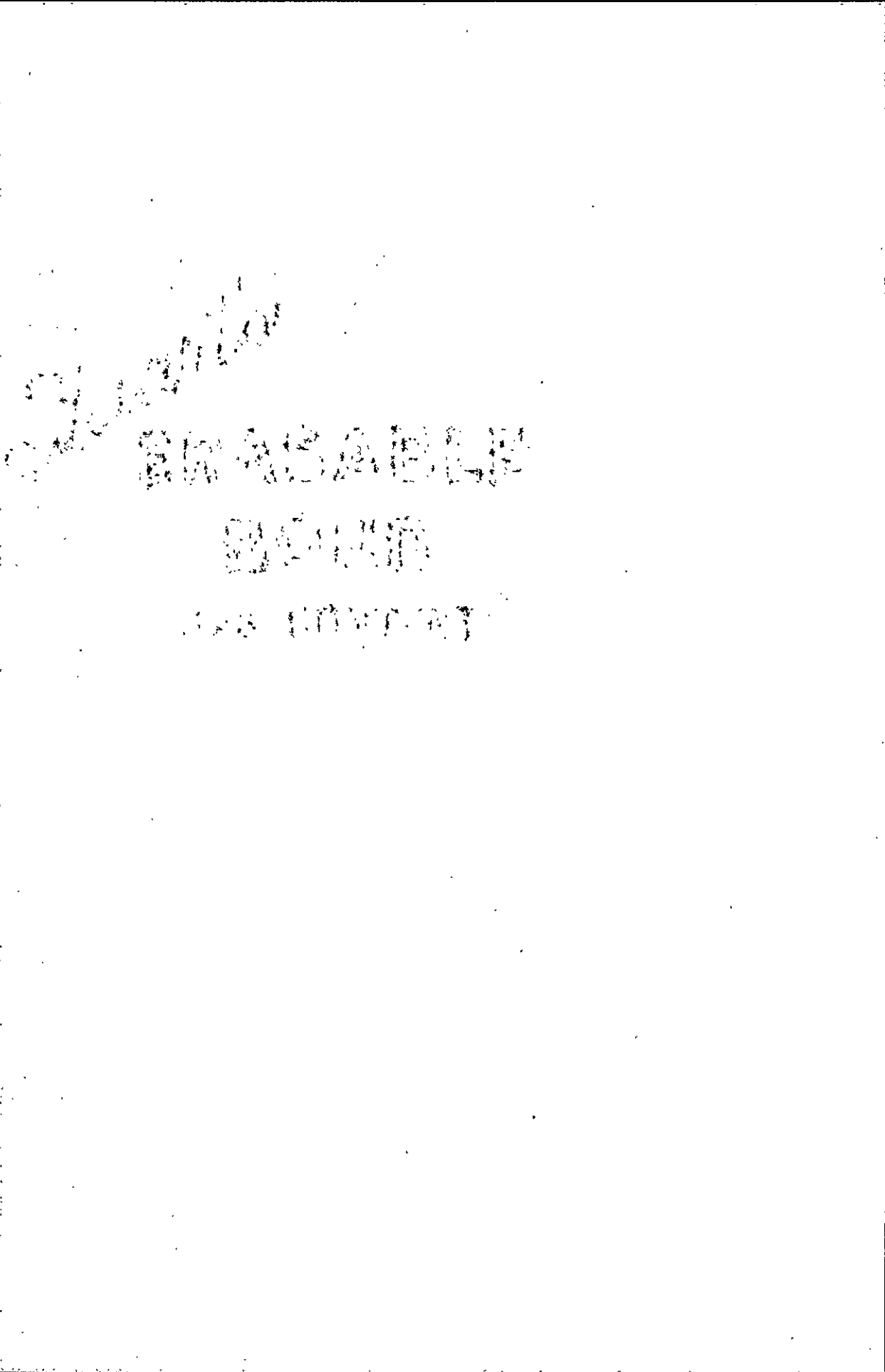
Pages 1001 to 1162, incl.

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, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1977, 10:27 A.M.

2 DEPARTMENT NO. 130

HON. EDWARD A. HINZ, JR., JUDGE

3 - * -

4 (appearances as heretofore noted.)

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

7 This is the case of 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 jury panel has been previously sworn.

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1 At this time would the clerk please call the first
2 12 into the jury box.

3 THE CLERK: John B. Bledsoe, B-l-e-d-s-o-e.

4 THE BAILIFF: Step this way, sir.

5 THE CLERK: Alphonso Miller, M-i-l-l-e-r.

6 Mrs. Belinda J. Reyes, R-e-y-e-s.

7 Mrs. Dorothy M. Holloway, H-o-l-l-o-w-a-y.

8 Mrs. Lois M. Adams, A-d-a-m-s.

9 George D. Heishman, H-e-i-s-h-m-a-n.

10 William A. Williams, W-i-l-l-i-a-m-s.

11 Ezel B. Waters, W-a-t-e-r-s.

12 James Swan, S-w-a-n.

13 Joni C. Titus, first name is J-o-n-i, middle
14 initial C., last name T-i-t-u-s.

15 Ramon D. Moreno, M-o-r-e-n-o.

16 Harold W. McKinley, M-c-capital K-i-n-l-e-y.

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1 THE COURT: All right.

2 Ladies and gentlemen, at this time I'm going to
3 question the prospective jurors who are seated in the jury box
4 concerning their qualifications to serve as jurors in this
5 case.

6 I want all members of the jury panel, not only
7 those 12 now seated in the jury box, but all the remainder of
8 the panel to listen carefully and pay close attention to the
9 questions; and you should indicate in your mind how your
10 answers might be to those questions.

11 If and when you are later called into the jury
12 box, it may not be necessary then for the Court to repeat
13 each and every question to each successive juror.

14 Now, ladies and gentlemen, in the trial of this
15 case each side is entitled to have a fair, unbiased and
16 unprejudiced jury.

17 If there is any fact or any reason why any of you
18 might be biased or prejudiced in any way, that is, either for
19 or against the defendant or for or against the People of the
20 State of California, you must disclose such reasons when you
21 are asked to do so. In fact, it is your duty to make this
22 disclosure.

23 Now, we have already examined all the jurors in
24 this courtroom on two issues. One relates to publicity; the
25 other relates to the hardship issue.

26 The Court does not propose to go into those
27 matters again.

28 I have previously stated the name of the case.

1 It's the People of the State of California versus
2 Leslie Van Houten.

3 Miss Van Houten has previously been introduced to
4 all of you.

5 Now, directing this to the 12 seated in the jury
6 box, is there any member of the jury panel who is acquainted
7 with the defendant, Leslie Van Houten? If so, would you raise
8 your hand.

9 (No response.)

10 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

11 We have already inquired about whether you had
12 heard her name and the matters of publicity.

13 Mr. Maxwell Keith, who represents Miss Van Houten,
14 has previously been introduced to all of you.

15 Is there any member of the jury panel who is
16 acquainted with or knows Mr. Keith prior to coming into court
17 on this matter? If so, raise your hand.

18 (No response.)

19 THE COURT: Thank you.

20 The People in this case are represented by
21 Mr. Stephen Kay, deputy district attorney. He has previously
22 been introduced to you.

23 Is there anyone who knows or is acquainted with
24 Mr. Kay prior to coming into court on this case? If so, would
25 you raise your hand.

26 (No response.)

27 THE COURT: Thank you.

28 Now, the court has read excerpts from the

Indictment in this matter.

As you recall, the Indictment is in three counts.

Count VI charges, in brief, the murder of
Leno LaBianca.

Count VII charges the murder of Rosemary LaBianca.
And Count VIII charges conspiracy to commit
murder.

As I previously stated to you, the defendant has
pleaded not guilty to each of these counts, and it will be
the question of her guilt or innocence of these charges that
you will be asked to decide, if you are selected as a trial
juror in this case.

1 Now, directing this to the 12 of you in the jury
2 box:

3 Having heard the charges which have been filed
4 against the defendant, is there any member of the jury panel
5 who feels that he cannot give this defendant a fair trial
6 solely because of the nature of the charges against her? If
7 so, would you raise your hand.

8 (No response.)

9 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

10 Now, during the course of this trial there will be
11 numerous witnesses called to testify; and at this time I am
12 going to read a list of the prospective witnesses.

13 I want to mention two things in regard to this
14 list: One, the fact that someone's name is read does not
15 necessarily mean that they are going to be a witness;
16 furthermore, there may be and will likely be some witnesses
17 called in this matter who are not on this list.

18 But I want to read this list of witnesses so
19 that at least as to these we can determine whether or not
20 any of you have heard of or are acquainted with these
21 witnesses.

22 All right; the list is as follows; this is the
23 tentative witness list:

24 Ruth Stivick.

25 John Fokianos.

26 Susan Struthers.

27 Joe Dorgan.

28 Officer William Rodriguez.

1 Sgt. Edward Cline.

2 Sgt. Danny Galindo.

3 Sgt. Gary L. Broada.

4 Sgt. Harold Dolan.

5 Dr. David Katayama.

6 Mr. Joseph Granada.

7 Harold Truc.

8 Linda Kasabian.

9 David Koenig.

10 Diane Lake.

11 Barbara Hoyt.

12 Paul Watkins.

13 Greg Jacobsen.

14 Sgt. Bill Gleason.

15 Deputy George Kipley.

16 David Stauber.

17 MR. KAY: That's "Stauber," it is pronounced.

18 THE COURT: "Stauber"?

19 MR. KAY: Yes.

20 THE COURT: How do you spell that?

21 MR. KAY: S-t-a-u-b-e-r.

22 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

23 Sgt. Phil Sartucha.

24 Col. Paul Tate.

25 Wilfred Parent.

26 Officer Jerry DeRosa.

27 Sgt. William Wisenhunt.

28 Dr. Thomas Noguchi.

1 Dr. Joel Fort.

2 Dr. Ronald Markman.

3 Sgt. Mike McGann.

4 Sgt. Mike Nielsen.

5 Dr. Joseph Boh, R-O-h.

6 All right. Now, asking the 12 presently seated
7 in the jury box, are there any of you that have heard of or
8 are acquainted with any of these witnesses? If so, would
9 you raise your hand.

10 MR. MILLER: I have heard of some of them.

11 THE COURT: All right. Let's please see your hands,
12 first.

13 Anybody else?

14 All right, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Neyer and Mr. Bledson.

15 And is it Miss or Mrs. Titus?

16 MRS. TITUS: Mrs.

17 THE COURT: Mrs. Titus.

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1 All right. First, Mr. Bledsoe, which of those
2 prospective witnesses have you heard of?

3 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, I've heard of Dr. Noguchi, is it?

4 THE COURT: Yes, Dr. Thomas Noguchi?

5 MR. BLEDSOE: Right. And also -- did you mention Linda
6 Kasabian?

7 THE COURT: Yes.

8 MR. BLEDSOE: Okay. I've heard also of that name.

9 THE COURT: Those two --

10 MR. BLEDSOE: Those two are the only two that I --

11 THE COURT: Those two?

12 MR. BLEDSOE: Right.

13 THE COURT: All right.

14 Now, let's take Dr. Thomas Noguchi first.

15 Are you personally acquainted with him?

16 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

17 THE COURT: Have you ever had occasion to talk to him?

18 MR. BLEDSOE: No, I have not.

19 THE COURT: All right. And in regard to Linda Kasabian,
20 are you personally acquainted with her?

21 MR. BLEDSOE: No, I am not.

22 THE COURT: Have you had an opportunity to talk to her?

23 MR. BLEDSOE: No, I have not.

24 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

25 Mr. Miller, which witnesses do you recognize?

26 MR. MILLER: Dr. Noguchi and several of the -- I think
27 you said Kasabian and Watkins or Watson.

28 THE COURT: Paul Watkins?

4-2
1 MR. MILLER: Watkins.

2 THE COURT: All right.

3 Now, in regard to Dr. Noguchi, or in regard to
4 each of these that you have just named, are you personally
5 acquainted with any of the three of them?

6 MR. MILLER: No.

7 THE COURT: And have you ever personally talked to any
8 of them?

9 MR. MILLER: No.

10 THE COURT: I take it, then, that you have just heard
11 their names; is that correct?

12 MR. MILLER: That's right.

13 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

14 Mrs. Reyes, which witnesses --

15 MRS. REYES: Linda Kasabian.

16 THE COURT: Is that the only one?

17 MRS. REYES: Yes, sir.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 Now, are you personally acquainted with her?

20 MRS. REYES: No, sir.

21 THE COURT: You have just heard her name, I take it?

22 MRS. REYES: Yes.

23 THE COURT: You have never talked with her?

24 MRS. REYES: No.

25 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

26 And Mrs. Titus?

27 MRS. TITUS: Yes. Linda Kasabian and Dr. Noguchi.

28 THE COURT: Are you personally acquainted with either

4-3
1 one of those two?

2 MRS. TITUS: Neither. Just heard.

3 THE COURT: And you have never talked to either one of
4 them?

5 MRS. TITUS: No.

6 THE COURT: You have just heard their names; is that
7 correct?

8 MRS. TITUS: Yes.

9 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

10 All right. Do any of the 12 of you have any belief
11 or feelings toward any of the parties, attorneys, or witnesses
12 that would make it impossible or difficult for you to act
13 fairly and impartially both as to the defendant and as to the
14 People; if so, would you raise your hand.

15 (No response.)

16 All right. Do any of you have any interest in the
17 outcome of this case; if so, would you raise your hand.

18 (No response.)

19 All right, thank you.

20 Now, at this time I would like to inquire as to
21 the 12 concerning prior jury service, first in regard to those
22 who have served at any time as a juror on a criminal case,
23 whether it be in the superior court, municipal court, justice
24 court, or federal court.

25 All right. Could I see the hands of any of those
26 of you who have previously served as a juror in a criminal case.

27 (Show of hands.)

28 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Miller and Mrs. Holloway,

1 Mr. Waters and Mr. Moreno, and Mr. McKinley.

2 Are there any others?

3 (No response.)

4 All right, thank you.

5 All right, Mr. Miller, how many criminal cases
6 have you served on as a juror?

7 MR. MILLER: Two, I think.

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1 THE COURT: And without --

2 Well, let me first ask you this: What was the
3 nature of the charges in the two cases?

4 MR. MILLER: One was on a murder case and another on a
5 rape case.

6 THE COURT: All right. And were those two cases held
7 in Los Angeles County?

8 MR. MILLER: Yes.

9 THE COURT: I take it they are both superior court cases?

10 MR. MILLER: Yes.

11 THE COURT: All right.

12 Without telling me the result of either of the
13 cases, was a jury able to arrive at a verdict in each of the
14 cases?

15 MR. MILLER: Yes.

16 THE COURT: All right.

17 Now, have you ever served as a juror in any other
18 criminal cases?

19 MR. MILLER: Not that I can remember, no.

20 THE COURT: And when did you serve on those two cases?

21 MR. MILLER: Around '70, I think; around the year 1970.

22 THE COURT: All right.

23 And have you ever previously served as a juror in
24 a civil case?

25 MR. MILLER: No.

26 THE COURT: All right.

27 Now, would you be able to put to one side whatever
28 you heard by way of testimony and whatever you heard by way of

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instructions in those two prior cases and decide this case solely on the evidence to be presented in this courtroom and the instructions the court will give you?

MR. MILLER: Yes.

THE COURT: Now, I notice that one of the cases you mentioned was a murder case.

MR. MILLER: Yes.

THE COURT: All right.

Now, I want to be sure that you are aware that you are not in any way to consider or compare this case with that one.

Do you understand?

MR. MILLER: True, yes.

THE COURT: And that you are to put that matter completely out of your mind insofar as the testimony is concerned and the instructions.

Do you understand that?

MR. MILLER: Right.

THE COURT: Can you do that for us?

MR. MILLER: Oh, yes.

THE COURT: All right, thank you.

Mrs. Holloway, how many criminal cases have you served on as a juror?

MRS. HOLLOWAY: There were two.

THE COURT: And what was the nature of the charges?

MRS. HOLLOWAY: Assault, both of them.

THE COURT: Were those in the superior court, municipal court --

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1 MRS. HOLLOWAY: In superior.

2 THE COURT: All right.

3 Without telling me the result, was the jury able
4 to arrive at a verdict in each of those cases?

5 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

6 THE COURT: All right.

7 Have you ever served as a juror in a civil case?

8 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

9 THE COURT: And how many civil cases?

10 MRS. HOLLOWAY: One.

11 THE COURT: And when was that?

12 MRS. HOLLOWAY: '73.

13 THE COURT: And what did that involve, in brief?

14 MRS. HOLLOWAY: It was an ex-policeman, and he had cut
15 his finger off, part of his finger, with a Black and Decker
16 power saw.

17 THE COURT: It was a lawsuit for personal injury; is
18 that correct?

19 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

4a
20 THE COURT: And was the jury able to arrive at a
21 conclusion in that case?

22 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

23 THE COURT: All right.

24 Now, do you understand the difference in the
25 burden of proof as between a civil and a criminal case?

26 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

27 THE COURT: Do you understand in a civil case the burden
28 is by a preponderance of the evidence, which means slightly

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1 THE COURT: And that is a much higher burden than by
2 a preponderance of the evidence.

3 Would you agree with that?

4 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

5 THE COURT: All right.

6 Now, for your benefit, as well as the other
7 jurors here, I want to at this time define the presumption
8 of innocence, reasonable doubt, and burden of proof that
9 applies in this and every criminal case.

10 "A defendant in a criminal action
11 is presumed to be innocent until the contrary
12 is proved, and in case of a reasonable doubt
13 whether his guilt is satisfactorily shown, he
14 is entitled to an acquittal. This presumption
15 places upon the state the burden of proving
16 him guilty beyond a reasonable doubt.

17 "Reasonable doubt is defined as
18 follows: It is not a mere possible doubt;
19 because everything relating to human affairs,
20 and depending on moral evidence, is open to
21 some possible or imaginary doubt. It is that
22 state of the case which, after the entire
23 comparison and consideration of all the
24 evidence, leaves the minds of the jurors in
25 that condition that they cannot say they feel
26 an abiding conviction to a moral certainty of
27 the truth of the charge."

28 Now, Mrs. Holloway, will you be able to follow

1 that instruction in this case?

2 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes, I will.

3 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

4 Now, would you be able to put completely to one
5 side the testimony and instructions you received in the two
6 prior criminal cases and the one prior civil case you sat on
7 and decide this case solely on the evidence to be presented
8 in this courtroom and the instructions the court will give
9 you?

10 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

11 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

12 Mr. Waters, how many criminal cases have you
13 served on?

14 MR. WATERS: One, Your Honor.

15 THE COURT: And what was the nature of the charges?

16 MR. WATERS: Two charges, oral copulation and rape.

17 THE COURT: And without telling me the result, was the
18 jury able to arrive at a verdict in this case?

19 MR. WATERS: On one.

20 THE COURT: On one count?

21 MR. WATERS: Yes.

22 THE COURT: On one count and not on the other; is that
23 correct?

24 MR. WATERS: Yes.

25 THE COURT: When did you sit on that case?

26 MR. WATERS: I think it was about '73, about three years
27 ago.

28 THE COURT: Was that in the Los Angeles Superior Court?

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MR. WATERS: Yes.

THE COURT: Have you ever served as a juror in a civil case?

MR. WATERS: Yes.

THE COURT: And how many civil cases?

MR. WATERS: One.

THE COURT: And what did that case involve, in brief?

MR. WATERS: An accident.

