

Who is Lee Gilley

My name is Lee Gilley. If you're reading this, you've probably seen dozens of media stories selling me and my family as entertainment to millions globally.

If anyone suggests that they know that I'm a murderer, consider asking them if they've seen the autopsy.

Since October 7th of 2024, everything has been taken from me. That night, I lost my beautiful wife and our unborn child.

Inside our house on that night, one of the cops exclaimed, "This is gonna be the worst night of your life." And later, after they turned the camera off, the investigator stated, "We're going to come get you in 3 days."

These words terrified me to the core. I had complied with their every request, dealt in good faith, and trusted all the people to do their jobs with honesty. The very last time I ever saw my wife, I was being confined to our kitchen as they brought her to the hospital. I don't remember anyone actually informing me that they weren't able to save her, but this terrible reality slowly sank in as I grew more and more aware that I was the target.

We lost the most important woman in the world: Mommy. My children needed me more than ever (and still do). And I needed my children more than ever (and still do).

I thought there's no way the authorities could really "come get me" in 3 days. I thought that their negative assumptions would have been easily corrected with a clear mind the next day.

But the investigator stuck to his word. On Friday morning, they followed my children and me to the park. Horrified, my children witnessed the authorities take their last parent from them. They destroyed my family 6 months before they even finished the autopsy.

God took Mommy on Tuesday. Humans took Daddy on Friday.

Disinhibited, they found Probable Cause over a Zoom call. Then the media swarmed like hornets. In fact, media showed up at our house days before.



Praise God: I'm no longer locked underground (I'm out on bond), but they still won't let me parent, see, call, or even write notes to my own children. Which is safer: allowing an "I love you forever and ever" note, or orphaning children?

Mortal Danger

Some call it "life in prison." Clinically, this is true: prisoners do still breathe. But I've been there. And I can tell you: there is **no life** in prison. And it's doubly void of life if you're to be sentenced to die there. More on the realities of prison [later](#).

But yes, I am innocent and the truth is on my side. Plus, I am so fortunate to have the very best defense attorneys in Texas on my team. And they all agree that the evidence showing my innocence is very positive. It shows *at least* one "reasonable doubt" disproving the offensive allegations.

This should be more than adequate to restore my faith in the system.

Gamesmanship

However, gamesmanship, strategy, and secrecy abound. Why *wouldn't* it? New attorneys learn from mentors and develop strategies to make a name for themselves. And the cycle continues for generations into a very mature system where **outcomes are motivated by victory, not truth**.

Note that the 1935 Supreme Court statement and ABA rule 3.8 **explicitly prohibit** a sovereignty from pursuing victory. Rather, their obligation is to govern impartially for procedural justice.

But how effective are such statements? Let's compare it to the instruction given to jurors and judges to "disregard the media."

Are strategies seeking victory *really* prohibited?

- "standard court instructions to 'disregard' media coverage **often fail** to remove its influence on final decisions" [Hoetger et al. \(2022\)](#)
- "subjects exposed to negative publicity were **significantly more likely** to judge the defendant guilty" [Stebly et al. \(1999\)](#)
- "Although many jurors believe they can ignore what they have read or heard about the case..., this is typically **not the case**." [Ruva \(2024\)](#)

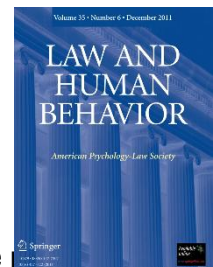


Figure 1: Research shows the **ineffectiveness** of mere statements and instructions.

Conduct

Celebrity-attorneys brandish hammers and shout of winning. Is their culture *completely distinct* from attorneys serving the sovereignty (Harris County)?

2 out of every 3 homicide cases involve misconduct. These stats were uncovered by analyzing cases overturned mostly by DNA testing. Do you think misconduct is unique to cases overturned with DNA tests?

Misconduct is shocking and hard to believe, but it points to a reality wherein victory is preferred over truth.

Does “justice” sound more like accuracy or punishment in today’s world?

Government Misconduct and Convicting the Innocent: The Role of Prosecutors, Police and Other Law Enforcement

**Table 4: Rate of Official Misconduct in
Exonerations for Violent Felonies, by Crime***

HOMICIDE	Murder (908):	72%
	Death Penalty (121)	79%
	Life Imprisonment (377)	73%
	Term Less Than Life (410)	69%
	Manslaughter (45)	60%
	Felonious Assault (82)	57%

Figure 2: Misconduct stats.

There is a **dearth** of prior **systematic research on police misconduct** that contributes to false convictions.

Prosecutorial misconduct has attracted a good deal of attention in the past decade, primarily **concealing exculpatory evidence**. Several **studies** have found thousands of criminal cases in which courts or other agencies determined that **prosecutors committed misconduct**, but very few were **disciplined** for it.

