- 1 MR. URICK: No, thank you.
- THE COURT: May this witness be excused?
- 3 MR. URICK: Yes.
- 4 MS. GUTIERREZ: Yes.
- 5 THE COURT: May this witness be excused and
- 6 removed from any need to return through a subpoena?
- 7 MS. GUTIERREZ: Yes.
- 8 MR. URICK: Yes.
- 9 THE COURT: Very well. Sir, you are free to go
- 10 at this time.
- 11 (The witness was excused.)
- MR. URICK: The State will call Hope at
- 13 this time.
- 14 THE COURT: All right.
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Is Hope the French
- 16 teacher?
- MS. MURPHY: Uh-huh.
- MS. GUTIERREZ: May we approach the bench?
- 19 THE COURT: Yes.
- . 20 (Counsel and the defendant approached the
 - 21 bench, and the following ensued.)
 - .22 THE COURT: Okay. What I need you to do, is if
 - 23 you would have your client step on this side?
 - MS. GUTIERREZ: Uh-huh.
 - THE COURT: Your client step on this side.

- MS. GUTIERREZ: Over here?
- THE COURT: Yes.
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Okay.
- 4 THE COURT: Thank you.
- 5 MS. GUTIERREZ: Judge, I guess I would move in
- 6 limine, Hope is, to my recollection, a French
- 7 teacher, and she testified at the last trial about a
- 8 number of things. But the purpose, I believe, in them
- 9 calling Hope was to create an inference of evil by
- 10 having her testify --
- 11 THE COURT: A character witness of sorts?
- MS. GUTIERREZ: No. Well, what she described
- 13 and what she was asked to describe was the fact that Hae
- 14 Min Lee worked for her part-time as some kind of aid,
- 15 student-teacher aid, and would be in her classroom during
- 16 times when there were not other students on a regular
- 17 basis.
- 18 THE COURT: Okay. One moment. Why don't we
- 19 just do it the other way around? Because, as I said
- 20 before, to get into what happened the last time was --
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Well, it's my in limine now.
- THE COURT: I know, but based on what I prefer
- 23 to do is ask the State why they are offering it.
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Oh, okay. That's fine.
- 25 THE COURT: And once they tell me --

- 1 MS. GUTIERREZ: Yeah.
- THE COURT: -- then you can --
- 3 MS. GUTIERREZ: Okay.
- 4 THE COURT: -- it sounds like --
- 5 MS. GUTIERREZ: That's fine.
- 6 THE COURT: -- the same thing --
- 7 MS. GUTIERREZ: Okay.
- 8 THE COURT: -- then you can go into objection.
- 9 MR. URICK: Because she has direct observations
- 10 of the defendant, he came in and had a conversation with
- 11 her, which was rather revelatory of his mental state, his
- 12 concerns about how his relationship with her was being
- 13 affected. She --
- 14 THE COURT: When?
- MR. URICK: This was approximately December, I
- 16 believe.
- 17 THE COURT: Before the murder?
- 18 MR. URICK: Yes.
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Yeah.
- 20 THE COURT: And when you say how the
- 21 relationship was going, are you offering her as a motive
- 22 witness?
- MR. URICK: As -- yeah, that would be
- 24 tangential to motive. It's laying the foundation through
- 25 several witnesses of the conflict of the defendant was

- 1 experiencing, how it was affecting their relationship
- 2 over time, how it led to the various breakups, and I
- 3 believe the reason it ultimately led to the murder.
- 4 THE COURT: Okay. And -- I'm sorry.
- 5 MR. URICK: And also this defendant actively
- 6 confronted her one time and accused her of working with
- 7 the investigation that was investigating her
- 8 disappearance.
- 9 THE COURT: And you're offering her just to say
- 10 that the defendant confronted her to say what? In other
- 11 words, I'm trying to understand the relevance of any
- 12 confrontation that the defendant may have made with this
- 13 witness as to this case?
- 14 MR. URICK: She was aiding the Baltimore County
- 15 detectives in getting information around the school. The
- 16 defendant confronted her about that on one occasion.
- 17 THE COURT: You mean information about the
- 18 defendant around the school?
- 19 MR. URICK: About Hae's disappearance and also
- 20 the defendant, specifically about his actions and
- 21 whereabouts on the day in question.
- 22 THE COURT: On the day in question?
- MR. URICK: Yes.
- 24 THE COURT: And she had information about his
- 25 behavior and whereabouts on the date in question?

- 1 MR. URICK: She was helping --
- THE COURT: The date of the murder --
- 3 MR. URICK: She was helping the County
- 4 detectives gather that information from various
- 5 individuals throughout the school.
- 6 THE COURT: My question is does she have any
- 7 personal knowledge about the defendant's whereabouts or
- 8 knowledge of those whereabouts on the day of the murder,
- 9 or before the murder, or proximity of the murder? Does
- 10 she have personal knowledge?
- 11 MR. URICK: Not on the day of the
- 12 disappearance, I believe.
- 13 THE COURT: So her personal knowledge only goes
- 14 to the relationship between the victim and the defendant?
- MR. URICK: Yes. And also his actions when he
- 16 found out that she was aiding the detectives in
- 17 investigating the disappearance.
- 18 THE COURT: As it relates to him?
- 19 MR. URICK: Yes.
- 20 THE COURT: Is she gonna testify that she
- 21 confronted him, believing he was the murderer and said
- 22 something?
- MR. URICK: No, he came up and confronted her.
- 24 THE COURT: All right.
- Ms. Gutierrez, in light of what --