1 THE COURT: Automobile accident?

2 MR. WATERS: Automobile accident with a bicycle.

3 THE COURT: Was the jury able to resolve that matter?

4 MR. WATERS: It was settled before we went into court.

5 THE COURT: It was what?

6 MR. WATERS: It was settled.

7 THE COURT: It was settled before the jury retired to
8 deliberate?

9 MR. WATERS: Yes, Your Honor.

10 THE COURT: All right.

11 Have you ever served as a juror in any other
12 cases?

13 MR. WATERS: No.

14 THE COURT: All right.

15 Do you understand the difference in the burden of
16 proof as between a civil and a criminal case?

17 MR. WATERS: Yes.

18 THE COURT: And do you also understand that in a
19 criminal case, unlike a civil case, all 12 jurors must agree
20 before the jury may return a verdict?

21 Do you understand that?

22 MR. WATERS: Yes.

23 THE COURT: All right.

24 Now, would you be able to put to one side all the
25 testimony and instructions you received in the prior criminal
26 and civil cases that you sat on as a juror --

27 MR. WATERS: Yes.

28 THE COURT: -- and decide this case solely on the

4-13
1 evidence to be presented in this court and the instructions
2 the court will give you?

3 MR. WATERS: Yes.

4 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

5 Mr. Moreno, how many criminal cases have you
6 served on?

7 MR. MORENO: One.

8 THE COURT: And what was the nature of the charges?

9 MR. MORENO: Kidnapping, robbery.

10 THE COURT: And without telling me the result, was the
11 jury able to arrive at a verdict in that case?

12 MR. MORENO: Yes.

13 THE COURT: Approximately when did you sit on that case?

14 MR. MORENO: 1972.

15 THE COURT: And was that in the Los Angeles Superior
16 Court?

17 MR. MORENO: Yes, it was.

18 THE COURT: Have you ever sat as a juror on any civil
19 cases?

20 MR. MORENO: Yes, I have.

21 THE COURT: And how many civil cases?

22 MR. MORENO: Three cases. They were both settled before
23 the jury had to deliberate on them.

24 THE COURT: In other words, you were chosen as a juror
25 in three civil cases?

26 MR. MORENO: Yes.

27 THE COURT: Is that correct?

28 MR. MORENO: Yes.

1 THE COURT: But before any of those three were given to
2 the jury to decide the matters were settled; is that correct?

3 MR. MORENO: Correct.

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 Now, would you be able to put --

6 Well, let me ask you this: Do you understand the
7 difference in the burden of proof as between a civil and a
8 criminal case?

9 MR. MORENO: Yes, I do.

10 THE COURT: And you further understand that in a
11 criminal case all 12 jurors must agree before the jury may
12 return a verdict?

13 MR. MORENO: Right, yes.

14 THE COURT: Now, would you be able to put to one side
15 all the evidence and instructions you received in the prior
16 criminal case and the prior three civil cases and decide this
17 case solely on the evidence to be presented in this courtroom
18 and the instructions the court would give you?

19 MR. MORENO: Yes.

20 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

21 Mr. McKinley, how many criminal cases have you sat
22 on as a juror?

23 MR. MC KINLEY: One.

24 THE COURT: And what was the nature of the charge?

25 MR. MC KINLEY: Well, it was a holdup with a gun.

26 THE COURT: All right.

27 And without telling me the result, was the jury
28 able to arrive at a verdict?

1 MR. MC KINLEY: Yes.

2 THE COURT: And when did you sit on this case?

3 MR. MC KINLEY: It was '71, I think, about that time.

4 THE COURT: That was in the Los Angeles Superior Court?

5 MR. MC KINLEY: It was in Pasadena.

6 THE COURT: All right.

7 And have you ever sat as a juror on a civil case?

8 MR. MC KINLEY: No.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 Now, would you be able to put completely to one
11 side the testimony and instructions you received in that
12 prior criminal case and decide this case solely on the evidence
13 to be presented in this courtroom and the instructions the
14 court would give you?

15 MR. MC KINLEY: Yes.

16 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

17 Now, is there anyone I've overlooked who has served
18 as a juror in a criminal case?

19 Mr. Waters?

20 MR. WATERS: Yes. There was another criminal case I was
21 on. It was solicitation.

22 THE COURT: All right.

23 MR. WATERS: That slipped my mind.

24 THE COURT: When was that?

25 MR. WATERS: That was at the same time, '73.

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1 THE COURT: Was that in the Superior or Municipal Court?

2 MR. HENDERS: The Superior.

3 THE COURT: Now, without telling me the result in regard
4 to that case, was the jury able to arrive at a verdict?

5 MR. WATERS: Yes.

6 THE COURT: All right.

7 Now, would you be able to put to one side whatever
8 testimony and instructions you heard in that prior case, and
9 decide this case solely on the evidence to be presented in
10 this courtroom and the instructions the court would give you?

11 MR. WATERS: Yes.

12 THE COURT: Is there anyone who has served on a criminal
13 case that I have not spoken to?

14 (No response.)

15 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

16 Now I would like to see the hands of any of you
17 seated in the jury box who have previously served on a
18 civil case but never on a criminal case.

19 Is there anyone that falls into that category?

20 Mr. Williams?

21 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

22 THE COURT: And Mrs. Titus.

23 I believe I already talked to you, haven't I?

24 MRS. TITUS: No, not on this matter.

25 THE COURT: Oh, I haven't. I see.

26 Is there anyone else who has served on a civil
27 jury and never on a criminal case?

28 (No response.)

1 THE COURT: All right.

2 Mr. Williams, how many civil cases have you sat
3 on as a juror?

4 MR. WILLIAMS: Two, Your Honor.

5 THE COURT: What were the nature of those two cases?

6 MR. WILLIAMS: It was minor traffic offenses, along this
7 line, in '73.

8 THE COURT: You say "minor traffic offenses"?

9 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

10 THE COURT: Was someone charged with a violation of
11 the Vehicle Code?

12 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

13 And also there was bodily -- not bodily injury,
14 but financial amounts being asked from one party to the other.

15 THE COURT: So these were civil cases for money due to
16 traffic accidents.

17 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

18 THE COURT: I see.

19 Do you understand the difference in the burden of
20 proof as between a civil and a criminal case?

21 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

22 THE COURT: And would you be able to put completely to
23 one side the testimony and instructions you received in those
24 prior civil cases, and decide this case solely on the evidence
25 to be presented in this courtroom and the instructions the
26 court would give you?

27 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

28 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

1 Mrs. Titus, how many civil cases have you served
2 on?

3 MRS. TITUS: Two.

4 THE COURT: What were the nature of those cases?

5 MRS. TITUS: One was an eminent domain, and the other
6 one -- having to do with property, too.

7 THE COURT: Now, was the jury able to arrive at a
8 conclusion as to each of those cases?

9 MRS. TITUS: Yes.

10 THE COURT: And when did you serve on those cases?

11 MRS. TITUS: About '72, I think, '73.

12 THE COURT: All right.

13 Now, do you understand the difference of burden of
14 proof as between a civil and a criminal case?

15 MRS. TITUS: Yes, I do.

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1 THE COURT: Could you put to one side whatever you heard
2 by way of testimony and instructions in those prior civil
3 cases, and decide this case solely on the evidence to be
4 presented in this courtroom and the instructions the court
5 would give you?

6 MRS. TITUS: Yes, I can.

7 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

8 Is there anyone in the jury box who has served
9 on a case as a juror that I have not talked to?

10 (No response.)

11 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

12 Now, ladies and gentlemen, the fact that a
13 defendant is in court for trial or that charges have been
14 filed against her is no evidence whatsoever of her guilt.

15 The jurors are to consider only the evidence
16 properly received in this courtroom in determining the
17 guilt or innocence of the defendant.

18 As I have stated the defendant has been arraigned
19 on the three counts and has entered a plea of not guilty, which
20 is a complete denial, making it necessary for the People,
21 acting through the District Attorney, to prove beyond a
22 reasonable doubt the case against the defendant.

23 Until and unless this is done the presumption of
24 innocence applies.

25 Now I want to direct the following question to the
26 12 of you seated in the jury box; and that relates to this:

27 Have any of you or any member of your family or
28 any close friends, to your knowledge, ever been arrested for

1 or charged with offenses similar to those in this case? If
2 no, could I see your hands.

3 (No response.)

4 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

5 Have any of you or any member of your family
6 or any close friends, to your knowledge, ever been a complaining
7 witness or a victim of a crime similar to those alleged in
8 this case?

9 (No response.)

10 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

11 Now I want to inquire about any connection you
12 might have with law enforcement.

13 And by "law enforcement" I mean not only Sheriff
14 Offices, Police Departments, but also district attorney's
15 offices, attorney general's offices, highway patrol or any
16 federal law enforcement agency.

17 Have any of you or any member of your family or
18 any close friends to your knowledge had any law enforcement
19 training or experience or been a member or employed by any
20 law enforcement agency? If so, could I see your hands, please.

21 (Show of hands.)
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1 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Moreno.

2 Is there anyone else?

3 (Show of hands.)

4 MR. BLEDSOE: I have a question.

5 THE COURT: And Mr. Bledsoe.

6 All right, Mr. Bledsoe, what is the nature of the
7 connection with law enforcement?

8 MR. BLEDSOE: I had a question. When you say "family
9 members," is that immediate family or, say, uncles and --

10 THE COURT: Well, that would include uncles. Any
11 relative.

12 MR. BLEDSOE: Okay.

13 Yes; I have two relatives who are policemen.

14 THE COURT: By whom are they employed?

15 MR. BLEDSOE: Los Angeles.

16 THE COURT: And what relation are they to you?

17 MR. BLEDSOE: One is a cousin and the other is an uncle.

18 THE COURT: Now, in regard to the cousin, how often do
19 you see him?

20 MR. BLEDSOE: Once every six months, maybe.

21 THE COURT: And how often do you see your uncle that's
22 in law enforcement?

23 MR. BLEDSOE: Probably less. Maybe --

24 THE COURT: Do you ever discuss the nature of their work
25 with them?

26 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes, somewhat.

27 THE COURT: All right.

28 And you would say that the average that you would

1 see them each would be about twice a year; is that correct?

2 MR. BLEDSOE: Possibly.

3 THE COURT: Now, would you be able to listen to the
4 testimony of a police officer or any other law enforcement
5 officer, and judge his credibility by the same standard that
6 you would use as to any other witness?

7 MR. BLEDSOE: (Pause.) Yes, I believe so.

8 THE COURT: All right. Now, you understand that it is
9 important that all witnesses be judged by the same standard,
10 and that's the reason for the question.

11 Now, do you have any doubt about whether you could
12 do that?

13 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

14 THE COURT: Would you have any difficulty or would you
15 be embarrassed in returning a verdict either for or against
16 the side which called a police officer as a witness?

17 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

18 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

19 Let me ask one additional question concerning that:
20 Would you be able to put completely to one side
21 the fact that you have a cousin and uncle that are with a
22 police department, and decide this case solely on the evidence
23 to be presented in this courtroom and the instructions the
24 court would give you?

25 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes.

26 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

27 Mr. Moreno, what is your connection with law
28 enforcement?

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1 MR. MORENO: My brother is a police officer in Orange
2 County.

3 THE COURT: And how often do you see him?

4 MR. MORENO: About once a year.

5 THE COURT: And do you discuss the nature of his work
6 with him?

7 MR. MORENO: No.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 Would you be able to listen to the testimony of
10 a police officer or any other law enforcement officer, and
11 judge his credibility by the same standard that you would use
12 as to any other witness?

13 MR. MORENO: Yes.
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1 THE COURT: Would you find it difficult or suffer any
2 embarrassment in returning a verdict either for or against
3 the side that called a police officer as a witness?

4 MR. MORENO: I have no embarrassment.

5 THE COURT: I beg your pardon?

6 MR. MORENO: Yes, I could -- Yes, I would.

7 THE COURT: That would not cause you any embarrassment?

8 MR. MORENO: No, I would not.

9 THE COURT: Would you be able to put completely to one
10 side the fact that your brother is with law enforcement, and
11 assure the court that you could decide this case solely on
12 the evidence to be presented in this courtroom and the
13 instructions the court would give you?

14 MR. MORENO: I could.

15 THE COURT: Thank you.

16 Is there anyone I overlooked on the matter of
17 law enforcement?

18 (No response.)

19 THE COURT: All right.

20 It may appear that one or more of the parties,
21 attorneys or witnesses come from a particular national,
22 racial or religious group.

23 Would this in any way affect your judgment or the
24 weight or credibility you would give to their testimony? If so,
25 would you raise your hand.

26 (No response.)

27 THE COURT: Thank you.

28 Now, it's important that I have the jury's

1 assurance concerning following the court's instructions.
2 As I'm sure you are all aware, the jurors are really judges
3 of the facts.

4 And it's your duty to pass on the credibility of
5 the witnesses and to find the facts as you see them in regard
6 to the definitions of the offenses and various other matters
7 that you will be instructed on.

8 That is your responsibility, and that is your
9 duty, and no one will do that for you.

10 Under our system, the court must instruct you
11 in the law that applies to this case; and the court at the
12 conclusion of the case will instruct the jury in the law that
13 applies insofar as the definition of the crimes are concerned,
14 the instructions regarding credibility of witnesses and other
15 matters relating to this case.

16 And it is important that I have your assurance
17 that you will follow the court's instructions whether you
18 personally agree with those instructions of law or not.

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1 Now, would any of you have any difficulty in doing
2 that?

3 (No response.)

4 THE COURT: If so, would you raise your hand.

5 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes, sir.

6 THE COURT: Mr. Bledsoe?

7 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes.

8 There may very well be with me some problems
9 related to the law and a religious perspective.

10 You know, I have to toy with that or work --
11 consider that question.

12 THE COURT: All right.

13 Well, let me ask you this: Are you saying that
14 you would have difficulty in following the court's instructions
15 in regard to certain legal matters?

16 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, I'm saying that when it came to
17 those matters that may very well conflict with my own
18 religious belief, then I would certainly have to wrestle with
19 those kinds of things.

20 THE COURT: Well, in other words, you are indicating,
21 and I don't want to put words in your mouth, and correct me
22 if I'm wrong, but you seem to be indicating that there could
23 be circumstances under which you would have difficulty following
24 the court's instructions due to other religious matters; is
25 that correct?

26 MR. BLEDSOE: That is possible, yes.

27 THE COURT: All right. Will counsel approach the bench,
28 please.

1 Could we have the court reporter.

2 (The following proceedings were held
3 at the bench:)

4 THE COURT: Do counsel want to stipulate in regard to
5 this juror?

6 MR. KEITH: No, Your Honor, I'd like to inquire further --

7 THE COURT: All right.

8 MR. KEITH: -- what he has in mind.

9 THE COURT: All right, I'll inquire, then.

10 MR. KAY: I'd like to make a request of the court at a
11 convenient time. I have to go to the bathroom. You know, I
12 could quit in a few minutes or something.

13 MR. KEITH: Any time he wants to go to the bathroom --

14 THE COURT: Do you want me to finish with him?

15 MR. KAY: Sure, yes.

16 THE COURT: Okay, all right.

17 (The following proceedings were held
18 in open court:)

19 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Bledsoe, can you indicate to
20 the court what areas of the law that might be a problem.

21 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, I don't know if I can be specific
22 about it, but I would think that, you know, if it was a matter
23 in which I was caused to make a decision about a particular
24 law matter, it might be in conflict with a religious belief.

25 If, for example, I was instructed on some point
26 of law that conflicted.

27 THE COURT: Well, do you have any idea what that might
28 be?

6-3
1 MR. BLEDSOE: No, I don't have any idea at this point.

2 THE COURT: Have you previously served as a juror?

3 MR. BLEDSOE: No, I have not.

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 Do you foresee any problem in regard to the
6 definition of murder?

7 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

8 THE COURT: Would this relate to any definition of any
9 crime?

10 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes, I believe so.

11 THE COURT: Can you give me an example?

12 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, in terms of a crime, but certainly
13 whether or not it is murder or whatever, it would be an act
14 committed, you know, against another individual or another
15 person. And I just feel that possibly, in having certain
16 religious perspectives, once I had to make a decision about
17 the guilt or innocence of an individual there might be some
18 problems in terms of a conflict between what the law's
19 definition would be as opposed to what my religious perspective
20 would be.

21 THE COURT: Well, in regard --

22 Well, let me ask you this: In regard to the
23 presumption of innocence and burden of proof which the court
24 has read to you, do you have any religious problem with that?

25 MR. BLEDSOE: No, I do not.

26 THE COURT: The court has read excerpts from the
27 indictment in this case which relates to two counts of murder
28 and one count of conspiracy to commit murder.

1 Are any of those alleged crimes such that it
2 would cause you problems in regard to your religious beliefs?

3 MR. BLEDSOE: Not in making a decision based on the
4 evidence alone, on the evidence that would be presented. I
5 don't feel that I would have any problems in that respect.

6 I would think that there may very well be a
7 greater problem if it came to a certain type of sentencing.

8 This kind of thing.
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1 THE DEFENDANT: Your Honor? Your Honor, he's thinking
2 of the --

3 MR. KEITH: Your Honor, may we approach the bench?

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

5 (The following proceedings were held
6 at the bench:)

7 MR. KEITH: He thinks this is a death penalty case.

8 THE COURT: Yes, I think so, too.

9 Well, I'm going to straighten him out on that.

10 MR. KAY: You can say the court --

11 MR. KEITH: That's what Leslie was --

12 MR. KAY: -- has struck down the death penalty. There
13 is no death penalty law any more.

14 THE COURT: As to this case, yes, all right.

15 (The following proceedings were held
16 in open court:)

17 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Bledsoe, the jury will be
18 instructed in this case that they are not to consider the
19 matter of punishment or penalty in regard to this case and
20 in arriving at a verdict.

21 Would you have any problem following that
22 instruction?

23 MR. BLEDSOE: No, I would not.

24 THE COURT: All right. And do you further understand
25 that in regard to this case, and I think this may be something
26 that was bothering you, does it have to do with whether or
27 not the death penalty is in issue in this case?

28 MR. BLEDSOE: I think there is certainly an overtone of

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this in this case.

THE COURT: Let me disabuse you of that. In regard to this case, the death penalty is not possible. The maximum sentence imposed under law in this case does not include the death penalty.

The death penalty was found unconstitutional, and unless and until a new statute is enacted, that is not a penalty in the State of California in regard to the crimes alleged in this case or any other case. And if the statute is reenacted, it would apply only to crimes committed after the date of the new statute.

So knowing that, would you have any problems in regard to religious matters and the court's instructions?

MR. BLEDSOE: I don't -- I can't think of any at this point, no.

THE COURT: In other words, your concern related to punishment; is that correct?

MR. BLEDSOE: Well, I think that was some of my concern. Certainly that was one of the key things that I was concerned about.

THE COURT: Well, you understand there is no death penalty possibility in this case, don't you?

MR. BLEDSOE: Yes, I do.

THE COURT: All right.

Now, do you still have any other questions in your mind about religious problems in regard to instructions?

MR. BLEDSOE: Not at this point, no.

THE COURT: All right, thank you.

1 Now, in regard to any of the other jurors, are
2 there any problems concerning that?

3 (No response.)

4 All right. Do I have the assurance of each of
5 the 12 jurors now seated in the jury box that they will follow
6 the instructions as the court gives them to the jurors, whether
7 they personally agree with the instructions or not? Do I
8 have your assurance; if not, would you raise your hand.

9 (No response.)

