

EXHIBIT 43

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
WESTERN DIVISION

**TERRY HOBBS,
Plaintiff,**

v.

**NATALIE PASDAR, et al.,
Defendants.**

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CV NO.: 4-09-CV-0008BSM

DECLARATION OF JO LYNN MCCAUGHEY

I, Jo Lynn McCaughey, declare as follows:

1. "My name is Jo Lynn McCaughey. I am over the age of 21 and competent to give this declaration.
2. All of the information set forth herein is within my personal knowledge and is true and correct.
3. On May 6, 1993, the bodies of Steven Branch (who was nicknamed "Stevie"), Christopher Byers and Michael Moore, were discovered in the Robin Hood Hills area of West Memphis, Arkansas. The boys had been murdered.
4. I am the sister of Pam Hobbs ("Pam"). Pam is the mother of Stevie. At the time of the murders, Pam was married to Terry Hobbs ("Terry"). I have known Terry throughout his marriage to Pam (from the mid-1980s to 2004) up to the present.
5. The press and public have been very inquisitive about the murders of the boys and the subsequent trial of three teenagers for the murders. The teenagers who were tried and convicted of the murders have been called the "West Memphis 3." News organizations from all over the world have covered the story of the murders, the trials, the West Memphis 3, the families of the victims, and the effect the murders and whole ordeal has had on the families.
6. Soon after the murders, the national television show *America's Most Wanted* did a story on the murders of Stevie, Christopher and Michael. I have seen statements by the West Memphis Police Department that after the show aired they received a great number of phone calls and leads on the case.
7. *The Geraldo Show*, another national television show, also did a show on the murders, the victims, the families of the victims, and the West Memphis 3. Both Pam and Terry were on this episode of *The Geraldo Show* in 1994. Attached here to as **Exhibit 1** is a true and correct copy of the transcript of that show.

8. My family has received, and Pam and Terry in particular have received, a huge volume of letters and cards from people all over the world expressing their sympathy and interest in the case. Even Bill Clinton, the president of the United States, sent Pam and Terry a letter expressing his sympathy over their loss. We have also been contacted for interviews by countless news organizations, magazines and other media outlets from all over the world. Numerous websites including TV and newspaper sites, have stories on the events, on Pam and Terry and the other parents, on the victims, on the West Memphis 3, on the trials and on theories of the case.
9. I know Terry has been repeatedly contacted by the media, and he has willingly appeared on television and given interviews to the media to discuss the murders, his whereabouts on May 5 and 6, 1993, the trials of the West Memphis 3 and the effect of those events on him and his family. The press has always been interested in Terry as it relates to the case, the murders, the events, the trials and the families, and Terry has willingly talked to press and the public many times about the events.
10. The press and public interest in the victims, the victims' families, the West Memphis 3, the trials, and the events surrounding the murders has continued from 1993 to the present.
11. The cable network HBO showed two documentaries about the Murders and the trials, called *Paradise Lost, Parts I and II*. Those documentaries received a lot of attention and press, and made the murders, trials, victims and victims' families even more well known.
12. In 2006, Terry and Pam entered into a deal with Dimension Films to sell their story and Stevie's story to Dimension Films. It is my understanding that Dimension Films bought those rights so they could make a movie about Stevie, Pam and Terry, the murders, the West Memphis 3 and the trials. The agreement with Dimension Films also gave Dimension Films permission to use information from any book that Terry or Pam wrote. Terry and Pam each got \$12,500 for signing the agreement. Representatives of Dimension Films interviewed Terry and Pam to get background for the movie. Attached as **Exhibits 2 and 3** are true and correct copies of the transcripts of the interviews that Dimension Films did with Pam and Terry. I know about the contract, the rights, the money and the interviews because Terry and Pam each told me about them.
13. The public's interest in the events related to the murders went way up in 2007, when the defense team for Damien Echols filed a request for release of Damien based on new evidence. The new evidence included evidence that DNA from one hair that had been found in the ligature binding one of the victims was consistent with the hair of Terry and that DNA from another hair found at the murder scene was consistent with the hair of Terry's friend, David Jacoby.

14. Other new evidence was provided by me. I was at Pam and Terry's house on May 6, 1993. I personally saw Terry wash clothes, bed linens and curtains at an odd hour. It was very strange to me that he would do all of that laundry at such a horrible time. It was also strange that he was not just washing the dirty laundry, but was also taking clothes out of the dresser drawers and washing those, too. It was my opinion that there was no other reason or pressing need that I am aware of for Terry to do that laundry at that time other than to hide evidence of the crimes.
15. Also in 2003, I was with Pam when we found numerous knives in Terry's nightstand. I showed the knives to my father, Jackie Hicks, Sr. and he recognized one of the knives as a pocketknife he had given to Stevie that Stevie always had with him. Pam had been surprised that the knife was not found with Stevie's body. When I showed the knife to my father and told him that Terry had it, my father was devastated. I was again immediately concerned that Terry was somehow involved in the murders.
16. Terry also made comments about the murders that made me uncomfortable and made me question his involvement. In 2003 or 2004, Terry asked me if I felt like he had murdered Stevie. I asked him why he was questioning me like that. He said he wanted to know. I told him that if he asked me then I was going to tell him what I truly felt. I told him I believed he was involved in Stevie's murder either directly or indirectly. He told me that hurt his feelings. Then we were talking about whether Christopher Byers had been mutilated, and Terry said the pathologist had said the cut was so precise that if it wasn't done by a surgeon perhaps it was done by a jeweler. My husband is a jeweler, so I said that theory did not quite fit. I looked at him, and Terry then said, something like, "You know I've got experience from working in a slaughterhouse, don't you?"
17. In May of 2007, investigators for the West Memphis 3 interviewed me and I told them about the laundry, the knife and other concerns I had about Terry.
18. On or about June 19, 2007 I met with the West Memphis Police Department for a formal interview about my concerns about Terry and whether he was involved in the murder of Stevie and the other little boys. I believe that my interview has been public and available for people and the press to access since that time. A true and copy of that interview is attached hereto as **Exhibit 4**.
19. I told the West Memphis Police Department on or about June 19, 2007 about my concerns and suspicions about Terry Hobbs and whether he was involved in the murder of Stevie and the other little boys.
20. In July and August of 2007, Pam gave interviews to the press and in those interviews she stated that she believed that Terry was involved in the murders. Also in those interviews, Pam discussed the fact that Terry waited until 9 p.m. to tell her that Stevie was missing, the discovery of the pocketknife in Terry's things, and the chronology of events on May 5, 1993.

21. Also in June of 2007, the West Memphis police interviewed Terry. The West Memphis Police Department made that interview of Terry available to the public and press. There were many newspaper reports following Terry's interview which discuss the fact that the West Memphis police had interviewed Terry. Additionally, the video of the interview of Terry was posted on the Internet and can be easily located by doing a Google search of Terry Hobbs and the West Memphis Police.
22. In the 2007 police interview, Terry claims he and Pam saw a suspicious black man on May 6, 1993. At no time since the murders have Terry or Pam ever mentioned to me seeing a black man on May 5 or May 6, 1993.
23. In October 2007, I gave an interview to the press in which I stated, "Terry Hobbs had the motive. Terry Hobbs is the one suspected of murder and the wounds that were inflicted on my nephew where turtles bit his face. No knives and no weapons were used."
24. In sum, I have informed Terry, I have informed the newspapers (in October of 2007), I have informed the West Memphis 3 investigators (in May of 2007) and I informed the West Memphis Police Department (in June of 2007) that I believe that it is possible that Terry was involved in the murders of Stevie and the other little boys.
25. Damien Echols' lawyers and the West Memphis 3 spread the word out in the press and the news about this new evidence – the DNA, the laundry, the knife, and the fact that the police had interviewed Terry among other things – and about their filing to get Damien Echols out of prison or a new trial. Echols' defense team held a big press conference in late October of 2007, on the new evidence and the filing and it was covered by press from all over the country.
26. Many newspapers carried the story of the new evidence, of the police interviews of Terry, of Damien Echols' court filing, of the DNA findings, and of the suspicions of whether Terry was involved in the murders. All of the new evidence and Echols' filing, starting in July of 2007, caused an intense new wave of publicity on the murders, the trials, the West Memphis 3, and, of course, Terry Hobbs.
27. My family and I personally witnessed all this attention and press because I saw it, and we got requests for interviews from the press, news organizations and others regarding the new evidence and the filing.
28. Starting in approximately July 2007, Terry was even more in the spotlight than before because he was so involved in the new evidence – the DNA which was consistent with him and his friend, his possession of Stevie's prized knife, doing the laundry at odd hours and being interviewed by the West Memphis police.
29. Terry hired a spokesman to talk to the press. The spokesperson gave interviews to a number of news organizations and willingly talked to them about Terry and

the murders. Numerous articles ran regarding his spokesperson's conversations with the press in which he addressed Terry's possible involvement in the murders based on the new evidence and on the Damien Echols' filing and on the information put forward by the Echols team. The spokesman was Ross Sampson. Ross Sampson was the entertainment lawyer that negotiated an agreement in which Terry and Pam sold the rights to their story to Dimension Films.

30. Also around that time, Terry gave interviews to media where he himself talked about the new evidence and whether he was involved in the murders. I saw and read many of these articles, and Terry said that the West Memphis 3 defense team had ruined his reputation by bringing forward all of the new evidence. On many occasions prior to July 2007, Terry has told many people that my family has ruined his reputation because we believe he was involved in the murders. I've also seen statements from Terry where he says the West Memphis 3 defense team has ruined his reputation and life.
31. I have a copy of a book handwritten by Terry Hobbs which I found in some of Pam's things. I read it. It is about the murders, the events, the trials, his whereabouts on the night in question and how he has been affected by all the events. The book is strange in that Terry always refers to Stevie as "the boy," not by name.
32. Terry has very bad morals. He has behaved very badly to his family and he is a mean person. Terry has a very bad reputation in the community. Some of the reasons that I think so little of Terry Hobbs' reputation and moral character are listed below.
33. Terry has repeatedly sexually molested his daughter, Amanda. Not long before Stevie's death, when Amanda was 4 years old, Amanda told me that Terry had put his finger into her "booty."
34. I told Pam what Amanda had told me. Pam took Amanda to the hospital and the doctor confirmed that there had been penetration.
35. Throughout the years, Amanda has repeatedly accused Terry of sexual abuse. In approximately 2002, Amanda told me that Terry had grabbed her breasts. On one occasion Amanda called me at 3 AM and asked me to come and get her in Paris, Tennessee and take her away from Terry. She refused to go back home to Terry. I told her that I was 2 hours away and that we should get her mom, Pam, to go and get her. She said okay, and that she wanted me to meet her and Pam halfway. So Pam went and got Amanda and I met them halfway. Amanda came with me to Blytheville and refused to go back to Terry in Memphis. I called the Tennessee government and told them that Amanda had told me that Terry had sexually molested her. Tennessee sent an agency to investigate the matter. They interviewed Amanda and made a report.

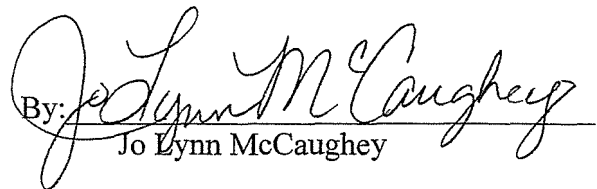
36. Terry is also a known drug user. Pam ultimately decided to leave Terry and move from Memphis to Blytheville, Arkansas. Terry tried to take Stevie's things from Pam. I had moved to a bigger house so Pam and Amanda could stay with me and my husband. I went to Memphis with Pam to pack her things. We took the police with us so Terry could not hurt anyone. When we got there, Terry had taken all of Stevie's belongings and locked them up in the trunk of his car. He lied to the police and told the police that he did not have Stevie's belongings. I told the police that Stevie's belongings were probably in the trunk of his car. The police asked Terry to go open up the trunk of his car. Before we could get out to the car, Amanda had pulled out Terry's drug paraphernalia from where he hid it and showed it to the police. The police made Terry open the trunk of his car, and when he did, he could see that all of Stevie's things were in the trunk. The police then arrested Terry. I know that Terry has been involved in drugs. He has used marijuana, cocaine and crystal methamphetamine.
37. Later, when Amanda was older, she again told me that Terry had sexually abused her and that he was physically abusive to her when she was pregnant. She said that Terry slammed her into a sink, causing the loss of the pregnancy.
38. I am aware that Terry had molested a neighbor of his many years earlier; the neighbor's name was Mildred French, and while Mildred was in the shower Terry broke in, went in her bathroom, and grabbed her breasts.
39. Terry, I believe, physically abused his wife, Pam, and he has shot my brother with a gun, which ultimately resulted in my brother's death. In 1997, Terry and Pam had an argument in which Terry had hit Pam in the face and Pam called the family to come help her. My brother, Jackie Hicks, Jr., got into a fight with Terry when they got to Pam's house (Terry was supposed to have left) and Terry shot my brother in the abdomen in front of my parents. My brother was seriously injured, and had to have a large number of surgeries as a result. My brother died in approximately February of 2006 from complications with one of those surgeries.
40. Terry is a violent individual who is always armed. Terry always had guns around. Also, it seemed like he traded guns with other people a lot. In fact, it was very strange, but Terry would frequently obtain a gun, take it somewhere and later, he wouldn't have the old gun, but he would have a new, different gun.
41. Terry has squandered the charity the public gave to Stevie's family. People from all over the country have sent money and gifts to Pam and Terry to help them take care of their family in the time of crisis. The money that has come in has been squandered by Terry. Terry has literally used thousands of dollars given by sympathetic people for his own interests.
42. Terry physically abused Stevie when they were alone. Terry had a bad relationship with Stevie. He would punish Stevie by hitting him with a belt until he drew blood. Terry would also punish Stevie by locking him in a closet. One time when Stevie was staying with my parents and he was potty training, he had a

little bit of an accident. He got terrified and went and hid. My mother, Marie Hicks, and I looked everywhere and could not find Stevie until we went in my mother's room. She had a box of clothes in her closet and his foot fell out of the box. When we pulled Stevie out he was hot and sweaty and we asked him what was wrong. Stevie said "Daddy Terry's going to whip me, he's going to whip me." Stevie was terrified.

43. Terry did not act responsibly following Stevie's death. Terry did not seem to mourn the loss of Stevie. Instead he seemed to immediately move on. He left my sister Pam for approximately 2 weeks and moved away with another woman.
44. Terry has stolen from his own family. Terry's family had a family business where they owned restaurants. Terry used to work for the family business, but his father kicked him out of the business because he caught Terry stealing money from the business.
45. My family has taken action because of Terry's bad reputation. My family had Terry's name removed from the gravestone at Stevie's grave. We did this based on Terry's character and reputation. We did not want Terry Hobbs associated with the memory of Stevie because of all the horrible things he has done to my family, and the horrible way that he treated Stevie.
46. Terry has promised Pam that if he wins this case he will pay her \$50,000 immediately. He has told her that he plans to make \$250 million from winning this case."

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed in Mississippi County, Arkansas.

Dated: May 20, 2009

By: 
Jo Lynn McCaughey

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GERALDO

SHOW: GERALDO (4:00 PM ET)

March 16, 1994, Wednesday 2:50 PM

LENGTH: 7258 words

HEADLINE: KIDS WHO KILL: DID THE DEVIL MAKE THEM DO IT? PAM AND TERRY HOBBS, PARENTS OF MURDERED ARKANSAS CHILD; JESSIE MISSKELLY, FATHER OF CONVICTED TEEN MURDERER; DR. HERBERT NIEBURG; JACK LEVIN; JACK ROPER; MARCOS QUINONES; ADOLESCENT SATANISM

ANCHORS: Geraldo Rivera

BODY:

HOST: Geraldo Rivera

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: Martin M. Berman

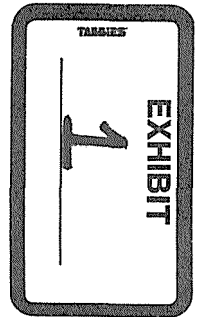
KIDS WHO KILL: DID THE DEVIL MAKE THEM DO IT?

GERALDO RIVERA: On May 5th, 1993, three eight-year-old boys were brutally murdered in a small town in eastern Arkansas. There is evidence the killings may have been part of a Satanic ritual. But much about this awful case remains unclear. Today, we'll try to solve the remaining puzzle with the cooperation of experts and family members from both the young victims' side and the side of the teen-aged accused.

Pam and Terry are the parents of Stevie Hobbs; Stevie, one of the eight-year-old boys brutally murdered. Jackie is the victim's grandfather. I know it's difficult, Pam, but can you describe the wounds on Stevie's body?

Mrs. PAM HOBBS (Son Murdered By Alleged Satanic Teens): The left side of his face was cut and mutilated. He was tied hand and foot...

(Photo of Steven Hicks)



...s. HOBBS: (Voiceover) ...and he had injuries to his head where they had--his brain had scattered when they hit him.

RIVERA: Essentially, he was beaten to death?

Mrs. HOBBS: Mm-hmm.

RIVERA: Tell us your reaction, Terry, when you heard what had happened to your stepson.

Mr. TERRY HOBBS (Stepson Murdered By Alleged Satanic Teens): I don't know. I just--I couldn't believe it. We've been--went into shock--may be in shock now. And I still can't believe it. We hadn't--it's like a long nightmare that you keep waking--waiting to wake up from. And we're here in the middle of it.

RIVERA: Joining us via satellite from West Memphis, Arkansas, is the father of one of the three teen-aged accused. Actually his son has already been convicted of murdering the three eight-year-olds. This is Jess--Jessie Misskelley Sr. He's joined by some supporters, you can see, in the background.

Before I talk to that side and this--much more deeply about what happened, you should know that this story of the murders of the three young boys has taken many bizarre twists and turns. Indeed, new revelations are emerging every single day. Our team visited West Memphis, Arkansas, to investigate. Here's the story of the three dead young men.

(Begin investigative report; narration by Geraldo Rivera)

RIVERA: Reminiscing over children's photos brings joy to most families. But in the house of Marie Hicks and her daughter, Pam Hobbs, it is a painful and torturous event.

(Photograph of Steven Hicks)

RIVERA: (Voiceover) Pam's eight-year-old son, Steven, was sexually molested and brutally murdered...

(Photos of Michael Moore and Christopher Byers)

RIVERA: (Voiceover) ...along with two other eight-year-old boys, Michael Moore and Christopher Byers. It happened in West Memphis, Arkansas, on May 5th, 1993. Christopher had also been castrated.

(Photos of Jessie Misskelley Jr., Damian Echols, and Jason Baldwin)

RIVERA: (Voiceover) Charged in the brutal murders are three local teen-agers; Jessie Misskelley Jr., 18; Damian Echols, 18; and Jason

Baldwin, just 16. The parents of one of the murdered boys yelled at Damian on his way to a court appearance.

Unidentified Man #1: Faggot! What you know about the faggots?

RIVERA: Adding to the parents' horrors...

(Newspaper headline reads, "Misskelley Friend Says They Attended Cult Event")

RIVERA: (Voiceover) ...were reports that the killers had participated in devil worship.

(Footage of Jessie Misskelley Jr. in police custody)

RIVERA: (Voiceover) On February 4th, Jessie Misskelley Jr. was found guilty of the murders. He was sentenced to life in prison plus 40 years. The trials of Damian Echols and Jason Baldwin are scheduled for late February.

(The Commercial Appeal newspaper headline reads, "Cult Experts Gave Warning in 1992")

RIVERA: (Voiceover) In June of last year, 1993, the Memphis Commercial Appeal reported that cult experts had warned West Memphis officials, back in 1992, that Satanic cult activities were present in the community.

(Photos; Satanic graffiti on wall)

RIVERA: (Voiceover) One of the three defendants told West Memphis police that local cult activities included eating dogs and participating in sex orgies. Acquaintances of Damian Echols told reporters that Echols customarily wore black, killed cats and worshipped the devil.

(Footage of Damian Echols in police custody)

RIVERA: Stephanie Dollar, a West Memphis resident, said there has long been talk about cult activities in West Memphis.

Ms. STEPHANIE DOLLAR (West Memphis, Arkansas, Resident): Yeah. It's just, I mean, all the talk about it. I mean, the symbols that you see wrote everywhere--I mean, which it could be just kids writing things. I don't know. I mean--but there's just too much talk about it for it not to be true.

(Footage of the West Memphis trailer park)

RIVERA: (Voiceover) Jessie Misskelley Jr., like his two co-defendants, lived in a rundown trailer park in the West Memphis area. The teenager's room revealed nothing extraordinary.

(Interior of Jessie Misskelley Jr.'s bedroom shown)

RIVERA: (Voiceover) Most of the pictures and posters were fairly typical for an 18-year-old boy's room. Although a jury found his son guilty, Jessie Misskelley Sr. steadfastly professes his son's innocence.

Mr. JESSIE MISSKELLEY Sr. (Son Convicted Of Murder): I've got 15, 20 people that saw him out here in this trailer park that day up until 7:30. Then he went to Dysart and he saw the wrestle. There's no way he could have been up there to kill those boys. He was out here in this trailer park because they have witnesses to prove that he was here. But the police--they say he was not here. They got up there and lied. Jessie was not in on it because--said he ate the hind leg of a dog? Jessie won't even eat fried chicken. What are you talking about?

RIVERA: Jessie Sr.'s story is supported by 15-year-old Susie Brewer, Jessie Jr.'s girl friend.

Miss SUSIE BREWER (Jessie Junior's Girl Friend): I think they're stupid. I don't think he did it. I just tell him I still love him and we're all behind him. Damian's weird looking and--and Jason, he's just quiet.

RIVERA: Police believe the murders occurred in a small grove known by the locals as Robin Hood Woods. It's a popular spot for teen-age beer drinking and parties. Based on police and news reports, we have recreated the boys' final moments.

(Partial re-enactment shown during narration)

RIVERA: (Voiceover) Late afternoon on May 5th, 1993, the boys entered the woods. One was riding a girls' bike, the other a boys' bike, the third child had a skateboard. It is believed the boys spent some time roaming and playing in the woods. At some point, however, after 6:00 PM, the three children and their assailants met. The following day, May 6th, the police spotted a young boy's sneaker and a Cub Scout hat floating in a small creek. The bodies of the three boys were found just yards away.

(End investigative report)

RIVERA: Pam, can you tell us what happened that afternoon? What happened to your son? What was he usually doing at that time?

Mrs. HOBBS: After school, Michael had come over and asked could Stevie go to his house and play. At first I...

RIVERA: Michael Moore, one of the three victims, yeah.

Mrs. HOBBS: Sorry? Yeah. To Michael Moore's house, the other boy. And at first, I told him no. And he kept begging so I went ahead and told him that he could go, and I gave him a time to be home. I told him to be home by 4:30, that if he wasn't home, he would be grounded. And I had to go to work that night. And I left for work around 4:55 and he still wasn't at home. So I went on to work and my husband started

Searching for him. And we searched all night and just--it come up the next day that he was dead.

RIVERA: Who told you that they found his body?

Mrs. HOBBS: My husband and I went to the school to check, to tell them that we hadn't found the boys. And there, a lady said, I heard they just found three boys.' So we went to the park where they had found them at, and I run up. They already had the police line out and everything, and I run up, and someone said that it was Stevie, that it was the boys.

RIVERA: Grandpa Jackie, do you believe this was a--a devil-worship cult? Do you believe this was a Satanic organization?--or these boys were in some way connected? And how do you respond to that?

