

Transcription of Grand Jury Testimony
May 16, 2010

Unintelligible phrases are marked with a question mark in brackets [?], followed by dashes representing the approximate number of words that are unintelligible: [?----] means that approximately four words are unintelligible in the phrase.

Participants: Judge _____ ("Mr. Judge _____")
The Rev. Dr. James David Manning ("Manning")
Professor John Drew ("Drew") (testimony via pre-recorded audio interview
on the Manning Report)
Attorney _____ ("Mr. Counselor _____")

Mr. Judge _____:

You may proceed. I just want to repeat my admonition from the other day, that anyone is welcome to listen and observe, but you're not welcome to disrupt. Everyone is entitled to their opinion, but they're not entitled to act in a disruptive way. And anyone who deigns to act in such a way will be very quickly and expeditiously dispatched with, and removed.

So let's all behave like people who were taught proper manners, and everything will be okay. Thank you. Counselor?

Manning:

Your Honor, it's good to see you back today. We want to thank -- heartfelt thanks to Ms. _____, who filled in for you on yesterday. She did a great job. She is a member of our congregation, as we had to fully disclose to everyone. And her grandfather was one of the original signers of the Declaration of Independence, and was, at one point, the Governor of the State of Rhode Island. And now, Ms. _____ is seeking to be the Governor of the State of New York. As soon as this trial is over with, we're going to try to do everything within our power to make sure she is the next Governor for the State of New York.

But thank you, Your Honor, and it's just good to see you back again today.

Now, we'd like to say good morning, if you will, to the jury -- the jurors. Good to see you all back. I trust y'all have had a good New York night's rest. Is that true? Okay. All right. We don't want you to find any fault in our fair city, so.

Um, there are a couple of things that we'd like to just make by way of announcements that will help our trial move forward. Number one is that a number of you obviously are -- welcome, Mr. _____ [ph], Minister -- how are you?

A number of you are from out of town and had scheduled to be here until Wednesday. We understand that, and we ask all (technical difficulty) day under oath to make a commitment to be here until Wednesday. What I'm going to try to do, as a prosecutor, to facilitate your commitment by trying to wrap everything up by Tuesday, so that you will be able to comfortably deliberate and leave town on

1 Wednesday or Thursday morning, whatever your plans were. We don't want to hold you here beyond that point.

2 We are also under some constraints from the City of New York on a parade and march permit that was
3 issued to us by the Supreme Court of the State of New York, which outlines our permission to march the
4 Columbia area, as we did today, and have been doing over the last few days. And there is one constraint
5 in that parade/march permit from the Supreme Court, is that on Tuesday, we would only be able to march
after 3:00 pm. Allegedly, Columbia University will be awash with the -- their graduation ceremonies, and
our march would somehow or another either interfere with that, or intimidate it. I'm not sure which, or if
any, or if either.

6 So the judge ordered, unlike our early start this morning and the previous mornings at 9:00, that we would
7 not be able to start our March on Tuesday until 3:00 pm. And it's important for us that we complete the
8 march as we conduct the trial. It's very important. So that's one thing that we have to concern ourselves
about, and that will happen on Tuesday.

9 On Tuesday, we'd like to have a time of summation, to give the case to you, the jurors, and allow you to
10 start your deliberation, perhaps even while some of us will be marching. I'd like to announce that on
11 Tuesday, that it is the plan of me as the prosecutor to present information from an informant of the CIA
and the KGB that has prompted this case in the first place. My being contacted by -- one might consider,
a disgruntled member and double-agent of the CIA and the KGB prompted me to go forward with this
trial, as late -- as early as last year.

12 I do not expect that informant to come and personally testify, but I do have documentation and
13 information that we wish to present, that I'd like to present that as the last part, or piece, of this puzzle, to
be presented on Tuesday morning early.

14 So having made that announcement, I think it's important that we prepare ourselves for the case to be
15 given to the jury as early as Tuesday afternoon.

16 Now, I would like also to just instruct the jurors -- you seem to be a very homogenous group. You're
17 marching, and talking, and we appreciate all of that. However, I do want you to remain a sense a
18 decorum about the urgency and the importance of the information that you have received thus far. And
you should, perhaps, not discuss it with yourselves, even in times when you're having lunch, or you're
marching, or whatever. You should wait until all of the evidence comes in, and then perhaps hold
discussion.

19 I know you're -- some of you, probably meeting one another for the first time, and probably have heard of
20 each other, maybe from the Manning Report or something similar to that.

21 But I simply want to ask if you would refrain from any kind of discussion with anyone about this case
22 until you are placed in the jury room. I think that would show a great deal of respect for the information,
and a great deal of respect for your position as a juror.

23 The other item is, is that I know you, I -- some of you, we've communicated on the Manning Report for
24 some time. And I'm just not going to be able to have any fellowship with you or talking with you
25 throughout the stages of the trial, until afterwards. So please do not think it rude at the end of the
deliberations that I choose not to greet you. It isn't bad. It's just that I want to stay as far away from any
influence or any inference that there's some impropriety going on with you and I talking after the case.

Do we have a clear understanding of that?

1 The other item I'd like to repeat from yesterday is that it is extremely important that we remain faithful to
2 this process in terms of seeking a fair and a just verdict in this case. And we do so, not of our own
3 personal desires, but out of a deep understanding and respect for the Constitution and all that this great
nation has accomplished -- that we would hold that in high esteem above our own personal ideas or
agendas. For the Constitution is far greater than all of us. It has given rise and liberty to all of us.

4 And to think that our own personal desires or the limit or level of our own educational understanding in
5 any way compares to the Constitution is foolish, at best. And we will appeal to the Constitution in all of
6 our deliberations, and that we will follow its truth. It has guided this nation thus far, and we believe it
will guide it further. We don't believe that we are seeing the end of our nation, but indeed, the beginning
and the birth -- or, the rebirth of a great nation.

7 Having said that, I would like to also announce that we would -- we will be -- if I did not announce -- we
8 will be proceeding right through the lunch hour today, and because we have two witnesses that will be
9 testifying from out of state -- or, at least they are proposed witnesses -- we may or may not need their
testimony.

10 We do know that Wayne Allyn Root, who was a student at Columbia University and a Libertarian Vice
11 President on the year 2008, had agreed to a Skype testimony. Whether we will employ that is a matter of
12 how today's testimony will go. And there are a couple of others as well, so we're going to adjourn early
today to prepare for tomorrow, which will probably be a very long day. We must clear all business on
Monday, so that on Tuesday, we can present the information that we believe from this double agent,
disgruntled Secret Service agent and KGB informant.

13 Having said that, I'm going to ask if our technical staff -- if they are ready at present to present the first
14 testimony of John -- Professor John Drew. I don't see them here. Are we ready?