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1 I think you all understand that the court has to
2 instruct you on the law, whether the court personally agrees
3 with the law or not; and if any of us, judges, jurors, or
4 anyone else, doesn't agree with the law, the place to change
5 it is in the Legislature and not in the courtroom. And the
6 system that we have requires the court to instruct you on the
7 law that applies, and it requires that each juror follow the
8 law as you are instructed.

9 All right. At this time the court is going to
10 take a brief recess until 20 minutes past the hour.

11 Each of the jurors are again reminded not to
12 discuss this case amongst yourselves or with anyone else,
13 not to form any opinion concerning this matter or express any
14 opinion concerning this matter until the case is finally given
15 to you.

16 In addition, it would be inappropriate for any of
17 you to read, hear, or in any way consider any publicity in
18 the news media about this matter.

19 All right. The court will be in recess until
20 11:20. All jurors, defendant, and counsel are ordered to
21 return at that time.

22 Court is in recess.

23 (Recess taken.)
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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 12 prospective jurors are in the jury box, the remainder
5 of the panel is in the audience section of the courtroom.

6 What I would like to start now with each juror
7 is to ask certain personal data.

8 The items are listed on the chart on the board.

9 So I would like to start with you first,

10 Mr. Bledsoe.

11 Would you state each of the items there as set
12 forth.

13 MR. BLEDSOE: My name is John B. Bledsoe.

14 My date of birth is February 9, 1943.

15 I live in Pasadena.

16 I am presently separated.

17 I have three children, ages 9, 8 and 4.

18 My present occupation: I'm an employment counselor
19 with the State of California.

20 THE COURT: All right. What was your wife's occupation,
21 if it was outside the home?

22 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, she worked occasionally as a Headstart
23 preschool instructor.

24 THE COURT: Thank you.

25 Mr. Miller, would you please give us the personal
26 data.

27 MR. MILLER: My name is Alphonso J. Miller.

28 My date of birth: December 9, 1926.

7-2

1 I live in the University area.

2 I'm married.

3 I have four children, ages 21, 22, 24, 26.

4 My occupation is laboratory technician and an
5 autopsy assistant.

6 My wife's occupation is -- she is a supervisor at
7 the Exceptional Children Foundation.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 What is the name of your employer?

10 MR. MILLER: The Federal Government and the Memorial
11 Hospital of Southern California.

12 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

13 Mrs. Reyes, please.

14 MRS. REYES: My name is Belinda J. Reyes.

15 I was born on August 23, 1952.

16 I live in Alhambra.

17 I am married; no children.

18 I am a housewife and a student.

19 THE COURT: Thank you.

20 What is your husband's occupation?

21 MRS. REYES: Oh; my husband works for an architectural
22 firm as an architectural draftsman.

23 THE COURT: Thank you.

24 Mrs. Holloway, please.

25 MRS. HOLLOWAY: My name is Dorothy Holloway.

26 My date of birth is 2-28-38.

27 The area of residence is Inglewood.

28 I am divorced.

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I have two sons, 19 and 16.

My occupation: I am a superintendent of station operations for the U.S. Postal Service.

THE COURT: And what was your husband's occupation?

MRS. HOLLOWAY: Automotive assembler.

THE COURT: All right, thank you.

Mrs. Adams, please.

MRS. ADAMS: My name is Lois M. Adams.

My date of birth is January 3rd, 1936.

I live in the City of El Segundo.

I am married.

I have two daughters, ages 19 and 20.

And my husband works for Chevron Oil.

And I do secretarial work at United Airlines.

7-4
1 THE COURT: Fine; thank you.

2 Mr. Heishman, please.

3 MR. HEISHMAN: Yes; George D. Heishman.

4 October 13, 1930.

5 I live in the Palms area, West L.A.

6 I'm single.

7 Occupation: Mail carrier U.S. Postal Service.

8 THE COURT: Thank you.

9 And Mr. Williams.

10 MR. WILLIAMS: My name is William A. Williams.

11 Date of birth, 9-3-38.

12 I live at 1704 --

13 THE COURT: No; I don't need your address. I just want
14 to know the area of residence.

15 MR. WILLIAMS: Los Angeles.

16 THE COURT: What part of Los Angeles?

17 MR. WILLIAMS: Huntington Park.

18 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

19 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay.

20 I am single at the time.

21 No children.

22 Occupation: A County employee, mechanical
23 department.

24 THE COURT: All right.

25 Have you previously been married?

26 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

27 THE COURT: All right. What was your wife's occupation?

28 MR. WILLIAMS: At the time it was housewife.

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THE COURT: All right; thank you.

Mr. Waters, please.

MR. WATERS: My name is Esel B. Waters.

Date of birth: August 19th, '40.

I live in the Carson area.

I am married.

My wife is presently unemployed. She did work as an electronic assembler.

I have one child, age 7.

My occupation is a waterworks mechanic for the City of Los Angeles.

THE COURT: All right.

What was your date of birth, please?

MR. WATERS: August 19, '40; August the 19th, 1940.

THE COURT: All right; thank you.

Mr. Swan, please.

MR. SWAN: My name is James Swan.

Date of birth: August 17th, 1922.

I am married.

I have five children, four boys and one girl.

30, 28, 26 and 19.

And my occupation is a laborer for the City of Los Angeles.

My wife is a beautician.

THE COURT: All right; thank you.

Mrs. Titus, please.

MRS. TITUS: Joni C. Titus.

12-21-38.

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Pico-Crenshaw area.

Married; no children.

U.S. Postal Service, clerk since.

My husband is self-employed as a trucker.

THE COURT: Thank you.

Mr. Moreno, please.

MR. MORENO: Reason John Moreno.

October 7, 1934.

City of Monterey Park.

Single; no children.

Electronics technician, 22 years.

THE COURT: And by whom are you employed?

MR. MORENO: Pacific telephone.

THE COURT: All right; thank you.

And Mr. McKinley, please.

MR. MCKINLEY: Harold W. McKinley.

July 1st, 1908.

I live in Pasadena.

I am married.

Two daughters, 38 and 40.

Retired.

And my wife is a housewife.

THE COURT: And what was your employment before you retired?

MR. MCKINLEY: I worked for the City of Pasadena, city schools.

THE COURT: All right; thank you.

Now I want to direct this question to all 12 of

1 you seated in the jury box.

2 Do any of you know of any reason or has anything
3 occurred to you during this period of questioning or at any
4 time that might make you doubtful about whether you could be
5 completely fair and impartial in this case? If so, would you
6 raise your hand.

7 (Show of hands.)

8 THE COURT: Mr. McKinley.

9 MR. MCKINLEY: Well, I just feel that I do have my
10 doubts because I have a pretty set opinion on this.

11 I didn't think I did before, but the more I think
12 about it -- I just don't think I could be fair enough on it.

1 THE COURT: All right.

2 Is that based on what you have seen, read or
3 heard about this matter before coming into court?

4 MR. MCKINLEY: Yes.

5 THE COURT: All right.

6 You previously were questioned concerning that
7 matter.

8 MR. MCKINLEY: That's right.

9 THE COURT: Now apparently you are indicating that you
10 have a different --

11 MR. MCKINLEY: I have had -- I just thought about it
12 more, and I just feel that way now. I have a pretty strong
13 opinion about it.

14 THE COURT: Are you saying based on what you have read,
15 seen or heard about this matter, that you have formed an
16 opinion as to the defendant's guilt or innocence?

17 MR. MCKINLEY: Yes, sir.

18 THE COURT: All right.

19 Is that opinion such that it would take testimony
20 in order to overcome the opinion you have?

21 MR. MCKINLEY: Yes, it would.

22 THE COURT: All right; thank you.

23 Has anything occurred to any of the others of you
24 that might cause you to have any doubts about whether you
25 could be completely fair and impartial in this case?

26 Does anyone have any reason why they should not
27 sit on this case, based on anything we have covered or anything
28 that's occurred to you?

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(No response.)

THE COURT: All right, thank you.

Will counsel approach the bench, please.

3-1
1 (The following proceedings were held
2 at the bench:)

3 THE COURT: All right. Will counsel stipulate in regard
4 to Mr. McKinley?

5 MR. KEITH: Yes, Your Honor.

6 MR. KAY: So stipulated.

7 THE COURT: All right, thank you.

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

10 THE COURT: All right, Mr. Harold W. McKinley, you are
11 excused from further service upon this case. The court wants
12 to thank you for your attendance.

13 You are to report to the fifth floor jury room.

14 Thank you.

15 All right. Will the clerk please call the next
16 juror into Seat No. 12.

17 THE CLERK: Evelyn M. Manning, M-a-n-n-i-n-g.

18 THE BAILIFF: Just take the seat that was vacated by
19 Mr. McKinley.

20 THE COURT: All right, is it Miss or Mrs.?

21 MRS. MANNING: Mrs.

22 THE COURT: Mrs. Manning, did you hear the questions that
23 I just asked the panel?

24 MRS. MANNING: Yes, sir.

25 THE COURT: And if I were to ask you those same questions,
26 would your answers be substantially the same?

27 MRS. MANNING: Yes.

28 THE COURT: All right.

1 Can you think of any reason why you couldn't be
2 fair and impartial as to both the defendant and the
3 prosecution in this case?

4 MRS. MANNING: No.

5 THE COURT: All right.

6 Would you please give us your personal data as
7 set forth on the board, please.

8 MRS. MANNING: Evelyn Manning. My date of birth is
9 April 24, 1920. I live in Sunland. I'm married. I have two
10 sons, 25 and 20. I'm an accountant for a hospital. My husband
11 has his own business, tire service and sales.

12 THE COURT: All right. Have you previously served as a
13 juror?

14 MRS. MANNING: No, sir.

15 THE COURT: Do you have any close relationship with law
16 enforcement, as I previously stated?

17 MRS. MANNING: No.

18 THE COURT: Have you ever been arrested for or charged
19 with an offense similar to those in this case?

20 MRS. MANNING: No.

21 THE COURT: Have you ever been a witness to or a victim
22 of any crime similar to those charged in this case?

23 MRS. MANNING: No, sir.

24 THE COURT: All right.

25 As you sit there now, can you think of any reason
26 why you couldn't be fair and impartial as to both sides in
27 this matter?

28 MRS. MANNING: No, sir.

THE COURT: All right, thank you.

Mr. Keith, you may inquire of the panel for cause.

MR. KEITH: Thank you, Your Honor.

Ladies and gentlemen of the prospective jury, I am going to ask you a few questions about some of your beliefs and attitudes and some of your experiences that are being asked not to be prying but to try and determine, as best we can, your state of mind towards sitting on a jury in this case and being fair and impartial and open-minded over and above the questions that we asked you in the past few days regarding your exposure to publicity.

I'll start with Mr. Bledsoe.

Let's see, Mr. Bledsoe, you knew the names of Dr. Noguchi and Linda Kasabian by reason of the publicity -- is that correct? -- not because of any casual acquaintance with either of those individuals.

Is that correct?

MR. BLEDSOE: That is correct.

MR. KEITH: Now, do you have any friends in law enforcement other than your cousin and uncle?

MR. BLEDSOE: Not that I'm aware of.

MR. KEITH: And by law enforcement, I'm including deputy district attorneys, attorneys general, with all due respect to His Honor.

Do you have any -- I take it you don't know or consider yourself as close friends with any persons who are prosecutors?

MR. BLEDSOE: Well, not close friends. But in the type

1 of work that I've done with the state, of course, I've had
2 connections with the courts, and I've formed certain connections
3 with persons who were connected with probation or law
4 enforcement.

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1 MR. KEITH: You are an employment counselor for the
2 State of California.

3 Could you tell us something about what you do.

4 MR. BLEDSOE: Mainly employment counseling has to do
5 with trying to assist persons who are unemployed or who are
6 thinking to make a vocational change or adjustment within that
7 employment to come up with the right data, the right infor-
8 mation, the right input to make a reasonable decision.

9 MR. KEITH: Do you work mostly with young people?

10 MR. BLEDSOE: No, work with all ages. But --

11 MR. KEITH: Do you -- Excuse me, I didn't mean to
12 interrupt you.

13 MR. BLEDSOE: With all age groups and all persons who
14 are seeking employment.

15 However, there are times when it is necessary to
16 try and deal with certain matters that would probably affect
17 that person in a negative way if they went on a job or prior
18 to getting employment.

19 MR. KEITH: I take it you probably encounter persons
20 seeking employment who have had previous encounters with the
21 law and perhaps have been incarcerated.

22 MR. BLEDSOE: That is correct.

23 MR. KEITH: And you also, in seeking jobs for such
24 people, contact law enforcement agencies to determine more
25 about these people and their skills and their attitudes and
26 their employability.

27 MR. BLEDSOE: That's correct.

28 And prior to that assignment, I was also involved

1 with assisting those individuals to try and resolve some of
2 the small legal matters in reference to problems that they had.

3 MR. KEITH: There may well be an issue in this case
4 involving the taking the drugs.

5 You probably deal with people who have had drug
6 problems in the past.

7 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes.

8 MR. KEITH: Would that be a fair statement?

9 In the event the evidence showed that Miss Van
10 Houten had taken drugs in her lifetime, would that in some
11 way militate against you giving her a fair trial?

12 I'm not saying that the issue of drugs may not be
13 significant and not entitled to be considered; I'm just saying
14 ipso facto simply because drugs may well be involved, would
15 that so prejudice you against her that you would find it
16 difficult to resolve the other issues that may be presented
17 in the case fairly?

18 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, I don't think the fact that drugs
19 might enter into the case would affect me.

20 You know, I have certain feelings about drugs and
21 their uses, my own personal feelings.

22 MR. KEITH: Has any relative or member of your family
23 or close friend, other than the people with whom you deal on
24 a day-to-day basis as a result of your particular employment,
25 been involved with the abuse of drugs?

26 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes.

27 MR. KEITH: Did you understand the distinction I made?

28 You did tell me, and it is almost obvious, that in

1 seeking employment for people many of them probably have had
2 drug problems.

3 What I'm getting at, has somebody close to you
4 had a drug problem?

5 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, I've had cousins and relatives who
6 have had problems with drugs, yes.

7 MR. KEITH: Have you made any particular study of the
8 use and abuse of drugs such as LSD, speed, marijuana, heroin?

9 MR. BLEDSOE: No. Only as a passing reference in
10 classes.

11 MR. KEITH: Do you also in your work deal with psychia-
12 trists or psychologists?

13 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes.

14 MR. KEITH: It is very possible, if not probable, that
15 there will be numerous psychiatrists and perhaps some
16 psychologists testifying in this case.

17 Would that fact standing alone make it difficult
18 for you to be fair with Leslie as a result of your exposure
19 to psychiatrists and psychologists in the past and in the
20 present pursuant to your employment?

21 MR. BLEDSOE: I don't believe so.

22 MR. KEITH: What I'm getting at is this: Do you feel
23 that the art or science of psychiatry is something that is
24 needed in this world, or do you feel that psychiatrists are
25 by and large charlatans, or do you feel that they profess to
26 know more than they really do, or that the human mind isn't
27 subject to psychiatric analysis?

28 In other words, are you turned off by psychiatrists?

1 That's the simple way to do it.

2 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, I'm not turned on by them.

3 (Laughter.)

4 MR. KEITH: Would you be inclined not to give the
5 testimony of a psychiatrist the weight that it might otherwise
6 deserve because you are not turned on by the psychiatrists
7 that you have encountered?

8 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, I feel that I would consider their
9 testimony with the same weight as anybody else's.

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1 MR. KEITH: I'm not trying to tell you that the
2 testimony of a psychiatrist and the reasons for his opinion
3 and the opinion he gives is the gospel, mind you.

4 I'm simply asking if because you apparently are
5 rather indifferent towards psychiatrists you would tend to
6 disbelieve their opinions and the reasons given therefor,
7 even though their opinion might in actual fact be very sound?

8 Do you understand what I am getting at?

9 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes.

10 MR. KEITH: All right; can you answer that question.

11 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, no, I don't think that I would play
12 down the opinion of the testimony of a psychiatrist just because
13 of, you know, certain exposure to them before.

14 MR. KEITH: Incidentally -- let me ask you this -- I
15 am getting back to the subject of drugs.

16 Do you think the use and abuse of drugs are a good
17 thing or bad thing, or it depends on the individual?

18 MR. BLEDSOE: I think it's bad.

19 MR. KEITH: I'm talking about illegally obtained drugs.
20 I'm not talking about prescription drugs.

21 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, some of those are bad, too.

22 MR. KEITH: Well, I'm assuming that when you obtain a
23 drug on a prescription from a doctor and you use the
24 prescription according to the doctor's instructions or
25 directions, that -- at least I'm assuming this -- that has a
26 benevolent effect.

27 I'm talking about contraband, by and large.

28 MR. BLEDSOE: I would generally --

1 MR. KEITH: You can go --

2 MR. BLEDSOE: -- feel that drug abuse in any form would
3 be bad.

4 MR. KEITH: If the evidence in this case showed that
5 Leslie abused the use of certain drugs, would that -- I'm
6 going to use your -- would that militate against your being
7 fair to her?

8 In other words, would that prejudice you against
9 her?

10 I'm not trying to suggest that the abuse of drugs
11 would not be an issue in this case and to disregard it.

12 I'm saying, would you be so prejudiced against her
13 that you would be unable to consider the part, maybe, that
14 the abuse of drugs played in Leslie's life?

15 Do you understand what I am getting at? I'm doing
16 the best I can.

17 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes.

18 Now I can say no, you know. At the time, if that
19 comes about, then, I suppose I would have to deal with certain
20 feelings at that point.

21 Right now I don't see it as being a problem.

22 MR. KEITH: All right.

23 Have you ever encountered in your professional
24 capacity as an employment counselor persons who have abused
25 LSD, acid?

26 MR. BLEDSOE: Not that I can recall, no.

27 MR. KEITH: Have you or any -- I will change the subject --
28 or any members of your family or close friends been a witness

1 to a serious crime?

2 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

3 MR. KEITH: You told His Honor that neither you nor
4 members of your family had been a witness or the victim of
5 a serious crime.

6 I forgot whether he asked about friends. If he
7 did, you will have to excuse me; I didn't --

8 MR. BLEDSOE: No friends that I can recall.

9 MR. KEITH: All right.

10 And in connection with the people you deal with
11 in law enforcement, has that -- which is a part of your
12 occupational duties, I presume, your exposure to police
13 officers and probation officers -- has that put you in a
14 frame of mind that, oh, you might have your judgment affected
15 in some manner towards Miss Van Noutan?
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1 I don't know quite how to put it to get across
2 what I mean; but you may be so law-and-order oriented, as
3 far as I know, that everybody is guilty regardless of the
4 facts.

5 I don't want anybody to be in that kind of a
6 state of mind, of course. That's what I am getting at.

7 MR. BLEDSOE: I don't feel that I am in that state of
8 mind.

9 MR. KEITH: All right.

10 Have you ever studied or been exposed to certain,
11 oh, I suppose you could possibly call them religious
12 movements, such as Hare Krishna, Reverend Moon, scientology,
13 that kind of thing?

14 MR. BLEDSOE: None of those.

15 MR. KEITH: Or any kind of religious beliefs where
16 thought control was exercised.

17 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, not thought control in the sense
18 that --

19 MR. KEITH: I don't want -- I really don't want to
20 inquire into your religious beliefs and convictions. I think
21 that's highly improper, and I don't mean to.

22 I simply want to find out whether you made any
23 kind of study or have been exposed to groups or organizations
24 that seem to espouse a form of thought control, like Hare Krishna.