Mr. JACKIE HICKS (Grandson Murdered By Alleged Satanic Teens): Yes, I definitely believe that it was. At the time of the murders, Satanic was a world of its own. It--it was something that wasn't even in my mind. But as time progressed and goes on, and we've learned a little more, studied a little more and went along with it; it all points, from what we've read and studied--yes, it was a Satanic-type murder.

RIVERA: What's your reaction? I know you folks are nervous about being on TV. What's your reaction to what happened to your grandson?

Mr. HICKS: Well he--him and a couple of the boys were just beautiful little boys, a-playing. Those little boys still believed in Santa Claus and the Easter Bunnies.

(Photo of Steven Hicks)

Mr. HICKS: (Voiceover) They were playing in the woods, called Robin Hood Park where all the neighborhood kids play at. And evidently, they run up onto something. And those boys were cruelly beaten to death. They were beaten to death. I saw my grandson at the funeral home before he was taken out of a body bag, just like he came back from the coroner. And it was pitiful.

RIVERA: Tell us. Help us understand that. What did they do to him?

Mr. HICKS: What did they do to him? His jaw was completely tore loose from his face. His eye was busted in the socket. His chest and all was kicked and stomped. His face was kicked and stomped--just pitiful, pitiful. It's something that a decent human being wouldn't even do to a live dog, let alone a human being.

RIVERA: Did a feeling of rage swell up in you?

Mr. HICKS: Well, naturally, you know, the feeling of rage swollen up, yes, it's--it's swollen up. Yeah, it did.

RIVERA: Did you want to go out and find his murderers yourself?

Mr. HICKS: Naturally, you know that, too. Yes, I did want to go out and find these murderers myself at the time.

RIVERA: Do you believe that the right teen-ager was convicted?

Mr. HICKS: Yes, I do.

RIVERA: Jessie Misskelley Sr. can you hear me?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: Yes, sir.

RIVERA: You still, despite the fact that a jury has convicted your son and sentenced him to life plus 40 years, you believe him to be innocent?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: Yes, sir, I sure do.

RIVERA: Isn't it a fact that Jessie Misskelley Jr. was a member of one of these Satanic cults?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No, he was not.

RIVERA: He didn't attend meetings?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No, he did not.

RIVERA: There was testimony to that effect at the trial.

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: That's a lie.

RIVERA: Do you think everyone is lying about your son?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: Yes, I do.

RIVERA: And you believe that he had an alibi?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: I know he did.

RIVERA: Then why did he make a 32-minute confession to the cops?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: Because they hounded him, they cussed him, they threatened him. And he just made a statement to get him off his back.

RIVERA: Terry, you want to say something to Mr. Misskelley Sr.?

Mr. HOBBS: I have a lot to say to that man. But I can--I don't want to talk to him. I don't appreciate the actions of your son. He come out of your home, out of your raisings. And, no, I...

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: Sir--but my son did not do it.

Mr. HOBBS: He said he did.

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: But he--he's mistaken. He--they made him say that.

Mr. HOBBS: He had a chance to tell the whole world he didn't do it. And he didn't.

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: What did he say?

Mr. HOBBS: He didn't.

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: We tried.

Mr. HOBBS: He didn't. He had a chance.

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: Well, he tried, but they wouldn't let him.

RIVERA: Paul Morrison is a television reporter who got so close to this case that he became almost obsessed with it; so much so that he was forced to quit his job in a Memphis television station.

Paul, what about the Satanic angle here? Were these boys ritually slaughtered?

Mr. PAUL MORRISON (TV Reporter Fired For Obsession With Satanic Case): So far, we've heard nothing from the police certainly. They did not establish motive in the killings. As you know, you don't need to establish motive for a conviction, but publicly, there's been no mention that the motive of these killings was sa--a--cult-related.

RIVERA: What else could it have been?

Mr. MORRISON: I think in--when you look at a case like this, some of the questions that might go through your mind would be child-sexual abuse or if--if the motivator was indeed sexual as opposed to cult-related. I--I cannot say for sure it was or it wasn't. I do know this much, as you've already indicated, I'm convinced there was a cult of some form or fashion alive and well in West Memphis, Arkansas.

RIVERA: Isn't it a fact that aside from the brutal beating that they administered to these three eight-year-olds, that they also castrated one of the boys?

Mr. MORRISON: Christopher Byers' sexual organs were rather artfully removed. To my knowledge, they've never been found.

RIVERA: Picture this happening in your town. Three eight-year-old boys, wonderful, innocent, Santa Claus-believing, eight-year-old boys, brutally beaten to death, hacked and mutilated. Later, three teen-agers arrested, one of them already convicted, the trials of two others to take place. What impact would it have in your community--particularly if you learned that there was possibly a Satanic cult that these teen-agers belonged to? WHEN KIDS KILL KIDS: DID THE DEVIL MAKE THEM DO IT? the focus of this edition of GERALDO.

(Theme music and applause)

(Announcements)

(Theme music and applause)

RIVERA:KILL KIDS: DID THE DEVIL MAKE THEM DO IT? I want to go back to West Memphis, Arkansas, back to Jessie Misskelley Sr., surrounded as you can see by other supporters and family members of the--of the youngster--17 years old at the time of the crime, now 18 years old and sentenced to life plus 40 years.

Mr. Misskelley Sr., we have one of the victims' grandfathers here. He's a man, I think, who knows you.

Jackie, do you want to say something to Jessie?

Mr. HICKS: Yes, Mr. Misskelley, I didn't get a chance to say anything to you after the trial. But what I say--and I'm talking personally to you. I see a re--repeat--a repeat of a beer-drinking--all I see is--it--what I'm trying to say is it's his raising. I feel sorrier for him than I do for you. You've never done nothing for him. And that's all he ever knew is what he was done. And brother, that's your fault as much as it's his.

(Applause)

RIVERA: Mr. Misskelley, do you want to respond?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No. They can run me down all they want to. But I don't care what they say. Just leave me the hell alone.

RIVERA: But, Mr. Misskelley, isn't it possible, now that your son is convicted, can't you look at this thing a little more objectively?--convicted after a confession.

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: A confession...

RIVERA: Isn't it possible that he went astray some place?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No.

RIVERA: Something went wrong with your son?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No. He was coerced in making that--station. He was kind of scared. He had the mind of a seven, eight-year-old, and he was scared. And he told them anything they could--he could think of to get them off his back.

(Photo of Jessie Misskelley, Jr.)

RIVERA: (Voiceover) And the woman--I believe, Paul, her name was Hutcheson?

Mr. MORRISON: Victoria Hutcheson.

RIVERA: Who--who testified, Jessie, that your son was at one of these cult meetings--at least one?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: She lied.

RIVERA: Why would she lie?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: That I don't know.

RIVERA: Paul, how convincing was her testimony?

Mr. MORRISON: It was rather brief but it--she indicated that she had attended what appeared from the testimony to have been a--a meeting--a Satanic ritual called an Esbat, which in those terms, is more or less a monthly or regular business meeting.

RIVERA: Jessie, is your son going to testify against the other two boys? Against--what's his name?--Damian and Jason?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: That I don't know.

RIVERA: Let me introduce our experts because I want to broaden this beyond West Memphis, to talk more about this whole, very controversial issue of Satanic cults and devil worship. Whenever this is mentioned in polite society, people like to bury their head under the pillow and--and refuse to believe that it exists. And very often, reporters, like Paul Morrison, get an awful lot of heat for staying with these stories. I know when we did our devil worship special, how very controversial that was. But we still stand by that one as well as what you're hearing today.

OK. Dr. Herbert Nieburg, a man who specializes in adolescent Satanism among many other things. He has been counseling victims and ex-cult members for years. Jack Roper is one of the nation's leading authors and experts on Satanic cults. Our old friend, Jack Levin, renowned, certainly well-known professor of criminology at Boston's Northeastern University, a man who says Satanism is used as a cop-out and an excuse by troubled, violent teen-agers. And finally, a man who knows it from the--from the streets, Marcos Quinones. He's an officer with the good old NYPD, New York City Police Department. He says that more Satanic murders occur than we know about.

These four experts, joined by our--our bereaved relatives. On both sides, they are saddened. We'll continue this discussion of WHEN KIDS KILL KIDS: DID THE DEVIL MAKE THEM DO IT; right after this brief intermission.

(Photos of Satanic graffiti)

(Theme music and applause)

(Announcements)

(Theme music and applause)

RIVERA: WHEN KIDS KILL KIDS: DID THE DEVIL MAKE THEM DO IT? Our specific focus, this horrible triple homicide just west of Memphis on the Arkansas side of the river. Yes?

Unidentified Man #2: With the cult, I know that there's a history of hallucinogenic use, and was there any such, I guess, tie with that in this murder?

Mr. MORRISON: During Jessie's trial he indicated, or the--the testimony indicated, that he had had some experience with drugs. I do not know the extent of it. It didn't--and the other two, we--we do not know yet because, basically, the case file is sealed.

RIVERA: Jessie? Jessie Sr., was your son a drug user?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No. Not especially. He smoked a little marijuana every once in awhile.

RIVERA: Uh-huh. Was he a big boozier?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No. Not a big boozier. He dr--he did drink whiskey though.

RIVERA: Uh-huh.

Unidentified Woman #1: Do you have any more children?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: Yeah.

RIVERA: Pam?

Mrs. HOBBS: Yes. A little girl.

RIVERA: How old is she?

Mrs. HOBBS: She just turned five.

RIVERA: Does she have any understanding of what happened to her brother?

Mrs. HOBBS: No, she doesn't understand it. She misses her brother but she doesn't understand. She knows he's gone and she says she knows he's in heaven. But to really understand it, no she don't.

Unidentified Woman #2: Hi. I would like to know what type of person it is that gets involved with cults?

RIVERA: I--I don't know. Dr. Nieburg, I want to save you for the bigger question of whether you think this is Satanic-related. I want to ask Jack Roper that question. Is there a--is there a typical kid who gets involved?

Mr. JACK ROPER (Satanic Cult Expert): I think you have to look at--just look at the overall view. It can be from all educational perspectives, from those that are real unintelligent to those that are extremely intelligent--valedictorians. So we have to look at where they're coming from, their--their--their background of the family, how the family treats them, have they been abused. So there's a lot of factors you have to consider with each...

RIVERA: One of the defendants stylized himself Damian after the character in "The Omen." It's not his given name, but he calls himself Damian. Is that an indicator of anything to you?

ROPER: Well, Damian...

(Photo of Damian Echols)

Mr. ROPER: (Voiceover) There's also a well-known church--there's a Satanic organization and the leader of that, his AKA is also Damian. I won't bring up his name.

RIVERA: What's the dagger you're holding?

(Close-up of dagger)

Mr. ROPER: Well, I want to point out that this kind of stuff is available. You can go to warehouses. There are cult warehouses in the country where you can buy this kind of stuff.

RIVERA: See the skull atop with the rubies? OK. What else?

Mr. ROPER: And also now there are--there are cases, active cases, and--and dismissed cases out there. But this is one case of an individual. I have his Satanic diary, his book of shadows. And this individual was--sent threatening letters to President Carter. The US Circuit--Secret Service was involved with this case. I also have another one where an individual, who is in prison right now in Massachusetts, he sent me a letter to get some information on Satanism. But he was also, according to the Atlanta Journal Constitution, said here that he was involved with a decapitation, a killing and a mutilation.

RIVERA: A decap--oh, brother.

Mr. ROPER: Yes.

RIVERA: Let me--let me go to Dr. Nieburg. Does what happened in West Memphis smack of Satanism to you?

Dr. HERBERT NIEBURG (Ph.D., Specializes In Adolescent Satanism): It's a crime that's associated with Satanism. This is not a typical Satanic crime. Typical Satanic murder, one would expect, is part of a ritual. You would expect a--an altar. You would expect certain kinds of ritualistic functions to have been performed. You would expect vestments. You would expect lots of other signs. I think this is a very tragic case, one that's not terribly atypical or unusual. I think this is a murder that's perpetrated by some very disturbed young men. And I--I agree totally with--with Dr. Levin, that--that these cases are where somebody takes up the identity and wants to be known as a Satanist to condone, to justify what they're doing, which really, antecedes--goes way back before anything about Satan. These are disturbed kids who are murderers. This was a mens rea, a criminal mind, using Satanism as a--as an excuse.

RIVERA: Jack?

Mr. JACK LEVIN (Criminology Expert): Yeah, I think that's a very good point. And you don't need Satanism as an excuse. There are plenty of others. You can blame pornography, you can blame drugs or alcohol or maybe even a bad childhood. But Satanism is particularly easy in terms of a justification because it ritualizes. And, you know, even something as hideous as--as rape and murder, can seem wonderful when you envelope it in this--this mystery of the Satanic ritual. Also...

RIVERA: I neglected to mention the boys were also--two of the boys were also raped...

Mr. LEVIN: That's right.

RIVERA: ...by these perpetrators.

Mr. LEVIN: And--and--I mean, you know, it's interesting that Satan himself is seen as a--as a powerful figure. And, you know, as Dr. Nieburg points out, these kids probably were very marginal. They probably weren't getting along very well at home, not doing well at school, dropouts, spiritually as well as physically, and felt very, very powerless. Maybe 20 years ago, they would have stolen hub caps. But today in this age of decline of moral responsibility, you know, they'll do a lot worse than that.

RIVERA: Where the hell did they get the idea, though, to do something this brutal?

Mr. LEVIN: You can get the idea in a lot of places nowadays. You can get it in comic books. You can get it by watching television. You can get it from your friends. You can get it from--from attending a meeting of strangers. But I don't think it's the point that Satan per se is the problem. I think--let me point out, in Clifton, New Jersey, not long ago, three guys--teen-agers--brutally strangled their buddy while they recited Hail Marys. And--and--and Jeffrey Lundgren killed five people in 1989. He thought he was a prophet. He talked to--he kind of like had a direct line to God, he thought. He--this was a radical offshoot of the Mormon church. It isn't Mormonism that we blame. And clearly, we don't blame the Catholic church either. We shouldn't. The point is that religion, and also the occult, can be used for good or evil. In this case, it's used to justify something horrific.

RIVERA: Your reaction to the father's alibi? The father saying his son...

Mr. LEVIN: Well, I--you know, I'm going to take issue with everybody here. I have to because, you know, there are a lot of victims of this brutal kind of multiple murder besides just the three eight-year-old boys. Yeah, I'll tell you who else gets victimized. The family of the--as you can see--of--of Stevie and the other boys who were brutally murdered. And, you know, sometimes it's also the family of the perpetrator, who tries to support and protect his youngster. He may know in his heart that his son is guilty, but, you know, he also knows that everybody will blame him for having created a monster, whether he deserves it or not. So maybe we should be a little bit more tolerant and withhold judgement unless we understand all of the facts of the case.

Dr. NIEBURG: Jack, that's a point, though, because nobody--what we forget is that you can lead somebody down a path. The ultimate choice

and decision--the ultimate responsibility for this murder was not his father. This boy chose to do that, regardless of what those other antecedent causes are.

Mr. LEVIN: Exactly. Let's blame the killers...

Dr. NIEBURG: Exactly.

Mr. LEVIN: ...for the crime.

Mr. NIEBURG: Right.

(Applause)

RIVERA: All right. We have a reporter standing by now in Arkansas, who will give us the latest on what's going on in the case.

Jim Taylor, are you there?

Mr. JIM TAYLOR (KAIT Reporter, Jonesburo, Arkansas: (By Telephone) Yes, I am, Geraldo.

RIVERA: OK. Let me take a break. We'll come to Jim Taylor from KAIT in just a minute.

Stay tuned. An update on the triple homicide, the trial going on right now.

(Theme music and applause)

(Announcements)

(Theme music and applause)

RIVERA: WHEN KIDS KILL KIDS: DID THE DEVIL MAKE THEM DO IT? Yes?

Unidentified Man #3: I want to know, did the children know who their killers were? Like, were they frien--were the--did the children know their killers, so, like, they were friendly?

RIVERA: Did Stevie know Jessie or Damian or--or the other fellow, Jason?

Mr. HOBBS: Not to my knowledge, he didn't.

RIVERA: Now as the case has been reconstructed, Paul, was there a stalking of these particular victims?

Mr. MORRISON: In testimony, the mother of one of the victims told the court that a month or two prior to the killings, that a man dressed in black had taken a picture of her son. And then during the trial, it was still rather uncl--a little bit unclear, but it was--prosecution indicated that there had been a photograph, or photographs of the young boys and implied that there was some stalking going on.

RIVERA: Are you there, Jim Taylor?

Mr. TAYLOR: Yes, I am.

RIVERA: From KAIT?

Mr. TAYLOR: Yes, I am.

RIVERA: Well, welcome. What's going on?

Mr. TAYLOR: Today, more jury selection. Five people have been chosen so far. One man and four women. And they're looking for 12 people, plus two alternates. So 14 people have to be chosen. Five have been chosen and more jury selection this afternoon and tomorrow, I'm sure.

RIVERA: What's the buzz about Jessie Jr. testifying against his two co-defendants?

Mr. TAYLOR: If you--and just give you a moment of time, I can tell you that in Arkansas, the judge in this case appointed a separate attorney to meet with Jessie Jr. to explain what benefits Jessie could receive...

(Photo of Jessie Misskelley Jr.)

Mr. TAYLOR: (Voiceover) ...for his testimony. That attorney met with Jessie Jr. on Tuesday night, and I do know for a fact that Jessie Sr. was with Jessie Jr. whenever those discussions were taking place. There is lots of speculation as to what type of year amount Jessie Misskelley Jr. was offered in exchange for his testimony. But that's a question that I think Mr. Misskelley Sr. could answer, and that's something that a lot of people in our area would like to know. What was the year amount that Jessie Jr. was offered from the prosecution in exchange for his testimony?

RIVERA: Let me ask Jessie Sr. They attempted, or are attempting, to make a deal with your son to testify against the other two boys who are accused of this triple homicide. How many years did they say they would take off his life plus 40-year sentence, in exchange for testimony?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: Well, I don't think I should tell you all. I don't think the lawyer would want me to say that.

RIVERA: Is it a substantial reduction in his sentence?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: Yes, sir.

RIVERA: So he would be out when?--by his middle adult years?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: That I don't know.

RIVERA: You don't want to say?--a 20-year sentence?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No, it's more than that.

Mr. TAYLOR: Geraldo, I think--Geraldo, can you hear me?

RIVERA: Yes. Go ahead, Jim.

Mr. TAYLOR: I think Mr. Misskelley could give us more insight into what his son was thinking, because he was with his son when the decision process was going on. And we can get a better understanding of--of Jessie Misskelley Jr., the defendant, if Mr. Misskelley is allowed to elaborate on what they discussed the other night when the offer was made.

RIVERA: You hear him, Dad? Why don't you tell us? What were they talking about?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: Well, they was talking about telling the truth. And that's what he said he was going to do, cause he was not...

Mr. TAYLOR: Mr. Misskelley, if I may ask you, sir, is your son holding out for a better deal?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No, he was not. He said that...

Mr. TAYLOR: Do you think...

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: ...that...

Mr. TAYLOR: Do you think your son will change his mind and testify?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: That I don't know. I know one thing. They asked him, up there, if he could walk out the door right now, would he get

up and testify, and he said no. He said...

Mr. TAYLOR: Why did he say no?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: He said, because he didn't want to get up there and tell a lie and...

(Photo of Jessie Misskelley Jr.)

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: (Voiceover) ...send somebody to prison, death, if they weren't guilty. He said he don't know if they're guilty or not because he was not there.

RIVERA: He still maintains he was not there?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: Yes, sir.

RIVERA: But he's willing to testify against the--I'm sorry, Grandpa Jackie?

Mr. HICKS: It was proven in the trial that he was there...

Mr. MORRISON: I--I think...

Mr. HICKS: ...by his own testimony.

Mr. MORRISON: ...that they--they--they convicted Jessie Misskelley...

Mr. HICKS: That was a coerced testimony.

Mr. MORRISON: ...convicted Jessie Misskelley Jr. based on one thing: that was the confession. There was no physical evidence--none...

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No.

Mr. MORRISON: ...linking him to the crime scene in any way, shape or form.

RIVERA: Well, what physical evidence existed?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: He was...

Mr. MORRISON: Very little. A number of hair fibers--that we know of; that--that the investigators will tell us--a few hair fibers and some microscopic clothing fibers.

Mr. HICKS: Yeah, he...

RIVERA: Jackie, do you have any doubt in your mind that the right guy has been convicted?

Mr. HICKS: Yes, I think the right guy's been convicted. He's had--he had all of his testimony. He had any time to back out on what he was saying. And he didn't back out until it came up before trial, and now he wants to back out. His daddy wants to play him ignorant. And everybody else wants to play him ignorant, and he's not ignorant. A man that is not guilty will stand up. He'll stand up. He won't fall in for the police or nobody and confess guilty.

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: He's not a man, though. He's a seven- or eight-year-old kid.

RIVERA: Is he retarded? Is that what Dad is saying here?

Mr. MORRISON: He functions--he functions at an--at an IQ level of 72--an over all IQ. So in a--in a legal sense, he is not retarded. Jessie Misskelley, though, it was apparent, is a--is a slow thinking teen-ager.

RIVERA: Who is the ringleader allegedly?

Mr. HICKS: Well, he can think fast enough to do and get out and do what he was doing down there at Mem--West Memphis; drinking his beer and carrying on with the other people. So, you know, it's just like Paul said, in the state of Arkansas, mental retardation starts at an IQ of 65. Seventy-two? We've all got some mental ability, you know? If you want to holler that, then I'm a little bit nuts, too.

RIVERA: Me, too.

(Applause)

RIVERA: We'll take a break. WHEN KIDS KILL KIDS: DID THE DEVIL MAKE THEM DO IT? Stay tuned.

(Theme music and applause)

(Announcements)

(Theme music and applause)

RIVERA: DID THE DEVIL MAKE THEM DO IT? We're examining a brutal, triple homicide. Three eight-year-olds hacked to death down in West Memphis, Arkansas. Yes, sir?

Unidentified Man #4: Yeah. I'd like to know, do you feel that your son may have been involved in this Satanic cult himself; because now kids are very impressionable and you never know?

RIVERA: No. These kids were eight years old. There's no...

Mr. HOBBS: Not a child. No.

RIVERA: No, sir. Terry, do you want to say something about your son?

Mr. HOBBS: Well, we had a--you know, an honor roll student, three years. We had an outstanding little boy. And he deserved better than this.

RIVERA: Do you ever, Pam, second guess yourself, as so many survivors of murder--murdered children do? Oh, I shouldn't have let him out. Oh, I shouldn't have let him walk across town. Oh, I should have kept my eye on him?'

Mrs. HOBBS: I blamed myself for awhile.

RIVERA: Oh, you can't do that. You know that's...

Mrs. HOBBS: Well, I did at first. I blamed myself because I let him go, but it's not my fault. I can't take the credit of saying that it's my fault. It's not my fault.

Mr. MORRISON: These three kids did--did exactly what any one of your children did that afternoon. They went out for a bike ride in their neighborhood and they never came back.

RIVERA: Mm-hmm.

Unidentified Woman #3: For the parents, do you think that justice was served? Do you think that this boy deserves the death sentence? Or what would you like to see happen to the one who was convicted?

Mrs. HOBBS: I'm satisfied with the sentence--the sentence that he did get. And I don't want to--them to reduce it to get him to testify. I would rather them, the prosecution and all, to go with whatever information they do got without him.