Unidentified Speaker:

[?---]

Manning:

Excuse me?

Unidentified Speaker:

Sound. [?---]

Manning:

We don't have the sound? We're working on that still?

Unidentified Speaker:

We have sound -- no picture.

Manning:

Oh. Are we able to get a picture? All right, we'll do it with just the sound. That will be fine.

1 **Unidentified Speaker:**

2 [?--]

3 **Manning:**

4 Okay, if I may introduce this matter. A few months ago, I was able to speak with a professor who you
5 will hear identify himself as presently, a professor in the California area, traveling teacher, and anchored
6 with a major university here in the United States, who did his undergraduate work at Occidental College
7 in Los Angeles, California. He will also testify -- or at least, will state in an interview that I did with him
8 on the Manning Report, that he was the founder of the Marxist Club at Occidental College. He instituted
9 that organization and taught the students how to understand Marxism, and how to carry the idea of
10 Marxism forward at that university. His name is Professor John Drew.

11 I spoke with Professor John Drew over the last couple of weeks a number of times. And he informed me
12 that he is co-authoring a book about his experiences at Occidental, his having met Barack Hussein Obama
13 as a student at Occidental, and something about the observation of Barack Obama while a student at
14 Occidental. However, he stated because of his publishing of a book, his attorneys have advised him that
15 it would probably not be in his best interest -- and attorneys tend to do that -- to testify at this trial.

16 He was all willing to do it. I believe that he was. However, he did willingly discuss with me in an
17 interview on the Manning Report all of the questions I would have asked him, had he come physically to
18 testify.

19 What we would like to do is to enter into evidence an interview that I had with him -- you'll hear my
20 voice, you'll hear his voice -- that was logged into the Manning Report going back a couple of months
21 now, regarding his observation and his understanding of Marxism, his encounter with Barack Hussein
22 Obama while at Occidental College. And I might add, one of the few persons who would come forward
23 from Obama's past and actually say anything about him. There are several people that Obama did have
24 relations with, but none of them will come forward. John Drew is unique, and moreover, he's African-
25 American, or black, or whatever that distinction means. And I think his testimony is very important, if
not critical, to helping us understand something about the mental state of Mr. Obama at Occidental before
moving to Columbia University.

So with that -- having said that, we're going to ask the people in the technical to simply play that clip. I
think it runs for about 15 minutes. You can make notes if you like. And then a clip will be prepared for
the foreman in the event you need it during your deliberations.

(pre-recorded audio interview plays)

21 **Manning:**

22 I think I've got Dr. Drew on the line. Why should I discuss the Republicans when I got --

23 **Drew:**

24 Hi, Pastor Manning. Well, it is -- like I was saying, I can definitely verify that he was a Marxist in the fall
25 of 1980, and I can also say that it was unusual for a sophomore at Occidental College to be that
committed to Marxism. So it was unusual, and he was quite emotionally attached to that perspective.

Manning:

Were you a student as well at Occidental? I mean, were y'all at the same class level, or what? How did y'all know each other?

Drew:

Well, it's kind of complex, in that when I met him, I was a graduate student at Cornell. And I had been one of the student -- the radical Marxist student leaders at Occidental College previously. I established the Marxist student organization in 1976, and then I spent a year in the University of Suffolk in England, studying Marxist economics, and then I came back to America. And I graduated from Occidental in 1979.

But, the girlfriend that I was seeing, Caroline Boch [ph], she was attending classes with the young Obama. She was a senior and he was a sophomore at Occidental College. So I flew back from New York State, from Cornell, and I visited Caroline in Palo Alto, and Obama and his friend Hasan Chandu [ph] drove up, and that's where I met him.

Manning: Well, let me ask you now. What about him that made him this unusually committed -- reverent, if you will, Marxist, that distinguished you, who founded the Marxist organization at Occidental College in 1976? I mean, why was he more Marxist than you? What was -- what were those distinguishing features?

Drew:

Well, what happened is that -- when I -- when Caroline told me that Obama was coming up to visit, she told me that he was one of us. And what that meant is that he was part of this revolutionary elite of -- you know, young Marxists who were actively working and looking forward to a Marxist revolution.

My situation is, I used to think exactly the way young Obama did, but as I studied more, and got more sophisticated in my Marxist thought, I started to have refinements that no longer matched what Obama and Caroline were thinking.

So for example, I -- by the time I met Obama, I was already arguing a pessimistic view of revolution, saying that even if Marx was correct, it was unlikely that you would ever see the upper class overthrown in a revolution. And so that's why -- they kind of ganged up on me, and were mad at me that evening, because I was arguing that pessimistic Marxist point of view against their optimistic Marxist point of view, that the revolution was real, and it was coming.

Manning:

Now, can I ask you -- and I pray this is an appropriate question --

Drew:

That's fine. Go ahead.

Manning:

What strain of Marxism did Obama subscribe to? And here, let me explain to you what I mean.

1 There was the alleged Bolshevik revolution, that kind of happened within the black community, and
2 others as well. And it covered a period of time, the '50s and the '60s. We're talking now the '70s and '80s.
3 Are we talking the similar strain of Marxism that identified black people with being Marxists, inasmuch
4 as that they saw the failure or the disdain or hatred for the American government, so therefore, they
5 gravitated to Marxism? Or was it more of a universal Marxism, Leninism, that Obama subscribed to, that
6 perhaps you might find in a Patrice Lumumba kind of an institution?

7 **Drew:**

8 Well, that's one of the surprising things about my observation, is that I -- the young Obama I met seemed
9 more like a Western European Marxist, without a lot of racial hatred or baggage attached to it. I think he
10 was a fan of -- what is it, Fanon, and he was aware of revolution being a worldwide --

11 **Manning:**

12 You're talking Franz Fanon?

13 **Drew:**

14 That's it. Franz Fanon.

15 **Manning:**

16 Right.

17 **Drew:**

18 He was aware of a worldwide revolution taking place, but the funny thing is, I saw no hatred of white
19 people. I saw no animosity towards white people in the young Barack Obama. And yet, if you read his
20 book, *Dreams of My Father*, I mean, he's talking about how he was seething with hatred for white people,
21 and sharing the story about the black guy that tore off his own skin.

22 But I have to say truthfully that young Barack Obama struck me as a -- as kind of like a wealthy white
23 guy, because [multiple speakers] --

24 **Manning:**

25 Now, that's an interesting statement. Wealthy? From where? Where did it -- what --

26 **Drew:**

27 From Hawaii. He sort of struck me as like this Hawaiian prince, is the best way to describe him. And I --
28 it never, for once -- it never occurred to me that he was African-American, or that he had an emotional or
29 cultural attachment to African-American culture. And I know that's very controversial, but that's my true
30 report.