Figure 3: An excerpt from the executive summary.

Trust

It makes me wonder why errors which informed the preliminary finding of Probable Cause have not been publicly corrected. And why Christa's autopsy is still sealed. And why I've been *completely* withheld from my own toddlers (even with under-oath testimony from my grieving in-laws that I've not ever committed family violence).

Harris County, the sovereignty instructed to not pursue victory, produces the autopsy itself.

I wonder if any **untruthfulness** occurred in the production of the autopsy.

It's no secret.

There are dozens of true and recent documentaries which show the prevalence of husbands wrongfully accused and convicted. Documentaries and movies show spectacle, not accuracy.

The Staircase (Michael Peterson)

Wrongly accused of murdering his wife, wrongly convicted with tainted forensic evidence.
Released in 2017 after 16 years.

An Unreal Dream (Michael Morton)

Wrongly convicted for his wife's death, spent 25 years in prison. DNA and withheld evidence freed him in 2011.

[Harris County toxicologist fired for 'untruthfulness' prompts notice to more than 1,200 defendants](#)



Figure 4: News in 2025 on Harris County forensics.

[Hardcore History 61 – \(BLITZ\) Painfotainment – Dan Carlin](#)

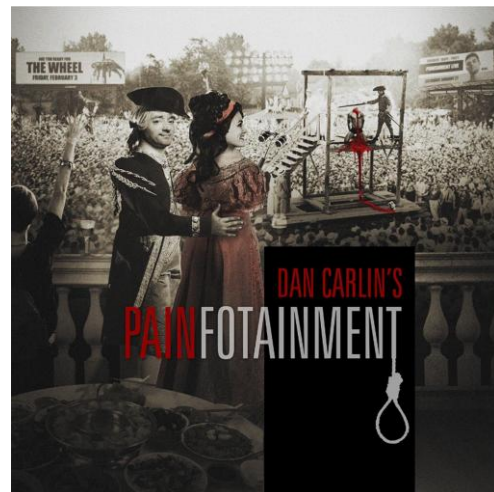


Figure 5: Painfotainment by Dan Carlin covers some compelling case studies about pain in the media.

48 Hours/Dateline (David Camm)

Framed for his wife and kids' deaths, wrongly convicted twice on flawed evidence.
Exonerated in 2013 after 13 years.

Dateline/The Thing About Pam (Russ Faria)

Wrongly convicted in 2013 for his wife's murder, prosecutors ignored evidence pointing to her friend. Freed and acquitted in 2015.

Dateline (Brad Cooper)

Wrongly convicted for his wife's death on circumstantial evidence including manipulated computer data. Released in 2017.

Outcomes

Are you still "innocent until proven guilty" if banks freeze your money? If your office and gym kick you out? If you become destitute because all your big clients terminate contracts? If neighbors turn against you and colleagues ghost you? If Airbnb closes your account in the middle of a stay? If valuable investor programs are rescinded? If even churches don't allow you to volunteer?

The media and banks have found me guilty, sure, but the court system hasn't!

But the preliminary finding of Probable Cause does include horrifying and massively defamatory allegations which just happen to be perfect for media entertainment!

Is it reasonable for a system to feed you to the ravenous media and just look away? *"We didn't hurt him! We just locked him outside with a target on his back. The media did it!"*

Precedent

Relying on precedent is helpful because it simplifies court proceedings.

Even though I'm not guilty, it's just precedent to destroy the father-child relationship, constrain my movement, and dangle the authority to throw me back into prison at any moment if I roll through a stop sign or don't get home on time.

Imagine trying to focus on anything productive when even tomorrow isn't guaranteed.
Imagine trying to provide any consulting services when your reputation has been destroyed.

Trials are supposed to be “speedy.” And they used to be very speedy. But it’s natural for everything to drift. In today’s world autopsies take 6 months and trials take years, allowing the damage to compound and crystallize.

It’s exceedingly doubtful that the “just destroy the family to keep things simple” precedent was set against a father with no misdemeanors... A father who took their children to school every morning and told bedtime stories every night. A father who has never committed family violence, confirmed by his own father-in-law’s under-oath testimony.

Influence

So, what motivates such behavior?

There is no indication that it’s just laziness or even anything to do with me personally. It may be a subconscious desire to satisfy the media. No one wants to be targeted by the swarming media: your neighbors, banks, and constituents may turn on you!

Everyone knows the media doesn’t necessarily tell the truth. But it *does* influence the court system (remember Figure 1 above).

If media affects the court system, is it reasonable that professionally administered, science-backed tests *cannot*?