Unidentified Woman #4: We saw the perfect room of a teen-ager. I'm curious to know, there's got to be other signs of dysfunction that would

... trigger someone in their mind to say this is someone who's very possible--could get involved in a Satanic cult. One of my--one of my more specific questions is dysfunction, meaning rebellion.

You know, you had boundaries for your son. You knew where you sent him. He knew when he was to be back. But to Misskelley, did your son have boundaries and did he follow his boundaries? Do you know where your son was?

RIVERA: Mr. Misskelley, was Jessie kind of a hell-raiser?

Unidentified Woman #4 (Neighbor Of The Misskelleys): No.

RIVERA: Jessie?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No, he was--no, he was not a hell-raiser.

Woman #4: I don't think they can hear me.

RIVERA: Who else is speaking? Is that your wife sitting by you?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: No. It's a neighbor.

RIVERA: OK. Hello, neighbor. Do you want to say something?

Mr. MISSKELLEY Sr.: She's the one that baby-sit--Jessie baby-sit for.

RIVERA: You let Jessie baby-sit your children?

Woman #4: Yes, and I would today.

RIVERA: Are you one of the people who claims you saw Jessie the night of the crime?

Woman #4: I don't claim that I saw him, I know I saw him.

RIVERA: Did you offer to testify on his behalf?

Woman #4: I did testify.

RIVERA: Obviously, they didn't believe you. Why?

Woman #4: I don't know why they didn't believe me. I told them the truth and that was the truth. I seen him out here at 6:30 that evening and that's where he was at.

RIVERA: OK. Terry, you want to comment on what she just said?

Mr. HOBBS: I heard a lot of testimony come up there for his defense, that was not convincing even to me. And I wasn't a juror.

RIVERA: Now go back to Paul Morrison there. I want to get to our Satanic experts and broaden this discussion, Paul, but what about what the young lady in the first row asked? What about evidence that Misskelley was in some other way, to use that much-banded expression, dysfunctional?

Mr. MORRISON: I think you--you could find that. As a matter of fact, his own clinical psychologist and several pretrial hearings said as much on--and this was his defense psychologist. And the other two, Damian and Jason, I think you'd find that they, too, come from what is the politically-correct term, a dysfunctional home, to one degree or another. But so do a lot of teen-agers in this day and age.

RIVERA: OK. Jack Levin?

Mr. LEVIN: I think that's a good point. There are millions of people who've had troubled childhood experiences, and they don't go out and commit these hideous acts. On the other side, I think that we--parents everywhere--have to know that their kids--their teen-age kids, especially--are being supervised. You know, it's--it's not that our--that television is responsible for everything. Because we're always blaming television. It's that our other institutions, our families, our religion, and our schools have become so weak. We've got to invest as much in our teen-agers as we now invest in the stock market.

(Applause)

RIVERA: Let me take a break on that note. Then I'm going to go to Marcos Quinones, the cop here in New York, ask him what the big-city reality is in this regard.

Stay tuned. Be right back.

(Theme music and applause)

(Announcements)

(Theme music and applause)

RIVERA: Professor Levin was talking about the decline and fall of American civilization with emphasis on family, church and school. But not all kids--I mean, some kids given the same opportunity, they do fine. Like little Stevie, one of the victims, Pam and Terry's boy. This is his homework from the day he was murdered. In math, he got 100. In cursive writing, he got a--a star. And in English, he got a Very Good.' And now he's dead, brutally murdered by--well, one 17-year-old already convicted, two others allegedly also responsible.

I want to go to NYPD's Marcos Quinones. Is any of this relevant to big-city America? Is it relevant to New York?

Office MARCOS QUINONES (Researcher Of Cult Crimes): Yes, I think it is. I think that many children, depending on the lifestyle they have at home and the fellowship with their parents, if they don't have that family structure, will look into something else. I think because of the lack of power that they have, they will turn to Satanism or some other form of the occult. There's so many things out there that will introduce this kind of philosophy. The philosophy is out there. My condolence to the family over, you know, this situation. Fortunately, not--not all kids will, you know, kill or commit suicide with the exposure of Satanic material. But you get that one child out of a thousand--all of a sudden, you have something like this. And I think it's very important for parents, teachers to be on top of these children, giving them what they need. I think the basic home life, the love--I think that's the answer to all of this.

RIVERA: Are there more Satanic or ritual homicides here than we know about?

Officer QUINONES: I think in looking at some cases, a lot of it is labeled as Satanism. I don't think every mutilation crime is a Satanic crime. I think we have to separate fact from fiction. But you get a case like this, and it's my own personal opinion--I think there's an element here. I don't know, Paul, if in your investigation you feel that there are adults involved in this. That--you know, you just don't kill someone or three individuals like this. The training that it took for these people to do this...

Mr. MORRISON: Not only that, but how do three teen-agers, one of them admittedly slow, no matter how diabolically clever, so thoroughly sanitize the crime scene, and the time--and do all of the--all of the--made all of the injuries, committed the crimes and basically, be back home in three hours? To the point there's not one drop of--excuse me--there was some microscopic drops of blood ruled inadmissible. No blood at the crime scene.

RIVERA: How about the semen samples?

Mr. MORRISON: Well, the semen sample--they--a DNA specialist out of Greensboro, North Carolina, did testify that he found what appeared to be semen on one of the young bo--victim's pants, but there was not enough of that material for a proper test to get any match. Questions.

RIVERA: Dr. Nieburg, overview on this?

Dr. NIEBURG: I--I think it's a very perplexing case. I think it's clear that there--there was a--there was a murder perpetrated. I think we--we have not heard enough about the backgrounds, as--as Jack Levin had said. I'm--I'm convinced that if one does what's known as a

psychological autopsy; if we really go back--and I think Paul is really doing that, as--as a result of his chronicling and his record-keeping--things are going to come out; and especially after the trial. There's an awful lot sealed here that we don't know about. And...

RIVERA: What about the larger question of is there an epidemic of ritual cwi--crime?--violence?

Dr. NIEBURG: There's not an epidemic. There are more cases reported, it's out in the open. We're educating people. As a matter of fact, one of the things I really wanted to share with both of you is, if there's anything that would--and I don't mean the word 'justify' in its--in its real sense--the fact that you are here, the three of you, to educate other people to what this is about, in--in one sense says that you're doing your part to help this heal.

Mr. HICKS: Definitely. That's exactly right.

RIVERA: We'll be right back.

(Theme music and applause)

(Announcements)

(Theme music and applause)

RIVERA: Professor Levin, do you have a 30-second bit of wisdom for us?

Mr. LEVIN: Well, you know, we've already said make sure you know where your kids are. But I would say, make sure you know who your kids' friends are.

Mr. MORRISON: Make sure you know what they're reading, too.

Mr. HICKS: Yeah.

(Applause)

Mr. LEVIN: And make sure that you know what they're seeing in every day life, because we don't want to let the peer groups fill the void in our children's lives, that ought to be filled by our traditional institutions.

(Credits roll)

RIVERA: Jackie, do you want to say something?

Mr. HICKS: Yes, I would. I'd like to say that the only reason that I come to New York to be on this show, I'm--don't want my little grandson's death to go in vain. I don't want to be critical, but I want to very, very much make a plea to all the mothers, fathers, grandmas, granddaddies: please love your children. Believe it. Get your heads out of the sand. It's real. Love them, respect them, show them your love.

RIVERA: DID THE DEVIL MAKE THEM DO IT? We'll keep you updated on this. Thanks for watching, folks. Bye-bye.

(Theme music and applause)

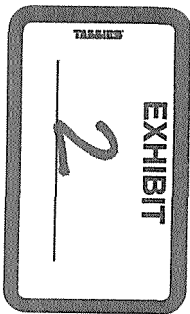
Pam and Terry Hobbs Interview (1 of 2)



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Pam and Terry Hobbs Interview (1 of 2)

[Beginning of recorded material]

Interviewer: [Unintelligible] recording?

Interviewer: Yeah. I just got to do this. [Unintelligible] right this way. [Where's] the mic? I'll leave [unintelligible].

Interviewer: I was thinking this might be a good thing. Maybe even if you don't mind just starting over, just --

Interviewer: Starting over this --

Interviewer: Yeah. Just because I want --

Interviewer: [Crosstalk] afternoon [crosstalk] --

Interviewer: -- because one of the things -- because again, one of the things I want to make sure that we do, what we are intending to do is the-the whole thing you and I talked about as far as showing-showing -- making Stevie a person. I want to see him at school. I want to see him come home. I want to see him with his mom. You know, I want this person to be a person. And so --

Interviewer: And what's great about this --

Interviewer: -- specific details of-of that are really-really good. I love the Elvis story. I think there's a good chance that's going in the movie.

Interviewer: And what's great about this is --

Interviewer: And-and the conversation about Mike buying the Elvis lamp.

Interviewer: This has -- this has all -- this has the three kids in it. This is just [crosstalk].

Interviewer: And this is all three of them. This might be a useful way for partly to frame all that.

Interviewer: I love that. I love that. Okay. So, pick him up the 2:45.

Pam Hobbs: Yeah, at school.

Terry Hobbs: At school.

Pam Hobbs: And then we walk home. And of course on the way home, Stevie told me -- probably a million times; I didn't count them -- "They love me." I'd say around 3:00 or 5:00 is when Michael arrived, because school got out around 3:00 or so, and we lived so close. Michael came over, and Stevie would get into the [car fort] [unintelligible] by the time Michael got there, and Michael asked if Stevie could come over to his house. And I told him, "No, not today. I'm getting ready for work. I'm cooking supper and all that." And Stevie and Mike were both begging, "Please, please! I'll be back!" And I said, "Boy, if you're not back home by 4:30, you're grounded two weeks [unintelligible]."

And so, Stevie and Michael left just as happy as they could be. I thought Michael had a watch on, because he told me as they rolled off, he said, "My mom's not home yet, but she'll be home in five minutes, I promise." Well, I wouldn't think five minutes had passed by the time Christopher was knocking on the door. And he asked about Stevie a lot, and I told him, "Well, you just missed him. They just left to go to Michael's house." And he said, "Well, can I come in and see Amanda for a little bit?" And I said, "Yeah, that'd be fine." So, they sat in the den and watched the Muppet Babies, and when the Muppet Babies went off he left. So. . .

Interviewer: How much older -- or Amanda was a little younger, right?

Pam Hobbs: She was 4.

Interviewer: Four. So, he had a little crush on-on Amanda?

Pam Hobbs: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: Four years older.

Pam Hobbs: Melissa had told me that after they were murdered, that, um, Christopher came home one day and said, "[I'm going to have a] girlfriend." And she said, "Uh, who?" And he said, "Yeah, but she's younger than me." And she said, "Well, how old is she?" And he told her, "She's 4, and she's [who is she?] Stevie's sister [Amanda]."

[Laughter]

Interviewer: Dat-dating a woman half his age already.

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: It's-it's like in Hollywood or something.

Pam Hobbs: And Stevie was, uh -- [always hitching up a date] with Michael Moore's sister, Dawn.

Terry Hobbs: And she was older.

Interviewer: I think I remember-remember hearing that, because Stevie was -- he was ambitious in the older women.

Pam Hobbs: Yep.

Interviewer: And, uh -- and Chris had the younger -- that's [crosstalk].

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk] hung out with Mike, or Chris come over and I got him [not wanting to] kiss Amanda.

Pam Hobbs: And he was just [over-abused] in that day. And, uh, he'd come in, and I asked Terry if he could tell Amanda, "Bye." And Terry said, "Well, tell her bye," and Christopher shyly put his hands in his pocket and told her, "Bye," which Stevie was out on the car fort laughing, because he knew Christopher wanted her to come out there so he could give her a kiss bye. And Terry [got him], "Tell her bye now."

Terry Hobbs: I said, "You tell her in here, boy."

[Laughter]

Interviewer: Who was -- who was Stevie better friends with, Christopher or Michael?

Pam Hobbs: Michael.

Interviewer: Yeah. They were -- were they like best friends, the two of them?

Pam Hobbs: Yeah.

Interviewer: They were -- they did everything together. But they hung out with Chris quite a bit?

Pam Hobbs: Uh, Chris and Stevie were in the same [group]. So, I would say probably, uh, about a month before the murder was when Chris really started hanging around them both.

Interviewer: Okay. What would you think of -- I mean, uh, of Mike and-and Chris, particularly -- just-just in your encounters with them, with the boys?

Pam Hobbs: [As the boys]?

Interviewer: Yeah, just [unintelligible].

Pam Hobbs: [Unintelligible]. Uh, Michael was over one day, and he had a little play badge, and he told me he as an undercover drug agent. And I said, "Boy, you going to get them" --

Interviewer: A little -- a little sheriff's badge [unintelligible].

Pam Hobbs: I said, "Boy, you going to go get them bad boys, ain't you?" He said, "Yeah."

Interviewer: Yeah. What about Chris?

Pam Hobbs: Michael spent more time -- Chris, uh, he was just a little shy little boy then. Started coming over right before they died.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Pam Hobbs: He didn't spend as much time there as Michael did.

Interviewer: He was more quiet and --

Pam Hobbs: Yeah, quiet.

Interviewer: Had you guys -- had you all known the Moores before that, or did you kind of just get to know them when their kids started hanging out?

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: Uh, really? So, you hadn't even met them, [unintelligible] parents?

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible] Todd --

Pam Hobbs: We knew the Moores.

Terry Hobbs: -- Todd was [crosstalk].

[Crosstalk]

Interviewer: Right, right, right, right.

Terry Hobbs: We met Mark Byers [unintelligible].

Interviewer: Right.

Interviewer: So, all you -- the only way you -- you didn't know them directly at all, but their boy, because of being in the neighborhood, would just come over -- he had just started kind of coming over as sort of hanging out with your son, and with -- and with Mike?

Pam Hobbs: Yeah.

Interviewer: And you knew they were in the troop, or you knew they knew each other from school.

Interviewer: And so, let's talk -- let's talk about what-what-what you remember from the night, from the time you went to tell Pam that he was still missing.

Interviewer: Or do you want to start from where we stopped her, and just kind of take it on through?

Interviewer: Yeah, sure. That's fine. You said around 3:05, or what was it, that they took off, right?

Interviewer: Well, they were left here.

Interviewer: Steve -- uh, Chris left.

Terry Hobbs: Yeah, but they were --

Pam Hobbs: Chris left --

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible] --

Pam Hobbs: -- almost around 4:00.

Terry Hobbs: -- [about] 4:00, because after the show ended.

Pam Hobbs: The Muppet Babies come on at 3:30, and [they're off] at 4:00.

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Interviewer: And you had -- then they weren't back by 4:30?

Pam Hobbs: Yeah. Terry had come home, uh, a little bit after 4:00, and the first thing he asked was, "Where's Frog Leg?" That was Stevie's nickname. And I said, "He went [unintelligible] -- or rode bikes with, uh, Mike boy. He'll be --

Interviewer: I guess that's -- is that because of the way he looked, or [crosstalk]?

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: Frog-Frog Leg? Tell, tell.

Terry Hobbs: Yeah. We was living up in Indiana. My dad had a re -- a chain of restaurants -- we had 32 restaurants. Okay, one -- had [some up in] Indiana. The one I refer to has a big lake to have a swim, and have a good time. Right in the middle of this lake was a -- something like this out there floating around, where you could climb up on it and dive off. Uh, 80-foot -- there's signs posted out there, 80-foot beach [unintelligible]. We all get out there to that, and climb up on there. Pam's still on her way, swimming out there to it.

Interviewer: Right.

Terry Hobbs: And me and Stevie's already up there on top of it. And he bails off in there, not knowing how to swim.

Interviewer: Oh man.

Terry Hobbs: And boy, immediately I go in to get him. But when I go down to get him, he just looking like a frog.

Interviewer: [Laughs]

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk] kicking his legs and arms, trying to go up. He wasn't going down.

Interviewer: That's [unintelligible]. I used to teach [unintelligible] by throwing them in the water, because they'll-they'll do it naturally.

Terry Hobbs: I put my hand on his butt, just, you know, brought him up.

Interviewer: Brought him up, yeah. I love that. They call him "Frog Leg" ever since then.

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Interviewer: That's fantastic.

Interviewer: So, so you came home. She was getting ready for work, right, I guess?

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Interviewer: And you came home, and you guys were like worried?

Terry Hobbs: I asked her, "Where's Stevie at?" Because Amanda was there, and she said, "He's off riding his bicycle. He'll be home at 4:30." I walk out the

driveway and look, you know, closer it gets to 4:30, to see if I can see him coming down the road, because I had to take her to work by 5:00.

Pam Hobbs: Yeah.

Interviewer: And then -- and then [crosstalk]?

Pam Hobbs: We left about 4:45, so we could go by the Moores to see if Stevie was there, and tell him he was grounded. But, you know, they wasn't there. And I went [crosstalk] --

Interviewer: So, is that [while] you were -- as-as soon as it was 4:30, you were upset --

Pam Hobbs: Yeah.

Interviewer: -- you were mad that he wasn't there?

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk] wasn't home.

Terry Hobbs: [Not] mad.

Interviewer: Well, I mean [unintelligible].

Pam Hobbs: Not really thinking that anybody [unintelligible].

Interviewer: That's valid. Just thinking he just missed his --

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: So at that point, you're going on to work, and you just feel like, "Okay, he-he stayed out too long. I told him."

Interviewer: So, from 4:45 -- what time did you have to start work?

Pam Hobbs: At 5:00.

Interviewer: At 5:00, okay.

Interviewer: So, you took her on to work after you guys checked with the Moores. There had been -- nobody had heard anything from him, and the Moores weren't worried either, right? They just knew that these boys were staying out [crosstalk].

Terry Hobbs: Todd was out of town. He's a truck driver.

Interviewer: Hm.

Terry Hobbs: And Dana's not home.

Interviewer: Okay.

Interviewer: And she's thinking [crosstalk] --

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible]. I took her to work. I go back to my house. You know, me and Amanda ride through the neighborhood to see if we could see

her. Then Dana comes over to our house and says, "You seen Michael?" I say, "No, he was supposed to be at your house." She went back to her house, and kind of patrolled the neighborhood, and that's where I met Mark Byers, when I went to her house. He came across the street and asking if we'd seen Christopher. And we said, "No" --

Interviewer: Is it -- is it 4:00 -- about 4:00 -- about 5:00 [crosstalk], so 5:30, 5:15?

Terry Hobbs: Something in there.

Interviewer: Okay. And that's the first time you've laid eyes on him actually, right?

Terry Hobbs: In my life.

Interviewer: Yeah. He's like, "I'm Mark Byers" --

Terry Hobbs: Big old boy.

Interviewer: -- Chris' dad. I live up the street. Have you seen --

Terry Hobbs: He lived right across the street from the Moores.

Interviewer: Right.

Terry Hobbs: Mm-hmm. [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: And so, you guys had actually just driven by the Moores just to see if they were there, and you took her on to work. You went back to the Moores -- or Dana Moore came over.

Terry Hobbs: Well, I went back to the neighborhood, looking around [crosstalk].

Interviewer: Yeah. By yourself?

[Crosstalk]

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewer: So, this would've been at 5:15 or so.

Terry Hobbs: Right?

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: And we end up back at our house. Then Dana shows up at our house --

Interviewer: Okay.

Terry Hobbs: -- and asks about Mike.

Interviewer: And then while you guys are kind of walking and looking around, you run into Mark Byers? Had you guys started [crosstalk]?

Terry Hobbs: Well, we hadn't heard from them. They leave our house to go to her house.

Interviewer: Yeah. And then Mark Byers walked over.

Terry Hobbs: That's when Mark came walking across, asking about Chris.

Interviewer: So, what happened then?

Terry Hobbs: We figured out they might be together.

Interviewer: He -- so, Mark Byers came to your house?

Interviewer: No, he came across the street to --

Interviewer: Came to Dana's house, [because they were out] at 6:00.

Pam Hobbs: [Unintelligible].

Terry Hobbs: That was between 5:00 and 6:00.

Interviewer: All right, I missed something. So, how did you end up at Dana's house?

Interviewer: They went over there after driving around.

Interviewer: Uh, you drove around, then went back to Dana's house, and then Mark came over and it was about 6:00?

Terry Hobbs: Somewhere in there.

Interviewer: Somewhere in there, [unintelligible]. Okay. And then -- and then Dana said -- Didn't Dana -- didn't Dana testify that she saw him around 6:00?

Pam Hobbs: I think [someone did].

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk]. That's right.

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk] that's right. [Crosstalk] -- yeah.

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk] go into a wooded area.

Interviewer: So, why do you think, um -- why do you think at that point that Stevie didn't come home? Like -- I mean, if they were out, [unintelligible] obviously [unintelligible] the neighborhood around 5:30.

Terry Hobbs: I called the police to make a report about 5:30.

Pam Hobbs: I thought you made the report at [9:00] [unintelligible]?

Terry Hobbs: No. We were -- there's paperwork over there saying that I called them between 5:00 and 5:30, I believe, and -- to report kids missing -- our kid's missing.

Interviewer: After Chris had -- after Mark Byers had walked over, do you think, or before?

Terry Hobbs: I think before.

Interviewer: But it was right in that timeframe. You know, basically once Dana Moore came over, said, "Have you seen" -- you know, "I'm concerned," and you guys went back to the Moores' house, and you were kind of together thinking, "Okay, both of our kids are gone. They're both late. We're a little worried now." Then Mark Byers walks over, says, "I'm Mark Byers. I'm Chris' dad. Have you seen him?" Then the three of you guys figure these -- the kids may be all together. So, somewhere in that time you were getting concerned enough that you called the police and said, "Hey, we've been looking for our boys. We can't find them. Can you guys start [unintelligible]?"

Terry Hobbs: And the answer the police told me -- "Don't worry about it. They're over at someone's house playing. They'll be home."

Interviewer: Because it was so soon after they --

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Interviewer: So, you were starting to just get that slight sense of, "I'm a little worried."

Interviewer: Because [unintelligible].

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk] [or not].

Interviewer: No?

Terry Hobbs: He did want to help, kind of, like [crosstalk].

Interviewer: And had-had Stevie ever done that before, just not come home on-on time?

Terry Hobbs: It was unusual enough that you felt like --

Interviewer: Right.

Terry Hobbs: -- something needs to be done.

Interviewer: And what happened from that point [unintelligible]?

Terry Hobbs: We was told, "Don't worry about it. They'll be home." Well, as parents, you know, we -- the Byers, Mark and Melissa, go out and ride around [unintelligible]. And me and Amanda go ride around [unintelligible]. And Dana stays at her house, in case they come home --

Interviewer: Right.

Terry Hobbs: -- to her house. Well, we never did run across nobody. I mean nothing, no boys. That's what we was looking for. I take Amanda over to a friend of ours that lived over by us, and pick her husband up, and leave Amanda there, and tell him, I said, "I can't find Steve." He knew Stevie [unintelligible]. So, me and him spent the rest of the evening -- he-he stayed with me.

Interviewer: Who's he?

Terry Hobbs: David [Unintelligible]. He was just a friend who had a daughter [crosstalk].

Interviewer: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: And his daughter, you said, was a friend of [the family]?

Terry Hobbs: Right. But me and him worked together [over in Memphis]. Uh, we rolled around, and I got him with me. And we went everywhere we could think of to look. You know? And didn't know where to look.

Interviewer: [Did you go] near or into the woods at that point [unintelligible]?

Terry Hobbs: No, not then.