25 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

26 MR. KEITH: Have you heard of those --

27 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes, I have.

28 MR. KEITH: But you have made no particular study of

1 their methodology or their beliefs?

2 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

3 MR. KEITH: The evidence in this case will no doubt
4 show that Miss Van Houten for awhile, a period of perhaps
5 two years, at the most, led a hippie style of life. Her
6 life style was what most of us term being a hippie.

7 Would that in and of itself affect your judgment
8 against her?

9 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, I have a little problem when you
10 use the term "hippie," somewhat of a definitional problem.

11 I have a certain definition in my own mind and --

12 MR. KEITH: Well, your definition is probably more
13 accurate than mine. You can use your own definition.

14 But she led a bizarre life style. I think the
15 evidence will show that.

16 My question is, would her life style alone
17 prejudice you against her so you'd be unable or find it
18 difficult to give her a fair trial?

19 MR. BLEDSOE: I don't feel that it would.

20 MR. KEITH: Now, in the event you are selected as a
21 trial juror, you may be exposed to some rather gruesome
22 photographs.

23 Would that, and that alone, so prejudice you
24 against Miss Van Houten that you would be unable to consider
25 fairly the other issues in the past?

26 I don't necessarily say that photographs don't
27 have significance or may have significance in certain respects --
28 I am saying -- and should not be considered by you.

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What I am saying is, would the photographs alone
so prejudice you against her that you would be unable to
consider the other issues presented in the case?

MR. BLEDSOE: No, not the photographs alone.

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1 MR. KEITH: Now, the evidence in this case will
2 undoubtedly show that Miss Van Houten was involved with
3 Charlie Manson.

4 Would that fact, and that fact alone, without
5 considering any other facts in the case, so prejudice you
6 against her that you couldn't give her a fair trial?

7 In other words, are you going to say anybody
8 associated with Manson is as guilty as sin and forget it --

9 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

10 MR. KEITH: -- guilty.

11 You are not going to feel that way, are you?

12 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

13 MR. KEITH: Do you promise me that simply because there
14 may have been association with Manson you won't take that
15 fact, and that fact alone, and decide the case and not consider
16 all the evidence?

17 You wouldn't do that, would you?

18 MR. BLEDSOE: No, not that fact alone.

19 MR. KEITH: I'm not suggesting again that her association
20 with Manson is not relative. We've got to draw a distinction.

21 What I am suggesting is if that association is
22 shown, you will just forget about the other facets and issues
23 in the case and say, "Guilty."

24 You won't do that, will you?

25 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

26 MR. KEITH: On that subject, will you promise me that
27 you will maintain your individual opinion throughout this
28 case, if you are selected as a trial juror, right on into the

1 jury room during deliberations, and you won't change your
2 mind about the facts and the legal issues and apply those
3 facts simply because you are in the minority and the majority
4 may be against you?

5 We are entitled to the individual opinion of each
6 juror, Mr. Bledsoe, through thick and thin, unless you are
7 shown by reason and logic through discussions with other
8 jurors that the opinion you once held was erroneous; then, of
9 course, you should change it.

10 But are you simply going to change your mind through
11 whim, caprice, arbitrariness, or the pressures of other
12 jurors who may have a different opinion?

13 MR. BLEDSOE: I don't feel that I would.

14 MR. KEITH: You can promise me you will maintain your
15 open mind throughout the case right on through the defense
16 and won't close your mind at the end of the prosecution's
17 case?

18 MR. BLEDSOE: Well, I can say that I would hope not to.

19 MR. KEITH: In other words --

20 MR. BLEDSOE: To ask a promise of that is kind of
21 reaching.

22 MR. KEITH: Well, we are entitled to a juror with an
23 open mind and that doesn't make up his mind about the case
24 until the time for deliberations occurs. And that occurs
25 after all the evidence has been presented and both sides have
26 rested and after the attorneys have argued the case and after
27 you have been instructed in the law by His Honor.

28 Then you go back and you decide the case.

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What I'm asking you is can you keep an open mind
until the time comes to decide the case. Then you make up
your mind.

MR. BLEDSOE: Sure.

CHAS. ELLER
D. O. B. 11
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10-4

1 MR. KEITH: I don't think the question I originally
2 put was too artful. The second one is clearer, I think.

3 And once you get back in the jury room, would you
4 promise me that you could maintain your individual opinion
5 through thick and thin, unless your opinion is shown to be
6 erroneous as a result of the reasonable and logical discussions
7 on the law and the facts with the other jurors?

8 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes.

9 MR. KEITH: Okay.

10 THE COURT: Would this be a convenient time to recess,
11 Mr. Keith?

12 MR. KEITH: It is fine. I didn't realize it was noon.

13 THE COURT: All right.

14 Ladies and gentlemen, at this time we are going
15 to recess in this matter until 1:30. All jurors, those 12
16 seated in the box and the rest of you on the panel, at 1:30
17 are to report to the courtroom 106 on the ninth floor.

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

23 Furthermore, it would be inappropriate for any
24 of you to read, see, or hear any news media accounts of this
25 matter.

26 Let me further admonish you that you may, out in
27 the hallway or around the court building, see the attorneys
28 involved in this case, the judge, or other people.

1 We are not going to stop and talk to you, because
2 we don't want to create any impression that we are discussing
3 this case with you.

4 So do not think the attorneys are unfriendly or
5 anyone else just because we don't stop and chat. We want to
6 do our best to not even create the semblance of the issue that
7 we are talking to you about the case.

8 You must not talk to anybody about this case,
9 about what is going on in the courtroom, or anything that
10 occurs in the case until you are discharged in the matter.
11 And then, as I said, you can talk to anybody you want to or
12 you don't have to.

13 But while the case is in progress, up until the
14 time you retire to deliberate, you must not engage in any
15 conversations concerning this case or form any opinion
16 concerning it.

17 All right. Have a nice lunch hour. We'll see you
18 at 1:30, all jurors, in Room 106.

19 Counsel and defendant are ordered to be back at
20 1:30.

21 Court is in recess.

22 (At 12:05 p.m., a recess was taken
23 until 1:30 p.m. of the same day.)
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1 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 1977, 1:50 P.M.
2 DEPARTMENT NO. 130 HON. EDWARD A. HINEZ, JR., JUDGE

3 " " "

4 (Appearances as heretofore noted.)

5
6 THE COURT: People versus Van Houten.

7 Let the record show the defendant is present,
8 represented by counsel, the People are represented by counsel,
9 the prospective jurors are present.

10 You may resume, Mr. Keith.

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1 MR. KEITH: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 Well, I'm almost through with you, Mr. Bledsoe.

3 Mr. Bledsoe, in the event you entertained a
4 reasonable doubt as to the guilt of Miss Van Houten, would
5 you have any hesitation in bringing in that verdict, if that
6 was the decision of your conscience and your heart and your
7 reason, for any reason whatsoever, such as fear of embarrassment
8 in the community or maybe even fear of Manson or fear of --
9 or any situation that might make it difficult for you to bring
10 back a verdict that you thought was right and just.

11 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

12 MR. KEITH: Do you have any quarrel whatsoever,
13 Mr. Bledsoe, with the principles of law that have so far
14 been enunciated by the court, such as presumption of innocence,
15 proof beyond a reasonable doubt, and that the prosecution does
16 have the burden of proof?

17 Do you have any quarrel with those principles?

18 MR. BLEDSOE: None.

19 MR. KEITH: In the event you were to be instructed as
20 to a doctrine of diminished responsibility for a crime -- and
21 I won't go into it right now; that's up to the court to
22 instruct you on -- but in the event such an instruction was
23 given to you as the law, would you have any quarrel with such
24 an instruction? And it's diminished responsibility or
25 capacity by reason of mental illness, mental defect, trauma
26 or otherwise.

27 Could you follow such an instruction?

28 MR. BLEDSOE: I think so. I don't feel that --

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1 MR. KEITZ: I'm not purporting to instruct you now as
2 to the law that will be given you by His Honor, but in the
3 event such an instruction were proffered by the court, and
4 I'm paraphrasing it very generally, that someone could be
5 less responsible for committing an offense than they otherwise
6 would be because of mental illness, would you be willing to
7 follow such an instruction?

8 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes.

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1 MR. KEITH: Then apply it to the facts of the case?

2 MR. BLEDSOE: (No response.)

3 MR. KEITH: You would be willing to do that?

4 MR. BLEDSOE: Yes, I think so.

5 MR. KEITH: Is there anything, Mr. Bledsoe, that you
6 might share with us concerning your ability to be fair, open-
7 minded and impartial towards Leslie Van Houten that hasn't
8 been touched upon?

9 We can't spend hours -- I have spent long enough
10 as it is -- hours probing into the depths of your mind and
11 probing into your background and experience.

12 But is there anything you can think of as you sit
13 there now that might make it difficult for you to be fair
14 to Miss Van Houten and to follow the law as given to you from
15 the bench and to listen to the facts and evaluate them
16 dispassionately?

17 MR. BLEDSOE: No.

18 I don't think at this point there is anything I
19 could say that I feel would influence me to be unfair to
20 Miss Van Houten.

21 I do question sometimes my own shallowness in
22 terms of view in certain kinds of --

23 MR. KEITH: Conduct?

24 MR. BLEDSOE: -- matters, conduct, if you will, feelings
25 with reference to certain behavior.

26 And I think this is something that possibly each
27 individual has to weigh, no matter what.

28 MR. KEITH: When you say -- when you use the word

1 "shallowness," could you expatiate on that somewhat. I'm not
2 quite sure what you mean. I'm not --

3 MR. BLEDSOE: As I have attempted to share with you
4 honestly, you know, there are times where I feel that there
5 is just so much to deal with.

6 And various kinds of things may influence an
7 individual at one point, and at some later point may not
8 influence the individual the same way.

9 MR. KEITH: I appreciate that. I think I understand
10 what you mean.

11 You don't know, and I can't tell you, all the
12 facets of this case because it isn't the appropriate time.
13 You will get that from the witness stand.

14 I can give you some indication, as I have been
15 doing, in order to obtain an indication from you as to your
16 feeling about those subjects.

17 And I'm sure some things will influence you more
18 than others, and you can't prognosticate now.

19 So I understand that. I appreciate your candor.

20 Would you be kind enough to pass the microphone
21 to Mr. Miller, please.

22 Mr. Miller, you don't have any relatives or members
23 of your family in law enforcement; but are you close friends
24 with anybody involved in law enforcement?

25 MR. MILLER: Not that I know of.

26 MR. KEITH: Have any friends of yours ever been the
27 victims or witnesses to a serious crime?

28 MR. MILLER: Not that I know of.

1 MR. KEITH: And you work as an autopsy technician, I
2 believe.

3 MR. MILLER: (Nods head affirmatively.)

4 MR. KEITH: Do you know Dr. Noguchi? You probably know
5 of him.

6 MR. MILLER: I know of him, but I don't know him
7 personally.

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1 MR. KEITH: All right.

2 And do you know Dr. Katsuyama?

3 MR. MILLER: No, I don't know him.

4 MR. KEITH: Or of him?

5 MR. MILLER: No, I don't think so.

6 MR. KEITH: Well, he's a medical examiner --

7 MR. MILLER: Sure.

8 MR. KEITH: -- for the County of Los Angeles, as I'm
9 sure you are aware.

10 MR. KAY: Not now. It's San Diego.

11 MR. KEITH: Well, all right, San Diego County.

12 MR. KAY: Years ago he was.

13 MR. KEITH: Time has passed. It's flown.

14 Thank you.

15 Bearing in mind, though, there will undoubtedly
16 be autopsy surgeons testifying in this case and having in
17 mind your knowledge, presumably, of autopsies, would that in
18 any way affect you?

19 MR. MILLER: No.

20 MR. KEITH: I wouldn't think so.

21 MR. MILLER: I don't think so.

22 MR. KEITH: It might make it more interesting, I don't
23 know.

24 MR. MILLER: I don't think so.

25 MR. KEITH: Have you or any members of your family or
26 close friends ever dealt with psychiatrists on a doctor-patient
27 relationship?

28 MR. MILLER: Dealt with psychiatrists?

1 MR. KEITH: Yes.

2 MR. MILLER: I have a friend who is a psychiatric
3 technician. I don't -- we don't talk work, but he is a
4 psych technician.

5 MR. KEITH: Do you know any psychiatrists other than a
6 psychiatric technician?

7 MR. MILLER: By name, yes.

8 MR. KEITH: With --

9 MR. MILLER: Only in my work.

10 MR. KEITH: Yes, I understand.

11 With what hospital are you affiliated? I'm sorry
12 I missed that.

13 MR. MILLER: The Veterans Hospital in West Los Angeles.

14 MR. KEITH: Do you know a Dr. Keith Dittman, or know of
15 him?

16 MR. MILLER: Dittman?

17 MR. KEITH: Yes.

18 MR. MILLER: I don't think so. The name does sound
19 familiar, but I don't know him.

20 MR. KEITH: In the event Dr. Dittman testifies in this
21 case, and it turns out that he did at one time, I believe he
22 did, I'm not so sure of this, have some affiliation with the
23 Veterans Administration Hospital as a psychiatrist, would that
24 bother you any?

25 MR. MILLER: No.

26 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that the art of psychiatry -- I
27 believe it is an art -- has a place in the sun?

28 MR. MILLER: It has its place, I believe, yes.

14-3

1 MR. KEITH: What I'm getting at is, as I asked
2 Mr. Bledsoe, in the event psychiatrists do testify in behalf
3 of Miss Van Houten, are you going to tend to disregard their
4 opinions and their reasons therefor because you yourself are
5 either indifferent to or dislike psychiatry in general?

6 MR. MILLER: Well, I don't dislike it, and by the same
7 token I don't --

8 I'm neutral as to --

9 MR. KEITH: You have never made any particular study?

10 MR. MILLER: No particular evaluation of the -- no.

11 MR. KEITH: Will you be able to listen to psychiatric
12 testimony --

13 MR. MILLER: Sure.

14 MR. KEITH: -- and give it the weight you feel it deserves --

15 MR. MILLER: Sure.

16 MR. KEITH: -- and not close your mind to it?

17 MR. MILLER: Definitely.

18 MR. KEITH: Would you be able to do that?

19 MR. MILLER: Sure.

20 MR. KEITH: In your occupation, have you ever had any
21 exposure to persons who have used or abused drugs?

22 MR. MILLER: Yes.

23 MR. KEITH: And is this in the course of the autopsies
24 you assist in?

25 MR. MILLER: Yes.

26 MR. KEITH: And you are familiar with toxicological
27 reports that accompany autopsies?

28 MR. MILLER: Yes.

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MR. KEITH: And I take it you are familiar that --

Let me put it this way: On occasion I presume the toxicological report will come back affirmative for the presence of drugs in the system?

MR. MILLER: Yes.

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1 MR. KEITH: Have you performed autopsies on persons
2 who have overdosed --

3 MR. MILLER: Yes.

4 MR. KEITH: -- and died as a result?

5 MR. MILLER: Yes.

6 MR. KEITH: And I take it you have a dim view, as most
7 of us do, of the abuse of drugs, or haven't you given that
8 any particular --

9 MR. MILLER: No, I haven't.

10 MR. KEITH: -- attention?

11 Okay. In the event the evidence indicates that
12 Miss Van Houten had been at one time an abuser of drugs,
13 primarily acid; LSD --

14 Have you heard of LSD, by the way?

15 MR. MILLER: Yes.

16 MR. KEITH: -- would you simply disregard the other
17 issues present in the case and say, "Oh, she's a drug user,
18 to heck with her --"

19 MR. MILLER: Not at all, no.

20 MR. KEITH: "--- thumbs down"?

21 MR. MILLER: No.

22 MR. KEITH: And in the event the evidence shows she
23 maintained for a period of, oh, approximately two years, a
24 year and a half, a rather bizarre life style, might be
25 determined a hippie life style, would you hold that against
26 her to the point where you would disregard other evidence
27 and thumbs down?

28 MR. MILLER: No.

1 MR. KEITH: Have you ever been acquainted with or made
2 any study of or had any exposure to certain religious -- I
3 don't know whether you would really call it religious or not --
4 but certain beliefs espoused by the Hare Krishna people or
5 Reverend Moon or scientology or other sects that espouse a
6 certain form of thought control?

7 MR. MILLER: No.

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1 MR. KEITH: Do you know anybody that has been involved
2 in those type of activities?

3 MR. MILLER: Not to my knowing.

4 MR. KEITH: I presume you heard the questions I was
5 asking Mr. Bledsoe.

6 Did any of those questions bring to mind something
7 that you think you ought to share with the court and counsel
8 in this case that we haven't touched upon?

9 MR. MILLER: No. I thought you were quite thorough and --

10 MR. KEITH: For instance, if you are selected as a trial
11 juror --

12 Well, you are the last person to ask the question
13 I was going to ask. I was going to ask you about -- if you
14 saw some gruesome pictures, would that affect you.

15 In your business that wouldn't bother you in the
16 slightest.

17 MR. MILLER: No.

18 (Laughter.)

19 MR. KEITH: Do you think you will be able to keep an
20 open mind, if you are selected as a trial juror, throughout
21 the entire presentation of the evidence, including the defense
22 evidence?

23 MR. MILLER: Sure.

24 MR. KEITH: And not just listen to the prosecution's
25 case and then forget about the rest of it.

26 MR. MILLER: I think I could.

27 MR. KEITH: You wouldn't do that, would you?

28 MR. MILLER: No, I wouldn't.

1 MR. KEITH: And do you think you would be able to keep
2 and maintain your individual opinion once the case is turned
3 over to you for decision?

4 MR. MILLER: Sure.

5 MR. KEITH: You wouldn't change your mind simply because
6 a majority of the jurors may be against you?

7 MR. MILLER: I don't think I would.

8 MR. KEITH: However, you wouldn't want to close your
9 mind to a discussion amongst the jurors as to the facts of the
10 case and the law applicable to those facts.

11 That's what deliberations are for. That's what the
12 word means.

13 You are supposed to think about it and deliberate.

14 You'd do that, wouldn't you? You wouldn't just
15 get in there and announce an opinion and then not listen to
16 anybody.

17 MR. MILLER: No; I'd be open.

18 MR. KEITH: In the event the evidence indicates that
19 Leslie was involved in some fashion with Mr. Manson, would that
20 cause you to close your mind as to other facets of the case,
21 and just say, "guilty," by association?

22 MR. MILLER: No.

23 MR. KEITH: You don't think, then, that anyone that may
24 have been involved with Mr. Manson deserves no consideration
25 whatsoever?

26 MR. MILLER: Not without --

27 MR. KEITH: Not without listening --

28 MR. MILLER: Right, to listen to both sides.

1 MR. KEITH: Not without listening to the evidence.

2 MR. MILLER: Sure.

3 MR. KEITH: But I'm sure the evidence will show that;
4 and I want to find out if you are just going to draw the
5 blinds --

6 MR. MILLER: No.

7 MR. KEITH: -- once that evidence comes out.

8 Do you think you would be able to return a
9 verdict in favor of Miss Van Houten in the event your heart
10 and conscience and mind believes it was a proper verdict,
11 despite any possible pressures you may feel from other
12 sources, without being more specific?

13 MR. MILLER: If I felt that the evidence that you
14 presented outweighed --

15 MR. KEITH: You would have the courage of your
16 convictions, is what I am saying.

17 MR. MILLER: Sure, right.

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1 MR. KEITH: Incidentally, do you understand Miss Van Houten
2 does not have to prove her innocence?