31 I saw Obama at a party in June the next year, and I didn't see many African-American students there.
32 Most of his friends were white, and foreign students.

33 So my theory is that Barack Obama has exaggerated his connections to the African-American community,
34 and African-American culture, as part of an effort to win election.

1 **Manning:**

2 When he appeared -- or, that a friend of his, Mohammed Hasan Chandu, who obviously was an Islamic
3 person with Islamic breeding -- how did those two come -- how would a Marxist and an Islamic believing
4 person -- what common ground did they have?

4 **Drew:**

5 Well, I think one of the things that people have forgotten is that back in the 1980s, Islam and Communism
6 could walk hand in hand comfortably. It was seen as a good fit, to be a Communist or a Socialist, and
7 support an Islamic religious perspective.

7 And that was -- it's -- for example, if you were in Afghanistan, and the Soviet Union was there protecting
8 you, it was possible to have Islamic religious beliefs and be a supporter of the Soviet Union within
9 Afghanistan.

9 That's my perspective on the young Barack Obama. I think he was [multiple speakers] --

10 **Manning:**

11 Did he have a girlfriend?

12 **Drew:**

13 No. Not that I saw. I never saw him affectionate around a woman, at least at that party I went to. And I
14 understand that's becoming an issue now, is, people are wondering about his sexual identity. And I --
15 again, I can't really go too far into that, except to say that I never saw him physically around a woman, or
16 affectionate to a woman, the whole time I met him.

16 **Manning:**

17 Yeah, well, you know, that is becoming a part of -- I mean, people are beginning to look now at his
18 sexuality quite -- very closely. There -- going back to the Jeremiah Wright church, there's been some
19 information about his having bisexual and homosexual relations. And then there's some accusations
20 against him.

19 But I've not heard any woman from any school identify him, and even -- and some of the things that we
20 are seeing recently about his trek at Columbia. The only persons that step forward to speak about him are
21 all males. I mean, I'm doing a complete analysis of -- and there's several people. I think Michael Wolf of
22 Columbia, who was once the Chairman of MTV, and a few others. But they're all men. No woman has
23 spoken a positive or a negative word about this person. So the fact that you said he had no girlfriends --

22 **Drew:**

23 Well, it's funny. When I met him for the very first time, I saw him get out of this sports car that was
24 basically driven by Hasan Chandu --

24 **Manning:**

25 You're talking about the BMW?

1 **Drew:**

2 Yes, the BMW. And Obama got out of the car, and I met him and Chandu for the first time. And all I
3 can say is, they were dressed extremely nice, and they were -- they -- you know how you can see where --
4 like two people are very in tune with each other? And there was an emotional connectness between them
that was, I think, unusual. And I remember -- again, Caroline kind of whispered in my ear that -- you
know, she could see what I was thinking. She basically said, they're not gay.

5 **Manning:**

6 (laughter)

7 **Drew:**

8 So -- but it's obvious that -- well, they looked gay.

9 **Manning:**

10 (laughter)

11 **Drew:**

12 But according to Caroline -- and apparently Chandu, those reports that he had a girlfriend at the time
13 while he was at Occidental College --

14 **Manning:**

15 Where is Chandu now? Do we have any idea?

16 **Drew:**

17 Yes. He's in New York State, and he's -- apparently he's still active in Obama's life. He was at that
18 Ramadan dinner a couple of months ago, shook hands with Obama, and he's also been like a \$100,000
plus bundler [ph] for Obama's campaign contributions. Now, Chandu was actually at Obama's wedding,
when Obama married Michelle. So he's been a -- you know, he's been a strong part of Obama's life
[multiple speakers] --

19 **Manning:**

20 What did you think about -- what do you think about Obama when he won the Iowa caucus, and then
21 tricked his way through the primaries? What was going on in your mind during those times, and did
22 anyone interview you about your association with him?

23 **Drew:**

24 Well, and that's, to me, has been the frustrating thing about the story, and part of it is that it took me a
while --

25 **Manning:**

1 Dr. Drew? Dr. Drew? Dr. Drew? Let me just interrupt you for one second. What I'm going to do here,
2 because you're such an important guest, I want to let everybody know we're going to forego the news here
3 at the top of the hour, and we'll pick up the news after we've concluded talking with Dr. John Drew, who
4 had the opportunity to meet with Obama while he was a student at Occidental College. Dr. Drew, who
5 graduated from Cornell, and who is now a consultant living in Laguna Niguel, California, is speaking to
6 us today here on the Manning Report, regarding his relationship -- his observations of Obama, the young
7 Obama, who was a sophomore at the Occidental College experience in California.

8 We're going to forego our news break at this time, and hang onto these very meaningful words that -- and
9 insight into the life of Obama when he was just a youth.

10 So, Dr. Drew, you now have the microphone again. Tell us more about what you thought about him, now
11 that he's now running -- he's graduated from Harvard, he transferred to Columbia. I'd like to know what
12 you think about those two things. And now he's president of the Harvard Law Review, and allegedly the
13 President of the United States. How do you figure all that? What does that mean to you?

14 **Drew:**

15 Well, this is actually very significant, politically and theoretically. And the larger issue is, why did my
16 story about my connection to Barack Obama and my observations on his ideology -- you know, why
17 wasn't -- why didn't that leak out in 2008, when it might have had an impact on the Presidential campaign,
18 and why has it hit the news now, in, what, February of 2010?

19 And my part, what I can say is, I -- it didn't -- I didn't realize that Barack Obama as a senator was the
20 same young man that I had met at Occidental College for a long time, because I thought of Senator
21 Obama as a graduate of Harvard and Columbia. And it was only late in the season that I heard that he --
22 he didn't spend all four years at Columbia. In fact, he had had two years, freshman year and sophomore
23 year, at Occidental, and then he was at Columbia.

24 So then I had this flash of insight, that the young man I had met was the same guy. And [multiple
25 speakers] --

26 **Manning:**

27 Did he appear to be a diligent student? One that is quite conscientious about superior grades, and
28 channeling those grades into a mega-career? Is that how he appeared to you?

29 **Drew:**

30 [?], you know, I get this question a lot. And again, I have to say, not at all. I -- the young Obama I met
31 was primarily interested in parties, in having a good time. And he did not strike me as a above average
32 student.

33 **Manning:**

34 Now, let me just ask to stop you right there now, and I -- please hold your thoughts. I don't want to
35 interrupt your flow of thoughts. But --

36 **Drew:**

37 No, that's all right.

1 **Manning:**

2 A young man interested in parties, but you saw him with no female associations. I mean, you're young,
3 you party, you party with young girls. I mean, you don't -- you don't think to pop over by yourself.