Interviewer: Was that a place that they played in a lot, or did you not [unintelligible]?

Terry Hobbs: It was a place where kids had played and did things, like there's a [unintelligible] --

Interviewer: [Unintelligible] kids would get up in there somehow and just run around and play?

Terry Hobbs: [But they-they] didn't know where he was at. [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: [Crosstalk] definitely didn't know it as a place where he'd go play.

Terry Hobbs: That's right, yeah.

Pam Hobbs: The first time [crosstalk] --

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Pam Hobbs: -- Stevie, you're not in here.

Interviewer: That's -- so, you had just heard about it, and you go there and -- you didn't know kids go in there personally, they would go in.

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Interviewer: You just heard that maybe kids -- Did you -- had you also heard anything about it being like a place not to be after dark, like maybe transients being there, anything else about it?

Terry Hobbs: Not at that time.

Interviewer: Okay.

Terry Hobbs: But we did later.

Interviewer: Yeah. So, at the time [unintelligible].

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible] we would go up and ask, "Have you seen three boys?" And every -- a lot of the kids were saying, "Yeah, we seen three boys go into Robin Hood Hills." I didn't know where Robin Hood Hills was, as far as they called it. But yeah, the more the people we asked, you know, some of them kept saying, "Yeah, they [went there]."

Interviewer: You were -- so, you ran into a couple of people who said they actually -- they saw them go in there?

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Interviewer: So, at what point did you -- so, so you're still riding around at this point, haven't seen them -- separately -- it's you riding around with your friend --

Terry Hobbs: David.

Interviewer: -- in your car. And, uh, assume the Byers -- you're not in touch with them, but you assume they're out looking, because [crosstalk] --

Terry Hobbs: Well, we had seen them.

Interviewer: -- around. Are they walking or driving?

Terry Hobbs: Driving.

Interviewer: And then, uh -- and Dana Moore's still at home?

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Interviewer: And then what happened?

Interviewer: And were any of the people that told you that they saw -- they saw them go into the woods, were they people you knew?

Terry Hobbs: No.

Interviewer: Yeah. You just -- you were just asking people [unintelligible].

Terry Hobbs: Right. Door-to-door, [unintelligible].

Interviewer: Uh, really? So, it was -- you were getting that --

Terry Hobbs: Starting to --

Interviewer: Starting to get --

Terry Hobbs: Starting to want to know something.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah.

Interviewer: And you were getting away from your little group of the few people you knew right around there. You're just starting to ask strangers, but you just [unintelligible].

Terry Hobbs: The police -- the police had at one point told us, "Go door-to-door and ask." So, a lot of us was doing that. You know, people we didn't even know, there was starting to get -- be a gathering.

Interviewer: So, people were starting to get the word that some-some of our neighbors we don't even know, three of the boys are gone. And some people are starting to come out, and then they're asking their neighbors, and it's becoming a --

Pam Hobbs: That actually --

Terry Hobbs: Neighbors [crosstalk].

Pam Hobbs: -- didn't happen until the next day.

Interviewer: Okay.

Pam Hobbs: People going door-to-door and stuff. Um, a police officer came to [Catfish Island] where I worked, and took a report, went out to the wooded area [with us] -- and I think [Gina Baker] was there. And

those were the last two police officers I seen all night. They might be it.

Interviewer: Okay.

Terry Hobbs: And we-we was going down to the police station. [Crosstalk].

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk], and all that. And they told us, "We have every available man on the force out there looking." Well, Terry was riding around with David, and my daddy came down to help join the search too. But at one point I found myself -- and I was speeding through Broadway in West Memphis, and there wasn't a cop to stop me. I didn't see a cop nowhere.

Interviewer: And this was all, though, much later that [night]?

Interviewer: This is after [crosstalk].

Pam Hobbs: Yeah, later on.

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk] after 9:00.

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: So, leading up to 9:00 then still, just to get that sense of your first experience of it, you were still driving around? People actually [unintelligible], but you were going door-to-door --

Terry Hobbs: Before dark. And right at dark before Pam came, I picked her up from work. There was a -- there was, uh, boys on four-wheelers, three-wheelers, riding. And everybody kept pointing to Robin Hood, and there was people actually going out in Robin Hood looking to see if they was out there.

Interviewer: Okay. So, it had started -- some local -- some people in the -- in the neighborhood had started thinking they could be there, and [crosstalk].

Interviewer: What time were you -- what time were you -- were you supposed to work until? Until 9:00?

Terry Hobbs: Until 9:00.

Pam Hobbs: Until 9:00.

Interviewer: Yeah, okay. And then -- and that's why you went there at 9:00, because you knew it was time for her to get off.

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Interviewer: And when you picked her up, nobody had talked to you yet, right?

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: You were at work. So, basically you had gone to work knowing that Stevie was late in coming home.

Pam Hobbs: Yes.

Interviewer: And then he came and picked you up, and that's where it's like -- you said, "Did Stevie ever come home?" or whatever, and you said you had the pieces of candy --

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk] went to the car and --

Interviewer: -- you said you-you had two pieces of candy in your hand for them, for-for your kids.

Pam Hobbs: -- [crosstalk] for Amanda --

Interviewer: And so, you went -- you headed out to the car expecting to see both of them.

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: Because they usually come all to pick you up together.

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: And then what exactly did you say, if you remember?

Terry Hobbs: She asked me where Steve was. I said, "We haven't found him yet."

Interviewer: And that's when you said, "He's dead"?

Terry Hobbs: She said it [first thing].

Interviewer: Is that -- that was the first thing? You just -- your first response was --

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: -- "He's dead"?

Pam Hobbs: When I called my sister at work to tell her Stevie was missing, that's the first thing I said to her too. I said, "He's dead." I said, "I'll never see him alive again." And she's, "Oh God, Pam, don't say that. He's going to be okay. We're going to find him," but [crosstalk] Stevie [unintelligible]. I knew --

Interviewer: Did you start [to get] frantic [unintelligible] inside?

Pam Hobbs: And when I didn't see him -- when I didn't see him in the car, I [unintelligible], because Stevie wasn't that type of child.

Interviewer: You just knew?

Pam Hobbs: [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: And so from that point, for you, the night was--was just sort of this in--inside, frantic fear, [unintelligible] --

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: -- stress, driving fast, trying to --

Terry Hobbs: Praying to God that you're wrong.

Pam Hobbs: "God, please don't let this be so," but kind of knowing in my heart that [that's] really what happened.

Interviewer: And meanwhile, you had [set off to] keep looking [or whatever]?

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk] around dark.

Interviewer: And just trying to be calm, trying to keep her calm as you're feeling scared yourself inside?

Terry Hobbs: Yeah. [Unintelligible] the closer to dark it got, I mean, they were -- they -- he's scared of dark.

Interviewer: You knew that was bad.

Interviewer: At that point, at least you're thinking -- are you thinking maybe he's had an accident, something like that? Or are you thinking maybe, even that early, that someone had done something to him?

Terry Hobbs: Whatever we-we-we hear -- we heard so many things. You know, we heard that they was over there at the laundromat, so we ran over there to the laundromat to see if they were in there. We heard somebody put them in a van. You remember that? We heard somebody put them in an ice cream van.

Interviewer: That's all that night.

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Interviewer: So, different people are saying -- they literally are saying, "I saw three kids, uh, getting in that ice cream van."

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Interviewer: Somebody else says, "I saw three boys over at the laundromat."

Interviewer: Somebody says -- what-what-what -- somebody said they were put in an ice cream van?

Terry Hobbs: A van.

Interviewer: Was it -- okay. Well, it could've been any van, not necessarily an ice cream van.

Terry Hobbs: And that lawyer that they brought from California -- what was his name?

Pam Hobbs: Chris [Unintelligible].

Terry Hobbs: He lived here in West Memphis, and somehow he ended up in California. They brought him back to West Memphis to question him, because, uh -- because he drove an ice cream van.

Interviewer: So that night, all you heard was a white van, white or yellow?
[Unintelligible] found out it was an ice cream van.

Terry Hobbs: Yeah. And I worked for an ice cream company at the time.

Interviewer: [Unintelligible], yeah.

Terry Hobbs: So, I had some of my customers tell me, "You did it!"

Interviewer: Yeah. Who was it -- do you remember who it was that said that they saw them get in the van?

Terry Hobbs: Just neighborhood people.

Interviewer: Just neighborhood people? And was it -- did they say "van," or did they say "ice cream van?"

Terry Hobbs: Van.

Interviewer: Just van?

Terry Hobbs: A white van.

Interviewer: A white van.

Interviewer: And then somebody else said -- I think how -- I mean, did they sound certain when they were telling you this stuff, or would they be like, "I think maybe I saw some boys over at the laundromat"? I mean --

Terry Hobbs: We did -- we went over to the laundromat and checked.

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: The official statements are pretty solid that people saw them go into the woods. That's the last time they were seen.

Terry Hobbs: There was somebody watching a show that was on about 6:00
[crosstalk] --

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk] the news.

Terry Hobbs: Yeah. And they-they said, "Yeah, we live here in the woods over -- and see them going in there."

Interviewer: All right.

Interviewer: Was that -- do you happen to know if those folks that said that -- and they're watching the news, so that's how they knew the time?

Interviewer: Roughly it would've been -- was it 5:30 evening news, between 5:30 and 6:00? Or was it the 6:00?

Pam Hobbs: [Unintelligible] 6:00.

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: Was that over by the pipe, that place? Or was that over at a different part? Do you remember the people that you're talking -- that you talked to, where they said -- and they said they saw them going in. Like going on into the woods, three-three boys.

Terry Hobbs: Wouldn't it be by the apartments?

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: By the Mayfair Apartments?

Terry Hobbs: By Mayfair.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: It's over on the end where the pipe is.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewer: That's where they found the bicycles too.

Interviewer: That's right. Okay. So, anyway, um, so --

Interviewer: The rest of the night.

Interviewer: -- you keep on -- you keep looking-looking then. What do you remember about that period of just the search? You searched all night.

Interviewer: Yeah. Like it was like, and what-what was happening. I've heard that there were tons of people.

Interviewer: I-I -- yeah, it's one of those things I haven't heard very much. There's not much to-to find in terms of documentation about --

Interviewer: Right.

Interviewer: -- what actually went on that night.

Terry Hobbs: Because there was no police.

Interviewer: And-and were you -- how angry were you about that?

Terry Hobbs: Very! We had made --

Interviewer: I mean --

Terry Hobbs: -- two or three trips down to the police station that night.

Interviewer: Where were the cops? Where were they? Still don't know?

Terry Hobbs: They told us to go home, don't worry about it; they'll be home [to sleep].

Interviewer: Okay.

Pam Hobbs: I told them one time, I said, "He's 8 years old. He sleeps with a nightlight in his room. He did not run away from home." So.

Interviewer: And they just -- they just were not --

Interviewer: They didn't give you any reason why they thought these boys might -- they might have run away, like maybe they thought one of the kids had done that, or anything, or? Because you're saying -- Stevie's-Stevie's not a runaway. You said, you know, "We know he's" --

Terry Hobbs: We didn't know if the other two had done it at the time, but we found out some things about them after the fact.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm. Like what?

Terry Hobbs: Well, didn't someone tell us that they broke into school?

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: Who broke into school?

Terry Hobbs: Michael Moore.

Pam Hobbs: Michael Moore.

Terry Hobbs: And Chris.

Interviewer: I've never heard that.

Terry Hobbs: And we-we heard it. We don't know if it's true.

Interviewer: Right.

Interviewer: And we'd heard some things about, you know, Chris [may have] some problems. So, so I wonder -- did you get any sense that the police acted like they knew something about some of these other boys that made them more inclined to believe that they might have run off or something like that, or they --

Terry Hobbs: The police made you believe like they didn't care.

Interviewer: That's when [crosstalk]?

Interviewer: [Crosstalk] show up.

Terry Hobbs: Mark Byers had called Search and Rescue in Crittenden County.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: Crittenden County told Mark that, "We can't come to West Memphis until the police invite us." And they wouldn't [do].

Interviewer: And as far as you knew -- like you said, you're-you're like -- maybe going looking -- well, first you're driving around town, just like going crazy, "Where could they be in town?" holding all this nervous energy, I guess. And at that point, you had been in the woods, right, yourself? Or you --

Pam Hobbs: I was -- we went [crosstalk].

Terry Hobbs: We went to the woods [crosstalk].

Interviewer: So, you'd been -- you got a little bit into the woods. You call out. Nobody sees anything. Then you go back. You-you're driving around. And meanwhile you're seeing no police, no police in the woods. Neighborhood people are in the woods, kids on four-wheelers are in the woods.

Terry Hobbs: Closer [on into] to the darkness, people start going home. It was just us.

Interviewer: Yeah. Because I've read some things, and, you know, [unintelligible] people talking about that night, kind of the chaos in the woods, that some people were riding around on-on ATVs and stuff. And then a lot of them did leave, but a handful of people --

Terry Hobbs: [They came] back.

Interviewer: A couple of boys said they went back a little later for a splash or whatever, and they were --

Terry Hobbs: Yeah. We was together at one point during that night when we heard some splashing.

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk] about 9:00.

Terry Hobbs: And [crosstalk] like animals. It was more like -- they've never [done it before].

Interviewer: You'd never been in there, so you wouldn't had anything to relate to in the wilderness. It was all new to you. You're like going in these woods, [crosstalk].

Terry Hobbs: We didn't know where we were going.

Interviewer: And all you had was little flashlights.

Pam Hobbs: Yeah.

Interviewer: That's what you had.

Terry Hobbs: We were all sticking together and just kind of looking around.

Interviewer: You said the first time you went in there, you're like, "Oh God, Stevie, you're not -- you're not!" --

Pam Hobbs: Just by the way it was grown up and everything, I was thinking, "Lord have mercy, son, you're not out here." And I started, uh, yelling out his name, saying, "Stevie, son! You're not in trouble! Come home!" We didn't find him.

Interviewer: And-and your feeling was, "This is not the kind of place Stevie would go play anyway," or you-you're hoping not?

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Interviewer: Because it's just so overgrown and-and --

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: Yeah.

[Crosstalk]

Interviewer: What's left of it, yeah. It felt like it was pretty swift. Did you get down to the water too, and [crosstalk]?

Terry Hobbs: [Well], we crossed the pipe.

Interviewer: And you saw it, and the water's moving [unintelligible]?

Terry Hobbs: It was deep.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: And [unintelligible] no [unintelligible] that time.

Interviewer: So all that night, you guys -- by then you're sort of together, you've done your driving around. And most -- off and on you're together or you're with [your friends].

Pam Hobbs: He's with David, and I'm with my dad.

Interviewer: Your -- because you dad had come down pretty quick. You called him after you got off work.

Pam Hobbs: As soon as Terry got there, yeah. And, uh, from [Blywood] it takes about an hour and 15 minutes, and daddy was there in probably 30.

Interviewer: And that's when he kind of hurt his back or leg or something, because he was out messing around --

Pam Hobbs: He did that when he went to the woods by himself with nobody out there with [crosstalk] --

Interviewer: Was that your dad?

Pam Hobbs: -- went through there, and he had a flashlight. And he had told us the he tried two sets of, uh, bicycle trails, and it looked like that two boys was on one bike, and down there close to the pipe was [unintelligible] lost his balance.

Interviewer: Yeah. So, he had gotten to that pipe, and that's where he -- where you guys had heard somebody say they had gone in. And sure enough, that's where he said he saw some tracks --

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Interviewer: -- on that mini-gutter. So, he was one of the first ones -- he was the first one to really start looking around in the woods. And then these kids -- or had others been in the woods?

Terry Hobbs: They-they [unintelligible] the woods before dark.

Interviewer: Okay.

Terry Hobbs: [And riding] --

Interviewer: But there was nobody in there, you're saying, when he went at that time?

Pam Hobbs: No, not when daddy --

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Pam Hobbs: -- went in there. And I thought daddy was in there a little bit too long, and so I was going to go in and find him. And there was a full moon out that night, so I could see as I walked in there without a flashlight. And there was a certain point that I got to that a fear had come over me like I ain't never felt. It's like the hair is standing up on my arms. And I

turned around to walk back to the truck. I wanted to run. And my daddy was getting ready to go back in, because he thought [unintelligible].

Interviewer: So, he had [crosstalk] most everybody had gone home, like you said, the people who had been in the woods. And then your dad said, "I'm going to go look again," and he went by himself. You know, can you switch with me? Because I -- my back's killing me. I think this seat might be better [crosstalk].

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewer: [Crosstalk]. I got to change my angle for my lower back. We're both having back trouble today. My neck is kinked up, and his [crosstalk].

Interviewer: We're-we're a mess. Uh, what do you think -- when you think about it now, do you think -- what do you think that fear was? Do you think -- do you have an -- do you have an idea of what it was, or do you know now?

Pam Hobbs: Um, thinking back to when it happened and all that, I think maybe [who] might have done it [wasn't completely] out of the woods --

Interviewer: And then you --

Pam Hobbs: -- and was watching me.

Interviewer: And it was -- God was watching? That's why I-I -- that's why I asked, is it just keeping you safe?

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewer: Yeah. So, I-I just [unintelligible] about getting up through the night to that point. So then, at this point, your dad comes back, right? Or did he go on -- did you go on home, and did he keep [crosstalk]?

Terry Hobbs: He stayed.

Interviewer: So, he stayed. And you're still --

Terry Hobbs: At one point, me, David, and her dad -- my father-in-law -- hooked up, and we came into the woods from the service road side. And walking straight back to the pipe, there's a trail -- there was a trail that cut off to the left, and David and her dad kept walking back that way, and I took off down that trail.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: And it seemed like the further I went down that trail, the scarier -- the more scared I got.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: And I ain't scared of nobody.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: And my hair starts standing --

Interviewer: You had the same experience.

Terry Hobbs: I did.

Interviewer: Wow. Well, that night -- yeah, and people have -- you know, people talk about a sixth sense you have, like [if] [unintelligible] in perception [unintelligible] --

Terry Hobbs: Just a few feet from where I stopped was that ditch that they were found in.

Interviewer: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: Well, if you -- if you were -- you were on the service road, the-the-the path you're talking about isn't -- it's -- it doesn't run right along that ditch, because the -- uh, I know what you're talking -- I know what you're talking about.

Terry Hobbs: I think there was a blue beacon [truck wash] --

Interviewer: Yeah, I know the geography of it pretty well.

Terry Hobbs: -- where you could walk straight past the blue beacon all the way back to the pipe.

Interviewer: I know where you're talking about. I know what path you're talking about.

Terry Hobbs: But then there's a path, as I was saying, that cut off to the left --

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: -- toward the ditch where they really found [crosstalk].

Interviewer: It's kind of what we were talking about yesterday, when he said that there was a way through there that's now [off the road].

Interviewer: You're not -- you're not talking about -- you-you're not talking about -- you didn't walk through that [blue] beacon area to get to the path, right? You're talking about -- uh, you -- okay. So, you --

Terry Hobbs: [Where-where] [unintelligible] came back to the pipe --

Interviewer: Okay. And then there's a path that's from [unintelligible] --

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk] --

Interviewer: I know where it is, yeah.

Terry Hobbs: -- to go left.

Interviewer: Basically from the pipe, there's a path that goes in [unintelligible] what you were going down, right? Did you cross the [pipe]?

[Crosstalk]

Terry Hobbs: She [unintelligible] the pipe.

Interviewer: And your path ultimately merges with that pipe, with that same path that comes from the pipe bridge and goes right to the ditch. Because [unintelligible] --

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk] in the service road, it cut off to the [east].

Interviewer: Uh-huh.

Terry Hobbs: And went straight to that ditch.

Interviewer: And you had the same fear.

Terry Hobbs: I got so scared I couldn't walk.

Interviewer: That's that area that's [gone].

[Crosstalk]

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah, yeah.

Terry Hobbs: But that's where the-the --

Interviewer: Right, where the -- where the bodies were, yeah.

Interviewer: So, so the night goes on. No luck. Some of you guys are still kind of going back and looking [crosstalk].

Interviewer: What time was that that you got -- had that scare?

Terry Hobbs: Uh, I'd say around -- after midnight, around 2:00. Between midnight and 2:00.

Interviewer: And what time was it for you, Pam? Do you remember roughly? Earlier?

Pam Hobbs: Probably about 10:30 or so.

Interviewer: Yeah. And that was about -- uh, it was when your dad had gone in by himself, and she went looking for him [unintelligible] and was approaching the pipe, and under the full moon.

Pam Hobbs: I didn't get in that far.

Interviewer: Not even that far.

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: Right at the edge and then some.

Pam Hobbs: There's just a certain point of as you go in, and you could go up like a hill, and then you go the other way to go to the pipe. As I come up on -- where the hill was, that's when [that fear] [crosstalk] --

Interviewer: Now, did your dad come back then, or did he stay out and send you on home? Your-your-your dad, did he stay out there at that point searching?

Pam Hobbs: He was with his truck --

Interviewer: Yeah.

Pam Hobbs: -- and he was thinking to come and get me.

Interviewer: Okay.

Pam Hobbs: And I was [on the road] back to the truck.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Pam Hobbs: When I was walking, I seen daddy coming back [crosstalk].

Interviewer: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: So, things had gotten a lot quieter by this time, like when you're looking.

[Crosstalk]

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: They ended their search.

Interviewer: About what time?

Terry Hobbs: Well, it was around 2:00 or 3:00.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewer: When you were aware of like Mark? Did you run into him searching off and on maybe like during the night?

Terry Hobbs: Well, during the night, we would cross paths somewhat.

Interviewer: Like either in the woods or [unintelligible] groves?

Terry Hobbs: Yeah, driving around.

Interviewer: And then at a certain point after midnight, Mark and Melissa had gone home. You know that. You had seen them leave, or --

Terry Hobbs: Right. Well, they told us they was going to go home.

Interviewer: And-and it was just you, Jacob --

Terry Hobbs: And David.

Interviewer: -- David, Jacob, [crosstalk].

Terry Hobbs: And her family.

Interviewer: Did -- and you never saw any police officers out that night after midnight searching? [Never one]?

Terry Hobbs: That's probably [crosstalk].

Interviewer: That's insane. That's just crazy.

Terry Hobbs: And I probably made two or three trips down there. [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: So, the whole time as you were going around searching, you're going back to the police --

Interviewer: Going back to the police.

Interviewer: -- police station, and you're telling them, "We've been everywhere. We've looked everywhere, and nobody's seen anything. But people saw these boys go into" -- did -- were you telling them then that people had seen the boys go in the woods, "and we can't find them?" That's --

Interviewer: Did you get -- did you get testy at times? I mean, were you getting loud and getting, you know --

Terry Hobbs: They made us leave one time.

Interviewer: They made you leave? I'm sorry. That's the kind of thing that just ma -- upsets me. It just makes me mad. It just makes me really mad.

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk]. We went down there [unintelligible], you know, and we [unintelligible].

Interviewer: I know. And your [crosstalk] --

[Crosstalk]

Interviewer: And everybody in the neighborhood's doing it, and if they won't come --

Interviewer: He's-he's not coming home.

Interviewer: Is it [unintelligible]? Did you get a sense the cops were all off somewhere else just on patrol, wouldn't be bothered?

Terry Hobbs: I didn't see them, so I don't know what [crosstalk].

Interviewer: And she said she drove through town and didn't see any police.

Interviewer: You don't remember who it was that sent you away, do you?

Terry Hobbs: He was a black officer. Uh, I don't remember his name.