- MS. GUTIERREZ: Well, Judge, that's news to me.
- 2 THE COURT: Okay. Well, --
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Okay. All of that's news to
- 4 me.
- 5 THE COURT: Well, --
- 6 MS. GUTIERREZ: This is new stuff.
- 7 THE COURT: Ms. --
- 8 MS. GUTIERREZ: This isn't what she testified
- 9 to before.
- 10 THE COURT: Well -- well, regardless --
- 11 MS. GUTIERREZ: In response to that, I would
- 12 certainly argue I think relevance keeps it out.
- THE COURT: Why don't we just stop right here.
- 14 Ladies and gentlemen, it appears that I'm gonna
- 15 spend a little time with counsel on this next issue, and
- 16 rather than have you sit and then send you to lunch in
- 17 ten minutes, I'll send you to lunch and talk to counsel.
- So at this time, I'm gonna ask that you leave
- 19 your note pads face down. I'm also gonna ask that you
- 20 pass to Mr. White that second sheet of paper because, at
 - 21 this time, you do not need it for this witness; is that
 - '22 not correct?
 - 23 All right. So you'll get that back at any time
 - 24 in the future we have a witness who will be utilizing
 - 25 that large exhibit 34 that's been marked for

- 1 identification purposes.
- I must remind you during the luncheon recess
- 3 that you should not read anything about this case, you
- 4 should not look at the news or the media, and you should
- 5 not discuss this case amongst yourselves or with anyone
- 6 else.
- 7 I ask that you return to that jury room around
- 8 the corner no later than 1:30. You're welcome to go get
- 9 your lunch if you'd like and bring it back. I know it's
- 10 cold out, although the sun is shining.
- 11 And if you opt to do that and you find that
- 12 door's locked, just knock on my chambers door, which is
- 13 right around the corner this way. And I want to say this
- 14 way, just across from the elevators there's a door, has
- 15 my name on it, someone should be there to unlock the jury
- 16 room if you find that it is locked before 1:30.
- 17 Have a good lunch. I'll see you after lunch.
- 18 And please try to be prompt. We will try to do the same.
- 19 The witness that is on the witness stand, I'm
- 20 gonna ask you to remain just for one moment.
- 21 (The jury left the room.)
- 22 (Pause.)
- 23 THE COURT: For the record, I also noticed that
- 24 there are a couple of witnesses who have elected to
- 25 remain. I must admonish you that all the witnesses in

- 1 this case, even though you are excused, are under
- 2 sequestration.
- 3 What that means is you cannot discuss what
- 4 takes place in the courtroom. If you were to talk to
- 5 someone who has not yet testified, you would eliminate
- 6 them, effectively, from their ability to testify at all.
- 7 And that would include any detectives involved
- 8 in this case. You cannot discuss your testimony with
- 9 them, or with anyone else. But you are welcome to remain
- 10 in the courtroom during the course of the trial as you
- 11 are now excused and will not be called back again.
- 12 The rest of you can indicate also that this --
- 13 yes. Yes.
- 14 (Pause.)
- 15 THE COURT: And for all of you that are
- 16 waiting, you are welcome to stay. I'm gonna hear from
- 17 counsel.
- 18 Why don't you step back on your motion. Ask
- 19 the witness if she'll stay.
- MS. GUTIERREZ: I asked that she step outside?
- 21 THE COURT: I -- give me a chance. Ask that
- 22 she step out in the hallway just for a few moments.
- MS. SCHAB: Am I allowed to use the rest room?
- 24 THE COURT: Yes, you may.
- THE WITNESS: Thank you.

- 1 THE COURT: Do you know where it is?
- MS SCHAB: No, I don't.
- 3 THE COURT: I believe you will have to go down
- 4 the hall --
- 5 MS. GUTIERREZ: To the right.
- 6 THE COURT: Is it one -- then pass the Coke
- 7 machines on the right.
- MS SCHAB: Thank you.
- 9 THE COURT: All right.
- 10 MR. URICK: Your Honor, if I may just
- 11 supplement what I said at the bench. There is one other
- 12 item that this particular witness can testify to. She
- 13 got a list of questions from Detective O'Shea of the
- 14 Baltimore County Police Department that she passed on to
- 15 Debbie to answer.
- Ms. Will testify that she put those
- 17 answers -- those questions in her day planner. During
- 18 the course of the day, she loaned that day planner to
- 19 this defendant. When she got it back those questions
- 20 were missing. So there's another piece of personal --
- 21 string of evidence that comes out of this particular
- 22 witness.
- 23 THE COURT: And were the questions answered?
- MR. URICK: No. They disappeared before Ms.
- 25 could answer them.