4 **Drew:**

5 (laughter) Well, they liked him. He and Hasan had a big house in Eagle Rock, California, and I -- my
6 understanding is, Hasan spent a lot of money on the booze and the marijuana, and it was a very attractive
7 living arrangement at the time.

8 And I -- as I said, I went to a party there. I went to one of the parties, but apparently there were multiple
9 parties. And the party I went to, I didn't see Obama with a girl at all the whole time. So that's all I can
10 report. But he --

11 **Manning:**

12 What was his -- what was his clothing -- what was his attire like? Was it regular student kind of --
13 bumming around as a student? Or was he sort of well heeled?

14 **Drew:**

15 No, no, no. He looked kind of like a fashion model at the time. It seemed like he had very quality leather
16 jacket, high quality shirt, high quality slacks -- I mean, he just -- he looked like a young millionaire, both
17 times I saw him.

18 **Manning:**

19 What would you think -- just from an observation, without really thinking about it, the first thing comes
20 to your mind, why do you think he was so intrigued with Marxism? Who introduced him to that? And
21 why would he -- you know, why would a young Hawaiian be fascinated with Marxism? What do you
22 think?

23 **Drew:**

24 Well, at the time, I thought it was intellectual integrity, that he had carefully weighed and thought through
25 different forms of government and economic arrangement, and that he had decided that Marxism was the
argument that would lead to a society that had the greatest amount of fairness and prosperity for
everybody involved. So, my sense was that he -- that it had been an intellectual decision.

But it wasn't a situation where he said something like, you know, my family is exploited, or my mother is
harmd, or my father was a Socialist. That never came up. So he didn't really articulate any reason in his
past, or his own behavior, why he would be so intensely committed to Marxism.

Now, from my story, you know, I grew up the eldest of five boys in a family, and we had raw sewage in
the backyard, because my father couldn't afford to have the sewer line fixed. So I could definitely tell a
story of poverty, and struggle, and unhappiness --

25 **Manning:**

1 Is that why you established a Marxist club and -- I believe in 1976, at Occidental? Is that why you --
2 because of your poverty?

3 **Drew:**

4 Yeah. I felt it was -- and I'm in print on this, but I said that I felt it was unfair and wrong for a guy like
5 me to have a negative life experience simply because my parents had too many kids, and didn't have
6 enough resources to raise me properly. So I was very emotionally outraged at the time, at the way the
7 political and economic system was established. And I was very -- you know, I was vocal about that.

8 I'm starting to think I've always been kind of a loose cannon, you know? It's like, I've always been
9 against the government.

10 **Manning:**

11 Well, you know, I think when we're young, we're all idealistic, and so obviously, Obama, perhaps being a
12 little bit over the top, Marxism would not have been unusual for students, especially during that period, to
13 gravitate to some other ideology, other than capitalism.

14 But let me ask you a question about Caroline, now.

15 **Drew:**

16 Go ahead, yes.

17 **Manning:**

18 What does she think? Well, she obviously observed that you thought Obama and his friend were gay
19 lovers, and made a statement about that. But what is her observation, and obviously, they came to visit
20 her, not you.

21 **Drew:**

22 That's right --

23 **Manning:**

24 -- when they got out of that BMW. So obviously, she had a better connect with them. What is she
25 stating about Obama these days?

Drew:

Well, she's married, she has a child. I haven't really tried to involve her in the story. But I -- my
understanding is, she didn't return an e-mail from Ron Kessler asking about the situation. And she hasn't
really given any interviews, as far as I know.

Nevertheless, Hasan Chandu basically verified that he knew me, and that he knew Caroline, and that he
and Caroline had been in touch over the years. So that's why Kessler felt that my story was verified, you
know, when he checked it out, the -- it was obvious that I was not a stranger to those folks.

1 And also, you know, I was kind of like the young, peace-loving, Bill Ayers of Occidental College. So I --
2 you know, I was never famous, but I was well known at Occidental College, and I was once their
3 [multiple speakers] --

4 **Manning:**

5 Does the -- does the Marxist -- does the Marxist Club, or what it was called, founded by you in 1976,
6 does it still exist to this day?

7 **Drew:**

8 I don't know that it still exists, but I know that it existed when Obama was on campus. And I was also the
9 founder, or co-founder, of the anti-apartheid movement at Occidental College. So I was one of the people
10 that organized the first demonstrations against Occidental College's [multiple speakers] --

11 **Manning:**

12 Well, now, did -- is there any way you can reference whether or not Obama had any interest in the anti-
13 apartheid movement? Obviously --

14 **Drew:**

15 Yes. He gave a speech, in 19 -- probably just before I met him in the fall of 1980, he gave a speech, an
16 anti-apartheid speech as part of a demonstration on campus, when the Occidental College Board of
17 Directors was meeting. So he was definitely part of that cultural milieu, is the way I would put it.

18 **Manning:**

19 What can you tell me about -- I mean, I understand that Obama, perhaps, maybe was introduced to
20 Marxism through Frank Marshall Davis. He may or may not have been. It could have been something
21 that he was introduced on his own, through his own studies, and his own journey.

22 But there continues to pop up the Patrice Lumumba School in Moscow, which I find very strange,
23 because Patrice Lumumba was not necessarily a major influential person in African politics, but the
24 Soviets built a school, and then funded students from all over the world to attend that school, and mainly
25 African or black students.

Are you in any way aware of Patrice Lumumba, and does that fit into your Marxist milieu, as you
discovered or founded the school -- that organization at Occidental?

Drew:

Well, you know, I'm -- you're educating me, Pastor Manning, and I appreciate it, because I -- maybe I'll --
I need to look into that. But I wasn't aware of that.

I -- my gut feeling, from what I've read, I've read Jerome Corsi's book, Abomination. And that book
helped me put into perspective my personal experience, that Obama -- Obama's father was a Socialist, he
did have that connection to Frank Marshall Davis. And so, what I saw of young Obama is consistent with
the idea that he was a red diaper baby, that he grew up in a Marxist/Socialist environment. And the
young Obama I met would be very comfortable with, say, Alice Palmer in Chicago, and very comfortable
with Bill Ayers.

1 So, I think my story has become interesting as the missing link that -- I can truthfully nail down Obama's
2 Marxist ideology in the fall of 1980, and that sort of fills in a gap between his time with Frank Marshall
Davis, and his later time with Alice Palmer in Chicago.

3 **Manning:**

4 Well, I could call your story the King Tut story, because I think it's that kind of a find, in the midst of
5 everything else that's been excavated. This is one that's just being excavated, but it is a bombshell of a
find. Just off the top --

6 **Drew:**

7 Well, you know, I've had, over the last week, three people who have told me in print or voice to voice that
8 this is the most important story of the year, and --

9 **Manning:**

10 I think so, and I've followed Obama's career from 2007, every day. And I think that this is more revealing
-- this is the most -- I mean, nothing explains him better than what you have done.