Interviewer: He-he was working the desk? Was it -- what was it -- what -- was it one guy who was like continually the guy shoving you away?

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk] the same one. We kept going down there.

Interviewer: Usually-usually there's like -- in a big police station, there's like a desk sergeant or somebody just kind of out in front who talks to people.

Terry Hobbs: Well, somebody was trying -- didn't somebody come up there to tell us to go home?

Pam Hobbs: No, I think, uh, that black officer come out there and told you all that Dave was at the police station, and he wanted to come to our house, and you all said, "No, we'll go to the police station."

Interviewer: Told you he was -- he was there?

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible] heard [unintelligible].

Interviewer: Uh, uh, uh. Right, right, right.

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: So, he had showed up at a certain point.

Terry Hobbs: Yeah, because [unintelligible] thought he might [unintelligible].

Interviewer: So, they -- then somebody called him, and then when he heard they were missing you came [down] with him. Had you seen -- had he been seeing little Stevie much lately -- at that time? Because he didn't -- I had heard that he was kind of not really in touch with you guys much -

Pam Hobbs: [He wasn't].

Interviewer: -- until all this happened.

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Pam Hobbs: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: Then he started coming to the trial and getting all [unintelligible].

Pam Hobbs: But not [unintelligible]. Sort of like [unintelligible]. And, uh, I told her if she knew how to get a hold of Steve -- which I didn't know how to get a hold of him -- I said, "Let him know that Stevie's missing, and keep his eye out for him." And then I guess within the hour, Steve was in West Memphis too, to get on the search and see if he could [unintelligible].

Interviewer: During that first night, do you guys remember if you talked to any of the policemen that ended up being the ones that were involved in finding them, like Brian Ridge, Mike Allen, Gitchell?

Interviewer: They were probably all asleep [unintelligible].

Terry Hobbs: Not until the next day.

Interviewer: So, they weren't on shift, and they were just [unintelligible] --

Terry Hobbs: Not [unintelligible].

Interviewer: -- detectives [unintelligible].

Terry Hobbs: Wasn't it around 6:00 -- 5:00 or 6:00 in the morning Channel 13 showed up?

Pam Hobbs: No, it was during school when it started, because, uh, all of us gathered and go to the school to see maybe if they would show up at school.

Interviewer: So, then it kind of ended after the night -- after the search petered out that night, you guys even gave up. Like, I mean, you searched pretty much all night.

Terry Hobbs: We searched all night.

Interviewer: And then you came back -- you never slept?

Terry Hobbs: No.

Pam Hobbs: Nuh-uh.

Interviewer: And you didn't sleep? You'd been in and out. So, you guys then got together again with what, the Moores and the Byers, is it at that point?

Terry Hobbs: The next morning, yeah.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: The Byers came back out. Todd -- when Todd [unintelligible].

Pam Hobbs: He got in about 6:00 that morning.

Interviewer: Okay. Freaking out, I'm sure. Did he -- did he come home because he was missing, or was he [crosstalk]?

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk] he had got home early.

Terry Hobbs: I think they called him and told him.

Interviewer: Would you know -- you guys weren't around when he found out. You just knew that he found out, and he had to come home. So at that point, it's-it's like the start of school time or whatever, and you guys gathered -- and did other people from the neighborhood gather with you, or was it --

Terry Hobbs: [Right]. And the media was there.

Interviewer: And the media? So, somebody had called --

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Interviewer: Do you know how they got the word, got involved [in it]?

Terry Hobbs: I mean, somebody called -- uh, [was it Barbara that] called the media?

Pam Hobbs: Mark did [then].

Interviewer: He did -- someone he knew, or he just started -- like after he had called for Search and Rescue and nobody showed up, then he's -- did he tell you that he was doing it just to try to get attention, to get somebody to [unintelligible]?

Terry Hobbs: I didn't know he had done it until we ran across the media out there. [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: Why would he -- why did he call the media? Did he ever tell you why?

Terry Hobbs: Because we couldn't get no [unintelligible].

Interviewer: Because no one would act; no one was acting. So, he called. [Crosstalk] TV station or [something].

Interviewer: [Crosstalk] probably a smart move.

Terry Hobbs: I'm not saying for sure, but it seemed like I heard that he did that.

Interviewer: Okay. So, he never necessarily told you. You're not -- you don't remember. But about that morning, you guys gathered up at your -- in front of your houses, or did you --

Terry Hobbs: At the school.

Interviewer: So, you all kind of converge at the school. Had you planned it, or you just kind of all turned up there?

Terry Hobbs: Well, we knew that if we hadn't found them by the -- uh, that night, that maybe they'd show up at the school.

Interviewer: But [unintelligible] independently came up with that? Mike showed up, and [unintelligible] the Moores had showed up. Because that's where you all had gone -- the kids all went.

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk], and all of them said, "Well, [crosstalk] school, and see if [unintelligible] come to school."

Interviewer: And so, you all get there, and there's the media who also heard that these kids have been missing all night. And then what happened at that point?

Terry Hobbs: They didn't show up.

Interviewer: Your -- did you have -- after both of you had that experience of fear going into the woods --

Terry Hobbs: It was like an evil presence.

Interviewer: -- did that stick with you in feeling like you needed to go back, like that was the place?

Terry Hobbs: To me, it felt like I didn't want to go back.

Interviewer: You just didn't want anything to do with it.

Terry Hobbs: There's a fear out there like you've never run across. And I didn't want -- I told her dad and David about it. They didn't know what to think about it, and we didn't go back.

Interviewer: Was it sort of a fear of -- do you think now, looking back, it's partly maybe a fear of what you might find, or just a fear of the whole -- the terror of what can happen?

Terry Hobbs: You know, I [crosstalk] a preacher [unintelligible] people [they called] [unintelligible].

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Terry Hobbs: And you see people praying, casting evil spirits out. I've seen that done.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: It's-it's like that presence of evil.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Interviewer: And that's what you felt?

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Interviewer: And you -- and you didn't share that with [unintelligible] --

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: You felt it, and-and --

Interviewer: Did your dad feel it?

Terry Hobbs: Well, I don't know if [unintelligible].

Interviewer: Did your dad -- you know, did that happen -- I mean, the same experience?

Pam Hobbs: [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible] when only I cut down the path. I just seen a path there, and I just started walking it.

Interviewer: So, you guys are all at the school at this point. The kids don't show up. Can you sort of remember like the ne -- the next day, and-and into that night?

Terry Hobbs: Search and Rescue started after the media got involved.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: Search and Rescue and police officers --

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Terry Hobbs: Everybody started showing up.

Interviewer: At the school or at your houses? I mean, where [crosstalk] --

Terry Hobbs: Just in the neighborhood.

Interviewer: So, [unintelligible] -- so, [unintelligible] is like knocking on all the doors --

Interviewer: [I got to hand it] to Mark, [man]. That was the thing to do, you know? "[I] just couldn't get a reaction [out of -- and I'll do it]," you know?

Terry Hobbs: Maybe it will.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: That got some --

Interviewer: That got some -- got some response quick.

Terry Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: And [Abby] --

Interviewer: [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: And so, then that morning while they were all out searching, what were you two doing?

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: Just-just looking around for evidence?

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk], looking, [unintelligible].

Interviewer: Asking everybody about it.

Terry Hobbs: Then we -- you know, there was one point -- didn't we say, "You know, the [unintelligible] Robin Hood from Memphis."

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Terry Hobbs: [Or] they had them head detectors on.

Interviewer: So that was Search and Rescue from-from Memphis.

Terry Hobbs: Memphis came over.

Interviewer: And Crittenden County also.

Terry Hobbs: And boats.

Pam Hobbs: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: And that's what Crittenden County was doing? So, you think it was Memphis PD and their helicopters? And that went on all day, sort of just searching.

Terry Hobbs: Up until [crosstalk]. Didn't they find them around 2:00?

Pam Hobbs: [Unintelligible] what time they found them. I don't know exactly when.

Interviewer: So, you --

Pam Hobbs: But they called the search off I guess about 2:00.

Interviewer: So, you --

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: So, you had encountered these detectives that morning? They had started showing up in the neighborhood, and [you] talked to Gary Gitchell, and maybe Ryan Ridge, Mike Allen -- some of these guys?

Terry Hobbs: No.

Interviewer: Just Gitchell?

Terry Hobbs: [Not then].

Interviewer: Just Gitchell?

Terry Hobbs: Not even Gitchell.

Interviewer: So, you're just telling me -- you said you heard that they kind of started showing up --

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: -- the police.

Terry Hobbs: They're [unintelligible]. We didn't know none of them.

Interviewer: So, it wasn't until they found-found them and contacted you that you started hearing directly from people like Gary Gitchell?

Terry Hobbs: [Whenever] we heard that they had found some bodies, we took off [unintelligible] --

Interviewer: Where were you when you heard that? Do you remember?

Terry Hobbs: Where was we at?

Pam Hobbs: We was sitting at the restaurant eating, and, um, it was the talk of the town, and [crosstalk] --

Interviewer: Which restaurant?

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: Yeah.

Pam Hobbs: And, um, the police officer said, "Well, I think they just found three boys. Was that your son they found?" And I said, "Uh?" And he said, "Yeah, I think they just found three boys. But I don't know, I'm not sure." So, me and Terry went out, and we go to the school. And somebody from the school -- and I don't even know who it is -- that runs all the [unintelligible] they found three boys. [Crosstalk] --

Interviewer: They-they're not saying if they're alive or dead? They just said [crosstalk]?

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Interviewer: Now, are they saying where they found them? Has anybody said where at that point?

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Pam Hobbs: No. Uh --

Terry Hobbs: Over where --

Pam Hobbs: Mayfair Apartments.

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Pam Hobbs: Yeah. That's where all the traffic and the crime scene things and all that [unintelligible]. When we left the school and went there, and Terry gets out of the car and I get out, and we're talking off running because we had to park quite a ways back. And we just [unintelligible].

Interviewer: [Unintelligible].

Pam Hobbs: I hit the ground, started screaming.

Interviewer: Because he already knew. So then you saw him -- I'm sorry, [unintelligible] --

Pam Hobbs: Saw [unintelligible].

Interviewer: Okay.

Pam Hobbs: You know, [unintelligible].

Interviewer: Had he been just -- he happened to have been hanging out down there when it happened [unintelligible] when they found them?

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: And you didn't say anything. You just knew.

[Crosstalk]

Interviewer: So, you fell -- you fell to the ground [unintelligible]?

Pam Hobbs: I was kicking and screaming, "God, no! God, no!"

Interviewer: And you went past her and tried -- is this where -- is it true that I've read that you went up there, and big Steve said, "You're not allowed in there past the police tape," and you said something like, "The hell I'm not," and you went on in? Is that -- tell me what hap -- what you did.

Terry Hobbs: Yeah. I went from there to [unintelligible].

Interviewer: You knew [him]? Or you just saw [unintelligible]?

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk] that crime scene tape and said, "You're not allowed back there."

Interviewer: And-and what did you say?

Terry Hobbs: [Unintelligible] I just almost [unintelligible]. I was sitting down on the ground. [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: Okay.

Terry Hobbs: Then he told me, "What do you mean I can't go back there?"

Interviewer: He said, "It's a homicide."

Interviewer: And that was -- that was the moment that you knew for sure.

Terry Hobbs: And you guys know that [unintelligible] at that point, [unintelligible]. I-I didn't tell her.

Interviewer: But you -- but Gary Gitchell [crosstalk].

Terry Hobbs: Gary told me that.

Interviewer: So, you're over there [unintelligible].

[Crosstalk]

Interviewer: They -- you guys got her back in the car.

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Interviewer: Did you leave to take her home?

Terry Hobbs: Well, when we got her back in the car, I [unintelligible] the crime scene tape, [unintelligible] see Gary. I mean, it's where I met Gary.

Interviewer: And was Steve the one who -- did he say that thing I was talking about before? You got to the tape, he tried to tell you, "You're not supposed to go in." You just kind of barreled past him?

Terry Hobbs: [I did].

Interviewer: Pam, what was the rest of your day? [Unintelligible]?

Pam Hobbs: [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: And what was -- what was the rest of your day after that? I mean, how did it --

Pam Hobbs: Um, pretty much [unintelligible].

Interviewer: Were you home the rest of the day?

Terry Hobbs: We did go back home.

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Interviewer: And then probably folks started coming by, and --

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Pam Hobbs: People started coming by, bringing food, you know, [unintelligible]. And families started coming in. It's just the worst day than [unintelligible] in my life.

Interviewer: Your dad was already there, right? So, you guys are both [unintelligible].

Pam Hobbs: Once I got home, though, uh, I went to Stevie's room, and I punched the door and [unintelligible]. You know, I was angry. I just wanted to last out at anything. That's what I did. [Unintelligible] punch [at doors].

Interviewer: Punched the door. That was the-the same day?

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: Did you ever on any-any part of yourself -- you know, you're -- you know, you're angry at yourself or you're feeling bad -- which is

obviously now you know is you didn't do anything wrong -- that you were going through, did you ever at all feel like, "Stevie, why did you go do this?" Or [unintelligible] did you sort of only feel that toward yourself, like none of the three boys did you feel any sense of, you know, "You should have minded" -- or, "Why did you guys go do that?" you know, [unintelligible]?

Pam Hobbs: I didn't hear a word you said.

Interviewer: I'm sorry. I just got to talk louder. I had wondered -- yeah, was sitting over there. I just wondered if you had felt any frustration even toward the boys in your mind or, you know, it was just all toward your parental, yourself, that unfair thing and feeling like you should have never let them go?

Pam Hobbs: No. I never felt anything, you know, "It's their fault," and all that.

Interviewer: Yeah, yeah.

Pam Hobbs: They were just being little boys.

Interviewer: What are -- what are some of the other moments from like that first week afterwards that you remember? I mean, do you remember specific things that were -- you know, go into Stevie's room, or [unintelligible], or phone calls -- either one [of you]. I mean, is it -- is it the kind of -- are there specific things that you remember that being moments of that week that were -- that stick out in your mind?

Terry Hobbs: Things were just starting to happen real fast.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: Things -- people were coming in our home. Jason Baldwin's mother came to our house --

Interviewer: Uh-huh.

Terry Hobbs: -- we didn't know her. But we -- but when we ran across her in the trials, why, that's when we placed them together.

Interviewer: And why did -- and you don't know why she came to your house?

Terry Hobbs: No.

Interviewer: That's very peculiar, [very].

Terry Hobbs: She just came among all the people who came to say, "I'm sorry about your child being" --

Interviewer: Did you remember talking to her when she came?

Terry Hobbs: Mm-hmm. [Unintelligible].

Interviewer: She just came to say --

Terry Hobbs: "I'm sorry," yeah. And didn't identify herself, and had come from them trailer [courts] or whatever [unintelligible] our house.

Interviewer: That's -- their ho -- that's quite a ways away.

Interviewer: Did anyone else associated with the others come that you recall? You don't know? So, [unintelligible] people. Your house is kind of -- is open. I mean, family -- everybody's coming to help, they're bringing food. Your-your -- you guys can't work, I guess. You're just sitting there, paralyzed [unintelligible], trying to help each other. Um, and when a lot's happening real fast, do you also mean were like the police talking to you a lot? Was it that kind of thing? Or was it just funeral preparation? What?

Terry Hobbs: Wasn't no funeral, because they kept them down at Little Rock --

Interviewer: Right.

Terry Hobbs: -- for a while. But, uh, it was the City Council, the mayor, people from the town coming by. We didn't know nobody other than family. We didn't know what to think, or who to talk to, or nothing.

Interviewer: Did the police talk to you about your son in that first week or two? I mean, did you see -- do you remember who you spoke to in the police?

Terry Hobbs: When was it that we started going down there for -- when they would call us down there -- that first week?

Pam Hobbs: Was it -- yeah, it was in the first week.

Interviewer: That's when they wanted to know where you were, and what -- you know, they're doing their investigation.

Pam Hobbs: I [crosstalk] one that came to the house and was questioning us, and he was saying that there will be a time that if they [have-have] blood and hair and all that kind of stuff, [unintelligible]. And then, you know, I was going through, "This one's done it, that one done it," you know [crosstalk] anybody who --

Interviewer: "Have you looked at so-and-so? I think he might have done it," or [whatever].

Interviewer: You were just -- you were just losing it at that point.

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Interviewer: They were just trying to say, "Calm down. We're do -- we're doing the best we can." I mean, "We're looking into it." Did you all express any of your anger that they had not been involved that night, [unintelligible]? Did you feel an anger at them that --

Terry Hobbs: Gary Gitchell made the statement to the police officers, "Not one of you guys deserve to wear that uniform."

Interviewer: He said that to them? You were there when he said that?

Terry Hobbs: No, he told me.

Interviewer: Uh, because he knew that they had blown it.

Terry Hobbs: And he also made the statement [unintelligible] to the police department, "You should've called me."

Interviewer: So, nobody had let him know, and he didn't know until he says -- until the next morning when the -- everybody was being called it, it became -- I guess he came to work or whatever, and they said, "Look, there's these kids that have been missing all night." And that's when they got on it.

Terry Hobbs: [Crosstalk].

Interviewer: This is a -- this is a part of the story I didn't know. I didn't -- I didn't know how hard you had tried to get the police to get out there and look. And that sounds like that was your whole night. Your whole night was mostly [crosstalk].

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk] the police department about what [unintelligible]. On the first day in court, they made me leave the courtroom because I think [unintelligible] saying that cops just had a legal way to be corrupt. You know, I was just saying things aloud.

Interviewer: Yeah.

Pam Hobbs: And, "They're getting people's drugs, and going over here and smoking it," you know, just doing that. And, uh, Steve took off -- Stevie's dad took off running towards Damien, trying to get to him. And when he did that, all the cops started grabbing Steve. And I jumped up and screamed, "Yeah, [why don't] you like [get] daddy [unintelligible] help us search for our child!" And the judge told me if I couldn't contain myself, get out of the courtroom. So, I got up and got out of the courtroom.

Interviewer: Did you feel any sense of -- because you talked about getting drugs from people, this and that, you know -- did you feel any sense of -- did police seem maybe not, you know, not confident or corrupt or anything before this happened to you? What was your impression of the police before this? Obviously this made you angry.

Terry Hobbs: We never had no run-ins with them.

Interviewer: Mm-hmm. And you hadn't heard anything about that, about --

Pam Hobbs: [Crosstalk] -- yeah, we did.

Terry Hobbs: [Remember], prior to this happening --

Pam Hobbs: When that come out, I think shortly afterwards [crosstalk].

Terry Hobbs: -- they was under investigation for corruption.

Interviewer: Yeah.

[End of recorded material]

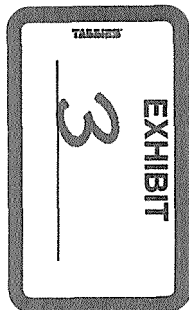
Pam and Terry Hobbs Intention (2 of 2)



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203 Columbus Avenue · San Francisco 94133
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Pam and Terry Hobbs Intention (2 of 2)

[Beginning of recorded material]

Male Voice: We had heard that after the state police were looking into him.

Terry Hobbs: Yeah, no, I know about all that stuff.

Male Voice: Um, okay.

Terry Hobbs: I mean, it's a-it's a-it's a-it's a, you know, that police department was a messed up department in a lot of ways, but. . .

Male Voice: So that week, so you're getting some, uh, [Brownridge] comes out, you guys are going in --

Terry Hobbs: [Stan Birch].

Male Voice: Oh, Stan Birch, okay.

Pam Hobbs: [Not a day go by].

Male Voice: And you guys are going in, um, occasionally to talk to them and they're just saying, "This is what we're gonna need," and they're asking you about your diet. Are they showing you pictures of anybody? Did they do anything like that?

Terry Hobbs: No, they's wantin' us to give them pictures of --

Male Voice: Of the boys.

Terry Hobbs: -- the boys.

Male Voice: But they weren't, like, saying, "Here's-do you recognize any of these people?" --

Terry Hobbs: No.

Male Voice: -- or do any of that stuff yet?

Terry Hobbs: [unintelligible] identified them by pictures.

Male Voice: At what point, um, at-how far after the discovery of the bodies was it that you started hearing that it was maybe somehow connected to the occult or to Satanism or to that sort-or any of that kind of stuff. Was it soon after or was it a long ways, a long time after?

Terry Hobbs: The media --

Pam Hobbs: [Actually] [I said it that day] --

Terry Hobbs: -- [there the media] --

Male Voice: You said it that day?

Pam Hobbs: That day --

Male Voice: You felt it immediately.

Pam Hobbs: I had heard someone say that, "We've been trying to tell the police that they've been doing Satanic rituals back there for years and they won't [pay any attention to it]," so right then I started --

Male Voice: So you heard it that-that night --

Pam Hobbs: -- [unintelligible].

Male Voice: -- from one of these people coming out and talking, like, from the Mayfair apartments --

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Male Voice: -- or from the neighborhood or whatever that --

Pam Hobbs: [unintelligible].

Male Voice: -- that's been going on. And what was the church that you were a part of then or were you involved in --

Pam Hobbs: [Mount Jersey].

Male Voice: -- that it was-it-that-you were just weren't really-that wasn't a big thing in your life --

Terry Hobbs: Nope.

Male Voice: -- at that time.

Terry Hobbs: So during the trials, you know, during the [Damien Eccles'] counselors, they're testimony, you know, and probably a little bit before that, during the trials is when it-they started bringing in all this Satanism and the media prior to the trial --

Male Voice: Right.

Terry Hobbs: -- started bringing in all this Satanism stuff --

Male Voice: So did you hear that as a-a rumor brewing in the town? That's part of what we're wondering, like, did that --

Terry Hobbs: We [thought] the same thing, --

Male Voice: -- start to be things you heard --

Terry Hobbs: -- there was a movie one time about something like that and we had thought it, didn't we?

Male Voice: You remember what movie it was that made you think about it? Like, was it The Believers or some-you'd seen something about Satanic groups doing what, like --

Terry Hobbs: The town. We'd seen, uh, there was a movie out one time [for our town.]

Pam Hobbs: [Psycho Witch Hunt] or something like that, I think.

Male Voice: But you-had you, um-what was it about that --

Terry Hobbs: [unintelligible] thought that was mythical, we didn't know.

Male Voice: Thought that the town-the-the-thought what, specifically?

Terry Hobbs: That there was a-a church over there, [Todd Moore] is pastor, we thought they -- Pam came up with this -- kept thinkin' his church th- they killed 'em at the church --

Male Voice: Right.

Terry Hobbs: -- took 'em out there and dumped 'em, [unintelligible] --

Male Voice: Why-why Todd-why Todd Moore's church?

Terry Hobbs: Well, I dunno. Ask her.

Pam Hobbs: Uh, because of being Catholic, Episcopal, or whatever, um, I think in the Catholic faith that they do believe in ritualistic --

Male Voice: Oh --

Pam Hobbs: -- killing --

Male Voice: -- right, right, right.

Pam Hobbs: -- [that talked] [unintelligible].

Male Voice: You just need to add a more ritualistic --

Pam Hobbs: That kind-well-my no --

Male Voice: -- kind of service --

Pam Hobbs: -- might [unintelligible] my fears, no [pain].

Male Voice: Yeah, yeah, I know, I'm-I'm-I'm just wondering where-where your head was at the time.