- 1 THE COURT: All right.
- Ms. Gutierrez, your objection?
- 3 MS. GUTIERREZ: Well, Judge, all of that is new
- 4 information to us and was not asked of this witness at
- 5 the first trial, so that wasn't the basis of my
- 6 objection.
- 7 THE COURT: I'm not gonna hold the State to try
- 8 AND
- 9 MS. GUTIERREZ: No, I'm not --
- 10 THE COURT: I'm not going to hold you to the
- 11 same --
- 12 MS. GUTIERREZ: That wasn't my -- my, really
- 13 the, if I could, the basis of my motion in limine was to
- 14 avoid what had occurred at the first trial that related
- 15 to this witness's being asked about an event that
- 16 occurred at an unspecified time except it clearly had
- 17 occurred before January 13th during which my client, she
- 18 says, appeared during this particular period of time
- 19 during the school day that wasn't identified, or in the
- 20 morning, to meet Hae Lee in her classroom while Hae Lee
- 21 would be assigned there to do her, whatever her work was.
- 22 She was, like, and aid to this French teacher.
- 23 And that she testified that that occurred on a regular
- 24 basis over a long period of time, but that there was a
- 25 particular day in which Adnan Syed showed up, and during

- 1 that time period Hae Lee did not show up and called her
- 2 on the phone to tell her that, "Don't let on to Adnan" --
- 3 first finding out if Adnan was there waiting for her, and
- 4 for the teacher not to let on to Adnan that it was Hae on
- 5 the phone.
- And I guess I would move in limine to prevent
- 7 that for a number of reasons; one, relevance, the only
- 8 inference is to present that Hae was hiding from, or
- 9 hiding her presence from Adnan, no explanation, just no
- 10 relevance in terms of time, date, or place to the events
- 11 starting on January 13th and beyond at all -- highly
- 12 prejudicial, purposefully prejudicial, with only the
- 13 inference of a bad thing. No good inferences that come
- 14 out of that, and that was the purpose of my motion.
- 15 As to these other things that they're now
- 16 talking about, as I said, they are all news to us. So
- 17 they aren't contained in any disclosure, they were not
- 18 asked of this witness at the first trial, so my
- 19 instinctive reaction is, you know, basically, relevance
- 20 to testify to thing; number one, that occurred, either
- 21 the ones that are alleged to have occurred after, for
- .22 instance, to allow this witness to testify that she heard
- 23 something from a witness who has not testified regarding
- 24 an inference that Adnan intentionally did something;
- 25 i.e., stole questions about himself inadvertently given,

- 1 in order to stymie the investigation?
- Number one, they're hearsay objections to begin
- 3 with. The inferences are impermissible, they are not
- 4 relevant 'cause they cannot be placed in time. They are
- 5 subsequent actions of the defendant, and I haven't heard
- 6 enough, I believe that it's also asking for hearsay of my
- 7 client at a subsequent date.
- 8 As to other events that were discussed
- 9 regarding any other conversation with my client, again,
- 10 I've heard nothing that pinpoints a relevancy connection
- 11 to these time and events. The one conversation Mr. Urick
- 12 referred to, he said was in December. He's established
- 13 -- he's attempting to establish, I believe, that the
- 14 relationship between Mr. Syed and Ms. Lee ended prior to
- 15 January 1st, 1999. And --
- 16 THE COURT: The evidence is then being derived,
- 17 I understand, from this witness, occurring sometime in
- 18 December of 1998, the month prior to her murder?
- MS. GUTIERREZ: That's what I heard. Yes.
- 20 THE COURT: Okay.
- 21 MS. GUTIERREZ: Yes. And so for all of those
- 22 reasons we would object to those things and move in
- 23 limine regarding this witness's ability to testify as I
- 24 said, and again, my objection in limine regarding some
- 25 unspecified date, and a phone call with the victim that,

- 1 as we know, only consisted of the victim saying, "Don't
- 2 let him know I'm on the phone," you know, which is a bad
- 3 inference, but not tied to any specific thing, certainly
- 4 doesn't go to the victim's state of mind is not here.
- And without more I don't believe that there's
- 6 enough to take them to a place --
- 7 THE COURT: Okay.
- 8 MS. GUTIERREZ: -- where her state of mind
- 9 might be relevant, that we're not even close there.
- 10 THE COURT: I am hearing from the State that
- 11 there's some relevance issue. I'm hearing from the State
- 12 that there's some, I'm gonna call it "quasi-404-B,"
- 13 motive kind of, sort of.
- But I'm not clear exactly what that is, even,
- 15 Mr. Urick, with your explanation, however vague it was at
- 16 the bench, I'm not really sure where you're going with
- 17 this witness. But I'm gonna tell you that at this moment
- 18 I'm not gonna rule on Ms. Gutierrez's objection because I
- 19 don't know where you're going.
- 20 But I'm gonna tell you this. I'm gonna
- 21 scrutinize the questions that you pose. And I may, at
- 22 any time during the course of those questions, ask you to
- 23 clarify or reiterate or explain where you're going.
- 24 Because as we sit here, I see a very vague
- 25 connection with motive, and very vague connection with

- 1 relevance. And I'm inclined to grant her motion, but I'm
- 2 gonna give you the benefit of the doubt at this moment,
- 3 'cause I certainly haven't heard the witness testify, nor
- 4 do I know what you know.
- 5 But if I'm not convinced very early in your
- 6 questioning, I'm gonna have you come to the bench and ask
- 7 you to proffer what she is going to say. I don't mean a
- 8 vague statement, I mean what is she gonna say.
- 9 Because I don't find a conversation saying,
- 10 "Don't tell him I'm on the phone," or "don't tell him
- 11 where I am" a month before the murder, as particularly so
- 12 relevant that it would outweigh the prejudicial effect
- 13 that the jury might misuse that and believe that it meant
- 14 any more than that. Unless there's another set of
- 15 circumstances showing something more than just an
- 16 occasion when the victim is on the phone saying, "Don't
- 17 tell him where I am, " "Don't tell him that I'm on the
- 18 phone."
- 19 So I don't know your witness's statement, I
- 20 don't know what she knows, I don't know what
- 21 circumstances, but I would ask that you make the
- 22 connection, make it clear to the Court very early on by
- 23 your questions to this witness so that it becomes
- 24 abundantly clear.
- Otherwise, I will; one, grant the motion; or