3 MR. MILLER: Sure.

4 MR. KEITH: You realize that she does not under the law;
5 that the prosecution has the burden to prove her guilty beyond
6 a reasonable doubt, and under our law she doesn't have to
7 prove anything.

8 MR. MILLER: I understand.

9 MR. KEITH: It's true -- I'm here and she is here to
10 persuade you, and I suppose this is the burden, if you can
11 call it that, that there is a reasonable doubt.

12 But if we can term that as a burden, that's the
13 extent of it. We don't have to prove innocence at all.

14 It's the reasonable doubt we are talking about.
15 Do you understand that?

16 MR. MILLER: Yes.

17 MR. KEITH: And you would be willing to follow that
18 precept, that concept?

19 MR. MILLER: I feel I can.

20 MR. KEITH: Could you pass the microphone to
21 Mrs. Reyes, please.

22 Let's see, Mrs. Reyes, you were recently married.
23 It was Miss something originally.

24 MRS. REYES: Yes.

25 MR. KEITH: All right.

26 And you are a housewife. Have you ever been
27 employed outside the home?

28 MRS. REYES: Yes.

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MR. KEITH: And in what capacity?

MRS. REYES: My last job was -- I was working with the Air Pollution Control District as a student worker, as a typist clerk.

MR. KEITH: And how long ago was it since you stopped working for A.P.C., or whatever you call it?

MRS. REYES: I quit that job the last week of December of '76.

MR. KEITH: And --

MRS. REYES: So I haven't been working for about three months.

MR. KEITH: As a result of you --

How long did you happen to work there, by the way?

MRS. REYES: Two and a half years.

MR. KEITH: And as a result of having that job, did you meet many law enforcement officers?

MRS. REYES: No, not law enforcement officers.

THE COURT: Just air pollution control officers?

MRS. REYES: They were -- I worked with inspectors, field inspectors.

MR. KEITH: Looking for smog.

MRS. REYES: Yes.

(Laughter.)

MR. KEITH: I see why you could have some trouble.

Okay. Do you number among your friends or does your husband number among his friends any law enforcement people?

1 MRS. REYES: No, sir.

2 MR. KEITH: Do you know anybody well that has ever
3 been the victim of a serious offense or a witness to one?

4 MRS. REYES: No, I haven't.

5 MR. KEITH: And has anybody in your family or anybody
6 else that you are close to ever been a patient of a
7 psychiatrist?

8 MRS. REYES: Not that I know of.

9 MR. KEITH: Do you know any psychiatrists as friends,
10 or does your husband know any?

11 MRS. REYES: As friends? No, sir.

12 MR. KEITH: Do you know any at all?

13 MRS. REYES: Instructors.

14 MR. KEITH: Did you take psychiatry in school or
15 college?

16 MRS. REYES: I was required to take certain courses in
17 psychology.

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1 MR. KEITH: In psychology.

2 MRS. REYES: Yes.

3 MR. KEITH: And did you enjoy the courses?

4 MRS. REYES: Yes.

5 MR. KEITH: How long ago was that that you took the
6 courses in psychology?

7 MRS. REYES: About a year ago.

8 MR. KEITH: Was it an advanced course or beginning
9 course, or advanced and beginning?

10 MRS. REYES: They were required courses; that's all I
11 can say.

12 I wouldn't say they were advanced, no.

13 MR. KEITH: How many courses did you take; one, two,
14 three?

15 MRS. REYES: Approximately three or four different
16 courses.

17 MR. KEITH: And did you learn -- did you study the
18 complexities of the mind in those courses?

19 MRS. REYES: Yes, somewhat.

20 MR. KEITH: And as a result of that exposure to
21 psychology, which appears to have been rather intense, have
22 you formed any opinion about psychiatry in general?

23 You don't have to tell me what it is; I will get
24 to that.

25 MRS. REYES: Yes, I have formed opinions.

26 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that psychiatry and psychiatrists
27 have a proper function in society?

28 MRS. REYES: Yes, I do.

1 MR. KEITH: And you wouldn't tend, then, just to
2 disbelieve the opinions and the reasons thereof of
3 psychiatrists simply because they are psychiatrists.

4 Did you understand that question?

5 MRS. REYES: No, I didn't. Could you repeat it?

6 MR. KEITH: In all likelihood medical doctors
7 specializing in psychiatry will appear at this trial and
8 testify in behalf of Miss Van Houten.

9 My question is, would you tend to disregard what
10 they say simply because they are psychiatrists?

11 Now, I'm not suggesting -- I will go further:
12 I'm not suggesting that you have to believe everything they
13 say.

14 You can disregard the testimony of any expert
15 if you feel it does not bear close scrutiny.

16 What I am saying is, would you tend or have a
17 tendency to disregard their testimony because you don't like
18 psychiatrists, you think they are charlatans or they don't
19 know what they are talking about?

20 MRS. REYES: I would listen to the testimony of the
21 psychiatrists.

22 MR. KEITH: You are telling me that you do feel that
23 psychiatry, as I said to Mr. Miller, has a place in the sun?

24 MRS. REYES: Yes, I do.

25 MR. KEITH: Have you made any other -- or studied
26 psychology from other sources than the classrooms, such as
27 read books that weren't required reading?

28 MRS. REYES: I usually stuck to the required readings.

1 MR. KEITH: All right.

2 I'm wondering if your interest in psychology
3 may have continued subsequent to your leaving college.

4 MRS. REYES: I have interest in it, yes.

5 MR. KEITH: Do you know anybody -- well, that is,
6 members of your family or close friends who have used or
7 abused drugs illegally?

8 MRS. REYES: No.

9 MR. KEITH: Do you have an opinion now that anybody
10 that may have abused drugs illegally should be given no
11 consideration regardless of the circumstances?

12 MRS. REYES: No consideration?

13 MR. KEITH: No consideration.

14 MRS. REYES: Is that what you said?

15 MR. KEITH: Yes.

16 MRS. REYES: No, I don't believe that.

17 MR. KEITH: In other words, the evidence will no doubt
18 show that Miss Van Houten at one time did abuse drugs,
19 primarily LSD.

20 Would you be inclined to give her no
21 consideration whatsoever, not even give her the benefit of the
22 presumption of innocence if --

23 MRS. REYES: No.

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1 MR. KEITH: -- the evidence so showed?

2 And would you consider the use and abuse of drugs
3 along with all the other evidence?

4 I'm not suggesting you not attach significance if
5 you so -- if you believed that the use of drugs is significant.
6 I'm not suggesting you do not attach significance to it.

7 What I am asking you is to consider such evidence
8 along with all the other evidence in the case in reaching your
9 decision if you are selected as a trial juror and not simply
10 put her down because the evidence did show that she may have
11 abused LSD and other forms of drugs.

12 MRS. REYES: I would try to consider all the evidence,
13 not just limit myself to one area.

14 MR. KEITH: All right. That's well stated. That's well
15 stated.

16 But would her use of drugs, if that be a fact, so
17 turn you off against her that you wouldn't consider all the
18 other evidence?

19 MRS. REYES: No.

20 MR. KEITH: We've talked about her life style back in
21 the late '60s, sort of a hippie-type life style, would that
22 so upset you that you would be inclined to not give her a
23 fair trial --

24 MRS. REYES: No.

25 MR. KEITH: -- because of that alone?

26 MRS. REYES: No.

27 MR. KEITH: Now, her life style itself at that time may
28 have significance and relevance, understand, but I'm merely

1 trying to find out if you are so disenchanted with people who
2 may have been what has been termed a hippie in years gone by
3 that this will militate against your ability to be fair towards
4 her and consider all the evidence in context?

5 MRS. REYES: As I said before, no, I don't believe so,
6 anyway.

7 MR. KEITH: Do you know anything about scientology or
8 the Hare Krishna, the movement, or Reverend Moon, or other
9 organizations that seem to engage in a certain amount of
10 thought control?

11 MRS. REYES: I really don't. I do not know too much
12 about them. I've heard of them, I've heard of each of them.
13 But not enough.

14 MR. KEITH: You have made no particular effort to find
15 out their methodology or beliefs, I take it?

16 MRS. REYES: Or their beliefs, no.

17 MR. KEITH: Is there anything you can think of, Mrs. Reyes,
18 that you would like to share with us that we haven't asked you
19 about, or the other jurors about, that brings to mind something,
20 some factor, which you believe may make it difficult for you
21 to be fair and impartial and keep an open mind throughout this
22 case and maintain your individual opinion?

23 MRS. REYES: I do not believe so, sir.

24 MR. KEITH: Would gruesome pictures affect your judgment?

25 MRS. REYES: I don't know, I've never seen gruesome
26 pictures.

27 MR. KEITH: You never have?

28 MRS. REYES: No.

1 MR. KEITH: Have you ever seen a picture of a dead
2 person?

3 MRS. REYES: No, come to think of it. I don't think so.
4 Well -- No.

5 MR. KEITH: Well, if you did, do you think you would be
6 so horrified that you would be inclined to close your mind to
7 everything else that you may hear from the witness stand?

8 MRS. REYES: No.

9 MR. KEITH: Do you think you could handle it all right?

10 MRS. REYES: Yes.
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1 MR. KEITH: And do you think you could give the photo-
2 graphs, if some are shown to you, the relevance they deserve
3 and not -- (gestures) -- not become so inflamed with passion
4 that you can't judge the case dispassionately?

5 Do you think that would happen?

6 MRS. REYES: I don't think so, no.

7 MR. KEITH: Would you hesitate to bring back a verdict
8 in favor of Miss Van Heuten if you felt that your verdict was
9 in accord with your heart and your conscience and your mind,
10 even though it could possibly be an unpopular verdict?

11 MRS. REYES: I would express my opinion.

12 MR. KEITH: Would you have any trouble bringing back a
13 verdict in her favor, even though you felt the community at
14 large might think otherwise and you could be embarrassed?

15 MRS. REYES: I don't believe so, no.

16 MR. KEITH: Would you have the courage of your convictions,
17 is probably the best way to put it.

18 MRS. REYES: Yes, sir.

19 MR. KEITH: Would you be able to follow the law as given
20 to you from the bench scrupulously even though you may disagree
21 with certain areas of it?

22 MRS. REYES: I'm not sure I know what you mean.

23 MR. KEITH: All right.

24 You don't have any quarrel with the fundamental
25 principles of criminal jurisprudence that His Honor has already
26 enunciated, do you?

27 MRS. REYES: No.

28 MR. KEITH: And there may be other instructions. I'm

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1 sure there will be facets of the case that it is not necessary
2 to go into in depth right at the moment, because that's His
3 Honor's obligation at the end of the case to instruct you as
4 to all the law applicable to the facts as presented in the
5 jury room -- "jury room" -- the witness box, excuse me -- but
6 let's suppose you are instructed that due to mental illness or
7 mental defect or some other reasons someone can, under proper
8 circumstances, be less responsible for certain crimes or
9 offenses than someone else who is in their right mind.

10 Would you be willing to follow such an instruction?

11 MRS. REYES: I would follow instructions.

12 MR. KEITH: Now, there is nothing you can think of,
13 Mrs. Reyes, right now which you feel would make you hesitant,
14 the slightest bit hesitant, about giving Miss Van Houten a
15 fair trial?

16 MRS. REYES: No, sir.

17 MR. KEITH: Would you be kind enough to pass the microphone
18 to --

19 That is Mrs. Holloway, is it not?

20 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

21 MR. KEITH: Do you have any friends in law enforcement,
22 you or -- you are divorced --

23 Do you personally have any friends in law enforce-
24 ment? I'm not talking about relatives now.

25 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No, sir.

26 MR. KEITH: And I'm including district attorneys and
27 city attorneys and prosecutors and --

28 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No, I don't.

1 MR. KEITH: -- along with police officers.

2 Has anyone near or dear to you ever been the
3 victim or a witness to a serious crime?

4 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No.

5 MR. KEITH: And has anybody close to you ever been treated
6 by a psychiatrist?

7 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No, never.

8 MR. KEITH: Do you know any psychiatrists?

9 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No, I do not.

10 MR. KEITH: Have you studied psychiatry or psychology
11 at all, such as Mrs. Reyes has?

12 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes, I've had psychology in school.

13 MR. KEITH: Would that be in college or high --

14 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

15 MR. KEITH: Where did you attend college, if I may ask?

16 MRS. HOLLOWAY: I attended college at L. A. City College
17 at El Camino.

18 MR. KEITH: And did you take an interest in psychology
19 at the time, or did you just take the course because it was
20 required?

21 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Because it was required.

22 MR. KEITH: And have you continued to have any interest
23 in psychology since you left college?

24 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No.

25 MR. KEITH: Is it your belief that psychiatry is -- well,
26 how should I put it -- do you think that psychiatrists in
27 general don't perform a proper and valuable social function?

28 MRS. HOLLOWAY: I think it has its place.

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1 MR. KEITH: Would you be inclined to disbelieve the
2 testimony of psychiatrists simply because they are medical
3 doctors specializing in that field and for no other reason?

4 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No.

5 MR. KEITH: Would you be willing to listen to their
6 opinions and listen to their reasons therefor and attach such
7 significance and such credibility to their testimony as you
8 believe it deserves and not simply disregard their testimony
9 because you may be indifferent to or know very little about or
10 take very little interest in psychiatry?

11 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes, I would listen to their testimonies
12 and I would not disregard any of their testimonies.

13 MR. KEITH: Thank you.

14 Do you know anyone, Mrs. Holiday -- Holloway -- who
15 has abused drugs illegally?

16 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No, not to my knowledge.

17 MR. KEITH: Have you ever read or made any particular
18 study of drug abuse?

19 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No.

20 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that someone who has abused
21 drugs illegally deserves little, if any, consideration in
22 your mind?

23 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No.

24 MR. KEITH: In the event the evidence indicates that
25 the abuse of drugs, particularly LSD, plays a significant
26 part in this case, would you be willing to listen to that
27 evidence and attach such importance or such moment to such
28 testimony as you feel it deserves and not just disregard it?

1 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes, I would think so.

2 MR. KEITH: And if in the event the evidence indicates
3 that Miss Van Houten herself abused drugs, particularly LSD,
4 would you be inclined to give her no further consideration
5 because of that fact alone?

6 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No, I wouldn't.

7 MR. KEITH: Or would you consider her use of drugs in
8 the context of all the facts in the case and give such use
9 the significance and the meaning that you feel it is entitled
10 to?

11 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

12 MR. KEITH: Would you hold it against Miss Van Houten if
13 the evidence indicated that she did live for a year or so in
14 a rather bizarre life style?

15 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No, I wouldn't.

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1 MR. KEITH: Would you be inclined to give her little,
2 if any, consideration if the evidence indicated that she led
3 a life generally attributed to hippies?

4 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No.

5 MR. KEITH: Such evidence may have relevance in this
6 case. I'm not asking you to judge that now.

7 But would you give it such relevance that you
8 believed such testimony deserved, and not just simply
9 disregard it and disregard Leslie because she did follow that
10 kind of a life?

11 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No, I wouldn't disregard it.

12 MR. KEITH: In the event some of the evidence in this
13 case, including photographs, was rather gruesome, do you think
14 that would affect you in such a manner that you'd be inclined
15 to close your mind towards other evidence?

16 MRS. HOLLOWAY: I have not seen any gruesome photographs.
17 I have seen pictures of dead persons.

18 So I don't know.

19 MR. KEITH: But what I am asking is, if you saw some
20 rather unfortunate pictures, would that so inflame you that
21 you would be unable to give Leslie the benefit of your
22 fairness and your impartiality?

23 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No, I don't think so.

24 MR. KEITH: I'm not just talking about pictures; I'm
25 talking about other evidence --

26 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No.

27 MR. KEITH: -- that would be of, let's say, a rather --
28 "gruesome" is as good a word as any -- of a rather gruesome

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1 nature, something you ordinarily don't discuss in polite
2 society.

3 Do you think that would so affect your judgment
4 you couldn't be fair to her?

5 MRS. HOLLOWAY: I don't think so.

6 MR. KEITH: Do you feel you would be able to keep an
7 open mind throughout the case and not just close it once the
8 prosecution had presented its evidence?

9 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

10 MR. KEITH: In the event Miss Van Houton testifies in
11 this case -- she is the defendant, now -- do you think -- as
12 you know -- do you think you would be able to give her the
13 benefit of her testimony, or just simply disregard it because
14 of her particular capacity in this case, the defendant?

15 MRS. HOLLOWAY: I would give her the benefit of her
16 testimony.

17 MR. KEITH: You would weigh her testimony by the same
18 standards that you would any other witness, would you not,
19 and not be inclined to give her testimony less credibility
20 because she was a defendant?

21 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No.

22 MR. KEITH: And --

23 MRS. HOLLOWAY: I would try to be fair.

24 MR. KEITH: When you say "try," do you think you can
25 be fair?

26 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes, I do think I can be fair.

27 MR. KEITH: Do you have any quarrel with the principles
28 of law that have been enunciated so far by His Honor?

1 MRS. HOLLOWAY: No.

2 MR. KEITH: In the event you are instructed by His Honor
3 that some people, due to mental illness, mental defect or
4 other reasons, have what's called a diminished capacity or
5 diminished responsibility, vis-a-vis, the commission of a
6 crime, that you can follow that instruction?

7 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes.

8 MR. KEITH: And simply not disregard it because the
9 facts of this case may be unfortunate in certain respects?

10 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes, I can follow it.

11 MR. KEITH: Would you have the courage of your
12 convictions to return a verdict in favor of Miss Van Houten,
13 if you honestly believed there was a reasonable doubt, and
14 not be deterred from that -- from returning such a verdict
15 because of pressures from the community or elsewhere that we
16 don't know about, feelings, pressures, embarrassment,
17 humiliation?

18 Do you feel you can do it, even though your
19 verdict might be considered by you an unpopular one?

20 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Yes, I could.

21 MR. KEITH: You wouldn't be deterred from that course,
22 would you, for any reason whatsoever?

23 MRS. HOLLOWAY: Not if I thought within my own mind
24 that this is, you know, what I thought.

25 I wouldn't change it, no.

26 MR. KEITH: Would you be kind enough to pass the
27 microphone, please, to Mrs. Adams.

28 Mrs. Adams, you have two daughters, 19 and 20?

1 MRS. ADAMS: Yes, sir.

2 MR. KEITH: And what do they do, if I may ask?

3 MRS. ADAMS: They are in college.

4 MR. KEITH: Whereabouts?

5 MRS. ADAMS: El Centro.

6 MR. KEITH: What area of the County do you live?

7 I know you told His Honor, but I didn't get a
8 chance to write it down.

9 MRS. ADAMS: The South Bay area.

10 MR. KEITH: Now, without belaboring too much all the
11 questions to you, all the questions I have been asking the
12 other four prospective jurors, are there any of the questions
13 I have asked and the answers to them which would be substantially
14 different in your case than theirs were?

15 MRS. ADAMS: No.

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1 MR. KEITH: I realize there are certain areas that the
2 other jurors have, because of their backgrounds and
3 occupations, have different answers, of necessity.

4 But generally speaking --

5 MRS. ADAMS: So.

6 MR. KEITH: Have you ever seen any bloody pictures
7 before, in your lifetime?

8 MRS. ADAMS: No, not really.

9 MR. KEITH: Do you think you would be so upset if some
10 were shown to you in the course of this trial that you
11 couldn't judge --

12 MRS. ADAMS: I don't think so.

13 MR. KEITH: You are sure of that?

14 MRS. ADAMS: Well, I'm not positive, but I don't think
15 no.

16 MR. KEITH: Do you think you could control your emotions
17 and decide this case from the facts?

18 MRS. ADAMS: Yes.

19 MR. KEITH: You really have to be able to do that
20 because that's what we are entitled to.

21 You can't let your emotions get out of control and
22 decide the case on that.

23 You have to decide the case according to the facts,
24 according to the law and according to your heart and
25 conscience and your mind, not on any high emotions.

