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STATE OF MARYLAND * IN THE
Plaintiff(s) * CIRCUIT COURT
vs. * FOR
ADNAN SYED * BALTIMORE CITY
Defendant(s) * Case No.: 199103042, 43, 45 & 46
* * * * *

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(Trial)

BEFORE: THE HONORABLE WILLIAM QUARLES

HEARING DATE: December 13, 1999

APPEARANCES:

FOR THE PLAINTIFF: KEVIN URICK, ESQUIRE
KATHLEEN MURPHY, ESQUIRE

FOR THE DEFENDANT: CHRISTINA GUTIERREZ, ESQUIRE

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1 send them home, or do what we needed to.

2 Q. Did you have occasion to see the Defendant that day?

3 A. Yes, I did. The first time, I saw Adnan was in the hallway right outside the
4 health suite door and he was just standing there. And he really wasn't talking, he wasn't
5 funning - - he was just standing there. And I really wasn't concerned about Adnan at that
6 point because there were a lot of students coming into crisis, and they were crying, and
7 they were upset, and some were angry, and the atmosphere was very, very charged. And
8 Adnan was just standing outside of the door. And after about 10 minutes, a teacher came
9 and said that she was very, very concerned that Adnan wasn't talking, he wasn't moving,
10 and seemed to be unable to be reached - -I can't remember her exact words - - but that
11 nobody could reach him. Then this other psychologist from the crisis team came in - -
12 Dwayne - - and was very concerned, too, that he's tried to see Adnan and some other
13 people had tried to talk to Adnan. Again, he was not responding. So at that time, I went
14 out in the hall, and Adnan with some friends, and I put my arms around Adnan, and said
15 "Adnan, come with me. We're going to go back in my health suite." I brought Adnan
16 back in the back room in the examination room and sat him down in a chair. And it was
17 just, at that point, he and I. And I began to talk to Adnan and finally he did then begin to
18 speak.

19 Q. When you first saw him, how did he appear?

20 A. He appeared shocked. His eyes were big. He was mute. He wasn't talking.
21 He wasn't crying. He was just absolutely stone still.

22 Q. What is a catatonic state?

23 A. That's pretty much what I just described. A person being unable to express
24 any emotion, any activity, and just almost freeze in time. As if a frame has been frozen. A
25 catatonic state - - that person freezes and doesn't progress or doesn't regress, just stays in

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1 one -- one frame of mind in one position.

2 Q. Have you had much occasion to counsel people in times of grief?

3 A. Absolutely. I have to do a lot of that in my job.

4 Q. Are there any other symptoms of catatonic state besides the ones that you
5 listed there?

6 A. It usually is an extended period of time. Catatonic state also usually does not
7 remedy itself to just brief counseling. It usually needs a psychotherapeutic approach and
8 sometimes it needs medication or different treatments. It usually doesn't just rectify itself
9 with a brief counseling one episode.

10 Q. Was there anything about the Defendant's symptoms that did not conform
11 with a catatonic state?

12 A. Absolutely. As soon as I touched Adnan and started to walk him into the
13 health suite, the look changed. The eyes weren't so big. His posture wasn't so erect. He
14 walked easily. He didn't need any leading. He walked into the health suite into the back
15 room and sat of his own volition. There was no intervention on my part, at that point,
16 except touching him and saying "come on, Adnan, we need to talk." And just with that
17 alone, his supposedly catatonic appearance changed.

18 Q. And based on your expertise and training, did you form any opinion at that
19 time?

20 A. My opinion was that this was a very contrived emotion -- very, very
21 rehearsed -- very insincere.

22 Q. Now did you talk to him that day?

23 A. Yes, I did.

24 Q. What, if anything, did he tell you?

25 A. When he first sat down, I began and I said "Adnan, I know this must be

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1 really hard. I know you loved Hae Lee. I know she's gone and that this is very hard on
2 you." And not quoting, but this was the context, that how could I be sure it was Hae Lee?
3 I said "well the police have identified the body. I don't know if they've done it through
4 fingerprinting or what method they did it, but they're certain it was Hae Lee." And his
5 comment is that all Asians look alike and that the police were stupid. That they had tried
6 to trace Hae Lee back through a visit to her father in California and her father - - the lady
7 that lived in California, and that he didn't think it was really Hae Lee. I assured him it was
8 Hae Lee, and he started to cry. And I started to hug him, and pat him shoulder, and told
9 him I knew that he loved her, and to think back when - - to a good time. And he said the
10 night before Hae Lee disappeared she had called him. She had wanted to get back
11 together with him, that she still loved him, but that he didn't want to get back into that
12 relationship in that manner - - that they would always be friends. And that was unusual - -
13 that was an unusual comment to me after he had just learning that she had died.

14 Q. Did you have any further contact with him after that day?

15 A. After that Adnan began talking to friends, and friends were in and out of the
16 health suite all day. A group of friends went to another student's house to (indiscernible)
17 together, or to talk, or to just be together to share their experiences. And I called Adnan's
18 mother and asked permission for him to go, because I had to receive permission for every
19 child to leave the school. And when I hung up from the - - from speaking to his mother
20 and told Adnan that his mother had given permission to let him go, he - - he was fine. He
21 was laughing, and he was smiling, and he left with his friends. It was a complete change -
22 - a complete change. After that time, I saw Adnan two or three times - - maybe - - maybe
23 a little bit more. Just, you know, he would drop by and say, you know, hi - - how are you.
24 I though we had established some communication if he would drop by just to say hello.

25 MR. URICK: Witness for the defense.

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