- 1 two, if they answer and it's still vague, I will
- 2 entertain a motion to strike that part from the
- 3 testimony, and give the curative instruction to the jury
- 4 indicating it has no relevance. And so, at this
- 5 juncture, that's the way I'm going to proceed.
- 6 Also I'd ask you to be mindful of the fact that
- 7 this witness is, I understand, will be treated as a lay
- 8 witness. And so there's not expertise conclusion that I
- 9 would expect that you would try to draw from this
- 10 witness, other than her observations, what she saw, what
- 11 she did, what she knows -- not what someone else told
- 12 her, not what someone else presented to her, but what she
- 13 knows.
- 14 She knows they were fighting, fine. She saw
- 15 it, fine. Somebody told her that they were fighting, I'm
- 16 not gonna allow that. I'd ask that you be mindful of my
- 17 concern, that whatever she has to say be relevant.
- 18 Go directly to your issue of motive, and be
- 19 done in a fashion that does not go off on a tangent or
- 20 bring in any other collateral materials that will not be
- 21 relevant or may not necessarily go directly to the heart
- 22 of the issue that you'd like to bring out through this
- 23 witness.
- 24 With that said, we're gonna stand in recess
- 25 until 1:30. I'd ask counsel to be back by 1:25 so that

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I'd ask also, Ms. Connelly, if you tell the
 2
  3 witness that she's excused and that she should return at
 4 1:25 so that she's available.
              She has not yet been sworn, and so, Ms.
  5
    Gutierrez, I'm informing the State while you're here,
  7 that he can direct his witness during the break that
  8 there has been a limit placed on her, because I do not
 9 want her blurting out things that, what other people said
 10
             MS. MURPHY: That's fine.
 11
            THE COURT: -- as part of her testimony.
 12
              MS. MURPHY: Okay.
 13
              THE COURT: This Court stands in recess then
 14
    until 1:30.
              THE CLERK: All rise.
 16
               (A luncheon recess was taken at 12:33 p.m.)
17
18
19
 20
21
. 22
23
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1 we can resume.

24

25

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AFTERNOON SESSION
1
                         (2:02 p.m.)
 2
             (The jury was present upon reconvening.)
3
             THE COURT: At this time, I'd like the State to
4
 5 call the next witness.
             MR. URICK: Thank you.
             (Pause.)
7
             THE COURT: Please remain standing, listen to
 8
9 Mr. White as he gives you the oath.
10 Whereupon,
                         HOPE AATTA
11
   a witness produced on call of the State, having first
12
13 been duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:
             THE CLERK: You may be seated.
14
             Please keep your voice up, state your name for
15
16 the record?
             THE WITNESS: My name is Hope
17
             THE CLERK: Spell your last name for the
18
19 record?
             THE WITNESS:
20
             THE CLERK: And state your address for the
21
22 record.
             THE WITNESS:
                                              Baltimore,
23
24 Maryland 21207.
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DIRECT EXAMINATION

25

- 1 BY MR. URICK:
- 2 Q. Good afternoon, Ms. Schah.
- 3 A. Good afternoon.
- 4 Q. Where are you employed?
- 5 A. Woodlawn Senior High School.
- 6 Q. And what do you do there?
- 7 A. I'm a French teacher.
- 8 Q. And how long have you been employed there?
- 9 A. Five years.
- 10 Q. And do you know the defendant, Adnan Syed?
- 11 A. I do.
- 12 Q. And how long have you known the defendant?
- 13 A. I suppose four years.
- 14 Q. And how have you known him?
- 15 A. He was one of my student's boyfriends. I did
- 16 not teach him.
- 17 Q. And did you know Hae Min Lee?
- 18 A. I did.
- 19 Q. And how did you know her?
- 20 A. She was a student of mine.
- 21 Q. And in what class -- what classes did she take
- 22 with you?
- 23 A. French 2 and 4, 5.
- Q. Now, drawing your attention to the Fall of
- 25 1998, the Spring of 1999, which would have been Hae Min

- 1 Lee's senior year, what, if any, contact were you having
- 2 with her that year?
- A. Hae was unable to take my upper level course,
- 4 she wanted to be my intern so she could spend some time
- 5 with me and learn independently with me. So, every day
- 6 from 7:30 until 9:15 she would come to me and we would
- 7 either do French or she would help me with my grades and
- 8 things of that nature.
- 9 Q. And when you say she would come to you, where
- 10 would she come?
- 11 A. To room 309, my classroom.
- 12 Q. And what, if anything, else were you doing
- 13 during that time period?
- A. We were just doing a lot of computer work, and
- 15 just discussing -- she was sort of a friend, as well.
- 16 Q. And how many people would be in the room during
- 17 that time period?
- 18 A. There would usually be Hae and myself and the
- 19 Department Chair, Mr. Chris Parker.
- Q. Okay, now. What, if any, personal experience
- 21 have you had with cross-cultural dating?
- 22 A. I am Roman Catholic, and I have dated -- my
- 23 last four boyfriends have been Jewish.
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection. Move to strike.
- 25 THE COURT: The objection is gonna be