11 **Drew:**

12 Thanks. Thanks.

13 **Manning:**

14 But let me ask you a question.

15 **Drew:**

16 Go ahead.

17 **Manning:**

18 So I can tell you this. Expect -- expect to be interviewed and called, because people are going to want to
19 know about this mysterious man. He has created such a persona about himself, of mystery, that -- even
though what you're saying, perhaps, is just common knowledge from -- from the most part, you know, an
interrelationship that could be even considered casual. But because we don't know anything --

20 **Drew:**

21 Yeah. (laughter)

22 **Manning:**

23 This is -- this is like -- [?--], finding King Tut. But let me ask you a question now, because you observed
24 this man. Here, before any of what we see now happening in our nation, you were able to watch this man
get out of a BMW, well dressed, he's got an Islamic friend whose first name is Mohammed. They -- yet,
25 they smoke, and they drink, they talk about Marxism. This man is obviously a religious man, but they are
not -- they're not hurting for money. They are well heeled, and well dressed. Obama obviously was who

1 he was then, probably very well spoken, articulate, able to express himself, but expresses a deep passion
2 for Marxism.

3 What do you see standing before our cameras today, having seen that young man? What's going on in
4 your heart and mind?

5 **Drew:**

6 Well, I believe that one of the best ways to think about President Obama is to study up a little on the
7 writings of John Rawls, who wrote a book called The Theory of Justice. And I think that's a pretty fair
8 description of -- probably, where Obama is right now. And he certainly -- from his behavior, you can see
9 that he's interested in redistributing the wealth, [multiple speakers] --

10 **Manning:**

11 Now, when you say redistributing the wealth, are you saying that you believe that Obama wants to
12 dismantle the financial structure of this nation, and make it an even flow financial structure? And by that,
13 I mean, taking down the present money-making machines and making everybody accessible to the
14 funding and the wealth of this nation.

15 **Drew:**

16 Yeah, I think so. And it -- if more people -- and the problem is, I'm -- Dr. Manning, I'm having a hard
17 time getting the story of John Rawls and The Theory of Justice out there, because it's just -- I think it's
18 just a bridge too far for people, and it's not, maybe, entertaining, or it's too technical. But John Rawls
19 basically said that you should imagine, what would society look like, and what should be the distribution
20 of wealth, before you knew which position you'd be born into.

21 And if you take John Rawls' perspective, my sense is that Barack Obama's conscience would bother him
22 if he moved to the center. That he would feel like he was selling out a principled view of justice, which
23 involved redistribution, and -- you know, like -- I think that's where he's -- and I knew this, because his
24 favorite professor at Occidental College is a guy named Roger Boesche. And Boesche taught the political
25 theory classes at Occidental when Caroline and Obama were taking the classes down there.

And Boesche, I taught with him at Williams College in Massachusetts -- I'm trained as a political
scientist. I teach -- I taught American government courses at Williams. And Boesche was on the faculty
with me while I was there, and Boesche is definitely a Socialist. And he's definitely a huge fan of John
Rawls.

So like, I don't think Obama's attraction to Roger Boesche is because Boesche is an expert on de
Tocqueville. I think Obama's attraction to Boesche is because of Boesche's commitment to a Socialist
perspective is the only just arrangement for our economic lives.

Manning:

Could you tell me how to spell Boesche's name, and Rawls' last name?

Drew:

Yes, sure. Boesche is B-O-E-S-C-H-E --

Manning:

S-C-H-E, okay.

Drew:

And you can find him on the Occidental College website, and he even -- he kind of brags about his relationship with Barack Obama. He visited Obama in the Oval Office last year.

And then John Rawls. Rawls is spelled R-A-W-L-S. And I think if more people read John Rawls, and understand that Obama -- Obama was reading John Rawls even when he was at Columbia University. There's some stuff on the Internet about Obama and Rawls, or reading Rawls.

But I think most Americans just don't understand that John Rawls is a Socialist, or something.

Manning:

I -- you used -- you made a statement -- I mean, everything you were saying is completely -- I mean, it's first experience for me. But I --

Drew:

Well, thanks. I appreciate you giving me the time to kind of run on, and you know, give -- to share everything I know.

Manning:

Yeah, but I'm going to have to shut it down in just a moment. I'm going to have to --

Drew:

[?--] (laughter)

Manning:

I'm going to have to do a couple other things. But let me say this. You made a statement, when you first introduced the idea of the theory of justice and John Rawls. And then, a completely uninhibited and honest assessment of who Obama is, and you said something on the order that you -- if Obama -- it would be a sense of betrayal to move to the center, that --

Drew:

Exactly.

Manning:

He is never going to do that under any circumstance. I mean, it's -- it's inbred in him. And I believe that.

One final question, and we thank you for your time today, but one final question. Why is it you feel -- or, you believe that the political elite of this nation did not detect all of what Obama was? You saw him when he first -- my daddy used to have a phrase, I saw you when you first drove up. In other words, you

1 know, you saw him when he drove up to -- with Mohammed Hasan Chandu, and you had ideas about
2 him.

3 Why do you think America is missing this about him? Because certainly, if they knew it, they would
4 reject him out of hand. Why do you think they can't see it?

5 **Drew:**

6 Well, I think -- I tried my hardest to get the story out before the election. I was on the New York Times,
7 the Caucus Blog, I contacted Fox News, I contacted Ann Coulter -- so I did everything I could to get it
8 out.

9 My -- I think the problem is that I didn't have photographs of me and Obama and Hasan together. And I
10 think that the -- so it wasn't as tight and as juicy a story as it could have been in 2008. And then I think
11 his subsequent decisions, like having Van Jones as his czar, and the decisions that Obama made, have
12 made my story suddenly more plausible --

13 **Manning:**

14 Oh, absolutely. No doubt about it. No doubt about it. I mean, during the primary, this story would not
15 have been this interesting. It's after the fact hindsight that this story is gripping. So I could understand
16 why that would have happened.

17 **Drew:**

18 Well, and I understand it too, you know, because I was just kind of frustrated with the media, that they
19 didn't pick up the story earlier. But I -- I'm very pleased to see that it's helping people connect the dots,
20 and make better sense of the real Barack Obama, which was my intention.

21 **Manning:**

22 Dr. Drew, I thank you so very much for your time to explain these things to us --

23 **Drew:**

24 Well, it's an honor to be here on the air with you.

25 **Manning:**

I'd like -- if we could leave the door open, that we could come back again in not too many days, and talk a
little bit more, as -- because now that I understand this, what I have to do is ingest this, and think about it,
and then form some questions, you know? The ones I asked today were just kind of immediate knee-jerk
ones. But you know, I'd like to pick your brain just one more time, and I'd like to leave that door open, if
you will, please, for us to do that.