26 Do you think you can set aside any emotions --

27 I mean, we are all human beings; we have such.

28 MRS. ADAMS: Yes.

1 MR. KEITH: I want to find out if you can set any such
2 feelings aside in the event that you are possessed of them,
3 as you may well be -- you can't tell me now; I don't expect
4 you to be able to -- and decide this case on the facts?

5 MRS. ADAMS: Yes.

6 MR. KEITH: Do you think you would be able to keep an
7 open mind throughout the case?

8 MRS. ADAMS: I think so.

9 MR. KEITH: And do you think you'd be able to maintain
10 your individual opinion once the case was given to you for
11 deliberations, and not change your mind simply because a
12 majority of jurors were against you or because you wanted to
13 get back home, or for any other reason, short of changing your
14 mind because of logic and reason and discussions with other
15 jurors, where you became convinced that the opinion originally
16 held was erroneous?

17 MRS. ADAMS: Yes.

18 MR. KEITH: Do you know any psychiatrists?

19 MRS. ADAMS: No, sir.

20 MR. KEITH: Have you ever studied psychology or
21 psychiatry?

22 MRS. ADAMS: No, sir.

23 MR. KEITH: Have you ever had anyone in your family or
24 close friends treated by a psychiatrist?

25 MRS. ADAMS: No.

26 MR. KEITH: Have you ever talked to one?

27 MRS. ADAMS: No.

28 MR. KEITH: Have you ever taken any courses in

1 psychology? Or did I already ask you that question?

2 MRS. ADAMS: Yes, you have. No, I have not.

3 MR. KEITH: Do you know anybody who has used or abused
4 drugs illegally?

5 MRS. ADAMS: No.

6 MR. KEITH: Or legally, somebody obtaining a prescription,
7 perfectly legally, and overdose.

8 Do you know anybody like that?

9 MRS. ADAMS: No.

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1 MR. KEITH: Have you ever discussed with your daughters
2 or any other relatives drug abuse?

3 MRS. ADAMS: Yes, with my daughters.

4 MR. KEITH: Have you ever heard of the drug known as
5 LSD, or acid, before?

6 MRS. ADAMS: No.

7 MR. KEITH: Have you ever talked to your daughters about
8 the use of acid?

9 MRS. ADAMS: Yes.

10 MR. KEITH: You told them not to do it, I presume.

11 MRS. ADAMS: Yes.

12 MR. KEITH: In the event the evidence indicated that
13 Miss Van Houten used acid, or LSD, excessively, would that
14 make you feel she should be given no consideration whatsoever?

15 MRS. ADAMS: No.

16 MR. KEITH: And thumbs down, the same expression I have
17 used before?

18 MRS. ADAMS: No.

19 MR. KEITH: Would you consider that evidence along with
20 all the other evidence in deciding the case?

21 MRS. ADAMS: Certainly.

22 MR. KEITH: And would you give the use of drugs in this
23 case the weight that you felt it was entitled to?

24 MRS. ADAMS: Yes.

25 MR. KEITH: And you wouldn't simply just disregard all
26 the other evidence in this case simply because the evidence
27 showed that Miss Van Houten did use LSD?

28 MRS. ADAMS: No.

1 MR. KEITH: And say, "aw, she's guilty, she's taken
2 drugs"?

3 MRS. ADAMS: No.

4 MR. KEITH: Would the same --

5 Would you give me the same answer if her life
6 style at one time was very much different than you probably
7 led or that your daughters lead now?

8 MRS. ADAMS: Would I feel differently; is that what
9 you said?

10 MR. KEITH: I will ask the question.

11 In the event the evidence indicated Miss Van Houten
12 lived as a hippie for a year or two, would that incline you
13 to give her less consideration as a defendant than she might
14 otherwise deserve?

15 MRS. ADAMS: No.

16 MR. KEITH: Would you consider that evidence in the
17 light of all the other evidence and consider that evidence,
18 in the event it appears relevant, as it bears on your ultimate
19 decision in this case?

20 MRS. ADAMS: Yes.

21 MR. KEITH: In the event the evidence in this case
22 indicated that Miss Van Houten did have an association-
23 involvement with Charlie Manson -- everybody has heard of him,
24 and he's a bad guy -- would you say she's bad, "Too bad,
25 Miss Van Houten, guilty"?

26 MRS. ADAMS: No.

27 MR. KEITH: You think you'd be strong enough to consider
28 her case separately from that of Charlie Manson's case?

1 MRS. ADAMS: Certainly.

2 MR. KEITH: And decide her case on the facts presented
3 in this court, and not because you feel that everybody that
4 may have been associated with Mr. Manson is of necessity as
5 evil as he was?

6 MRS. ADAMS: (Shakes head negatively.)

7 MR. KEITH: I'm not asking you not to consider
8 Mr. Manson's role, by any means.

9 I'm asking if you would be inclined to give
10 Leslie less consideration than what she really ought to have
11 because of such an association?

12 MRS. ADAMS: No, I --

13 MR. KEITH: You wouldn't do that, would you?

14 MRS. ADAMS: No, I don't think so.
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1 MR. KEITH: In the event you were instructed by the
2 court that someone can be less responsible for a crime than
3 you otherwise might think by reason of mental illness, mental
4 defect, or some other cause, do you think that you would be
5 able to follow that instruction if you thought the facts
6 merited its being followed?

7 MRS. ADAMS: Yes.

8 MR. KEITH: Do you know of any other rule of law that
9 we've been talking about that you have any quarrel with?

10 MRS. ADAMS: No.

11 MR. KEITH: Do you have any quarrel with the law of
12 diminished responsibility or capacity --

13 MRS. ADAMS: No.

14 MR. KEITH: -- due to the factors that I've previously
15 mentioned,

16 Would you have any hesitation in returning a
17 verdict in favor of Miss Van Houten if you felt in your
18 heart, mind and conscience that she was entitled to it
19 because you might believe that it could be an unpopular
20 decision in the community?

21 MRS. ADAMS: No.

22 MR. KEITH: Or from any other pressures?

23 MRS. ADAMS: No, I don't believe so.

24 MR. KEITH: Would you be kind enough to pass the
25 microphone to Mr. Heishman.

26 Let's see, you are a mail carrier, right?

27 MR. HEISHMAN: Yes, sir.

28 MR. KEITH: And how long have you been a mail carrier?

1 MR. HEISHMAN: Twenty-one years.

2 MR. KEITH: How old are you now? I didn't write that
3 down.

4 MR. HEISHMAN: Forty-six.

5 MR. KEITH: What were you before you were a mail carrier?

6 MR. HEISHMAN: I was in the U. S. Air Force.

7 MR. KEITH: In what capacity?

8 MR. HEISHMAN: I was a flight line medic in Korea.

9 MR. KEITH: You had medical training, then?

10 MR. HEISHMAN: Yes, first aid mostly.

11 MR. KEITH: Have you made any special study in your
12 lifetime of psychiatry or psychology?

13 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir.

14 MR. KEITH: Your job in the air force didn't depend on
15 such knowledge, I presume?

16 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir.

17 MR. KEITH: How long were you in the air force?

18 MR. HEISHMAN: Four years.

19 MR. KEITH: I presume you attended the wounded when they
20 returned from missions?

21 MR. HEISHMAN: Yes, sir.

22 MR. KEITH: Have you ever been married?

23 MR. HEISHMAN: Yes.

24 MR. KEITH: Do you have any children by that marriage or
25 any other marriage?

26 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir.

27 MR. KEITH: When were you divorced?

28 MR. HEISHMAN: In 1970.

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1 MR. KEITH: Have you had any contact or exposure with
2 psychiatry or psychology?

3 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir.

4 MR. KEITH: Have any friends or relatives of yours ever
5 been treated by psychiatrists?

6 MR. HEISHMAN: Not to my knowledge.

7 MR. KEITH: Do you have any friends in law enforcement?

8 MR. HEISHMAN: No.

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1 MR. KEITH: What was the occupation of your former wife,
2 if she had any occupation outside the home?

3 MR. HEISHMAN: She was a -- something like a salesperson.
4 International Rectifier.

5 MR. KEITH: International what?

6 MR. HEISHMAN: International Rectifier.

7 MR. KEITH: Do you know anything about scientology or
8 the Hare Krishna organization or Reverend Moon or people that
9 engage in some sort of thought control?

10 MR. HEISHMAN: No; no, sir. They had a church in my
11 area where I live in Palms.

12 MR. KEITH: Where is Palms?

13 MR. HEISHMAN: In West L. A. near Culver City.

14 MR. KEITH: Did you ever come in contact with any
15 Korean prisoners of war?

16 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir.

17 MR. KEITH: Americans who were Korean prisoners of war?

18 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir; I didn't.

19 MR. KEITH: Do you think you'd have trouble being fair
20 to Miss Van Houten if you saw some gruesome photographs or
21 listened to some rather gruesome evidence?

22 MR. HEISHMAN: I don't believe so.

23 MR. KEITH: I suppose you have seen blood before in your
24 life?

25 MR. HEISHMAN: Yes, sir.

26 MR. KEITH: Would you have any trouble or difficulty
27 of any sort giving Miss Van Houten a fair trial because she
28 had used drugs in the past?

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1 MR. HEISHMAN: I don't believe so.

2 MR. KEITH: Or lived a hippie life style for a year and
3 a half, two years?

4 MR. HEISHMAN: I don't believe so, sir.

5 MR. KEITH: Would you have any trouble giving Miss Van
6 Houten a fair trial because of an association with Manson?

7 MR. HEISHMAN: No.

8 MR. KEITH: I'm not suggesting that Mr. Manson may not
9 be an important factor in this case, but I'm wondering if,
10 in the event the evidence showed that she was involved with
11 him, that would so upset you that you would not listen to any
12 other testimony and simply convict her for that association
13 alone.

14 MR. HEISHMAN: No, I would not.

15 MR. KEITH: Do you have any training in law at all?

16 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir.

17 MR. KEITH: Do you think you could follow the instructions
18 given you by His Honor from the bench on the law, even though
19 you may disagree with some of the law that may apply to this
20 case?

21 MR. HEISHMAN: I believe so.

22 MR. KEITH: That's what happens.

23 You have never been a juror before, have you?

24 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir; I haven't.

25 MR. KEITH: Well, the prosecution puts its case on
26 first, because they've got the burden of proof.

27 MR. HEISHMAN: Yes, I understand.

28 MR. KEITH: They've got to prove the case beyond a

1 reasonable doubt; we do not have to prove anything.

2 MR. HEISHMAN: I understand that.

3 MR. KEITH: That does not mean we may not. We will.
4 But we don't have to. We are under no obligation to do so
5 other than raise a reasonable doubt in your mind.

6 And then once the prosecution has put on its
7 testimony, then the defense goes forward, and then there is
8 also -- could possibly be rebuttal testimony by the prosecution,
9 and then we get a chance to rebut what he's trying to rebut.

10 It doesn't go on ad infinitum, mind you, but that
11 is a possibility in this case.

12 And then the attorneys argue, and then the court
13 instructs you as to the law, and then you go in and deliberate.
14 You talk about the case and full session with all 11 other
15 jurors and make up your minds and come back with a verdict,
16 if you can reach a unanimous agreement.

17 That's the way it goes.

18 Do you think you are going to be able to keep an
19 open mind throughout the case?

20 MR. HEISHMAN: I believe so, sir.

21 MR. KEITH: And do you think you will be able to maintain
22 your individual opinion in the event you are selected as a
23 trial juror once you retire to the jury room?

24 MR. HEISHMAN: Yes, sir.

25 MR. KEITH: You won't change your mind just because a
26 majority of the jurors are against you, have a different
27 opinion?

28 MR. HEISHMAN: No, I wouldn't, unless it was pointed out

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1 and was proven.

2 MR. KEITH: I'm not suggesting you shouldn't have full,
3 free, and honest discussions.

4 MR. HEISHMAN: Right.

5 MR. KEITH: That's what you are there for.

6 But I'm only suggesting that you shouldn't --
7 more than suggesting -- you really shouldn't change your mind
8 merely because you want to get home --

9 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir.

10 MR. KEITH: -- and have the case over.

11 Did I ask you, because I forget sometimes, did I
12 ask you if you knew anybody that had been a drug user?

13 MR. HEISHMAN: I do not believe you did, no.
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1 MR. KEITH: Well, do you?

2 MR. HEISHMAN: No, I don't.

3 MR. KEITH: Have you ever made any particular study
4 of drug use or abuse?

5 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir.

6 MR. KEITH: Have you ever heard of LSD before?

7 MR. HEISHMAN: Yes, sir.

8 MR. KEITH: And do you know anybody that has ever used
9 it?

10 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir.

11 MR. KEITH: Have you read about LSD?

12 MR. HEISHMAN: Yes, sir.

13 MR. KEITH: Have you formed any opinions as to what it
14 can do to you?

15 MR. HEISHMAN: No, I have not.

16 MR. KEITH: Did you read --

17 How did you come to read about LSD, just in the
18 newspapers?

19 MR. HEISHMAN: That's all, yes.

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20 MR. KEITH: You don't feel, do you, that psychiatrists
21 are all charlatans and shouldn't be believed?

22 MR. HEISHMAN: No, I don't.

23 MR. KEITH: You haven't had any exposure to psychiatry,
24 have you?

25 MR. HEISHMAN: No.

26 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that psychiatrists don't perform
27 a proper and valuable function in society?

28 MR. HEISHMAN: I believe they perform well.

1 MR. KEITH: Do you think if you felt you were mentally
2 ill you would want to see a psychiatrist?

3 MR. HEISHMAN: If he could help me; yes, sir.

4 MR. KEITH: Pardon me?

5 MR. HEISHMAN: If he could help me; yes, sir.

6 MR. KEITH: Do you know anybody that has been under
7 psychiatric treatment?

8 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir.

9 MR. KEITH: Would you believe psychiatric testimony if
10 it is presented in this case and you felt it warranted your
11 belief, or would you just close your ears to it because you
12 thought that you felt psychiatrists were, in general, lacking
13 in knowledge of the workings of the human mind?

14 MR. HEISHMAN: No, I wouldn't close my ears to it.

15 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that psychiatry is in such an
16 infant stage that you would be inclined to disregard the
17 opinions of psychiatrists and reasons therefor because you
18 feel right now nobody knows enough about the human mind to
19 express an opinion as to what goes on in there?

20 MR. HEISHMAN: No, I don't believe that.

21 MR. KEITH: Do you think you would have the courage of
22 your convictions, as the other jurors have told me they have,
23 and do you think you would not hesitate to return a verdict
24 in favor of Miss Van Houten if your mind and conscience and
25 your heart believed that was a proper verdict?

26 MR. HEISHMAN: I believe I could.

27 MR. KEITH: Even though you might feel your verdict would
28 be unpopular in the community?

1 MR. HEISHMAN: I still say I could.

2 MR. KEITH: You wouldn't have any hesitation, would you?

3 MR. HEISHMAN: No, sir.

4 MR. KEITH: Is there anything you would like to share
5 with us now that hasn't been touched upon that you believe
6 might militate against your giving Leslie a fair trial?

7 MR. HEISHMAN: Not that I could think of.

8 MR. KEITH: Would you like to pass the microphone --

9 THE COURT: I think this might be an appropriate time
10 to take the afternoon recess.

11 Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, bear in mind
12 during this recess that you are not to discuss this case
13 amongst yourselves or with anyone else; you are not to form
14 any opinion concerning this matter or express any opinion
15 concerning this matter until the case is finally given to you.

16 Further, you must not allow yourselves to read,
17 see, or hear any news media accounts of this matter.

18 Court will be in recess until 10 minutes past 3:00.
19 All jurors, defendant, and counsel are ordered to return at
20 that time.

21 Court is in recess.

22 (Recess taken.)

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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 prospective jurors are present.

5 You may resume, Mr. Keith.

6 MR. KEITH: Thank you, Your Honor.

7 Let's see; we have Mr. Williams now.

8 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

9 MR. KEITH: Do we have a microphone?

10 THE BAILIFF: I will get that.

11 (Brief pause.)

12 MR. KEITH: Mr. Williams, how long have you been a
13 County employee?

14 MR. WILLIAMS: Approximately 10 years.

15 MR. KEITH: What did you do before that?

16 MR. WILLIAMS: I was in beauty and barber supplies.

17 MR. KEITH: As a wholesaler?

18 MR. WILLIAMS: No; I was a laborer as well as a salesman.

19 MR. KEITH: What company?

20 MR. WILLIAMS: From the east it was State Beauty and
21 Barber Supply.

22 And I worked for Hoffman's Beauty and Barber Supply.

23 MR. KEITH: How long have you been divorced?

24 MR. WILLIAMS: Approximately 11 years.

25 MR. KEITH: Have you ever been in the service?

26 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

27 MR. KEITH: Do you know any people in law enforcement,
28 like police officers?

1 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

2 MR. KEITH: Do you know any psychiatrists?

3 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

4 MR. KEITH: Have you or any close friends of yours or
5 relatives ever been treated by a psychiatrist?

6 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

7 MR. KEITH: Or a psychologist.

8 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

9 MR. KEITH: Or somebody engaged in the field of mental
10 health, generally.

11 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

12 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that medical doctors who
13 specialize in psychiatry do not perform a valuable social
14 function?

15 MR. WILLIAMS: I do not feel that.

16 I feel that they do have their --

17 MR. KEITH: Proper place.

18 MR. WILLIAMS: Correct.

19 MR. KEITH: And do you feel that if someone is mentally
20 ill, that the place to go is to a psychiatrist?

21 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

22 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that psychiatrists do their
23 very best to help people who have mental or emotional
24 problems?

25 MR. WILLIAMS: Correct.

26 MR. KEITH: In other words, in the event psychiatrists
27 testify in this case on behalf of Miss Van Houten, you're not
28 going to disregard their testimony, are you, because you have

1 an opinion about psychiatry which might belittle that
2 profession?

3 Because you don't have such an opinion, is that
4 right?

5 MR. WILLIAMS: Correct.

6 MR. KEITH: Have you or anybody close to you ever been
7 the victim or a witness of or to a serious crime?

8 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

9 MR. KEITH: I'm not talking about homicides necessarily,
10 or you wouldn't be here.

11 But I'm talking about robbery or burglary or theft.

12 MR. WILLIAMS: Well, robbery -- say, burglary. My
13 fiancée -- they have broken in on her, and there was quite a
14 few things ripped off there.

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1 MR. KEITH: Is this your present fiancée?

2 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

3 MR. KEITH: What does she do?

4 MR. WILLIAMS: She is a County employe also.

5 MR. KEITH: In what department?

6 MR. WILLIAMS: Department of Social Services.

7 MR. KEITH: And what is the function, generally, of the
8 Department of Social Services?

9 MR. WILLIAMS: The function in general is --

10 Actually, she is in the welfare section of it,
11 which -- she is a social worker, and distributes County funds
12 to the needy.