Q. Are you alleging to Judge Curvey that Mr. Gilley has committed family violence against you?

A. Not against me.

Q. Are you alleging that he's committed family violence against your spouse?

A. Not against my spouse.

Q. Are you alleging that he committed family violence against Madeline?

A. No.

Q. Against Gannon?

A. No.

Ehdi Sepulveda, CSR
280th Official Court Reporter

Christopher J. Bauer - February 12, 2025 61
Redirect Examination by Ms. Stout

Q. Or the other three relatives that you listed in your application?

A. Correct.

Figure 6: An excerpt from Chris’s testimony.

"The Polygraph and Lie Detection" at National Academies

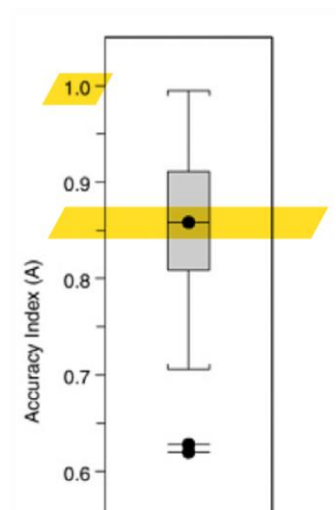


Figure 7: Third-party research shows polygraphs are 86%+ accurate.

Lie detector tests aren't necessarily conclusive, and no one claims that they are. But should they be worth *zero* while the media completely circumvents the "rules of evidence?"

Do you think the media wields more or less influence today or back in the 90s?

I don't blame any one person.

No one in the system is out to 'get me' personally. No one there hates me. *How could they?* They haven't even spoken with me since I called for the ambulance, nor have the horrific allegations been tried.

It's the result of a chain reaction that began the night of the tragedy.

1. The media loves a juicy "life in prison" story.
2. The minimum sentence is determined by the charge.
3. The charge is validated by Probable Cause.
4. PC is found over Zoom using preliminary reports which may have errors.

Systemic diffusion of responsibility means that no one person is directly accountable for anything, good or bad. So, when the outcome is destruction, no one is to blame. And everyone can quiet their conscience because it literally wasn't them!

Every day I pray for my family, that we may be reunited and granted the freedom to be productive, loving members of society. I pray for everyone who loves and misses Christa, that we all may find healing on this earth. And I pray for anyone else finding themselves under the boot of the media, that the courts are vigilant in the pursuit of truth, not victory.

Two Wolves

But how exactly does a system pursue truth, not victory? Well, I could never dream of surviving a debate on the calibration of tensions in the intentionally adversarial system of American litigation.

It's much simpler to just look at the outcomes: Does it feel right if the system *tries* to end a life? If the system *tries* to destroy a family?

Is taking aim at ending a life with enthusiastic rhetoric just part of "governing impartially?" Is building the most horrifying narrative possible, and making *only* the most negative inferences imaginable "reasonable and fair?"

Is hamstringing the defense with aggressive motions and jury selection tactics not an attempt to "win a case?" Even though the defense already acts within the bounds of the law.

Does the pursuit of truth also include the active pursuit of reputation destruction, gossip, and innuendo?

Well, it depends on whether you want your judicial system to aim for fear and hatred, or for truth and love. Like the legend of the 'Two Wolves.' Everyone has two wolves fighting inside them. One represents hatred and the other represents love. Which one wins?

The one you feed.

Russian Roulette

Every trial is a risk. Even with the truth, strong evidence, and the very best defense team... the risk exists.

And the minimum sentence for this trial is 'life' in prison. So, this trial amounts to a game of Russian Roulette. And with each victory-seeking tactic, they add another bullet to the gun.

They'll pull the trigger in June.

...

Eye Contact

I found it telling that Angela Stout, like my in-laws, can't even look at me – not even when she gestured at me in court. Like she's so ashamed to be taking a loving father away from toddlers that it's just too risky to witness the destruction she's spearheading first-hand. Like she herself feels guilty for getting away with such malevolence while luxuriating behind the documents and statutes. No, she's not breaking any laws, but she knows her outcomes are nefarious. So, she looks away to soften the blow to her conscience. I genuinely hope her conscience can regrow.

I don't wish Hell upon anyone.

If you look for a reason to hate someone, you'll find it. If you look for a reason to love someone, you'll find it. Choose which you're looking for.

To Christa's family, my in-laws

You win.

You've taken my children from me. If not for your grievous lawsuits, I'd have custody of my children. I shrink in defeat as I write this. I vomit in response to the malevolence you spew at me and even your own grandchildren.

It's been a year and a half. My big buddy has had no parents for almost **half his entire life** now. Beloved Christa is in heaven, but I am still here. And I love my children infinitely. And I want them. They love me and want me. But your actions keep us apart.

Do you really love your grandchildren if you sever their relationship with Daddy?