Drew:

Oh, I would be honored. Honored. Any time you and Elizabeth need me, I'm right here.

Manning:

1 Thank you so very much, Dr. Drew.

2 **Drew:**

3 Okay.

4 (pre-recorded audio interview ends)

5 **Manning:**

6 Dr. John Drew, a graduate of Occidental and Cornell University, and that is an interview that we
7 conducted a couple of months ago, and we pray that his book will be very successful when it does get
8 published.

9 We will make that clip, which runs a little bit longer than I thought -- I didn't realize I had asked so many
10 questions, initially -- available to the jury during the time of the deliberations. We want to enter that as
11 evidence, so that you might be able to pause, and again, hear the statements. I think Dr. Drew gave a
12 great assessment -- the only assessment, quite frankly, insofar as I'm concerned, about the young Obama.
13 And he's obviously going to have a very, very powerful book when published a little bit later on this year.

14 At this time, Your Honor, I'd like to call a witness, if we may. And the witness we'd like to call to the --
15 would be Attorney Mr. Counselor _____, if he would now take the witness stand.

16 **Unidentified Speaker:**

17 If you would raise your right hand, and tell us your full name, please.

18 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

19 Mr. Counselor _____.

20 **Unidentified Speaker:**

21 Mr. Counselor _____, do you swear to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth in here today?

22 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

23 I do.

24 **Unidentified Speaker:**

25 Thank you very much.

Unidentified Speaker:

All right, [?---] the microphone a little bit.

Mr. Counselor _____:

Yes.

1 **Manning:**

2 To your -- a little closer to you, please.

3 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

4 Yes.

5 **Manning:**

6 All right, you -- Attorney Mr. Counselor _____, you just gave your name to the bailiff and your
7 commitment to truth in this process. And your honor, we introduced the statement in the beginning of
8 this trial, that while Mr. Counselor _____ would be assisting me at the prosecution table, he would also be
9 a witness. He has not asked any of the witnesses any questions, and has not interjected himself into the
10 trial in any major way that would compromise his testimony at this time.

11 But primarily, that his -- our need for him would be to serve as a witness, and as an attorney. He has
12 participated in the investigation of this process, and so that's how we'd like to enter his testimony for these
13 purposes.

14 Now, Attorney Mr. Counselor _____ -- for full disclosure, we need to explain to everyone that Attorney
15 Mr. Counselor _____ is also a member of this congregation. That makes, I think, three people so far that
16 have been interactive with this process.

17 Mr. Counselor _____, could you tell me where you were born, please?

18 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

19 Yes, sir. I was born in this community, actually down the block, in the old Sydenham Hospital.

20 **Manning:**

21 Okay, so just about two blocks from here is your place of birth, in the Sydenham Hospital.

22 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

23 Yes, sir.

24 **Manning:**

25 And how long did you live in this community?

Mr. Counselor _____:

Let me see. I was born in 1962, and we lived here until 1969, when the family went to New Jersey. But
we maintained ties through church and through family. So I've always been here, basically, even though
we were in Jersey.

Manning:

1 Now, you are presently a graduate of what institutions? If you're an attorney, where did you get your attorney training?

2 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

3 Yes, sir. I'm a graduate of Vanderbilt University --

4 **Manning:**

5 Where is that?

6 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

7 In Nashville, Tennessee. And I attended there from 1994 to 1997.

8 **Manning:**

9 And there -- what is your degree?

10 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

11 Yes, I have a Juris Doctorate.

12 **Manning:**

13 Okay. And did you go to any other graduate school prior to attending law school?

14 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

15 Yes, sir. Before -- again, being in this community, I attended and graduated from Union Theological Seminary, which is over on Broadway, between, I guess, 122nd and 124th Streets.

16 **Manning:**

17 120th and 121st?

18 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

19 I'm sorry, 120th and 121st, in this community.

20 **Manning:**

21 Now, did you graduate from Union?

22 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

23 I did.

24 **Manning:**

25 And what kind of degree did they award you at Union Theological Seminary?

1 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

2 I have a Master's of Divinity degree from Union.

3 **Manning:**

4 All right. Does that mean that you're some sort of a preacher?

5 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

6 Well, I wish. No, I am. I'm an ordained minister.

7 **Manning:**

8 You are an ordained minister. What years did you attend Union Theological Seminary?

9 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

10 I attended Union from 1985 to 1988.

11 **Manning:**

12 Okay. And what proximity is Union Theological Seminary to Columbia University?

13 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

14 They're -- it's four blocks apart. It's right there.

15 **Manning:**

16 Well, if you consider Teacher's College a part of Columbia University, and Teacher's College will sit
17 right across the street from Union --

18 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

19 Right across the street. It's all -- actually, it's all part of one complex, because I actually took courses at
20 Columbia, with no extra charge.

21 **Manning:**

22 What courses did you take at Columbia?

23 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

24 Mainly some law -- law courses.

25 **Manning:**

Was it the practice of Union Seminary for its students and alumnus, at the time that you attended Union,
to do the registration, or at least, health programs, library programs, of Union, to be overseen by

1 Columbia University? In other words, you were given Columbia University identity cards and
2 registration cards and library practices cards.

3 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

4 Yes. I -- the healthcare came through Columbia. I had access to the library. It was all, really, part of one
5 system.

6 **Manning:**

7 So in effect, you were a part of Columbia as well as a part of Union.

8 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

9 Yes.

10 **Manning:**

11 Could you tell me a little bit about -- now, you graduated Union Seminary with a Master's degree --

12 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

13 Yes.

14 **Manning:**

15 And then you went on to Vanderbilt Law School, and received a Juris Doctorate. Could you tell me, what
16 influenced you to submit yourself to such torture?

17 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

18 To such torture?

19 **Manning:**

20 Well, I'm only being facetious. Submit yourself to all of that higher learning. Why would you do that?

21 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

22 Well, I had -- besides my personal, professional goals, education was the order of the day in my family.
23 My mother's a teacher, my father's a teacher. Doing college and graduate --

24 **Manning:**

25 Well, I met your parents. I know both of them.

Mr. Counselor _____:

Yeah.

Manning:

1 And if I may say so, my observation of your parents -- they were both teachers, teachers in this
2 community for a goodly number of years. Some of Harlem's, if you will, most upstanding citizens, your
parents were.

3 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

4 Yes.

5 **Manning:**

6 But they also came from a very strong line of independent, if you will, black or African Americans, out of
7 Virginia and North Carolina, owners of large segments of land that was bequeathed to them after the
8 antebellum period. They became developers, business persons. So you come from a family that believes
9 strongly in education -- indeed, it appeared to me, and this is just an observation, that had you not been
thinking about going to college, you would not have been allowed to remain in the family. I met many of
your family members, and they all have higher degrees, and they put a lot of emphasis on education, and
also on development, in terms of business.