13 MR. KEITH: Does she come in contact, if you know, with
14 people who are mentally disturbed?

15 MR. WILLIAMS: Not to my knowledge.

16 MR. KEITH: If she does, she doesn't discuss it with
17 you.

18 MR. WILLIAMS: Correct.

19 MR. KEITH: Has she come in contact with any police
20 personnel?

21 MR. WILLIAMS: Not to my knowledge.

22 MR. KEITH: If she does, she doesn't discuss it with you.

23 MR. WILLIAMS: Correct.

24 MR. KEITH: And does she come in contact with people who
25 have run afoul of the law in some respects?

26 MR. WILLIAMS: No, not really.

27 MR. KEITH: Does she come in contact with people who have
28 abused drugs?

1 MR. WILLIAMS: No, not to my knowledge.

2 MR. KEITH: All right.

3 And do you know anybody that has abused drugs,
4 legally or illegally?

5 MR. WILLIAMS: Not personally, no.

6 MR. KEITH: Have you read any articles about drug
7 abuse?

8 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, I have.

9 MR. KEITH: Have you taken any special interest in
10 drug abuse or --

11 MR. WILLIAMS: No special interest to the extent where
12 I would become involved with them myself.

13 But I read and try to keep up on the actual
14 destruction that it can do to you when it's used improperly.

15 MR. KEITH: Have you ever read about LSD?

16 MR. WILLIAMS: I have.

17 MR. KEITH: And do you have some idea of what that can
18 do to you?

19 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes, I do.

20 MR. KEITH: And in the event the evidence in this case
21 indicated that Leslie was an abuser of LSD, not to mention
22 other drugs, like marijuana, would you tend to give her less
23 consideration in her mind (sic) than her case would otherwise
24 deserve?

25 MR. WILLIAMS: No, I wouldn't.

26 MR. KEITH: Would you consider her abuse of drugs in
27 the context of which it is presented rather than simply --

28 MR. WILLIAMS: Right.

1 MR. KEITH: -- rather than simply, oh, put her down
2 because of it and not consider any other facets or issues in
3 the case?

4 MR. WILLIAMS: No, I wouldn't.
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1 MR. KEITH: Do you have an opinion that LSD can be a
2 destructive drug?

3 MR. WILLIAMS: If used improperly. If administered
4 improperly.

5 MR. KEITH: You have an opinion that it can, under
6 certain circumstances, be used therapeutically?

7 MR. WILLIAMS: Correct.

8 MR. KEITH: Do you feel or believe, Mr. Williams, that
9 you could give Miss Van Houten the benefit of your individual
10 opinion, if you are selected as a trial juror, during the
11 deliberation phase of the case?

12 MR. WILLIAMS: I do.

13 MR. KEITH: You have sat on juries before, haven't you,
14 in civil cases?

15 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

16 MR. KEITH: You, of course, understand the difference
17 in the burden of proof?

18 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

19 MR. KEITH: But you understand how a lawsuit progresses;
20 one side puts on its testimony, then the other side, and
21 everybody argues, and then the court instructs you as to the law
22 and you deliberate.

23 Once deliberations are commenced, do you feel you
24 could maintain your individual opinion about the case?

25 MR. WILLIAMS: I do.

26 MR. KEITH: And you do feel, I'm sure, that you can keep
27 an open mind throughout the case until the deliberation phase --

28 MR. WILLIAMS: Yes.

1 MR. KEITH: -- and not shut your mind to the defense after
2 the prosecution has completed its case?

3 MR. WILLIAMS: Correct.

4 MR. KEITH: Do you know anything about, oh, these sects
5 called Hare Krishna or Reverend Moon's followers or scientology
6 or others that may practice a certain form of thought control?

7 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

8 MR. KEITH: Would you be inclined to be unfair and
9 prejudiced against Miss Van Houten simply because the evidence
10 "simply" is not a very good word -- in the event the evidence
11 showed that she was involved with Manson?

12 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

13 MR. KEITH: I mean, would you say to yourself, 'Well,
14 anybody associated with Manson deserves the worst that can
15 happen to them,' without regard to any other evidence in this
16 case?

17 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

18 MR. KEITH: Would you consider Mr. Manson's role in this
19 case, and he will have a role, not as a witness but he will
20 have a role, in the manner in which it is presented by both
21 sides and not simply say "Guilty by association"?

22 MR. WILLIAMS: Correct.

23 MR. KEITH: Incidentally, if you don't understand a
24 question I ask, don't hesitate to tell me, and I'll rephrase
25 it.

26 MR. WILLIAMS: Would you rephrase that last one again?
27 You made it rather long there, so I got off the track.

28 (Laughter.)

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1 MR. KEITH: IF I can.

2 All right. You have indicated that simply because
3 the evidence may show Miss Van Houten had been associated or
4 involved with Manson, that you wouldn't hold that against her
5 to the point where you wouldn't consider any other evidence
6 in the case.

7 And that's about all I wanted to ask you, although
8 more simply put.

9 MR. WILLIAMS: Oh, okay. Thank you.

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1 MR. KEITH: And I also should ask you whether you
2 would be able to consider Manson's role in this case in the
3 context in which it is presented and not just say, "Well,
4 everybody associated with him is bad," period, and forget
5 about all the other issues that may be presented here?

6 MR. WILLIAMS: Well, yes, I would consider Manson's
7 role in its own context.

8 MR. KEITH: Good.

9 Now, in the event the evidence indicated Leslie
10 led a rather bizzare life style for a period of a year and a
11 half or so, would you so hold that against her you'd be unable
12 to give her a fair trial?

13 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

14 MR. KEITH: Now, her life style may well have relevance
15 to the issues in the case. I'm not asking you to cast it
16 aside and not think about it in the event you deem it to be
17 a relevant point. I'm simply asking if you would be so
18 prejudiced against her because she did lead a bizarre life
19 style that you couldn't consider the nature of the way she
20 lived in the context of all the other facts of the case and
21 tend to give her less consideration than she might otherwise
22 deserve.

23 You would not do that, would you?

24 MR. WILLIAMS: No, I would weigh that to the evidence
25 that is being presented.

26 MR. KEITH: Now, in some of these things that I'm saying
27 I don't mean to suggest or infer or insinuate that they may
28 not be relevant. That's not the point. I'm trying to find out

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1 if you would give such weight, such moment, such significance
2 to some of these things, like the presence of Manson and drugs,
3 that you couldn't listen to anything else.

4 And you would not do that, would you?

5 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

6 MR. KEITH: In the event you saw some bloody pictures
7 and heard some gruesome evidence, would that tend to compel
8 you or to influence you to close your mind as to Leslie --

9 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

10 MR. KEITH: -- and her guilt or innocence and believe
11 simply because there is some blood and gore in this case that
12 she's more likely guilty than innocent despite the other
13 facts that may be presented.

14 You wouldn't do that, would you?

15 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

16 MR. KEITH: Have you ever seen any bloody pictures
17 before?

18 MR. WILLIAMS: Quite a few.

19 MR. KEITH: In what -- Well, how did that come about?
20 That's easily said.

21 MR. WILLIAMS: Well, through the movies and various
22 other aspects in life; vehicle accidents.

23 MR. KEITH: You have never witnessed any serious crime,
24 though, have you?

25 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

26 MR. KEITH: Would you be kind enough to pass the
27 microphone, please, to Mr. Waters.

28 Mr. Waters, I forgot to write down what your

1 occupation is.

2 MR. WATERS: Well, I'm employed by the City of Los
3 Angeles, Department of Water and Power, as a water works
4 mechanic.

5 MR. KEITH: And your wife is an electronic assembler?

6 MR. WATERS: No, she is presently unemployed. That's
7 what she's been doing.

8 MR. KEITH: And you live in Carson?

9 MR. WATERS: Yes.

10 MR. KEITH: You have one child seven years old?

11 MR. WATERS: Yes.

12 MR. KEITH: Have you ever been in the service?

13 MR. WATERS: Yes, I have.

14 MR. KEITH: How long ago?

15 MR. WATERS: I got out in 1962.

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1 MR. KEITH: Have you ever been in combat?

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

3 MR. KEITH: Are you a member of any veterans' organizations?

4 MR. WATERS: Veterans' organizations? No.

5 MR. KEITH: How long have you been with the Department
6 of Water and Power?

7 MR. WATERS: It's about -- a little over seven years.

8 MR. KEITH: And what did you do before that?

9 MR. WATERS: I worked for California Photo-Graver
10 Company as a paper handler.

11 MR. KEITH: Do you number among your close friends or
12 associates any members of law enforcement, such as police
13 officers, district attorneys, city attorneys?

14 MR. WATERS: Well, I have a friend that's on the
15 Los Angeles Sheriff's Department. He's on the Sheriff's
16 Department.

17 MR. KEITH: And how long have you known him?

18 MR. WATERS: I'd say off and on about maybe ten years.

19 MR. KEITH: Have you ever talked to him about law
20 enforcement problems?

21 MR. WATERS: No.

22 MR. KEITH: Have you ever talked to him about law and
23 order?

24 MR. WATERS: No.

25 MR. KEITH: Have you ever talked to him about crime in
26 the streets?

27 MR. WATERS: No.

28 MR. KEITH: Do you know anybody that's a psychiatrist?

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1 MR. WATERS: No, I don't.

2 MR. KEITH: Do you know anybody that's ever been
3 treated by a psychiatrist?

4 MR. WATERS: No.

5 MR. KEITH: Do you believe in psychiatrists?

6 MR. WATERS: Yes, I do.

7 I had a course in Compton Junior College in
8 Psychology I.

9 MR. KEITH: Have you kept up with psychology since then?

10 MR. WATERS: No, I haven't.

11 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that psychiatrists perform a
12 valuable function in society?

13 MR. WATERS: Yes, I do.

14 MR. KEITH: And if you knew somebody you thought was
15 mentally ill or disturbed or emotionally disturbed, would
16 you suggest that they see a psychiatrist?

17 MR. WATERS: Yes, I would.

18 MR. KEITH: I take it, then, that in the event there is
19 some psychiatric testimony in this case in behalf of
20 Miss Van Houten, you wouldn't disregard it because you had a
21 low opinion of psychiatrists?

22 MR. WATERS: No, I wouldn't.

23 MR. KEITH: You'd listen and consider their testimony
24 in the same manner as you would any other expert.

25 MR. WATERS: Yes.

26 MR. KEITH: I'm not going to go into how you are
27 supposed to consider the testimony of expert witnesses, that's
28 up to His Honor.

1 But you wouldn't just simply disregard their
2 testimony because they were medical doctors practicing
3 psychiatry.

4 MR. WATERS: No.

5 MR. KEITH: And you would give their opinions and the
6 reasons therefor the weight you thought they deserved.

7 MR. WATERS: Yes.

8 MR. KEITH: Do you have any quarrel at the present
9 time with the legal concepts that you have heard enunciated,
10 such as the presumption of innocence, proof beyond a reasonable
11 doubt, the prosecution has the burden of proof beyond a
12 reasonable doubt, and that Miss Van Houten doesn't have to
13 prove her innocence, she doesn't have to prove anything, it's
14 all up to the prosecution?

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1 Do you have any quarrel with any of those
2 concepts?

3 MR. WATERS: No, I don't.

4 MR. KEITH: Do you have any quarrel with the concept
5 that I have mentioned before to other jurors, diminished
6 capacity, that one necessarily isn't as responsible as others
7 for the commission of an offense due to mental illness,
8 mental defect or other types of trauma?

9 MR. WATERS: You are getting a little fast there.

10 MR. KEITH: I don't talk that fast. That's the first
11 time anybody has ever said that to me in my life.

12 MR. WATERS: Well, to me you were getting -- maybe you
13 were just a little low there.

14 MR. KEITH: All right; I will raise my voice.

15 Do you have any quarrel with the rule of law that
16 states that someone who is mentally ill or mentally disturbed
17 and who commits a crime may not be as responsible as the next
18 person who has all their marbles?

19 MR. WATERS: No, I have no quarrel.

20 MR. KEITH: And you would be able to follow such a rule
21 of law if you were so instructed?

22 MR. WATERS: Yes.

23 MR. KEITH: And apply that law to the facts of this
24 case?

25 MR. WATERS: Yes.

26 MR. KEITH: Now, the evidence no doubt will show that
27 Miss Van Houten was involved with Mr. Manson.

28 Would you tend to give her less consideration than

1 she might otherwise deserve or would otherwise deserve
2 because of that association?

3 Would you say, "Thumbs down"?

4 MR. WATERS: No.

5 MR. KEITH: Because of that fact, and that fact alone.

6 MR. WATERS: No.

7 MR. KEITH: And would you consider his role in this
8 case -- and he will have one; I can assure you -- along with
9 all the other evidence in the case, and weigh his role as it
10 may have affected Miss Van Houten?

11 MR. WATERS: Yes.

12 MR. KEITH: And you won't simply say, he's a horrible
13 man, which he was, and that anybody that had anything to do
14 with him is equally bad.

15 You are not going to say that.

16 MR. WATERS: Definitely.

17 MR. KEITH: Would you have any problem in listening to
18 gory evidence or viewing bloody pictures?

19 MR. WATERS: No, I wouldn't.

20 MR. KEITH: Do you think that would so inflame your
21 mind you would tend to close it as to all the other favorable
22 evidence, in the event there is some in this case --

23 MR. WATERS: No.

24 MR. KEITH: -- and I assume there will be?

25 Pardon me?

26 MR. WATERS: No.

27 MR. KEITH: If the evidence indicates that Miss Van Houten
28 led a bizarre life style back in the late '60s, would you

1 be inclined not to give her any benefit whatsoever, and again
2 thumbs down simply because of the way she lived?

3 MR. WATERS: No.

4 MR. KEITH: I'm not suggesting, again, as I have
5 suggested to others -- I said to others that that kind of
6 communal life style is not relevant.

7 I'm not suggesting that at all. But you may take,
8 you may take issue with the manner in which she lived at one
9 time and say to yourself, "I wouldn't want any child of mine
10 living in that manner. That's pretty awful."

11 MR. WATERS: No, I wouldn't say that.

1 MR. KEITH: That's all right if you said that, that's
2 all right.

3 But what I am saying is, would you consider
4 that evidence for the relevance that it's offered for, for
5 the meaning and significance that it is offered for, and not
6 just consider it -- and not just disregard the purpose of that
7 kind of testimony.

8 MR. WATERS: I will have an open mind. I wouldn't.

9 MR. KEITH: Do you think you will be able to keep an
10 open mind throughout the case?

11 MR. WATERS: Yes.

12 MR. KEITH: And you think you will be able to maintain
13 an individual opinion in the event you are selected as a juror
14 and you reach the deliberations stage?

15 MR. WATERS: Yes.

16 MR. KEITH: And you believe that you wouldn't just
17 change your mind because you were in the minority and there was
18 a majority of jurors who had a different opinion.

19 In other words, you wouldn't change your mind
20 arbitrarily, would you?

21 MR. WATERS: No.

22 MR. KEITH: You would want to be convinced, after
23 discussions with the other jurors, that your opinion first
24 held was erroneous before you'd change it.

25 MR. WATERS: Yes.

26 MR. KEITH: Let me ask you, Mr. Waters:

27 The evidence may show that Hanson had a very
28 strange belief, that he talked about insistently --

1 You have read the book — I forget whether you
2 read "Helter Skelter" or not.

3 MR. WATERS: No, I didn't read it.

4 MR. KEITH: You have heard of the book, though.

5 MR. WATERS: Yes, I have heard of it.

6 MR. KEITH: And I forget whether you saw the T.V.
7 picture Helter Skelter.

8 MR. WATERS: No, I didn't see the movie.

9 MR. KEITH: Manson — I think the evidence may well
10 show that Manson believed in what you might term an
11 Armageddon that he called "helter skelter," in which there was
12 going to be a race war, blacks against whites, and that this
13 was the belief he foisted on numerous people in his —

14 MR. KAY: Well, I'm going to object to that. There is
15 no evidence that he foisted any belief on anybody.

16 THE COURT: The objection is sustained.

17 You may rephrase the question.

18 MR. KEITH: All right.

19 In the event, Mr. Waters, that Manson believed
20 there would be a revolution between the blacks and the whites,
21 and in the event the evidence indicates that Miss Van Bonten
22 believed that there was going to be that same revolution,
23 there was going to be a civil war — and I don't want to go
24 into it any further — would that bother you to the extent
25 that you'd be unable to keep an open and fair mind towards her?

26 MR. WATERS: No, I wouldn't. It wouldn't bother me at
27 all.

28 MR. KEITH: We are talking about a race war now, blacks

1 against whites.

2 MR. WATERS: It won't bother me.

3 MR. KEITH: Would you like to -- Well, let me ask you
4 one more question:

5 Is there anything, now that you have been sitting
6 in the box for awhile, that you would like to share with us
7 regarding a possible inability on your part to be fair and
8 impartial towards Luther?

9 MR. WATERS: No.

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1 MR. KEENE: Because I have been at this long enough,
2 and I suppose we could keep going on for hours with one
3 prospective juror, asking them questions, a multitude of
4 questions about themselves and their attitudes.

5 I can't do that. I shouldn't do it.

6 So I have to ask you to level with us and tell us
7 if there is anything that has cropped up in your mind that's
8 going to cause you difficulty in being fair?

9 MR. WATERS: No.

10 MR. KEENE: All right.

11 Do you think you'd hesitate to return a verdict
12 in favor of Miss Van Houten even though you thought it might
13 be an unpopular one in the community?

14 MR. WATERS: No, I wouldn't hesitate.

15 MR. KEENE: Can you think of any reason why you'd
16 hesitate to return a verdict in her favor if that's the way
17 you felt, if that's the way your mind and your heart and
18 your conscience reacted to the evidence?

19 Do you think there is anything that would cause
20 you to have reservations about returning such a verdict?

21 MR. WATERS: No.

22 MR. KEENE: Thank you.

23 Will you pass the microphones down to Mr. Swan.

24 Is that right, Mr. Swan?

25 MR. SWAN: Yes, sir.

26 MR. KEENE: You have five children, and they are all
27 grown now?

28 MR. SWAN: Yes, they are.

1 MR. KOZEM: Could you tell me what they do, if you
2 remember?

3 (Laughter.)

4 MR. SWAN: Well, one is in the service, one works for
5 the L.A. International Airport.

6 The other two just lay around.

7 (Laughter.)

8 MR. KOZEM: I know what you mean. That's only four.

9 I have got down here you have got five.

10 MR. SWAN: Yes; my daughter is in San Francisco. She
11 lives in Frisco.

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1 MR. KEITH: What does she do?
2 MR. SWAN: She works for the social service up there.
3 MR. KEITH: Is she the eldest child?
4 MR. SWAN: Yes, she is.
5 MR. KEITH: She's 30?
6 MR. SWAN: Yes.
7 MR. KEITH: What is the youngest -- I've lost track. I
8 got 30, 28, 25, 19, and I missed somebody.
9 MR. SWAN: 18.
10 MR. KEITH: Who are the ones that hang around, the 19
11 and 18 --
12 MR. SWAN: The one that's 19, the one that's 25.
13 MR. KEITH: Well, it isn't always easy to get jobs
14 nowadays.
15 MR. SWAN: That's true.
16 MR. KEITH: Do you work for the City of Los Angeles?
17 MR. SWAN: Yes, I do.
18 MR. KEITH: And then I didn't get down what you did for
19 the city, I'm sorry.
20 MR. SWAN: I was a laborer.
21 MR. KEITH: A laborer?
22 MR. SWAN: Yes.
23 MR. KEITH: In construction?
24 MR. SWAN: Yes, construction.
25 MR. KEITH: And your wife is a beautician?
26 MR. SWAN: Yes, she is.
27 MR. KEITH: How long have you been with the City of Los
28 Angeles?