- 1 sustained. I'm gonna move to strike the question and the
- 2 answer at this time, and, let me see counsel at the
- 3 bench.
- 4 (Counsel and the defendant approached the
- 5 bench, and the following ensued.)
- 6 THE COURT: First of all, what I asked you for
- 7 during the break for lunch, what it was that this witness
- 8 was going to testify to, you did not in any way indicate
- 9 that you were offering this witness in any way as an
- 10 expert or providing any information on "cross-cultural
- 11 dating." And now we are going to --
- MR. URICK: It's not --
- 13 THE COURT: -- her experience with cross-
- 14 cultural dating, which is not anything that you proffered
- 15 to the Court. So I'd like to know where you're going
- 16 with this?
- MR. URICK: I'm not qualifying her as per any
- 18 expertise, I'm just putting that down as an explanation
- 19 why both the defendant and Ms. Lee would discuss their
- 20 relationship with her.
- 21 THE COURT: Assuming for the sake of this
- 22 discussion that the two of them spent a lot of time
- 23 discussing their relationship, their personal
- 24 relationships, what relevance does that have?
- MR. URICK: It goes to the motive of the

- 1 defendant, that there was a conflict between them that
- 2 was caused by his religious beliefs. This defendant
- 3 discussed that with this witness. She can talk about
- 4 what he told her. She can --
- 5 THE COURT: Yes, but that's not what you asked
- 6 her. You asked her about her questions and conversation
- 7 with the victim.
- 8 MR. URICK: My next question was, did you have
- 9 occasion -- my very next question would be did you have
- 10 occasion to discuss both with Ms. Lee and the defendant
- 11 their relationship. And then I'll get into the specific
- 12 incidents.
- 13 THE COURT: And the specific incidents cover
- 14 what time period?
- MR. URICK: The time of the breakup or the
- 16 breakup after the homecoming dance of the time of
- 17 Halloween.
- 18 THE COURT: When?
- MR. URICK: Which would be probably around
- 20 Halloween and November -- October, November.
- 21 THE COURT: October and November of '98?
- MR. URICK: Yes. This is a case where the
- 23 motivation is a very complex human interaction that took
- 24 place between two people over a period of about four to
- 25 six months.

- 1 THE COURT: Preceding the murder?
- MR. URICK: Yes. And this is when, at the
- 3 homecoming dance, the breakup at Halloween, the get
- 4 together, the second breakup, all come as a package that
- 5 developed what the conflict was, what this defendant's
- 6 motivation was.
- 7 THE COURT: Your objection for the record?
- 8 MS. GUTIERREZ: Well, Judge, one, I think it's
- 9 irrelevant; number two, I think it's highly prejudicial.
- 10 Just because the defendant may have opened his mouth over
- 11 a period of four to six months prior to this murder
- 12 doesn't make what she says he said admissible to show
- 13 anything.
- 14 The tenuousness, for instance, establishing
- 15 that the development of the motive took four to six
- 16 months, their own evidence that they've already put in
- 17 indicates that they were still an item -- the diary of
- 18 Hae Min Lee -- that they were still an item far into the
- 19 third week of December, a period long past the time
- 20 period that he's speaking of.
- 21 And so for that reason and relevance and
- 22 prejudice, I would object to this witness attempting to
- 23 testify to anything that my client said or anything
- 24 regarding -- you know, unless he says, of course -- and
- 25 they're not proffering that -- that he says, "I'm going

- 1 to kill her, " which he clearly didn't.
- 2 But absent that, I would argue that what he
- 3 says is not admissible, it's hearsay, it's not
- 4 necessarily an admission. Anything that he said doesn't
- 5 make -- Mr. Urick said hasn't made it out to be an
- 6 admission. It's like, well, it sort of goes to motive,
- 7 that sort of developed over four to six months, doesn't
- 8 make it so. So, --
- 9 THE COURT: I'm gonna allow the State to
- 10 inquire as to the relationship that this witness was
- 11 aware of based on conversations that she had directly
- 12 with the defendant or directly with the victim in a
- 13 period of time preceding the murder.
- 14 However, I'm gonna allow the defense to have
- 15 free reign to inquire as to the limitations of that
- 16 knowledge, any restrictions that that knowledge may have
- 17 had, to including right up to the time of the murder.
- And I would also remind you that it is to be
- 19 her personal knowledge and not based on information she
- 20 had received from other sources. So when her sentence
- 21 starts off with some other person other than the
- 22 defendant, the victim said such and such, or we all knew,
- 23 that will be not permitted.
- MR. URICK: I'm sorry. Did you say she can't
- 25 say anything the victim told her?

- 1 THE COURT: She can tell you -- she can say
- 2 what the victim said, she can say what the defendant said
- 3 as to their relationship. But beyond that --
- 4 MS. GUTIERREZ: At any time period prior to her
- 5 disappearance?
- 6 THE COURT: The period of time on or about, as
- 7 you've indicated, October, November, December in 1998.
- 8 However, I will not allow anything other than what
- 9 conversations she had with the witness, victim or the
- 10 defendant. Other than that, not a we knew, what we all
- 11 knew, what we all heard. That will not be permitted.
- 12 And again, I will allow the defense on cross to inquire
- 13 to the extent that that information will have
- 14 limitations.
- MR. URICK: Thank you.
- MS. GUTIERREZ: We would note an objection.
- 17 THE COURT: All right.
- 18 (Counsel and the defendant returned to the
- 19 trial tables, and the following ensued.)
- 20 THE COURT: Now, you may reask your last
- 21 question or your next question in line with the Court's
- 22 ruling.
- MR. URICK: Thank you.
- 24 BY MR. URICK:
- Q. Drawing your attention to the Fall of 1998,