10 So I suppose I'm trying to answer your question for you, about why you sought two graduate degrees.

11 Let me ask you about your family's involvement in politics, and -- what were you taught by your parents
12 about the Presidency of the United States? As a young boy growing up in Harlem, how did you view that
office, and how did you prepare yourself to understand?

13 And by the way, where did you go to undergraduate school?

14 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

15 I went to Oberlin College for my undergraduate work.

16 **Manning:**

17 Okay. If you could respond to the question about growing up in Harlem, what your parents and your
18 family members thought about the office of the Presidency, and at a young age, what you thought about
that office as well.

19 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

20 Sure. My mother was a very unusual woman, in that -- in 1962 -- I'm almost afraid to go back that far,
21 but that's how old I am. But she would tell people even then that within her womb was the first black
President of the United States.

22 I don't think that she necessarily would be disappointed that I chose not to go down a political path, but I
23 think what she was saying, and what she drilled into all of us, is that we could become anything that we
chose to be, including that. And --

24 **Manning:**

25 Well, I know your mother well, or I knew her.

1 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

2 Yes. And she -- I'm sorry.

3 **Manning:**

4 And I believe that when she said that -- she thought, when she was pregnant with you, that she was carrying the first black President of the United States.

5 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

6 Actually, that wouldn't be an unfair statement. She -- which was remarkable, because in 1962, she
7 couldn't vote in the State of Virginia. And she lived here, in this community, that in so many ways, the
8 thought was, even then, what good could come from here? But she believed that strongly, and I think it
9 was the hope of the people in this community, and other communities like it, that one day, that someone
10 who -- a son of the community, would rise up to that esteemed office. So, yes.

11 **Manning:**

12 When you became of age, and began to understand this community, began to understand race relations --
13 obviously, your mother, in 1962, in the State of Virginia, could not cast a vote during that time, but yet,
14 she had aspirations that one of her children might actually become the President of this great nation.

15 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

16 Yes.

17 **Manning:**

18 What was your earlier recollection of politics, and the highest office of politics in this nation, the
19 Presidency? And then, what did you do to define your understanding of the Presidency and politics?

20 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

21 Sure. When I was small, I didn't know that she spoke over her womb like that, but politics was my thing,
22 growing up. I was the leader of my class. I did all the sorts of things that one would expect of someone
23 who was going on for higher political office. My undergraduate degree was in political science, and I
24 was always involved with -- you know, I was involved with -- as an officer in my town, with the
25 Democratic organization, I guess from a teenager on.

So I'm not quite a Democrat anymore, but that's where I was.

Manning:

Don't mean to put you on the spot --

Mr. Counselor _____:

Yes?

Manning:

1 But if I were to ask you, just off the top -- I pray you can answer -- who was Franklin Delano Roosevelt's
2 Secretary of the Treasury?

3 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

4 Oh, boy, I --

5 **Manning:**

6 I put you on the spot.

7 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

8 I think it was Morgenthau. It was either that, or -- it was Morgenthau, I believe.

9 **Manning:**

10 No, it was Morgenthau. It was Henry Morgenthau.

11 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

12 Yeah.

13 **Manning:**

14 Now, your grandmother was very influential, as grandmothers are, under black tradition, African-
15 American tradition. What was significant about your grandmother's idea about the Presidency, and about
16 you becoming the President of the United States?

17 And by the way, let me just set, for the jury, we're not positioning Attorney Mr. Counselor _____ as
18 having missed the opportunity to become the President of the United States. That's not what we're doing.
19 I think we're just talking about the way mothers feel about their children, and how people love this nation,
20 no matter what their color may be, and they want to participate in it fully. This is not a disgruntled
21 Presidential candidate. Now, please don't misunderstand that.

22 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

23 (laughter) No. No.

24 **Manning:**

25 We're just having him testify.

Mr. Counselor _____:

She felt the same way. She had a grandmother's love. And she did everything to encourage me to believe
in this country, and to believe that, yes, I could be President of the United States, and if that, of course,
anything else I wanted to be would be a lesser included entity.

1 But she -- I remember in 1968, she took me out, and we stayed out all day long, so that we could see then-
2 Vice President Humphrey campaign, just about 20 blocks from here, when he was --

3 **Manning:**

4 Why was that important, to see Vice President Humphrey? Why -- what was --

5 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

6 Because I wanted to be President. And she -- and she -- actually, she -- it wasn't me staying with her.
7 She stayed with me --

8 **Manning:**

9 The whole day.

10 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

11 Yes, so that --

12 **Manning:**

13 Did you get a chance to see him, by the way?

14 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

15 We did, yeah. He came up, and we -- you know, started speaking, and we left. But I remember that
16 vividly.

17 **Manning:**

18 Now, in 1968, was that prior to the assassination of Dr. King, or after?

19 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

20 It was just after. It was -- Dr. King died in April, and we went out to that event, I believe, somewhere in
21 late September or early October.

22 **Manning:**

23 How did your family respond to the death of Dr. King?

24 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

25 We -- well, I -- actually, I remember, as a boy, watching it. We -- everything shut down. I remember
watching the funeral. They had great love and great respect for Martin Luther King, and thought that he
-- about this time, in this community, for instance, there were -- Black Power advocates were beginning to
raise their voices, people who were more militant. They believed that the way of non-violence was the
way, so they greatly supported him and greatly mourned him.

Manning:

1 I think we need to state that there were a number of people who did not agree with Dr. King, in terms of
2 non-violence, and there were several groups -- one was the Black Panthers, and of course, there was
3 Stokely Carmichael, and the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee -- there were the Mau Maus,
4 even. A number of groups right here in Harlem. And even the leadership of the Reverend Adam Clayton
Powell, Jr., who had perhaps a different perspective. Not to mention a large number of the Baptist
pastors, of whom Dr. King was a member, who did not support his ideology of non-violence.

5 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

6 Yes. That's true.

7 **Manning:**

8 And then ultimately, we have the Black Muslims, with Elijah Muhammad and Malcolm X. And they
were all in this community at the time.

9 Now, you grew up in the midst of Malcolm X, Adam Powell, Dr. King, the Mau Maus, the Black
10 Panthers. Did you grow up bitter? Did you -- who influenced you? I mean, who -- was it Dr. King that
influenced you? Was it these other, more violent, vocal groups?

11 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

12 It was -- Dr. King was the great influence in our home. I would say that my grandmother, who was very
13 conservative in most ways -- I mean, we grew up -- we -- there was a love for Adam Powell, but not the
radicalism. But they remember him for fighting so that people could have jobs. You could -- 125th
14 Street, which is right at the -- in the heart of this community, was a place where black people couldn't
work, until Adam came along. So they loved him for that.