Male Voice: But basically, you know, it sounds like people had already-in-in-the pa-I mean it's part of the-you know, it's part of the world, here, you know, we're in the Bible Belt, people talked about the possibility of people being devil worshippers, whatever, you had kind of, more after this happened, started hearing some people talking about and even wondering yourself if there could be some kind of group within the town, like --

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Male Voice: -- maybe there was some kind of --

Terry Hobbs: We thought that.

Male Voice: -- cult worshippers in the town, like you see in movies sometimes, where you sacrifice children who do these --

Terry Hobbs: [unintelligible] [think about it] --

Male Voice: -- terrible things because it's such a terrible crime you can't imagine why else would you kill three little boys? It seems so monstrous and different. And you heard it growing in the town, then, as to what rum-and the media also, like you'd be seeing it on, what TV would talk about. "People think it could be a, you know, ritual killing," or something like that. Okay. So that built up as the trials were approaching. Were you hearing in-within all that, were you ever hearing anything about, "And we think we know that-who it could be. It could be this Damien Eccles and his friends, like these teenagers," or were you hearing more just a general thing about cults and devil worshipping and stuff? Do you remember?

Terry Hobbs: Gary [Dietsal] told us that it was Damien Eccles. We didn't know it before he told us.

Male Voice: When was this?

Terry Hobbs: But I --

Male Voice: At the arrest or before that?

Terry Hobbs: At the arrest. When he called us and told --

Male Voice: Yeah, so you really hadn't heard any of those names until they called you and said, "Are you sitting down?" That whole thing you told us about, and then they said, "We think we have it; it's three teenage boys, here's their names." You-how do you know them? And you said, "I've never heard of 'em." You know, okay.

Male Voice: Did you feel a lot of relief when you heard there-was an arrest?

Terry Hobbs: Probably confusion. I don't know about relief.

Male Voice: And you did-you didn-didn't make you feel any better?

Terry Hobbs: But we still didn't know who it was --

Male Voice: Right.

Male Voice: And anger, but you don't have a face to put it with.

Terry Hobbs: You just want to kill him.

Male Voice: And that's why you said, "I-I want to see him," right? I mean, you're like, "Those names don't mean anything to me and I feel all this anger so," --

Terry Hobbs: [unintelligible] there's a thing they called revenge --

Male Voice: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: -- you don't kill my kid or I'll kill yours, or you.

Male Voice: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: You know? That comes in your brain.

Male Voice: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: There's all kinds of things --

Male Voice: Oh, I mean, if I-if-if I were in your shoes --

Male Voice: It would be the hardest thing not to do.

Male Voice: -- that wa-that's all I'd think about. That's all I would think about. I-I just know, you know, and that's not-doesn't make it good --

Male Voice: And that eats you --

Male Voice: -- [unintelligible] you do.

Male Voice: -- up from the inside. It's like if you come to this forgiveness thing, we've talked about that too, that the hardest thing-the first thing you only imagine is that all you wanna do is-you get obsessed with destroying the people that took, you know, that did that to your child, 'cause you can't imagine anything else. But --

Terry Hobbs: And at the same time, you know, look at the innocence. Everybody on our side was innocent --

Male Voice: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: -- and you [drug] right into something like that --

Male Voice: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: -- not know which way to go.

Male Voice: Nobody --

Terry Hobbs: [What to do?]

Male Voice: -- nobody could ever deserve to --

Terry Hobbs: Who to trust?

Male Voice: Yeah, you're just living your life and this happens. So, okay, well that's-that took us through the [nine] in the first week, so basically the weeks then turned into more weeks, meanwhile you're going through that six-six, seven months of just --

Pam Hobbs: [unintelligible].

Male Voice: -- you're losing it, you guys are trying to hang in there --

Terry Hobbs: [unintelligible].

Male Voice: -- but-if-if you-if you don't mind me asking is it-is it-was it mostly alcohol? Was it mostly drugs? Was it both?

Pam Hobbs: Uh, really neither one, it just --

Male Voice: Oh you-you wasn't-you wasn't --

Pam Hobbs: -- it [unintelligible].

Male Voice: -- you wasn't so much about substance, you weren't --

Pam Hobbs: Nuh uh, not a-I was-I was --

Male Voice: -- doing a lot of, uh, drinking too much.

Pam Hobbs: -- doing no drugs and alcohol.

Male Voice: But that wasn't a-that wasn't --

Pam Hobbs: Nuh uh, [unintelligible] --

Terry Hobbs: We [has] the prescription drugs.

Male Voice: Yeah. Was that mostly what the drugs were? Just taking too many of those, or were you, I mean...?

Pam Hobbs: I-just think at-that at the state of the mind I wanted to --

Male Voice: It was just-it was just where --

Pam Hobbs: -- [unintelligible].

Male Voice: -- head was.

Pam Hobbs: I don't think other drugs and alcohol played a major, real big role in my --

Male Voice: And what-and-and what were --

Pam Hobbs: -- in my actions.

Male Voice: You just self-medicated.

Male Voice: -- you doing, mostly, with your time, during those six months? I mean, were you sleeping a lot? Were you, you know --

Pam Hobbs: At times --

Male Voice: -- you-you weren't eating --

Pam Hobbs: -- I would sleep but --

Male Voice: -- if you [say if I were you].

Pam Hobbs: -- [unintelligible] start eating.

Male Voice: Yeah.

Pam Hobbs: Um, then I started writing, uh, writing on my book and things like that, um, but sleeping a lot and things like that, and just [unintelligible] much out front, away from everybody --

Male Voice: Yeah. Did you --

Pam Hobbs: -- [unintelligible] how much they [unintelligible].

Male Voice: -- did you go back to work at all or did you just --

Male Voice: [unintelligible].

Pam Hobbs: Not 'til after the trials were over with.

Male Voice: So, then you were up-part of the time you'd be up with your family and stuff like that, or were you mostly staying --

Pam Hobbs: [unintelligible] part of the time, yeah.

Male Voice: -- [unintelligible]. So you basically moved out, then. And the town-so, at that point, the town was full of rumors, full of craziness, but you just had to get away from it and go be with your family --

Male Voice: And where --

Male Voice: -- and try to protect [unintelligible].

Male Voice: -- where were you working at the time?

Terry Hobbs: [Minter] Ice Cream company.

Male Voice: Okay, and ba-you-you had to keep working, right? I mean, somebody had --

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Male Voice: -- to keep paying the bills.

Terry Hobbs: [unintelligible] kept driving back and forth to work.

Male Voice: Right. And you were driv-wha-uh, were you driving a truck-tru-an ice cream truck at the time, or were you...?

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Male Voice: Okay.

Terry Hobbs: Not a van, but a truck.

Male Voice: Right.

Male Voice: Like delivering --

Terry Hobbs: [unintelligible].

Male Voice: -- to-to, uh, to stores --

Male Voice: Stores.

Male Voice: -- and stuff?

Male Voice: Yeah.

Male Voice: Okay. And how did-how did people at work, I mean, how did people talk to you or act around you? I mean...?

Terry Hobbs: They was -- they killed me kindness. I've never been overwhelmed with generosity --

Male Voice: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: -- I quit my job. I went to my boss and said, "Look. I-you know, I had a 110 customers I count on every week, and I've been doing this for years, and when they found out it was us, [but] the people of my customers just, they would-everyone one of them would come up and I'd go in the stores and sell them ice cream and come up and grab me and hug me," --

Male Voice: Oh.

Terry Hobbs: -- "and cry, make me cry, and that went on until it just was killing me."

Male Voice: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: I went and told my-John, my boss, I said, "I gotta quit."

Male Voice: You just didn't want --

Terry Hobbs: [Didn't want it]. Said I can't take it. They're too nice to me.

Male Voice: Right.

Terry Hobbs: [unintelligible] showered me with love --

Male Voice: [unintelligible].

Terry Hobbs: -- and I can't [help it].

Male Voice: And everyone else's grief and feelings over this, you know, even though you don't-they don't think they're doing that in many ways, 'cause they feel stuff --

Terry Hobbs: I --

Male Voice: -- they're using-you become their place where all their grief has to go to, and you're like, "I can't carry everybody's."

Terry Hobbs: Right. And there just trying to be --

Male Voice: Does it --

Terry Hobbs: -- nice.

Male Voice: This is jumping out of the story, but, you know, it's like I-I-I've cried on more than one occasion thinking about your son, and I'm one of thousands.

Male Voice: Yeah.

Male Voice: Does that comfort you now? Do-do-does it mean something to you that so many people care about Stevie and that-that he's such a part of people's memory? Does that --

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Male Voice: -- mat-is that meaningful to you?

Terry Hobbs: We went up here to [Bryant's] breakfast house here the other day, get some breakfast. We walked in, me and Pam walked in, and that lady, uh, behind the cash register, tell 'em what she told you.

Pam Hobbs: She remembered who I was and, um, I was telling her about meeting John Walsh, she was telling me about a story that John Walsh had in the paper and I was telling her about me meeting John Walsh and John Walsh telling me I was a lady with a lot of courage, not to give up, and, uh, she told me that I really was.

Male Voice: Is he your columnist who writes for the local --

Terry Hobbs: America's Most Wanted.

Male Voice: Oh, John Walsh, you mean --

Male Voice: Yeah.

Male Voice: -- [unintelligible], I'm sorry. I didn't think about him for a minute.

Male Voice: No, 'cause of Wal-'cause --

Male Voice: I know you guys --

Male Voice: -- this-this-this show --

Male Voice: -- may even benefit.

Terry Hobbs: Right.

Male Voice: -- they did a bit on this-on this story --

Male Voice: Yeah.

Male Voice: -- before they-before they, uh --

Terry Hobbs: When we heard this --

Male Voice: -- arrested the boys.

Terry Hobbs: -- [unintelligible] and it's just, we still hear people talk about it.

Male Voice: See, now that-I think that, you know, it's funny, because I think that yeah, you know, the documentaries and the whole West Memphis Three thing, it's a-it's obviously a big part of what gets people's interest, but I just-I think there's something about, you know, seeing those-seeing the photographs of, you know, of-of your-of your boy and-and Chris and Michael --

Male Voice: [unintelligible] terrible.

Male Voice: -- you know, that you just see those pictures of, you know, fresh face, you know, happy kid and --

Terry Hobbs: He only has five haircuts.

Male Voice: [unintelligible] but actually this one --

Terry Hobbs: Yeah.

Male Voice: -- is so precious. This one I just kept on looking at. Oh, precious picture. I want to see more pictures of him if you [have some].

Terry Hobbs: [Yeah] [unintelligible] --

Male Voice: [unintelligible].

Male Voice: We might love to --

Pam Hobbs: I've got a --

Male Voice: -- see more.

Pam Hobbs: -- picture [box].

Male Voice: We might need [unintelligible].

Pam Hobbs: I don't have 'em with-with me now.

Male Voice: Okay, all right. That's probably good, because I would probably lose it if I were lo-flipping through --

Male Voice: [unintelligible] earlier --

Male Voice: -- those pictures.

Male Voice: -- I just at the store you talked about, I-I been kinda holdin' back --

Terry Hobbs: [unintelligible].

Male Voice: -- the whole time, you know?

Male Voice: I'm going to use your restroom real quick, if you don't mind?

Terry Hobbs: We-we have a lot of pictures from when we had that house over there on [McCollin] Street --

Male Voice: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: -- with the big pool and all that.

Male Voice: Yeah.

Terry Hobbs: Got a lot of pictures from that place.

Male Voice: Yeah, it's hard. This is hard for me. I mean, you know, it's just-it's hard to-to even-even imagine that, um, you know, this is very -- you should post this, you know, because, I mean, that, I don't know, I read this and I just think, "That's-that's what-that's what God can do." You know? What only God can do, 'cause if-if-if God can take you through this to-to a point where you can write something like that, you-boy, you are strong.

Terry Hobbs: He wouldn't put more on you than you --

Male Voice: Than you --

Terry Hobbs: -- than you can bear.

Male Voice: -- than you can bear. Well, you-you two got pushed all the way to the limit --

Pam Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Male Voice: -- I'll tell you that.

Terry Hobbs: Mm-hmm.

Male Voice: Oh, God.

Terry Hobbs: It's been, uh, something else. You hope no one else goes through, you know?

Pam Hobbs: I treasure that eight years I had with him. I was blessed. He was an Honor student and just the best little boy a mother could ever ask for.

Pam Hobbs: And I'd say now he might not have gotten me my [unintelligible] Promised Land on this earth, but he's in Heaven --

Male Voice: Yeah.

Pam Hobbs: -- living in my Promised Land, so.

Male Voice: That's your Promise Land.

Pam Hobbs: Yep.

Male Voice: You know my, uh, um. . .

Pam Hobbs: When people tell me I'm strong and I'm courageous and stuff like that, I say, "No, I'm not made of stone, now. I have my bad days, too." But I'm glad that maybe I can be an inspiration to someone if they can just look at me and say, "My problem's not as bad as I thought it was," then, you know --

Male Voice: Well, I think pretty much anybody can look at you and think that.

Male Voice: Well, you know it's funny because my wife [unintelligible] --

Pam Hobbs: It's worthwhile.

Male Voice: Yeah. Is-it-it's-it is. I mean, you've probably been a big source of inspiration to a lot of people, you know? And yeah, my-my, uh-my wife-my wife puts me in-puts my whole world in perspective all the time, 'cause, you know, we'll go to dinner some night or, you know, and I'll be complaining, "This agent didn't call me back," or "this movie deal fell through," whatever it was, and then she's like, "Yeah, you know, uh, Jeremy, he's six years old, well, he died today, and-and I gotta go to the funeral on Saturday," and, you know, and-and that's when you just realize, you know, that-that's-the parents who survive, and-and even-and it's funny because I think that-I-I was having this conversation with-with, uh, Joyce about it, you know, and how, you know, cancer you-cancer's a-a-is-is --

[Abrupt end of recorded material]

Today's date is Tuesday June the 19th 2007 the time now is 1:12 p.m. I'm Detective Lt. Ken Mitchell along with Detective Chuck Noles. We are currently in the Criminal Investigation Division of the Blytheville Police Department conducting an interview with a Ms. Jo Lynn, and you told me yesterday your name had recently changed, what is it now?

Jo Lynn: McCalhe

Mitchell: McCalhe ok. Uh we'll call you Jo Lynn for this interview if that's ok is that alright?

Jo Lynn: yeah that's fine.

Mitchell: Ok you know we're you understand we're doing ah recording of our interview right?

Jo Lynn: (not audible)

Mitchell: Ok you have any objections us recording interview with you today?

Jo Lynn: say what?

Mitchell: You have any objections us recording the interview with you today?

Jo Lynn: No.

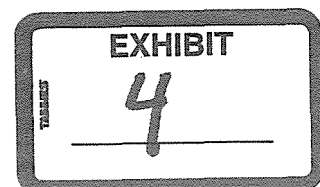
Mitchell: Ok. Detective Noles is going to go over a form with you. It's called a Rule 2.3 Rights Form if you'll listen to him as he goes over it with you.

Noles: Jo Lynn this is a Rights Form what time you have now?

Mitchell: 1:12 p.m.

Noles: and it says you are advised that Law Enforcement Authorities desire to have you to meet with them at the Blytheville Police Department CID for the purpose to have you furnish information otherwise cooperate in the investigation of a prevention of a crime. You're not legally obligated to furnish information or otherwise cooperate in this investigation or prevention of a crime. It is entirely your choice whether to appear at the time above noted place and time to cooperate or furnish information. I have read this Form or have had it read to me. I understand my rights and listed above and I agree to appear and cooperate with Law Enforcement Authorities at the above noted place. If that's a true statement I just need your signature right there for us. Ok, I'm mon sign right below ya and let him sign and we'll be ready.

Mitchell: Ok as I said before Jo Lynn if you will just hold this in your hand that way and speak clearly so you can be heard ok.



Jo Lynn: Ok.

Mitchell: Uh what we are here to talk to you about today we're following up on a report on the investigation into the death of the uh three boys from 1993 uh the one which was your nephew Steven Branch. Uh we just got threw interviewing Pam Hobbs, and what is your relation to Pam?

Jo Lynn: Ok uh I was in Blytheville at the time all this happened.

Mitchell: What's your relation, how are you related to Pam?

Jo Lynn: I'm her sister.

Mitchell: Ok that was my question.

Jo Lynn: Ok yeah just speak up to me cause ha ha ha.

Mitchell: ok yeah that's fine. Like I say just trying to (not audible). All right and in May of 1993 where were you living?

Jo Lynn: I was living in uh Cuter MO.

Mitchell: Is that just north of the state line.

Jo Lynn: right state line of AR and MO.

Mitchell: And uh when did you learn when did you learn about the three boys and their deaths?

Jo Lynn: Uh well the, Pam and my dad it was like uh 10 o'clock maybe 11 it was in late hours of the night. Uh my dad received a phone call that Steve had not come in he was missing. Uh so my dad immediately goes to West Memphis.

Mitchell: from where?

Jo Lynn: From Blytheville. Uh he meets with Pam and Terry and you know he's doing his part ta look for Steve. Uh I'm communication with the family by telephone. You know they hadn't found him looking for him, we just kinda of the family stayed up all night, you know questioning did he get in trouble and maybe he was hiding you know and not to get you know a spanking or something. And uh maybe we would find him by morning, you know don't know what little kids do but we had fear in our minds and heart that something bad was happening.

Mitchell: When you said Terry a minute ago who, who were you referring to who were you talking about?

Jo Lynn: When I said say it again?

Mitchell: You said Terry, who were you talking about?

Jo Lynn: Terry?

Mitchell: Terry who were you talking about when you say Terry?

Jo Lynn: Terry? Terry Hobbs.

Mitchell: Ok I just need you clarify on the tape when you're talking about somebody if you mention a first name I need to clarify one time and find out who you're talking about.

Jo Lynn: Ok.

Mitchell: Uh and Terry at that time was married to your sister Pam is that correct?

Jo Lynn: yes.

Mitchell: Uh did you come did you come to West Memphis doing that time?

Jo Lynn: I arrived after they found the boys. The family was all at Pam and Terry's home. My dad was there and my mother uh my sisters, my brother they had all arrived. I may have been the fourth or fifth person to arrive. By that time they had it on the news showing that they had found the bicycles the boys and it was uh a reality to us at that time.

Mitchell: What was Pam state of mind? How was she at that time?

Jo Lynn: Uh she was in like shock. The way every thing was going on we had the family crying some of us were you know in different rooms. Uh I have a sister that has epilepsy, she had a seizure had to call paramedic ta come and tend to her. Uh Pam spent that time in Steve bedroom just holding some things of his and you know...

Mitchell: how was Terry doing that time? Did you see him and see what was his demeanor?

Jo Lynn: Uh the way that I observed him he kinda stayed in the back ground observing everybody, he was quiet and one thing that I noticed about it is that he was washing laundry. He wasn't just washing the dirty laundry, he was taking clothes out of the dresser drawers and washing those. So I mention it to my father what is he doing? You know its just strange behavior to me. uh terry was kind of quiet and just stayed in the back ground watching everybody.

Mitchell: Tell me what you know about, what'll ah you know about Terry? Tell me about Terry?

Jo Lynn: He didn't show any compassion for Pam like being there being supportive you know being by her side. He was just like when the family was gathered in the room we would be like in the kitchen and dinning room area and he's in the living room, and he always stays in the back ground watching. Uh he didn't volunteer to speak a whole lot unless it was the media or the camera in his face or something like that.

Mitchell: and what I'm asking to also uh Jo Lynn is prior to this happening and I'm talking about threw their marriage...

Jo Lynn: Prior to the

Mitchell: Early in their marriage what kind of person is Terry? Tell me about Terry.

Jo Lynn: well, ha me and my sister Pam being the closet other than my brother uh of all the children Pam and I have always communicated. Terry married her uh when she was going threw a divorce with her first husband. Pam had just come back from Texas and a lot of things happened, she had a mental break down. Uh and he married her in that state of mind. And I question you know my mom and dad aren't you concerned about this man who's taking an interest in Pam, who is not mentally stable at this time. she had just gone threw every thang. I did not like Terry. I felt that he was a secretive person, he wasn't straight up he didn't communicate with us like you know we all do. And I told him if he ever hurt my sister you know he would answer to me for it. And I mean to use her for what ever reason, when they first married uh I sensed jealousy of the child you know he had just gone to his daddy's momma divorce and he's only two years old. So she has to lay down in the bed with him at night to get him to sleep you know lay with him. Uh Terry would get kinda of angry about it uh let him sleep by his self, if he cry let him cry himself to sleep. You know you belong in the bed with your husband well, I didn't like that I didn't like that at all. There were several events uh where we found bruises on him.

Mitchell: On him who you talking bout?

Jo Lynn: On Steve.

Mitchell: Where did you find bruises?

Jo Lynn: On his back, leg area uh some time on the shoulder uh mom and dad kept Steve other than when he went to school. You know they practically raised him. Uh when he was big enough to say daddy Terry whip me, you know he would tell these things. Uh one time he used the bathroom in his underwear he was potty training and all and a little behind with it uh and he dirtied his underwear he got terrified and he went and hid. My mom and I we were looking we looked every where all around we were historical we could not find this child. Uh we were in my mothers room she had a box of clothes in the

closet and then his foot fell out of the box. I said momma he's in there so we pull him out he's hot, he's sweaty we're like baby what's wrong? What's wrong with you? Daddy Terry gonna whip me, he's gonna whip me, I mean the kid was terrified. Well the family question it we didn't get a lot of answers about that and so my mom and dad just kept Steve with them. And Pam and Terry lived in Indiana. He moved her from Jonesboro first Blytheville then Jonesboro and then Indiana.

Mitchell: Where at in Indiana?

Jo Lynn: I do know that Terry, that Steve was terrified of Terry.

Mitchell: Where at in Indiana did they live?

Jo Lynn: I couldn't tell she can tell you though. Uh but his father and family run uh a restaurant well they started catfish I don't recall the name of it at this time but that's what he would do is run the restaurant for his father. But it came out that he was embezzling money from his father, so his father kicked him out of the business.

Mitchell: you know what kind of hobbies or activities that Terry had?

Jo Lynn: None that I know of. He did not fish. He did not hunt. He didn't collect you know anything uh he would get up every Saturday morning at 6 a.m. stay gone uh till 1 p.m. or so. Said he was yard selling but he never brought anything back. I always thought he was mysterious person because me being married fourteen years my husband we share you know everything as far as our finances, uh anything we discuss we were friends you know as well as parents. Uh Pam never knew how much money he made she never seen a pay check stub. He did not pay bills Pam did. Pam always had a job she paid the bills he kept his money.

Mitchell: did you ever go visit them in West Memphis before this happened? You ever go down to West Memphis to visit them?

Jo Lynn: Did I do what now?

Mitchell: Did you ever got to West Memphis and visit Pam and Terry(not audible)?

Jo Lynn: Oh yeah many times, many times.

Mitchell: and this is your driving from Cuter MO. to West Memphis?

Jo Lynn: Awe yeah cause I've also lived in Blytheville, we when I moved to Cuter we had a home build so that's where I was deciding at the time but I've lived in Blytheville and Steal MO.

Mitchell: Uh have you had any conversation uh with uh Terry Hobbs since Steve death, in the years since his death uh that have uh resulted in any conversation anything being

said that uh you felt might be unusual or uh unexpected that you didn't expect to hear from him or hear him say ?