- 1 about the time of the homecoming dance into the Halloween
- 2 holidays, did you have occasion to discuss their
- 3 relationship with the victim, Hae Min Lee, and the
- 4 defendant, Adnan Syed?
- 5 A. Yes, I did.
- 6 Q. What, if anything, --
- 7 MS. GUTIERREZ: May I have a continuing
- 8 objection to this whole line of questions?
- 9 THE COURT: Yes.
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Thank you.
- 11 BY MR. URICK:
- 12 Q. What, if anything, did Hae Min Lee tell you?
- 13 A. There had been an argument --
- 14 MS. GUTIERREZ: I'm gonna object to the form of
- 15 the question that allows her any answer.
- 16 THE COURT: With regard to the line of
- 17 questioning that I've already instructed that we will
- 18 have some limitations, I would like you to direct the
- 19 witness to a specific period of time and the specific
- 20 type of information you require. She's already testified
- 21 that they met on a regular occasion, so I would ask that
- 22 you limit or at least control your witness in the type of
- 23 inquiry that you are making so that it's not open ended.
- 24 BY MR. URICK:
- Q. Drawing your attention to the period of about

- 1 the homecoming dance through the Halloween holiday;
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. -- that is, October, November, that period of
- 4 the Fall year, what, if any, concerns did Hae Min Lee
- 5 express to you concerning her relationship with Adnan
- 6 Syed?
- 7 MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection, and ask for a
- 8 continuing objection.
- 9 THE COURT: I understand. Let the record note
- 10 the continuing objection. It is overruled, you may
- 11 answer the question.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 13 There had been an incident at the homecoming
- 14 dance, an argument --
- 15 MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection. Unless it's based
- 16 on personal knowledge.
- 17 THE COURT: We're instructing that you can tell
- 18 us what someone said to you, that someone being the
- 19 victim. But you can't tell us --
- 20 THE WITNESS: I can't -- yeah, I'm not
- 21 understanding.
- 22 THE COURT: Do you know who the victim is in
- 23 the case, Ms. Lee?
- 24 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do. I just don't
- 25 understand --

- 1 THE COURT: Okay. Then listen to what I'm
- 2 saying to you.
- THE WITNESS: Sure.
- 4 THE COURT: You may tell us what she said to
- 5 you.
- 6 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 7 THE COURT: But you may not tell us what
- 8 someone else said. So when you say there had been an
- 9 incident, I need you to say --
- 10 THE WITNESS: It's not first-hand experience, I
- 11 understand that.
- 12 THE COURT: Did Ms. Lee tell you that there had
- 13 been an incident?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes, she did.
- THE COURT: All right. Well, that's how you
- 16 need to testify.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 18 THE COURT: That she said --
- 19 THE WITNESS: I understand.
- 20 THE COURT: -- whatever it was that she said.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Ms. Lee had said that there was a
- 22 dispute between the parents of Adnan Syed and herself at
- 23 the homecoming dance. And then, after that, that
- 24 weekend, they had both come back.
- Ms. Lee said to me that there was a problem in

- 1 their relationship due to their interfaith -- to their
- 2 interfaith relationship. The fact that they were
- 3 different religions, is what I'm trying to say.
- THE COURT: Your next question?
- 5 BY MR. URICK:
- 6 Q. What, if anything else, did she tell you?
- 7 MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection. Form of the
- 8 question.
- 9 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 10 BY MR. URICK:
- 11 Q. What, if -- what, if any, concerns did she
- 12 express as to possible effects that that aspect was
- 13 having on their relationship?
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection.
- 15 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Ms. Lee was wondering and asking
- 17 me for counsel and my opinion as to what one should do if
- 18 he or she were in an interfaith relationship, and was the
- 19 faith more important or was the love more important.
- 20 BY MR. URICK:
- 21 Q. Did there come a time -- drawing your attention
- 22 to about that same period between the
- 23 homecoming/Halloween holiday, that you had occasion, or a
- 24 morning when Ms. Lee did not show up but the defendant
- 25 showed up and you had an occasion to speak to him?

- 1 MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection.
- THE COURT: Overruled.
- 3 MR. URICK: You may answer the question.
- 4 THE COURT: Yes or no.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 6 THE COURT: Next question.
- 7 BY MR. URICK:
- 8 O. Where were you at that time?
- 9 A. I was in room 309, my classroom.
- 10 Q. About what time did this occur?
- 11 A. Probably about eight o'clock in the morning.
- 12 Q. And who, if anyone, was with you in the room?
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection.
- 14 THE COURT: Can we place a time frame on when
- 15 we're talking about? This is the Fall of '98 as well?
- MR. URICK: Yes, drawing you to the period
- 17 between homecoming and Halloween.
- 18 THE WITNESS: In the first week of November.
- 19 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 20 You may answer the question.
- 21 BY MR. URICK:
- Q. Who, if anyone, was in the room with you?
- 23 A. Adnan Syed and myself.
- Q. When did he appear?
- 25 A. Eight o'clock, around there.