It felt good just a few years ago when you shared my videos with your friends so much that they complimented me on being a good father. It felt uncomfortable when you encouraged me to "talk to" your other son-in-law about being a more involved father.

Imagine if you chose to support your son-in-law rather than to vilify. If you testified to my love and honor for your beautiful daughter. If you testified with videos and memories of me being an involved father. Would your grandchildren be better off? Would you?

You haven't even seen the autopsy, but you choose to sell the most horrific story imaginable. I wonder if the podcasts and mainstream media care whether your drama is true or false. Or if they just like the revenue.

Does your behavior honor Christa?

You exploit this tragedy for financial gain and pity from strangers on social media. You gave photos of my children to mainstream television media to promote your fundraising links. You've made more than \$500,000 on this tragedy. Has your \$120k of credit card debt been paid off yet? Did the addition to your house turn out nicely?

You dress my children in purple and use them as props at your fundraising events. Even the funeral you designed for your daughter was stained with purple pity and hatred. Did you celebrate Christa's beautiful life at all?

You shopped childhood therapists until you found one who cultivates your depression and hates the story of me. Do my children feel better or worse when they see her?

You whispered in my daughter's ear prompting her to shout, "Go away!" to her own grandmother at gymnastics. You tricked her into mixing up her uncles' names and deceived her that Daddy is gone forever. Do you think she'll never see through your tactics?

Chris, you posture as a Godly man who values family. Are you still?

Sharon, do these lawsuits grant you a capacity to love my children? Can you smile now? Have you broken your dependency of screens and a 2 p.m. "beverage?"

Samantha, does your newfound fundraising expertise help you keep a boyfriend now?

I promise that I am trying to forgive you for this evil. I hope that you rise and repent.

Damaged

If not for you, my children would hear how proud Mommy and I are of them. They'd hear "I love you" many times a day. My big buddy would have been potty trained before he was 3 and a half (and not emotionally abused for it!). He'd have continued sleeping peacefully for twelve or thirteen hours a night. My perfect angel would not have developed separation anxiety nor a tendency to speak negatively about herself. Their social and physical development would not be stunted for the sake of your 70-year-old exhaustion.

They would still have a father.

Do you *want* to help my children sleep when they wake at 3am? Do you *want* to match their playtime energy? To ask them if they have questions?

I do.

It's possible that the trial fails. That I am sentenced to die in prison like a cockroach.

Zoom out for a moment. Zoom out from your grief. Put your grandchildren in the frame. You may have prevented your grandchildren from hugging their father ever again. You may have prevented them from hearing how much I love them. You may have forever confused their memories of Mommy and me.

I used to be a family man. A provider. You and the system have taken everything that I've worked for. Everything that I love most. My beautiful wife and growing family.

Even my reputation, freedom, work, and community have been taken. My business used to feed the mouths of **10 children**. Now it provides for zero.

Know that your soul is in your keeping alone. When you stand before God, it will not suffice to say, "the media and courts permitted me to do this!"

I'm innocent. Are you?

Punishment

First of all, consider that I am only writing this today because: 1) my family loves me enough to care, and 2) they had enough money to purchase my bond. I'm so, so grateful. I met dozens of other guys who aren't as lucky as me, still rotting underground in a concrete box waiting on their trial. It's unbelievably sad. Am I more virtuous because my family can purchase my temporary bond?

I only spent 10 days in prison. I lost 10lbs while I was down there, despite having a very nice neighbor who gave me 4 (!) of his meals. He sang “My mind is tellin’ me, yes! But my stomach... My stomach is telling me, no-o-o!”

All the meals are cold and mushy. Everywhere smells like ammonium or urine. There exists no sunshine and no windows. No grass and no fresh air. Every surface is concrete or metal. Loud clanging and echoing persist throughout the night. The fluorescent light stays on throughout the night. The soap warns to avoid contact with your eyes and cuts.

The guards respond, “I gotchu,” when you request toilet paper or the cleaners to come address the disgust in your cell. But they never come.

In Harris County Prison, there is no accountability if they take away your toilet paper, towel, and change of clothes. Then, you shiver for days on end because they lock you in small rooms with 3 air conditioning vents blasting the temperature down to ~50 degrees. There are blood stains on the walls of the cells in the “B side.” The toilets are caked with poop which has apparently built up over months.

Beauty does not exist in prison. Nothing is beautiful. Prisoners are sanctioned from relationships with loved ones. The capacity to provide anything to anyone. All purpose is withheld.

What is the purpose of the subhuman conditions in prison, anyways? If it’s budget, does that excuse the torture? Do the conditions help criminals correct their ways? Does it “protect and serve” the accused?

Feelings

You may not care how I feel, but nonetheless, I feel that my children and I have been discarded.