Jo Lynn: Well, he questioned me one time. He asked me did I feel that he had murdered Steve? I asked him why are you questioning me this. He said I just wanna know. And so I told him if you want to ask me I'm gonna tell you what I truly feel. I believe you involved either directly or indirectly. He said well that hurts my feelings. It was a lot of unanswered questions. You know Terry was never question at the time (not audible) you know they got a statement from Pam uh they question Pam never did they question Terry. There was never any kinda of hair anything taken from him. It was like he was always in the back ground never put in the spot like. Never question like he was the innocent victim the father of. And he would never call Steve by his name he would call him "the boy". Now I...I didn't like that either.

Mitchell: Did you ever have any uh any thing else he ever call Steve nickname or anything like that?

Jo Lynn: Uh he nicknamed him frog leg because when he was young he jumped off the side of a boat went down in the water and Terry said he looked like a frog coming up so he nicknamed him frog leg.

Mitchell: Now did you have uh where were you at when you had this conversation when Terry asked you if you thought he had any involvement in this case? You remember where you were at?

Jo Lynn: where were we at? He uh I wanna say uh this was early on after it was prior to him shooting my brother. So I'm gonna say I lived in Blytheville at that time, and it was within the year after Steve was...

Mitchell: You said you had a computer (not audible) conversation here in Blytheville?

Jo Lynn: yes in my home.

Mitchell: Ok all right now have you since after that at some point did you come into possession of some property uh that you turned over to an attorney?

Jo Lynn: uh yes.

Mitchell: Tell me how that happened and what you found?

Jo Lynn: ok uh Pam and Terry have been back and forth uh a few times during the marriage. At one time when I was in Cuter uh this was after him shooting my brother, Pam come to my house and stayed. At that time she had some of her belongings and in it there was a copy of his divorce from his first wife. Uh she ask me to keep it so that I would have and he wouldn't, she cause she knew she would end up going back to him I guess. You know it was a back and forth thang. Well, in 2004 uh Amanda called me at 3

a.m. and Amanda, Pam's daughter Pam and Terry's daughter. She calls me aunt Jo Lynn can you come me? Where are you? I'm in Paris, TN. Baby what are you doing there. I'm not going back home the child would tell me things from the time she was a baby up till she was a teenager. About things that her dad would do to her, uh physical and sexual. And me telling her I can't help you until help me help you. You have to tell this to someone. You know I would have to turn him in and then I can help you, otherwise I'm not going to be able to help you. So she calls me to come and get her you stay where you are Amanda I'm 2 hours away let your mom come and get you. So she did and only on the condition that Pam meet me half way and her come to me. So Amanda came to me she refused to go back home uh so that's what brought Pam to Blytheville. Uh I moved from the home I was in in Cuter to a bigger house in Blytheville so that me and Pam could you know share a home together. Uh I called Tennessee I turned it in, they come and investigated it. uh they interviewed Amanda they made a report and saw you know documented. So Pam come to me I went to Memphis to move her and her things. Terry was there we took the police with us he had all Steve belongs locked up in the trunk of his car. so we go inside and he's lying to the Officers he say's I don't have it. I say's he's got it out there in the trunk of his car. Well, the police officer asked if he would go out and open up the trunk? Well, he saying yes before he could get out the door the baby pulls drugs paraphernalia out.

Mitchell: The baby who?

Jo Lynn: Amanda, Amanda pulls out drug paraphernalia she knew where her daddy hid it. so when uh I let the officer know one of em she's got it in her hand Amanda. So he was then arrested taken out of the house. Well that gives us the chance to pack up Pam's belongings. Well there's a night stand next to the bed in Pam and Terry's bed room and I open it up it had a door and there in a towel was fourteen knives different shapes, sizes from this to little pocket knives. So I just wrapped that towel up and I put it in with the things we were packing up. uh Pam was going threw the closet his, his belongings and there was a fire proof lock box and we took it down and we open that box up, and the only thing was inside that box was a partial plate that fits in your mouth where Terry had had dental work after Steve death. This was the first set of partials, and I'm like is this not the oddest thing I've ever laid eyes on. It's the fire proof box that locks up and all it has in it is the partials plates. So I wrapped that up in a napkin and I take it with me. I felt to uh to turn it in to Brent Davis at first. I went to my father and daddy what should we do? When I open up the towels to show daddy the knives he spotted Steve pocket knife. The one he had given him. Uh Steve was my daddy's first grandbaby the apple of his eye and you know, so dad got kinda of sickly I had get him a glass of water you know and to wet his face. So daddy didn't wanna touch any of the knives uh and he thought about it and he said well, the prosecution at this time they have a conviction they don't need anything they probably want even test it, he said your best bet to turn it in to the defense so I called Dan Spidder's he met me in Cuter MO. where the Chief of Police there had a restaurant we closed it up for two hours of that we could have enough room and privacy to do all this. So Dan we took out all the knives and he took pictures of all of it. One of em had a sleeve on it and he pulled it out and something fell out of the sleeve. So they had gloves

on and they just put it in a bag and you know took it with em. Uh and I give every bit of that to him.

Mitchell: Who all was present when you gave (not audible)?

Jo Lynn: It was uh me and Dan another guy that came with Dan, uh the Chief of Police Merrill Jo Stewart and his wife.

Mitchell: Who was the can you name everybody I mean by name who was there?

Jo Lynn: uh I don't know the gentleman's name that was with Dan, but it was me, Dan Spiddem, who ever he had with him I don't know that man's name, Farrell Jo Stewart which is the Chief of Police Ruth Ann Stewart we were all present. And later we were out at Robin Hood Hill and we had pulled up ah rod it appeared to me uh in the shape it was in may have been a table leg. Then after my dad looked at it he said maybe it's a handle to a wagon an old wagon that you know that you pull. But I noticed at the end when ever Pam pulled the stick up it was like identical to that mark on Steve head. I'm like wait a minute, wait a minute stop let me have that. We took the stick and uh we stopped at the store and I had it laying in the back seat and I picked it up and it hit my uh sister the dirt come out the other end of it, the one end was kind of shape like you know similar to a belt buckle and it the way it was shaped the other end was hallow it was and it had the dirt in it, it some of it fell out and I was like and by me knowing and every thing I know about this case I know there was an irregular wound on the back of Michael Moor's head that was a quarter inch puncher hole. So my dad being a welder and me knowing measurement the way that I do, I'm like this is bout and half inch and it would make a quarter inch insert. I didn't wanna disturb anything cause if it was shoved into the ground there may have been something inside this. We took it home uh we were gonna meet with Dan uh he asked if I would take pictures send em over to em on my computer and I was gonna do so. Uh Pam was back and forth to Memphis, Amanda done went back to Terry to live with him so I just put it up in the top of the closet of the house we lived in and right now I have the landlord looking to see if possibility if it's still there. when we moved it was left behind.

Mitchell: in Missouri?

Jo Lynn: No it uh it at our house in Blytheville.

Mitchell: house in Blytheville?

Jo Lynn: 1024 West Gunn.

Mitchell: How long ago did you move from there?

Jo Lynn: We lived there in 2004, uh I moved 2005 we lived there a year.

Mitchell: When did you contact the landlord to see if she...

Jo Lynn: today.

Mitchell: Today.

Jo Lynn: uh Pam had asked them probably about two, two and a half years ago about it. And they said they looked for it but it's on a shelf high up and if you don't have a stop ladder you can't get to the back of that closet, so I'm hoping it's still there.

Mitchell: People has been living since then?

Jo Lynn: Um huh so all these things a questionable to me.

Mitchell: you were telling me on the phone something about some papers that you have from...

Jo Lynn: His book.

Mitchell: Tell me go threw and tell us about this. Who's writing is...

Jo Lynn: it was in some of Pam's things. And it says on the front of it I believe uh Terry Hobbs book and all so I set down and I read it. It starts out the night of May the 5th uh he the way he words it trying to do it in a professional manner. He uses uh approximately 4:30 p.m. uh he takes Pam to work at Catfish Island uh he say's that Steve did not come home he called him the boy. He tells about what time him and the little girl Amanda are walking down the side walk looking for him, uh going from house to house, he tells about meeting with a guy name David Gukoba uh Mark Byres he's giving approximate times on this. Uh he tells his story about that when they found the boys uh and it leads all up to the day he shot my brother. And it stops right there.

Mitchell: Is it typed? Is it hand written?

Jo Lynn: Hand written. And it starts off my name is Terry Wayne Hobbs and you know.

Mitchell: Now where's is that now?

Jo Lynn: I have it in the storage.

Mitchell: How long have you had it?

Jo Lynn: I've had it since 2004.

Mitchell: where did you git it from?

Jo Lynn: from his belongings when we moved Pam?

Mitchell: what that in Memphis?

Jo Lynn: Um huh.

Mitchell: Have you shown it to anybody since then?

Jo Lynn: No, no uh Pam she come in later and I was sitting on the bed reading it. And I said Pam have you ever read this? No, he never would let me read it you know he I've looked at Pam and she was sort of a program person get up you know clean the house, you know do her chores. Uh the children in school, Amanda was at home uh fix em something to eat and go to work. Work all night come home and do the same routine over and over. She never snooped in any of Terry's things she never went you know and question anything.

Mitchell: Ok uh when did you find what year was it that you found this, this wagon handle possibly that you're talking to us about?

Jo Lynn: Lets see I'm gonna have to think uh I would go back to the least I'm gonna say September 2003. Because they Terry filed divorce the divorce become final in April of 2004. When the divorce was final I got Pam to sign I was under advice from my attorney Linda (not audible) he's in Blytheville AR to get Pam to enter in a contract with me the power of attorney to protect her rights from Life Story uh the Exploitation of the children the corner autopsy the photographs uh that crime scene footage that's on the beginning of that documentary Paradise Lost uh they promise the family they would not do that. I also have a hundred and one corner autopsy photographs: That was taken by my father at the West Memphis Police Department when they open up the file and let every body come in and view and look the pictures were laid out. My father had his camera and and he shot pictures till he ran out of film and I have those pictures.

Mitchell: did you ever tell Mr. Spiddmen about the, the wagon handle?

Jo Lynn: Did I what?

Mitchell: Did you ever tell Mr. Spiddmen about the wagon handle or the bar that you found?

Jo Lynn: Uh just my father and me and Pam viewed this. It went up in the closet and that's the last of that. uh one night Pam and I were talk and Terry this is just prior to this last break up with em. Which brought me to Memphis I am out to breach this contract with Dimension Film, because Pam entered into this contract at the time we were burying my brother. So you know there's a lot going on with this but Terry was paid \$12,500.00.

Mitchell: What does Dimension?

Jo Lynn: Dimension Film?

Mitchell: Yeah what are they wanting to do?

Jo Lynn: Uh their doing a film on the book uh Merritt Leveret book the Devils Knott. They're doing ah movie and I have that contract I have every thang on that.

Mitchell: You said Terry got \$12,500.00 and Pam got \$12,500.00 you know minus the attorney's fees. And right now that was in August last year he was already broke. He's living out of his truck and he sleep in motels West Memphis, AR. he is attending the Apostolic Church that is off next the Big Star, you know where Big Star is in West Memphis he's with the Apostolic Church there by the next door. I tried to find him I can't find him.

Mitchell: How uh how difficult would it be to find and to locate uh these writing you say you have in...

Jo Lynn: just time in my storage. Uh I've got these things stored because I've been back and forth my husband he sold his jewelry store here. He's gone into ah towing service for West Memphis and we're about to open a jewelry store in West Memphis, but uh I'm back and forth. So these things are stayed in the storage.

Mitchell: What towing service your husband have?

Jo Lynn: I had Pam writing uh I have Terry's.

Mitchell: No what towing service?

Noles: What's the name of your towing service?

Mitchell: What the name of your husbands towing service?

Jo Lynn: Glen Wray Towing Service.

Mitchell: Glen Wray ok.

Jo Lynn: Are you familiar with that one?

Mitchell: Yes ma'am I am. Ok uh would you be willing to give us a copy of these writings?

Jo Lynn: Yes I will, because I know that you're out to get a statement from him now. What he says now and what he said then you'll have something to compare it to.

Mitchell: Exactly, exactly.

Jo Lynn: I'm dying to see what his story is now.

Noles: Can you tell us what kind of truck he's driving?

Jo Lynn: He was driving a ah is it a Dodge it's a yellow a real bright yellow we call it canary yellow, uh it's a short wheel base sports truck. I'm gone to say it's a 2000 anywhere from a 2002, 2004 model, it has a ah cover over the uh bed of it that's where he keeps his belongings. I know this man is uh on drugs really bad. Uh I know of several occasions that he was involved in drugs and I worked with the DEA you know. Anything that you know I could do to help them I do, and at the time that I was in Pena Scott County doing some work I found out Terry was involved with this young man with met amphetamine so it was crossing over back and forth. So at that time I revealed to Pam and that was one of their fights and break ups too. He threaten my life as well, anything happens to me I've got your number, let him come on with it. He shot my brother he can shoot me.

Mitchell: Is there anything else you can think of that we hadn't gone over anything that might be of interest or value or help to us in this case that we hadn't gone over with you and you would like to tell us.

Jo Lynn: I know he still in association with Mark Byers. He clamed the knives came from Mark Byers you know. Uh just him revealing to me that he was a meat cutter at one time and then he just openly come out one night we were talking about how the uh Christopher Byers was mutated and how the uh pathologist had said that the cut was so precise that if it wasn't done by a surgeon perhaps a jeweler. Well, I'm married to a jeweler ok so I'm like that just don't quit fit it. And Terry just spoke out and said well what about ah butcher? And I'm like what? And he said well I use to work in a slaughter house. I said well what did you do in a slaughter house? He said I dismembered animals. I said I don't know why you're telling me this but this is enough of this conversation you know I left it at that. Oh my God uh all I can do is just give my opinion I believe he's capable when he sat and he had every opportunity to prevent what happen between him and my brother. You know my brother was an hour away 45 minutes to an hour away and any man that loads a gun sticks it down in his pants he knows he's fixing to pull the trigger. Why didn't he call the police that's what there there for, you know they could have been there when my brother arrived and the hole conflict would of never happen the way that it did. But he had made a comment to my ex-husband that he had a bullet with my brothers name on it and my father. This is prior to this happening cause he said no man runs my house, no man tells me what to do. He's just that kind of person he comes from that Apostolic back ground. He's told stories about his mother abusing him sexual abuse, uh activity with animals it was just god awful disgusting stuff.

Mitchell: You got anything else?

Noles: No, no

Mitchell: Ok I don't have anything else either we're going to go ahead and close the interview out with you it's uh 1:50 P.M. uh we wanna tell you how much we appreciate

all the cooperation from you and your sister Pam today your mom for coming up here you know in support and uh...

Jo Lynn: well, you got my fullest cooperation and I will be obtaining all those things you know anything I've got. Now I'm not gonna let these book writers have it they're not getting it.

Mitchell: As soon as you can find this if you would give us a call we'll make arrangement to come back and meet with you and get a copy of it ok. I'm ah close this interview.

Jo Lynn: and I hope for the best in this case uh I sure don't want three innocent boys spending their life in prison for something they didn't do.

Mitchell: we're gonna go ahead and close this interview now like I said it's 1:50p.m. on Tuesday, June the 19th 2007.

Detective Lt. K. Mitchell/215/ Det. C. Noles/235/eac/355

Case file# _____

EXHIBIT 44

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
WESTERN DIVISION**

**TERRY HOBBS,
Plaintiff,**

v.

**NATALIE PASDAR, et al.,
Defendants.**

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CV NO.: 4-09-CV-0008BSM

DECLARATION OF MARIE HICKS

I, Marie Hicks, declare as follows:

1. My name is Marie Hicks. I am over the age of 21 and competent to give this declaration.
2. All of the information set forth herein is within my personal knowledge and is true and correct.
3. I am the mother of Pam Hobbs and the grandmother of Steven Branch, who was called Stevie, one of the boys killed in the Robin Hood Hills Murders which occurred on May 5, 1993. Stevie was Pam's son from her marriage to Steven Branch.
4. My daughter Pam was married to Terry Hobbs until 2004. I believe they were married in the mid 1980s. As a result, I have known Terry Hobbs from the mid 1980s to the present. Pam and Terry had a daughter, Amanda, in 1989.
5. Ever since the murder of Stevie, the press has been following the story of the three boys, their murders and the trial of three teenagers, the West Memphis Three, for those murders. After they were convicted, many people began to think the West Memphis Three did not commit the murders. As a result, there have been many articles written about the events and many questions raised about who committed the crimes. There have been numerous newspaper articles, many television news reports, and many postings on the internet, not just about the murders, the trials and the West Memphis Three, but also about the little boys who were killed and their families.
6. When word got out about the murders it seemed like so very many people from around the country heard about it and were interested in Stevie and his family.

Many people sent notes and cards to our family. President Bill Clinton sent a letter of sympathy to Terry and Pam.

7. Right after the murders, the television show *America's Most Wanted* did a story on the case that people all over the country saw.
8. About a year after the murders, Pam and Terry and my husband, Pam's father, Jackie Hicks, Sr., went on *The Geraldo Show* to talk about the events of that night, May 5, 1993, to talk about Stevie, and to talk about our family.
9. Through the years, the newspapers have kept writing about the murders, the West Memphis Three and the families and the events surrounding the murders. Since 1993, the press has kept the story in the papers and on the television.
10. Hairs were found at the crime scene. In July 2007, the results of DNA testing were released. The DNA testing revealed that one hair was possibly the hair of Terry Hobbs, and one hair was possibly the hair of Terry's friend, David Jacoby. The papers reported the results of the DNA testing.
11. About that same time, in June, 2007, the West Memphis Police Department interviewed Terry. The papers reported that the West Memphis Police had interviewed Terry.
12. Terry gave interviews in July, 2007 to news media. He talked about the DNA and about whether he was involved in the murders. He said he had been questioned by the police. I saw a good number of these articles.
13. Terry also hired a spokesman. The spokesperson gave interviews with the press and talked about the DNA evidence and whether Terry was involved in the murders.
14. My daughter Jo Lynn had found in Terry's nightstand a pocketknife that Stevie used to carry with him everywhere, and that we thought he would have had with him at the time of the murders. This made me very concerned about why Terry had that knife.
15. In late 2007, one of the teenagers that had been convicted for the murders, Damien Echols went to court to try to get released based on the DNA and new evidence. His request of the court brought even more public attention to Terry, because his filing put forward the DNA consistent with Terry and his friend, the knife evidence and other evidence. Newspapers and television news made reports on the filing by Damien Echols. I saw all this press and attention, and members of my family were called by the news agencies for interviews and statements.
16. Terry was in the middle of all of this press starting in July of 2007 because the DNA was consistent with his. Also, Terry told the police in his police interviews in June 2007 that several of his relatives suspect him in the murders and the

papers reported that as well. Terry was also in the press because his spokesperson was giving interviews and so was he.

17. I was very close to Stevie, and he would frequently visit me or stay overnight at my house. On one occasion, Stevie was over at my house visiting. He had been playing, and I went to look for him. I could not find him. Ultimately, I found Stevie hiding in one of my closets. When I asked him why he was in the closet, he told me he had gone to the bathroom (defecated) in his pants. Stevie told me that he was scared that Terry would hurt him for "messaging" his pants, and told me that Terry always punished him severely when he had "accidents." Stevie told me that Terry had locked Stevie in the closet as punishment for having such accidents.
18. One time, Terry and his daughter, Amanda, were at my house. Out of nowhere, Amanda announced "Daddy [Terry] sticks his finger up my butt." Terry jumped up and grabbed Amanda and took her to another room. When they came back, Amanda said that she had been lying, that her daddy had not stuck his finger in rear end. I knew that a four year old would not just come up with that statement out of the blue, if there had not been some sort of abuse.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed in Mississippi County, Arkansas.

Dated: May 20-2009

By: Marie Hicks
Marie Hicks

EXHIBIT 45

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
WESTERN DIVISION

TERRY HOBBS,
Plaintiff,

v.

NATALIE PASDAR, et al.,
Defendants.

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CV NO.: 4-09-CV-0008BSM

DECLARATION OF JUDY SADLER

I, Judy Sadler, declare as follows:

1. "My name is Judy Sadler. I am over the age of 21 and competent to give this declaration.
2. All of the information set forth herein is within my personal knowledge and is true and correct.
3. I am the aunt of Steven Branch or "Stevie," who was one of the three little boys, murdered in Robin Hood Hills area of West Memphis, Arkansas on or about May 5, 1993.
4. Pam Hobbs, the mother of Stevie, is my sister.
5. Pam was married to Terry Hobbs. Terry Hobbs is a party in the suit, *Terry Hobbs. v. Natalie Pasdar, et al*, CV No.: 4-09-CV-008BSM. I know Terry very well.
6. There has been a whole lot of press, newspaper and television stories, magazine articles and internet blogs about the murder of Stevie and the other little boys, about the trials of the teenagers who were tried for the murders, about the events of that night of the murders, about the families of the victims and about the effect on the families of all the events. Many, many newspapers, authors, television stations, websites and others have contacted my family, and Pam and Terry in particular, to interview them about and to discuss the murders, the trials, the teenagers convicted and the effect of these events. Pam and Terry have both given interviews on these topics. I remember that they have been on television shows. I have seen Terry on *The Geraldo Show* and *Anderson Cooper 360*. I have read numerous articles where Terry has been quoted and discussed.
7. I was very close to Stevie, and we frequently had personal, private conversations. When Stevie was eight, I was only 15, so we were fairly close in age. Stevie was

very scared of Terry. Stevie told me on that on many occasions, Terry had locked Stevie in the closet as punishment for things he had done. I have personal knowledge that Terry beat Stevie on multiple occasions.

8. When Stevie had just turned 7 years old, he told me that Terry made him and Amanda (age 3 or 4) watch pornography. When he made Amanda and Stevie watch pornography, he would always have Amanda on his lap. If Stevie told Terry that he didn't want to watch the pornography, Terry would lock Stevie in the closet until about 30 minutes before Pam got home. Stevie said that Terry told Stevie not to tell anyone what they were doing, and that if he did, Terry would kill Stevie's grandmother (Marie Hicks), Stevie's grandfather (Jackie Hicks, Sr.) and Pam.
9. Stevie also told me that Terry would make Stevie watch Terry masturbate. Additionally, Terry would make Stevie sexually molest Amanda. Terry would watch and tell Stevie what to do sexually to Amanda. These were not isolated incidents; they were recurring from the time Stevie was six until his death.
10. I wish that I had told people about what Terry was doing to Stevie and Amanda. I knew it was wrong. But Stevie was scared and made me promise not tell. Additionally, I was a child myself, and was scared about what would happen to my family if I did tell.
11. Stevie absolutely hated Terry. Sometimes Stevie told me that he wished Terry was dead because he was so mean and bad. Stevie told me that he wanted his mother to leave Terry.
12. On one occasion in 1993, Stevie specifically told me that he wanted Pam to leave "Daddy Terry."
13. Attached hereto as **Exhibit 1** are true and correct copies of pages from Amanda's journal, in her handwriting. In it, Amanda discusses the sexual and physical abuse that Terry inflicted on her.
14. I am aware that Terry has hit my sister Pam in the face and that Terry shot my brother, Jackie.
15. Terry has a horrible reputation in the Arkansas and Tennessee communities he has lived in. He is known to be violent. He is known to carry and use guns. He has hit my sister Pam in the face. He beat his step-son, Stevie. He is known to use drugs. He used drugs like cocaine, crystal methamphetamine and marijuana in front of Stevie and Stevie's half-sister, Amanda. Terry's daughter, Amanda, has told me that Terry has sexually molested her. Terry is frequently out of work. He is a known gambler who often goes to Tunica with whatever little money he has. Terry has a criminal record, and was put on probation for years for shooting my brother.