- Q. How did you first notice him?
- 2 A. He came into my classroom looking for Hae and
- 3 waited for her there.
- Q. And, just dealing now with what he was doing,
- 5 what did he do?
- A. He was in the far corner of the classroom
- 7 looking out the window, and was also asking questions
- 8 along the line of what should one do if they are in love
- 9 with someone who is not their religion.
- 10 Q. And did he express any concerns about that
- 11 aspect of the relationship to you that day?
- 12 A. Yes.
- 13 O. What were those concerns?
- 14 A. Should one -- should one break up over this, or
- 15 is love strong enough that it can overcome everything.
- 16 What will happen down the road if, you know, you were to
- 17 marry someone of a different faith.
- 18 Q. What was he doing while he was asking these
- 19 questions?
- 20 A. He was sitting on the last desk in the last row
- 21 looking out the window waiting for Hae, asking questions
- 22 to me.
- Q. And about how long did the two of you talk?
- A. About maybe 20 minutes.
- Q. While you were talking with him, what, if

- 1 anything, unusual occurred?
- A. The phone rang in my classroom.
- 3 MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection.
- 4 THE COURT: Based on the responses that this
- 5 witness has already given, and also based on the previous
- 6 objection before the luncheon recess, the Court's going
- 7 sustain this objection and also the line of questioning
- 8 on where you're going.
- 9 BY MR. URICK:
- 10 Q. Do you recall any further discussion with the
- 11 defendant that day of those aspects of their
- 12 relationship?
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection, for all the previous
- 14 articulated ressons and because that date has not been
- 15 established.
- 16 THE COURT: In the Fall of 1998, the State is
- 17 asking you on that particular day you're recounted to the
- 18 jury, any additional conversations that you may have had
- 19 with the defendant, and the objection's overruled.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Just the same -- the same con --
- 21 the continuing conversation from that morning.
- 22 BY MR. URICK:
- Q. Now, moving forward, do you remember the day
- 24 that Hae Min Lee disappeared?
- 25 A. Yes.

- Q. Did you have occasion to speak with her that
- 2 day?
- 3 A. I don't recall.
- 4 Q. Did you have occasion to speak with her within
- 5 about a week of that time?
- A. Absolutely.
- 7 Q. What, if anything, was she telling you at that
- 8 time concerning her relationship or relationships?
- 9 MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection.
- 10 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 11 THE WITNESS: She had begun dating someone
- 12 else.
- 13 BY MR. URICK:
- 14 Q. And what, if anything, did she tell you about
- 15 her -- the status of her relationship with the defendant?
- 16 MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection.
- 17 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 18 THE WITNESS: It was over, the relationship.
- 19 BY MR. URICK:
- 20 Q. On the day she disappeared, when was the last
- 21 time you saw her?
- 22 A. I don't recall seeing her that day. I don't
- 23 know that I saw her that day. I may have but I don't
- 24 remember.
- 25 Q. When did you become aware that she had

- 1 disappeared?
- 2 A. The -- the weekend or, I suppose, the Monday
- 3 afterwards. Her friends had come to me and said --
- 4 MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection.
- 5 THE COURT: Sustained. You can't tell us what
- 6 anyone else said.
- 7 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 8 THE COURT: The asked question was when did you
- 9 discover, and you discovered it the weekend after, is
- 10 that what your testimony is?
- 11 . THE WITNESS: Uh-huh.
- 12 THE COURT: To the extent that the witness can
- 13 testify as to when she got the information, that part of
- 14 the answer is admissible to you. As to who told her and
- 15 what they said, that is not admissible, and that portion
- 16 of her response will be stricken at this time.
- 17 You may continue.
- 18 BY MR. URICK:
- 19 Q. After Hae's disappearance, did there come a
- 20 time when you became actively involved in aiding the
- 21 Baltimore County detectives in their investigation of her
- 22 disappearance?
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. What, if anything, did you do?
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection.

- 1 THE COURT: "What, if anything, did you do?"
- 2 That is sustained.
- BY MR. URICK:
- Q. What did you do to aid that investigation?
- 5 A. I was in contact with the detective, and he
- 6 would ask me to ask certain teachers because they weren't
- 7 cooperating necessarily to the full extent, if Adnan was
- 8 in class on a certain day, if he was at track practice.
- 9 If -- I had to get in touch with some of her
- 10 girlfriends so that they could -- I could ask them
- 11 questions that he was interested in, and then have them
- 12 call him back.
- 13 Q. Did there come a time when you passed on some
- 14 questions?
- 15 A. I'm sorry?
- 16 Q. Did there come a time when you passed on some
- 17 questions?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. Who did you give those questions to?
- 20 A. Deborah
- Q. Did you have occasion to look at the questions?
- 22 A. I wrote the questions myself.
- Q. What were those questions?
- 24 A. If Hae and Adnan had a special place they went
- 25 to, a park or any place like that. I just remember

- 1 writing that one specifically, I don't -- there were
- 2 approximately four or five that I had written down and
- 3 given it Deborah , which she placed inside her
- 4 agenda book.
- 5 MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection. Move to strike the
- 6 last part of her answer.
- 7 THE COURT: Overruled if, and only if, did you
- 8 see her --
- 9 THE WITNESS: I saw her place them.
- 10 THE COURT: Overruled. Next question.
- 11 BY MR. URICK:
- 12 Q. Did there come a time when you had occasion to
- 13 speak with the defendant about your aid of the missing
- 14 persons investigation by the Baltimore County detectives?
- 15 A. Yes.
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection. For all the
- 17 previous cited reasons.
- 18 THE COURT: Overruled.
- 19 BY MR. URICK:
- Q. When did that occur?
- MS. GUTIERREZ: We have a continuing objection
- 22 on this line of questioning.
- 23 THE COURT: Objection is noted for the record.
- 24 Continuing objection is also noted to this entire line of
- 25 questioning --