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MR. SWAN: Twenty-six years.

MR. KEITH: Have you ever been in the service?

MR. SWAN: Yes, I have.

MR. KEITH: World War II?

MR. SWAN: Yes, it was.

MR. KEITH: What did you do in World War II?

MR. SWAN: I was a drill instructor and I was a cook.

MR. KEITH: An instructor?

MR. SWAN: A drill instructor and a cook.

MR. KEITH: Are you a member of any veterans organizations?

MR. SWAN: No, I'm not.

MR. KEITH: Never have been?

MR. SWAN: No, I haven't.

MR. KEITH: Do you know any police officers?

MR. SWAN: No, not offhand.

MR. KEITH: And do you know any psychiatrists?

MR. SWAN: No, I don't.

MR. KEITH: Has anybody in your family or any close friends ever been treated by a psychiatrist?

MR. SWAN: No, they haven't.

MR. KEITH: What do you think of psychiatrists in general? I mean, there's good doctors and bad doctors, like there's good people in every field and inferior people. But --

MR. SWAN: Well, I guess they're all right.

MR. KEITH: You never had occasion to think about it much?

MR. SWAN: No, never.

MR. KEITH: Well, do you think psychiatrists could form a

1 useful function in society now that you have had a chance to
2 think about it?

3 MR. SWAN: I think they will.

4 MR. KEITH: Well, would you be inclined to advise someone
5 whom you thought was mentally ill or disturbed to go to a
6 psychiatrist?

7 MR. SWAN: Definitely I would.

8 MR. KEITH: Would you go to one yourself if you thought
9 you were in trouble upstairs?

10 MR. SWAN: I sure would.

11 MR. KEITH: You wouldn't be inclined, then, to disregard
12 the testimony of psychiatrists in the event they appeared in
13 Miss Van Houten's behalf?

14 MR. SWAN: No, I do not believe so.

15 MR. KEITH: You would listen to their testimony and give
16 it the weight you thought it deserved?

17 MR. SWAN: That I would.
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1 MR. KEITH: You wouldn't simply put them down, would
2 you, because it is a field you don't know much about --

3 MR. SWAN: No.

4 MR. KEITH: -- since you hadn't thought about it much?

5 MR. SWAN: No, I wouldn't do that.

6 MR. KEITH: In the event the evidence indicated Miss Van
7 Houten was involved with Manson, would you hold that against
8 her to the point where you wouldn't listen to any other
9 evidence --

10 MR. SWAN: No, I wouldn't.

11 MR. KEITH: -- and just decide she was guilty by
12 association?

13 You wouldn't do that, would you?

14 MR. SWAN: No, I wouldn't.

15 MR. KEITH: In the event the evidence indicated Manson
16 advocated a race war between the blacks and whites and that
17 Miss Van Houten believed in that, would that, in and of itself,
18 simply turn you off against her?

19 MR. SWAN: No, it wouldn't.

20 MR. KEITH: Would you consider that evidence in the light
21 of all the other evidence in the case in deciding her guilt or
22 innocence?

23 MR. SWAN: No.

24 MR. KEITH: Or would you be inclined to give her position
25 less consideration than it otherwise would deserve because she
26 did believe that a race war was imminent?

27 MR. SWAN: No, I don't believe so.

28 MR. KEITH: Would you be inclined to give Miss Van Houten

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1 less consideration than she really did deserve because she
2 lived a bizarre life style back in the late '60s, like a
3 hippie sort of?

4 MR. SWAN: Well --

5 MR. KEITH: Or would you consider that evidence along
6 with all the other evidence --

7 MR. SWAN: -- no.

8 MR. KEITH: -- in --

9 MR. SWAN: No, I wouldn't.

10 MR. KEITH: I'm not suggesting such evidence isn't
11 relevant. I'm just suggesting or asking you if you would be
12 upset and irritated and angry and hostile because she lived a
13 kind of life that you yourself wouldn't want to see your
14 children live for a year and a half or so.

15 MR. SWAN: No, I wouldn't.

16 MR. KEITH: Has anybody in your family or amongst your
17 close friends or children of your close friends ever been
18 involved in drug abuse?

19 MR. SWAN: No, not that I know of.

20 MR. KEITH: Have you done any reading on the use of
21 illegal drugs?

22 MR. SWAN: I read some now and then. I've heard about
23 some.

24 MR. KEITH: But you haven't made any special effort to
25 learn about drug abuse?

26 MR. SWAN: No, I haven't.

27 MR. KEITH: Have you ever heard of LSD?

28 MR. SWAN: Yes, I have.

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1 MR. KEITH: And do you know anything about its qualities?

2 MR. SWAN: No, I don't.

3 MR. KEITH: Do you know anything about what it can do
4 to you?

5 MR. SWAN: No more than what I've heard.

6 MR. KEITH: Pardon me?

7 MR. SWAN: No more than what I've heard.

8 MR. KEITH: Well, you have heard something about LSD,
9 then?

10 MR. SWAN: Yes, I have.

11 MR. KEITH: And it's also known as acid.

12 Have you heard that impression or that term?

13 MR. SWAN: I'm not quite for sure.

14 MR. KEITH: Well, all right. That's not important.

15 But having read and heard about LSD, have you
16 formed any opinion about what it might do to somebody who
17 used it chronically?

18 MR. SWAN: I have read it would do you in.

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1 MR. KEITH: Very good.

2 (Laughter.)

3 MR. KEITH: In the event you saw some very bloody
4 pictures, do you think that would upset you to the point where
5 you couldn't give Leslie a fair trial?

6 MR. SWAN: No.

7 MR. KEITH: Or heard some gory evidence?

8 MR. SWAN: No, it would not.

9 MR. KEITH: Have you ever seen pictures of dead people
10 before?

11 MR. SWAN: Yes, I have.

12 MR. KEITH: And, incidentally, have you ever, or any
13 members of your family or friends, ever been the victims or
14 witnesses to a serious crime, and that's I'm not just talking
15 about homicide but robbery or burglary or theft?

16 MR. SWAN: No, I haven't.

17 MR. KEITH: Do you think you are going to be able to
18 keep an open mind throughout this case and not close it at the
19 end of the prosecution's case and just say, "She's guilty,"
20 without listening to the defense?

21 MR. SWAN: I believe so.

22 MR. KEITH: Do you think you are going to be able to
23 maintain your individual opinion --

24 MR. SWAN: Yes, I will.

25 MR. KEITH: -- in the jury room once the case is handed
26 to you for deliberations?

27 MR. SWAN: Yes, I would.

28 MR. KEITH: Let's see.

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1 You haven't been on a jury before, have you?

2 MR. SWAN: No, I have never been on a jury. I've been
3 a witness.

4 MR. KEITH: You have been a witness in a case?

5 MR. SWAN: No more than for the City of Los Angeles.

6 MR. KEITH: Pardon me?

7 MR. SWAN: No more than for the City of Los Angeles. I've
8 been on the witness stand.

9 MR. KEITH: Is this a civil or criminal case?

10 MR. SWAN: Civil.

11 MR. KEITH: Damage suit?

12 MR. SWAN: Yes.

13 MR. KEITH: So you have some idea of how cases progress?

14 MR. SWAN: Yes, I do.

15 MR. KEITH: Do you have any quarrel with any of the
16 rules of law that you have heard so far today or on the other
17 days you have been here?

18 MR. SWAN: No, I haven't.

19 MR. KEITH: And do you have any quarrel with a rule of
20 law that says someone can be less responsible for a criminal
21 act than someone else due to mental disease, illness, defect,
22 or other causes?

23 MR. SWAN: No.

24 MR. KEITH: Do you think you could follow that rule of
25 law? And I'm paraphrasing it very loosely.

26 Do you think you could follow such a rule of law --

27 MR. SWAN: Yes.

28 MR. KEITH: -- if the court decides that that is

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1 applicable to this case?

2 MR. SWAN: Yes, I believe so.

3 MR. KEITH: Pardon me?

4 MR. SWAN: Yes, I believe so.

5 MR. KEITH: Would you have any quarrel with it?

6 MR. SWAN: No.

7 MR. KEITH: Do you believe you can follow a principle of
8 law that, in essence, says that if I'm of sound mind and shoot
9 you, I may be guilty of one type of offense, but if I'm nuts
10 and shoot you, I may be guilty of something less?

11 Do you think you can follow that kind of a rule
12 of law?

13 MR. SWAN: Yes, I ---
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1 MR. KEITH: Do you think you would have any hesitation
2 about returning a verdict in favor of Miss Van Houten --

3 MR. SWAN: No --

4 MR. KEITH: Now, wait a minute, wait a minute. I've got
5 to finish that. You probably heard it.

6 -- even though you feel it might be unpopular in
7 the community or unpopular with some of your friends or
8 acquaintances?

9 Do you think you'd have the guts to do that?

10 MR. SWAN: Yes, I --

11 MR. KEITH: Well, you look like you would, but I got to
12 hear it from you. Huh?

13 MR. SWAN: Yes, I would.

14 MR. KEITH: All right.

15 Now, is there anything you can think of, being
16 serious, really, anything you can think of that you would
17 like to share with us about your capacity to act as a fair
18 and impartial juror that we haven't delved into yet?

19 Because I don't want to stand here asking questions
20 all afternoon.

21 MR. SWAN: No, I haven't.

22 MR. KEITH: You are positive of that?

23 MR. SWAN: Yes, I am.

24 MR. KEITH: Don't be embarrassed about it.

25 MR. SWAN: No.

26 MR. KEITH: See, this is the only chance we have to
27 find out what your state of mind is toward the prosecution or
28 toward Miss Van Houten. And we've got -- we should know if

1 there is anything practically in your subconscious mind that
2 you would like to tell us about.

3 MR. SWAN: No, I don't have anything.

4 MR. KEITH: Thank you very much.

5 Would you pass the microphone to --

6 Is that Mrs. Titus?

7 MRS. TITUS: Mrs., yes.

8 MR. KEITH: Do you have an occupation outside the home,
9 Mrs. Titus?

10 MRS. TITUS: Yes, I do.

11 MR. KEITH: What is that? I didn't get it down, I'm
12 sorry.

13 MRS. TITUS: U. S. Postal Service.

14 MR. KEITH: How long have you had that job?

15 MRS. TITUS: A little over ten years.

16 MR. KEITH: And what did you do before then?

17 MRS. TITUS: I worked in adoption institution.

18 MR. KEITH: How long?

19 MRS. TITUS: About five years, I think.

20 MR. KEITH: And your husband is a trucker?

21 MRS. TITUS: Yes, truck tire service repair work.

22 MR. KEITH: I'm sorry, I just put down trucker. That's
23 wrong. He runs --

24 He has his own business --

25 MRS. TITUS: Right.

26 MR. KEITH: -- as a truck tire service?

27 MRS. TITUS: Yes.

28 MR. KEITH: And you don't have any children?

1 MRS. TITUS: No.

2 MR. KEITH: When you were in school -- maybe you are
3 still in school, I don't know -- did you ever take any
4 courses in psychology?

5 MRS. TITUS: Yes, I did.

6 MR. KEITH: How long ago was that?

7 MRS. TITUS: Hmm.

8 MR. KEITH: Don't answer that.

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1 MR. KEITH: Have you kept up with psychology and
2 psychiatry, or read books or articles about those subjects?

3 MRS. TITUS: Articles and so forth.

4 MR. KEITH: And what's your feeling about medical
5 doctors who practice psychiatry?

6 MRS. TITUS: I think there is a place for all of them.

7 MR. KEITH: You wouldn't disregard the testimony of
8 psychiatrists, in the event they appear in Miss Van Houten's
9 behalf, simply because they have that profession?

10 MRS. TITUS: No.

11 MR. KEITH: You are not disparaging that profession,
12 are you?

13 As a matter of fact, you feel it's a good and
14 proper and socially valuable profession; is that right?

15 MRS. TITUS: Yes, I do.

16 MR. KEITH: And would you hesitate to send somebody
17 that you thought was mentally sick to a psychiatrist for
18 treatment?

19 MRS. TITUS: Just this morning I advised my husband to
20 go.

21 (Laughter.)

22 MR. KEITH: Good for you.

23 Well, is he going to do it?

24 MRS. TITUS: If I have a black eye in the morning you'll
25 know.

26 (Laughter.)

27 MR. KEITH: I don't mean to be prying, but --

28 MRS. TITUS: Yes.

23-2

1 MR. KAY: Go ahead.

2 MR. KEITH: I just want to know if you have any --
3 You see, if you selected as a juror we'd like
4 you to really be able to concentrate on the case, and if you
5 have got problems at home, or something, that might be
6 difficult.

7 And I hesitate to ask such a question, but I'll
8 ask it anyway.

9 Is there a problem that may make it difficult for
10 you to devote your attention to this case?

11 MRS. TITUS: Let the record show I was kidding.

12 MR. KAY: That's in case your husband reads the record,
13 huh?

14 MRS. TITUS: Right.

15 (Laughter.)

16 MR. KEITH: Whether you were kidding or not, you still
17 feel that psychiatrists are --

18 MRS. TITUS: Are very important.

19 MR. KEITH: All right, good.

20 And you wouldn't disregard their testimony, would
21 you?

22 MRS. TITUS: No, I wouldn't.

23 MR. KEITH: And you would listen to it carefully, as
24 you would all the testimony of any other witness in this case.

25 MRS. TITUS: Yes.

26 MR. KEITH: Would you be inclined to deny or deprive
27 Leslie the benefit of her testimony, in the event she
28 testifies in this case, simply because she is a defendant

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and charged with these offenses?

MRS. TITUS: No.

MR. KEITH: You understand, as the judge told you, the fact that she is charged with these offenses and is here awaiting trial is no evidence whatsoever of her guilt.

MRS. TITUS: Yes.

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1 MR. KEITH: And you feel that's a proper rule of law?

2 MRS. TITUS: Yes.

3 MR. KEITH: You don't have any quarrel with that rule
4 of law.

5 MRS. TITUS: No quarrel, no.

6 MR. KEITH: Do you have any quarrel with any of the
7 other law that has been enunciated from the bench?

8 MRS. TITUS: In this particular case?

9 MR. KEITH: Yes.

10 MRS. TITUS: No.

11 MR. KEITH: Do you have any quarrel with the diminished
12 capacity law?

13 You have heard me discuss it with all the other
14 jurors?

15 MRS. TITUS: No, I don't.

16 MR. KEITH: Do you think you could follow that law if
17 you were so instructed?

18 MRS. TITUS: Yes, I could.

19 MR. KEITH: And do you feel that's a bad law, that
20 somebody who is not mentally well is less responsible for
21 certain acts than somebody who is mentally sound?

22 MRS. TITUS: No. I think that all cases should be tried
23 and judged on the sole case.

24 MR. KEITH: Very true; but you don't have any quarrel
25 with the law -- the general proposition --

26 MRS. TITUS: No.

27 MR. KEITH: -- with the law that states that someone
28 may be less responsible for an act than someone else because

of a mental illness or disease?

MRS. TITUS: No, I have no quarrel.

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MR. KEITH: Do you have any exposure with drug abuse?

Not yourself, of course, but friends and relatives.

MRS. TITUS: No, I don't know of any.

MR. KEITH: Have you read anything about LSD or other drugs that people take?

MRS. TITUS: Yes, I have.

MR. KEITH: You have heard about these things on television or radio?

MRS. TITUS: Yes.

MR. KEITH: And have you ever heard of LSD before?

MRS. TITUS: Yes, I have.

MR. KEITH: Have you ever read about it?

MRS. TITUS: Yes, I have read articles.

MR. KEITH: And have you read articles recently about it, or over the years?

MRS. TITUS: Over the years, yes.

MR. KEITH: Do you have an opinion about what it can do to somebody?

MRS. TITUS: Yes, I do.

MR. KEITH: Do you think it's your opinion now that it is a totally therapeutic drug?

Do you know what I mean when I use that term, "therapeutic"?

MRS. TITUS: Yes.

No, I don't think it's a therapeutic drug.

MR. KEITH: Have you done any reading or heard about some groups that practice sort of a form of thought control under the guise of a religious sect, such as Hare Krishna or

23a-2
1 Reverend Moon or scientology or perhaps other groups that
2 espouse the same principle?

3 MRS. TITUS: No.

4 MR. KEITH: Do you know anything about that?

5 MRS. TITUS: No, I don't.

6 MR. KEITH: Do you think you'd be so upset if you saw
7 bloody pictures that you would have a difficult time being
8 fair with Leelis?

9 In other words, would your passions be inflamed,
10 your emotions --

11 MRS. TITUS: (Laughing) No. After I come to, no.

12 MR. KEITH: All right.

13 -- that you couldn't consider any other evidence
14 in the case?

15 MRS. TITUS: No.

16 MR. KEITH: Can you think of anything else that in your
17 experience and background and thought processes and learning
18 you would like to share with us that you think might have a
19 bearing on your capacity or qualifications to be a fair juror?

20 MRS. TITUS: Other than the fact that I would weigh all
21 evidence.

22 MR. KEITH: Well, that's what you are supposed to do.

23 MRS. TITUS: To make a decision.

24 MR. KEITH: No; I'm talking about something --

25 MRS. TITUS: No, I don't.

26 MR. KEITH: -- in your upbringing or your experience.

27 MRS. TITUS: No.

28 MR. KEITH: Do you think you can keep an open mind

1 throughout the case and maintain your individual opinion?

2 You know, I have been talking about this to the
3 other jurors.

4 Do you think you can do those things all right?

5 MRS. TITUS: Yes, I could.

6 MR. KEITH: Okay.

7 Let me ask you this one other thing that I have
8 asked some jurors. I probably should have asked all of them,
9 but I will ask you.

10 There may well be evidence in this case that
11 Manson advocated there was going to be a race war between
12 blacks and whites.

13 I'm not saying that it isn't significant; it is.

14 But the fact that he advocated such a state of
15 affairs, and if the evidence shows that Miss Van Houten
16 believed there was going to be a race war -- which Manson
17 called "helter-skelter," incidentally-- would that so affect
18 your judgment that you would give Leslie less consideration
19 than she would otherwise deserve?

20 MRS. TITUS: No.

21 MR. KEITH: Do you feel that any involvement by
22 Miss Van Houten with Manson would so affect your mind that
23 you couldn't think of anything else and would find her guilty
24 by association?

25 In other words, Manson is a bad fellow, and anybody
26 that was associated with him is equally as bad. Down the
27 tubes,

28 Would you have that state of mind?

1 MRS. TITUS: No.

2 MR. KEITH: Or do you know?

3 MRS. TITUS: No.

4 MR. KEITH: I don't have any further questions.

5 Would you like to pass --

6 THE COURT: I think this might be an appropriate time
7 to take the recess.

8 All right. Ladies and gentlemen, let me advise
9 you again that you are not to discuss this case amongst
10 yourselves or with anyone else, you are not to form any
11 opinion concerning this matter or express any opinion
12 concerning this matter until the case is finally given to you.

13 Furthermore, you must not allow yourselves to
14 read, see, or hear any news media accounts about this case or
15 any matters connected with it.

16 The court at this time will be in recess until
17 tomorrow morning.

18 All jurors are to return to Department 106 -- not
19 this courtroom, 106 -- tomorrow morning at 9:45.

20 Have a good evening.

21 Counsel and the defendant to be present at 10 a.m.

22 The court is in recess.

23 (At 4:05 p.m. an adjournment was taken until
24 Thursday, April 7, 1977, at 10 a.m.)

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