16. In sum, Terry is not a nice person and I do not believe he has treated his family well. In particular, I know that Terry did not treat Stevie well. As set forth above, his public image and reputation is not good.”

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed in Mississippi County, Arkansas.

Dated: 5/20/09

By: Judy Sadler
Judy Sadler

This Book
Belongs to

Amanda Hobbs

July 18, 2008

You know I think I'm the only 19 yr. old that can't remember what happened in my life 10 years ago. I can only remember 1 good thing & I was in Kindergarten. The rest is just bad. When I was 6 or 7 I had a boyfriend that name was David. Well I stayed the night with him & his dad messed with me. Then when I was 9 or 10 my dad's friend David messed with me. Then when I was 15 I started getting fucked up all the time. Now I don't remember what happened in my life last year. What I want to know what happened to me when I was a child that made me how I am today? Was I traumatized as a child that I had to turn to drugs to get about it? I use to tell my mom my dad messed with me... I honestly don't remember... As far as I remember from 15 till now my dad never touched me sexually but he beat the hell out of me. But what if he did mess with me when he knew I was at the age I would never remember?? I use to dream about my dad having sex

with me. but It was just
a dream... But what if It
was a sign. Why would a
4 year old child say their
father touched them just for
the hell of it? I dont remember
saying it or it happening I
just know I said it...
Why me? Why was I
so attractive to grown ass
men???? I was just a child
WHAT DID I DO 2 DESERVE
THAT?!! I just feel like
something happened to me to
make me do the things I done
to make me feel like I fail at
everything I do... I feel like
Im not going 2 Heaven for
whatever it was & it hurts
to not remember or know
what I done, If I done it,
If it was done 2 me. Am
I the way I am because I
have my fathers awful blood
or because of my childhood?
Why is it that Im always depr
unless Im fucked up? why do
I do my son the way I do??
Is it because of the way my
dad did me? God please take my
father out of me... I dont want
to be like him. I love him &

my dad but we both know
how he hit me & I don't want
to be angry like him or violent
like him. God you are the only
one who knows if I was messed
with as a child and if I was
and I did something to deserve
it please forgive me but father
please take this feeling away from
me.

EXHIBIT 46

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
WESTERN DIVISION**

TERRY HOBBS,

Plaintiff,

v.

NATALIE PASDAR, et al.,

Defendants.

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CV NO.: 4-09-CV-0008BSM

DECLARATION OF PAMELA MARIE HOBBS

I, Pamela Marie Hobbs, declare as follows:

1. “My name is Pamela Marie Hobbs. I am over the age of 21 and competent to give this declaration.
2. All of the information set forth herein is within my personal knowledge and is true and correct.
3. On May 6, 1993, the police found three little boys, Steve Branch (“Stevie”), Christopher Byers and Michael Moore, murdered in Robin Hood Hills (the “Murders”).
4. I am the mother of Steven Branch, one of the boys killed in the Robin Hood Hills Murders which occurred on or about May 5, 1993.
5. At the time of the Murders, I was married to Terry Hobbs, the plaintiff in the lawsuit entitled *Terry Hobbs v. Natalie Pasdar, et al.*, CV No.: 4-09-CV-008BSM. I was married to Terry Hobbs from 1986 until 2004. When I married Terry, my son Stevie, from my prior marriage to Steve Allen Branch, was approximately one and one-half (1½) years old. Later, in 1989, Terry and I had a daughter, Amanda Hobbs (“Amanda”).
6. Throughout the time I have known Terry, he has had a bad reputation and character. Specifically, he is known to me and my family to have very poor character and reputation, and in the West Memphis, Memphis and Crittendon County area I believe he is generally known to have a bad reputation and low character. The following events which I describe below are only some examples of Terry’s activities which reflect upon his character and reputation.

7. During our marriage, Terry was a regular user of drugs. He frequently smoked marijuana in our home and out of the house. He also used crystal methamphetamine and cocaine.
8. Terry was violent and he hit me twice. In 1999, Terry and I got into an argument. I insinuated that Terry had a girlfriend. As I attempted to leave the house to get away from Terry and just drive around to cool off, Terry fought me for the car keys. When he couldn't get the keys, Terry hit me in the face with a closed fist. I was truly hurt, and was worried that he had broken my jaw because he had hit me so hard. I called my family, and I talked to my brother, Kevin Hicks. I asked him what a broken jaw felt like. My brother and parents immediately came to check on me. I told Terry my family was coming to take care of me and I believed that Terry would leave the house. Instead, Terry waited outside for them, sitting on the tailgate of his truck.
9. When my family arrived, there was a fight between Terry and my brother, Jackie Hicks, Jr. As they were fighting, Terry pulled out a gun and shot Jackie in the abdomen. He was moving to again shoot Jackie and my father started walking toward Terry. At that point, Terry pointed the gun at my dad and said "You'd better not go any farther; I'll shoot you, too, you fat motherfucker." My father, Jackie Hicks Sr. was able to grab the gun from Terry's hands. My brother was severely injured as a result of the gunshot. He had to have over ten surgeries. The doctors first decided to leave the bullet where it was lodged because they thought it would kill him to remove it, but later it caused a bowel obstruction, so they removed the bullet. After that surgery to remove the bullet, Jackie developed a blood clot and died from an aneurysm.
10. Terry would frequently hit the kids with a belt. He would make them hold up their hands in the air as he whipped them. Sometimes when he whipped Stevie he would leave belt marks on him.
11. Stevie and Terry did not have a good relationship. Stevie had a journal that he had been writing in at school before he died. On the back of the journal Stevie had written, "Stevie, Sr. is my real dad." In fact, approximately three days before Stevie's death, Stevie asked me to leave Terry.
12. In contrast, Terry was very close to Amanda and favored her. He was protective of her but not close to Stevie. Terry acted like he resented Stevie or considered him a rival.
13. Terry did not grieve for Stevie when Stevie was murdered. In fact, he did not seem to be affected by Stevie's death at all.
14. Two weeks after Stevie died, Terry left town. Terry left me in Blytheville, Arkansas and moved to Hardy, Arkansas. He said I was too much to handle and that he could not stay around me anymore.
15. I had Terry Hobbs' name removed from Stevie's gravestone.

16. Many people were very kind and generous to me and my family following Stevie's death. When money started coming in to our family from strangers trying to help, Terry always took any money allotted to our family. I do not know what he used the money for.
17. Terry has also mistreated our daughter, Amanda. In 1993, when Amanda was 4 years old, my sister, Jo Lynn McCaughey, told me that Amanda had told her that Terry had put his finger into Amanda's "booty."
18. I took Amanda to the hospital in Blytheville, Arkansas, so a doctor could do a physical examination. That doctor told me that Amanda had been vaginally penetrated and that she had a yeast infection.
19. In approximately 2002, when Amanda was older, approximately 13 years old, and developing into a young woman, she told Jo Lynn (and Jo Lynn told me) that Terry grabbed her breasts. This revelation caused me great concern because it was the second time Amanda had said that Terry had sexually molested her.
20. As a result and because I was concerned about Amanda, I asked Amanda whether Terry had actually grabbed her breasts. Amanda told me that yes, it was true, Terry had grabbed her breasts.
21. Terry has been violent and abusive to people outside my family as well. Prior to our marriage, Terry was married to Angela Timms. I saw the divorce papers in which Angela accused Terry of sexually molesting their son, Bryan Hobbs.
22. Terry has tried to take Stevie's old possessions – the only things I have left of Stevie, really – from me. In 2004, Jo Lynn and I went to see a Billy Ray Cyrus concert. Terry showed up. I got my picture taken with Billy Ray Cyrus. The next day John Walsh, of *America's Most Wanted*, was at the casino and Terry and I were able to see Mr. Walsh, to speak to him and to tell him that he was an inspiration to victims like me. John Walsh had featured Stevie's case on *America's Most Wanted*, and he told me that I was a lady with a lot of courage and that I should not give up.
23. The next day Terry said to me, "I'm glad I'm from the mountains." He said he was glad he was from the mountains because he could tell the difference between a slut (he said slut or whore, I cannot remember which) and a lady. It was clear to me that Terry was calling me a whore or a slut, just because I had talked to John Walsh.
24. When Amanda and I returned there was a note on the door from Terry that said something like, "I'm gone for the weekend and don't come back because I won't be back until then." Amanda was able to get in the house through the back door. When she got inside she saw that Terry was there. He hadn't left or gone anywhere.

25. Amanda let me into the house. Terry was angry and we began to fight. Amanda and I left and I asked the police to come with us to get our things so we could move out. Amanda was aware that her father, Terry, used drugs, and she told the police that her father did drugs. Amanda told the police officers that Terry did cocaine and he did crystal methamphetamine. The police asked her, "Do you know where he keeps his drugs?" When we got back to the house, Amanda went back into the bedroom and found marijuana and a white powder.
26. When the police escorted me into the house, the first thing I went to look for was the little suitcase that had belonged to Stevie which Stevie had labeled "My Ninja Stuff: Do Not Touch." Stevie's suitcase was not where I kept it. I asked Terry where the suitcase was. He said he did not know. The police officers told Terry that if he knew where the suitcase was and where Stevie's things were and that they wanted him to go and get them. One police officer took Terry out to his vehicle and had him open the trunk. Everything of Stevie's, including the suitcase, was in the trunk of Terry's car.
27. At some point after our divorce in 2004, I did return to Memphis to live with Terry and Amanda, because Terry was allowing a twenty-one-year-old man to live with Amanda, who was only fifteen. I felt like I was going to lose Amanda as well as Stevie, so I went back to Memphis and lived with Terry and Amanda for another fifteen months or so, so that I could be around my daughter and try to protect her.

For all of the reasons I stated above, I believe it is possible that Terry was involved in the murders of Stevie, Christopher and Michael."

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed in Mississippi County, Arkansas.

Dated: 5/20/09

By: Pamela Marie Hobbs
Pamela Marie Hobbs

EXHIBIT 47

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
WESTERN DIVISION

TERRY HOBBS,
Plaintiff,

v.

NATALIE PASDAR, et al.,
Defendants.

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CV NO.: 4-09-CV-0008BSM

DECLARATION OF JOHN MARK BYERS

I, John Mark Byers, declare as follows:

1. "My name is John Mark Byers. I am over the age of 21 and competent to give this declaration.
2. All of the information set forth herein is within my personal knowledge and is true and correct.
3. I am the father of Christopher Byers. Christopher is one of the 8 year old boys who was murdered in Robin Hood Hills, West Memphis, Arkansas, on or about May 5, 1993.
4. In 1994, three teenagers, Damien Echols, Jessie Miskelley, Jr. and Jason Baldwin were convicted of the murders. The press has referred to these three teenagers as the West Memphis 3.
5. It is almost unbelievable the attention that the public and press have focused on the murders, the trials, the West Memphis 3, the victims and the victim's families. Newspapers from West Memphis, Arkansas, Memphis, Tennessee, Little Rock, Arkansas, and all over the United States, including *The New York Times* have run stories on the murders, the trials, the West Memphis 3, the victims, the victim's families and how all of these events have effected everyone.
6. HBO, the national cable channel, has aired two documentaries on the murderers, the trials and the victims and their families. The first documentary is called *Paradise Lost: Child Murders at Robin Hood Hills*, the second documentary is called *Paradise Lost: Revelations*. I know that the documentaries have appeared a number of times on HBO. I also know that the documentaries are available for rental on VHS and DVD. There is no telling how many people have seen this story of the murderers, the trials and the victims and their families as a result of these documentaries.

7. Soon after the murders, in 1994, Pam Hobbs and Terry Hobbs ("Hobbs"), the parents of one of the victims, Stevie Branch, appeared on *The Geraldo Show* to discuss the murders, the trials, the West Memphis 3, how their lives have been affected by the murders and some of the events of May 5, 1993.
8. In June of 2007, the West Memphis police interviewed Terry Hobbs. The interview of Hobbs was made public and was put on the Internet. The video of the interview and transcripts of the interview are available to the press and public and have been since around the time of the interview. If you search the net for Terry Hobbs West Memphis police you can find videos of these interviews.
9. In June and July 2007, certain events happened that made the murders, the trials, the victims, the victims' families and Terry Hobbs in particular even more the focus of press attention. Specifically, new evidence came to light regarding the murders and that new evidence was made public in July of 2007. The first bit of new evidence that came to light was that two hairs had been found at the crime scene. These hairs were tested for DNA, and one hair was consistent with the hair of Hobbs. The other hair was consistent with the hair of Hobbs' friend David Jacoby.
10. As you can imagine, when it was announced in July 2007 that DNA at the scene appeared to be DNA from the stepfather of Stevie Branch, the press pushed the story. There were many news stories which reported the DNA evidence and linked it to Terry Hobbs.
11. Terry hired a spokesman who gave many interviews in response to the finding of the DNA evidence. I read numerous interviews where the spokesperson was talking about the DNA evidence and whether Terry could have been involved in the murders. The spokesperson was named Ross Sampson.
12. Terry also gave a number of interviews in which he discussed the DNA evidence and whether he was involved in the murders. I read many of these articles.
13. In some of the articles, Terry complained that the West Memphis 3 defense team was ruining his life and reputation.
14. Based on all of this new evidence, Damien Echols filed a document in court seeking to get his release or a new trial. This document was filed some time in late October of 2007 or early November of 2007. His team of lawyers held a press conference and announced information about the filing.
15. I believe Terry Hobbs was involved in the murders. Some of the reasons I believe Hobbs was involved are set forth below.
16. Hobbs has claimed that the first time he met me was at 6:00 PM at Dana Moore's house when Dana, myself and Hobbs were looking for our children. He has claimed that at this time, 6 PM, I said I was going to call the police and report my son missing. Hobbs has also stated that he and his friend David Jacoby were

searching Robin Hood Hills for the boys at 6:00 PM or 6:30 PM. Hobbs' statements are false.

17. In fact, I met Hobbs at my house at approximately 8:20 or 8:30 PM. I know it was 8:20 or 8:30 PM or so, because: (1) Dana Moore had last seen the boys riding their bikes around 6:00 PM; and (2) I called the police to report Christopher missing around 8:08 PM. Simply put, I did not and Dana Moore did not even think the boys were missing at 6:00 PM or 6:30 PM. At 6:00 PM I was in the West Memphis courthouse picking up my son, Ryan, who was testifying in a car wreck case. Officer Regina Meeks came over to my house to take the report after I called it in. Dana Moore, the mother of Michael Moore, saw the police car and came over to my house to report her son missing as well. As Officer Meeks was leaving, Hobbs walked up.
18. I believe the reason that Hobbs' incorrect statements about the time we met and when he was searching is so important is because in fact, Hobbs' whereabouts from approximately 6:00 PM to 8:30 PM are wholly unaccounted for. David Jacoby, Hobbs' friend, has stated to me that Hobbs came to his house at approximately 5:00 PM and that as he was opening the door to let Hobbs in, he saw 2 boys on bicycles and 1 boy on a skateboard ride by his house and that he believes one of the boys was Stevie. Jacoby has stated that Hobbs left at approximately 6:00 PM or 6:30 PM to see if Stevie had come home. No one knows Hobbs' whereabouts from that time, 6:00 PM or 6:30 PM, until I saw Hobbs at the my house at approximately 8:30 PM. I believe that Hobbs has stated that he met me at the Moores at 6:00 PM so that he has an alibi for this time period in which his whereabouts are actually unknown. Jacoby also told me that he did not cross the pipe bridge or search in the woods for Stevie.
19. Several years ago, I was talking to Hobbs and he made the statement that we had met for the first time around 6:00 PM on May 5, 1993. I told him that no, it was around 8:00 PM. He became enraged and started yelling, "it was 6:00 PM, it was 6:00 PM." I believe he was trying to convince me that it was 6:00 PM so that he would have an alibi, and the fact that I knew that he was lying sent him into a rage.
20. Hobbs also failed to tell his wife that Stevie was missing until he picked her up from work at 9:00 PM. This seems very strange to me. If a child were missing, the mother would want to know and I would think the stepfather would call her at work and tell her to leave work and come look.
21. Fairly soon after the murders, I asked Hobbs to go with me to shoot guns. I knew he had a 9 mm gun because Hobbs had told me about it. He claimed he couldn't go shoot with me because he thought his brother-in-law, Jackie Hicks, Jr., had stolen his gun.
22. In June of 2007, Hobbs also stated that he saw a black male "bum" crossing the bridge by Catfish Island, that he had long hair, raggedy clothes and that "he's

noticeable, that image sticks in frame” for Hobbs. Hobbs also claims that his wife, Pam, was with him when he saw the black man.

23. Prior to June 2007, I am unaware of Hobbs ever having mentioned seeing the black man to police or to me or to anyone involved with the events. That means that for 14 years, Hobbs had never said anything about the black man to anyone who had the power to investigate the sighting. I believe that Hobbs is now trying to throw another suspect into the mix to keep attention off of him. However, his statement is completely incredible. Why would a father not mention to the police for 14 years that he had seen a suspicious man around the location of the murders? It makes no sense, unless Terry Hobbs is trying to deflect attention from himself.
24. Hobbs told me many things that were simply not true around the time of the murders. He told me he was living in a different house at the time of the murders than the house he was actually living in. He told me that Stevie was cut from his ear to his jaw and that the right side of Stevie’s face was gone; that was not true. Hobbs claimed he searched the woods with Officer Regina Meeks and in fact, she has stated she did not ever search into the woods because there were too many mosquitoes.. Hobbs has said that he was the first parent to call the police about the missing boys; that is not true.
25. Hobbs called me and told me that an investigator for the West Memphis 3, Ron Lax, had called him and told him that the DNA in the ligature of one of the victims matched his DNA. Hobbs told me that he had met with Lax. I asked Hobbs why he met with Lax, and Hobbs said that he went out of curiosity.
26. On one occasion, I asked Hobbs, “What if those three (the West Memphis 3) didn’t do it, what happened if it was an accident?” Of course, it is preposterous to think that three 8 year old boys could be killed in the way that they were and it was an accident. Hobbs responded: “You are right, it could have been an accident and that would be like a drunk diver, that person would not be a monster.” I thought it was appalling that a father of a victim would attempt to excuse such a vicious murder. It made me very suspicious of Hobbs’ involvement to see him having sympathy for the murderer and/or explaining that he might not be a monster.
27. Hobbs has told me that he has a storage area where he keeps things. I have tried to get him to take me there and he has said he will but he never will.”

I declare under penalty that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed in Shelby County, Tennessee.

Dated: 5/19/09

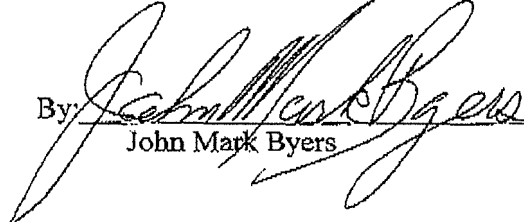
By: 
John Mark Byers

EXHIBIT 48

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS
WESTERN DIVISION**

**TERRY HOBBS,
Plaintiff,**

v.

**NATALIE PASDAR, et al.,
Defendants.**

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§

CV NO.: 4-09-CV-0008BSM

DECLARATION OF MILDRED FRENCH

I, Mildred French, declare as follows:

1. "My name is Mildred French. I am over the age of 21 and competent to give this declaration.
2. All of the information set forth herein is within my personal knowledge and is true and correct.
3. In 1982, I was a neighbor of Terry Hobbs in Hot Springs, Arkansas. I lived in a 2 story duplex next door to Terry Hobbs, his wife, and their child. On different occasions in the mornings I caught Terry standing outside looking at me in my window.
4. On one occasion I heard a baby crying and sounds that indicated to me that Terry Hobbs was beating his wife and/or his child. I ran next door to Terry's unit and rang the outside bell to Terry Hobbs' residence. After a moment, Terry opened the door and asked me with disgust in his voice, "What do you want?" I told him that if he touched his wife or his baby again I would call the police.
5. A few months later, I had worked outside in my yard. I went inside my home to take a shower and get cleaned up. I specifically remember that I locked all of the screen doors when I came inside. I went upstairs and took a shower. While I was in the shower I did not hear anything unusual.
6. When I got out of the shower, I reached to put on my house coat, and at that moment, Terry Hobbs, who had broken in and somehow gotten upstairs into my bathroom, physically grabbed me from behind and grabbed my breast. I screamed at Terry loudly, "What are you doing in my house?" and screamed "GET OUT." I kept repeating, loudly, "GET OUT," and Terry hissed "Shhhhhh" at me. However, I kept yelling for Terry to get out, and ultimately Terry ran out of my home and ran downstairs into his unit. The bathroom window over my tub was partially open and my yelling could be heard outside. I recall a man was outside

across the street working in his yard. I believe that Terry intended to further molest and/or harm me because his actions and demeanor indicated that was his goal, but I believe my continued yelling and screaming alarmed him and caused him to run off. At the time, I was afraid that Terry would rape, harm or even kill me.

7. I called the police to report Terry's break in and attack. I believe the police filed an incident report on the matter.
8. I also went that day to Terry's mother-in-law who lived nearby and told her all what Terry had done -- that he had broken into my home and had assaulted me in my bathroom. I told the mother-in-law that Terry was a very sick man and that he required counseling immediately. The mother-in-law told me that her family was not in favor of sending Terry to counseling. She was a member of some sort of Pentecostal church. I told her then that I would pursue the matter with the police.
9. That night, after I told my landlord about the attack, my landlord set up a meeting in which both Hobbs and I sat down face to face in front of the landlord. Terry's father-in-law was also there. I said to Terry, "tell them what you did to me." Terry said, "I didn't do nothing." After I articulated what Hobbs had done to me, Terry looked me square in the eye and said calmly, "It never happened." He was cool and collected as he told me it never happened. If you had not known for certain Terry was lying, you would not have been able to tell by his demeanor that he was lying. I was sickened and frightened by Terry's ability to deny his horrific and perverted actions and seem so calm in doing so. I looked at Terry and told him, "You are a liar and you are sick."
10. Terry looked back at me with cold, dead eyes and said, "Yeah, I'm sick."
11. The landlord kicked Terry and his family out of Terry's unit as a result of his attack.
12. I appeared in court to press charges against Terry Hobbs. Though I do not remember the specifics, I do recall that at the hearing Terry was ordered to go to counseling and the matter was resolved in that manner. I do not know if Terry went to counseling but he was supposed to go to counseling at a facility located on 7th Street in Hot Springs.
13. I believe Terry was in his early 20s at the time of these events. I recall that he was a quietly violent and scary man. I believe that Terry became angered because I had interfered in his ability to beat his wife and child at will, and attacked me as set forth above, by grabbing me while I was naked coming out of the shower, as a way to punish me for my actions and to intimidate me into not interfering in his domestic acts of violence in the future. I was astounded by Terry's violence, his willingness to break into my house in broad daylight, his perversion and evilness in coming into my home to attack me while I was naked in the bathroom, and his chilling ability to calmly lie about what he had done. I believed then that Terry

was a violent, abusive, sick predator. I was happy when the landlord forced him to move out of his unit and I am grateful that I have not ever again crossed paths with Terry Hobbs. I recall these events even though it has been 27 years because it was so horrible and I was so terrified of Terry Hobbs.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed in Garland County, Arkansas.

Dated: 08-09-09

By Mildred French
Mildred French