- 1 MS. GUTIERREZ: Thank you.
- THE COURT: -- by the State.
- 3 You may continue.
- 4 BY MR. URICK:
- 5 Q. When did that occur, if you can recall?
- 6 A. During the time I was working with the
- 7 Baltimore County detectives.
- 8 Q. Would this have been before the body was found?
- 9 A. Yes. She was a missing person at that time.
- 10 Q. Where were you -- where were you when this
- 11 incident occurred?
- 12 A. In my classroom.
- 13 Q. How did it begin?
- 14 A. Mr. Syed came into my classroom and just asked
- 15 if I was asking teachers about him, questions about him,
- 16 which I stated yes, that everyone was being questioned at
- 17 this time, which we all were. And he just said to me
- 18 that he would appreciate it if I didn't do that because
- 19 his parents didn't know everything that went on in his
- 20 life.
- 21 Q. How many people were in the room with you at
- 22 the time?
- A. I believe Debbie was there, but I'm not
- 24 positive. I know it wasn't just the two of us.
- 25 Q. How far did the defendant stand from you when

- 1 he said all this?
- 2 A. I was behind my desk and he was in front of my
- 3 desk.
- 4 Q. And how close to the desk would he have been?
- 5 A. Two feet away.
- 6 MR. URICK: If I may have the Court's
- 7 indulgence for just a second?
- 8 THE COURT: Yes, you may.
- 9 (Pause.)
- 10 MR. URICK: Witness with the defense.
- 11 THE COURT: Ms. Gutierrez, at your leisure.
- 12 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 13 BY MS. GUTIERREZ:
- 14 Q. Ms. Schwab, your faith is Roman Catholic?
- A. My name is Ms. , please.
- 16 Q. Your faith is Roman Catholic?
- 17 A. Yes, it is.
- 18 Q. And as a Roman Catholic are you forbidden upon
- 19 pain of any consequence from dating anyone who's not
- 20 Roman Catholic?
- 21 A. No.
- Q. And are you forbidden to have sex unless you
- 23 are married, with someone of the Catholic faith or any
- 24 faith?
- 25 A. Of any faith.

- 1 Q. Not any faith. And are you, as a Roman
- 2 Catholic, forbidden to have any relationship outside of
- 3 marriage?
- 4 A. Are you referring to dating?
- 5 Q. Any relationship outside of marriage? Yes.
- 6 Dating?
- 7 A. No, you may date.
- 8 Q. You may date. And that's your understanding of
- 9 what limits your faith puts on you?
- 10 A. Yes.
- 11 Q. And you consider yourself to be a practicing
- 12 Catholic?
- 13 A. Yes, I do.
- 14 Q. So it is your understanding that the Roman
- 15 Catholic religion permits dating?
- 16 A. Yes, ma'am.
- Q. Of anyone of any faith; correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And what about sex? Does it permit sex from
- 20 individuals dating or otherwise of any religion, Roman
- 21 Catholic or any other religion outside of marriage?
- 22 A. We are not to have sex before --
- 23 Q. You are not to have sex; is that correct? And,
- 24 you are familiar, even though you are Roman Catholic,
- 25 with other religions in the world, are you not?

- 1 A. Yes, I am.
- And the disallowance of premarital sex between
- 3 persons of any faith dating is not an unusual one, is it?
- 4 A. No.
- 5 Q. And what faith was Ms. Lee, your friend?
- 6 A. I believe she was Baptist, but I'm not sure of
- 7 that.
- 8 Q. But you're not sure of her faith?
- No, I'm not.
- Q. Thank you.
- 11 MS. GUTIERREZ: I have nothing else.
- 12 THE COURT: Any cross -- 1 mean, any re-direct
- 13 in light of the cross?
- 14 MR. URICK: No, no further questions.
- 15 THE COURT: Very well. May this witness be
- 16 excused?
- 17 MR. URICK: Yes.
- 18 THE COURT: May this witness be excused?
- 19 MS. GUTIERREZ: Yes, I didn't summons her.
- 20 THE COURT: Can I release?
- 21 MS. GUTIERREZ: Yes, I didn't summons her.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Okay. Thank you.
- 23 THE COURT: On second thought?
- 24 MR. URICK: I was just -- didn't you tell me
- 25 that you got a letter from the defense that they were not

- 1 excusing you?
- MS. GUTIERREZ: Objection.
- 3 THE COURT: Mr. Urick, I asked the question of
- 4 counsel. I asked the question of you. Counsel has
- 5 indicated. There's no need to have any further
- 6 discussion because at this point on the record, counsel
- 7 has indicated that not only does she not need her, but
- 8 she's released from any requirements of this Court to be
- 9 here. So, she is released.
- 10 MR. URICK: Thank you, Your Honor.
- 11 THE COURT: In fact, if you would like to
- 12 remain in the courtroom, you're welcome to do so because
- 13 you're no longer a witness that is sequestered. But I
- 14 must advise you that you may not discuss your testimony
- 15 with anyone who's currently in the courtroom that is a
- 16 witness, or anyone that's to be a witness in the future.
- 17 Do you understand?
- 18 THE WITNESS: I understand.
- 19 THE COURT: Very well.
- 20 (The witness was excused.)
- 21 (Pause.)
- 22 THE COURT: I need you to remain standing, sir.
- 23 Raise your right hand, listen to Mr. White as he
- 24 administers the oath.
- 25 Whereupon,