15 But it was Dr. King's influence that was the main thing, and no, there was no bitterness in my family. In
16 fact, my father would always teach us that -- in fact, the truth of the matter is, that not every black man is
your friend, and not every white man is your enemy. And so, that's the way we grew up.

17 **Manning:**

18 So you didn't grow up bitter, and you didn't grow up hating white people? You [multiple speakers] --

19 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

20 No, I mean, when we moved to New Jersey, I was in a totally integrated school. We moved to Teaneck,
and I got elected Class President with, like 80% of the vote. And --

21 **Manning:**

22 That's [multiple speakers].

23 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

24 And most of those where white votes, so -- no.

25 **Manning:**

1 Now, your parents belonged to the Anglican Church, is that right?

2 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

3 Yes, we grew up in a church maybe six blocks from here -- St. Andrew's.

4 **Manning:**

5 And you decided to leave that tradition, and unite with this church --

6 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

7 That's true.

8 **Manning:**

9 Which has been about -- how many years have you been here?

10 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

11 Twenty five or so.

12 **Manning:**

13 Why would you leave that -- sort of a silk stocking, if you will, high worship, or high ecclesiastical
14 worship, to come and join a bunch of thumpers like ourselves?

15 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

16 (laughter) The truth?

17 **Manning:**

18 [?--]

19 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

20 The truth is, it was you. (laughter)

21 **Manning:**

22 Oh, okay.

23 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

24 You -- you -- you were just like my parents. When I -- I mean, I really didn't aspire to be a minister, but
25 when that -- I always wanted to be a lawyer. I did not want to answer a call to ministry. But when I
came, there were only two things I wanted. I never asked for a pulpit, I never asked for a microphone.
What I did ask for was a leader who combined a -- the same respect for Biblical truth that I grew up with,
but I also wanted someone with a love of intellectual things. And there you were.

1 **Manning:**

2 Now, having united with this church, and having me as your pastor, you then made the decision to go and
3 study theology at Union Seminary. Could you tell us a little bit about what that's like? And what I really
want you to help us to understand, you were there, I believe, in the late '80s --

4 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

5 True. Mid to -- mid '80s, '85 through '88. Yeah.

6 **Manning:**

7 You were there at a critical time and a turning point of black theology. The most renowned black
8 professor in America at the time was your professor for three years, if I'm not mistaken.

9 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

10 That's true.

11 **Manning:**

12 And perhaps the second-most renowned black philosopher was also your professor at Union for three
years as well. Is that right?

13 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

14 That's true.

15 **Manning:**

16 Could you tell us a little bit about what Union believed in terms of social justice, and the application of
17 the Scriptures as gospel to be preached as we find them in the text?

18 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

19 Sure. Well, I'm going to answer you as I'm perceiving the question. If I'm not hitting the mark, you'll --

20 **Manning:**

21 That's fine.

22 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

23 At that time, there was a strong belief in ministry as -- ministry of social justice. You're right, James
Cone was there at that time. He's still there, I believe. And he was really the father of this movement
called Liberation Theology. His emphasis was on blackness, and he wrote a book in the -- I think 1969,
24 Black Theology and Black Power. And it came out of that -- the turmoil right after Dr. King's death. I
mean, the Black Power movement began to gain influence, and he tried to argue that Christianity ought to
25 be seen in the light of Black Power.

1 And -- but that type of Liberation Theology spread beyond just black. It's taken hold in Latin America,
2 and taken hold in Africa and other places. But that was really ground zero.

3 **Manning:**

4 So in other words, you're saying that the influence of Dr. James Cone, who is still at Union Theological
5 Seminary, by the way, I think --

6 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

7 Yes.

8 **Manning:**

9 -- was greatly received by churches, black churches in America, and also in Latin America, as the ideal
10 theology, in fact as the truthology, for people who may consider them oppressed. In fact, I think he had
11 a book that referenced the term oppressed in its title. Do you know it?

12 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

13 Yeah. God of the Oppressed, and I think, 1975 that came out. Yes.

14 **Manning:**

15 So, James Cone conducted a theology that was widely accepted in all types of black churches and Latin
16 American churches, that God was the God of the oppressed. And anyone who felt or was within that
17 particular category, that God was their God. That was the only God that had --

18 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

19 Yes, in a nutshell. Yeah. I mean, there are nuances, but in a nutshell, that's it.

20 **Manning:**

21 Now, this was a teaching of James Cone. You also, for three years, had Cornel West, Dr. West, who is
22 now, I believe, at Harvard, as a Black Theology, or Black Studies professor. What was his ideology, and
23 wasn't he -- was he raised a black Baptist? Was he -- was Cornel West a preacher, and how did he affect
24 you the three years you were there at Union?

25 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

Yes. He was a -- he was an ordained minister. I think he was ordained as a Baptist. I didn't have -- I
really only had one class with him, and he -- it was more or less along the lines of philosophy, because he
was trained in western philosophy, but then he mixed that with liberation thought.

Quite frankly, I couldn't even figure out the title for his class --

Manning:

I don't think [multiple speakers].

1 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

2 But he -- I did have a class with him, and he -- I mean, he is along the same -- he believes that church
3 should function along the same lines of being politically active in the world, as a mechanism of social
4 justice. I think he was one of Obama's advisors, so that fits right along -- along the lines of how he lives.

4 **Manning:**

5 Would you say that the influence of James Cone from the late '60s, early '70s, through the late '80s, was
6 most imminent and prominent in the minds of black and Latin theologians, and to some degree,
7 sociologists as well? That no one, during theology or sociology, in any way, would not have known who
8 James Cone was, and if they had the opportunity to seek out his counsel, would have certainly made that
9 attempt to talk with him, or be in his meetings? I mean, he lectured as far as Sri Lanka. He was all over
10 the world.

11 Would you consider that a fair assumption about the influence of James Cone among all black people
12 within that timeframe?

13 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

14 Sure. Anyone who had any -- anyone who was thinking about those issues would certainly know who he
15 is, and -- because he was right here, they would more than likely seek him out, as well as -- you know, Dr.
16 West, and perhaps Dr. Washington.

17 **Manning:**

18 So now, when you attended Union Theological Seminary, you took courses at Columbia. You were
19 registered through Columbia's program. And vice versa. Students from Columbia took courses at Union
20 Theological Seminary.

21 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

22 Sure.

23 **Manning:**

24 Now, Mr. Obama alleges that he attended Columbia University from 1981 to 1983. Did -- was James
25 Cone a professor consistently at Union Theological Seminary, and in conjunction with Columbia
University, from 1981 to 1983?

26 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

27 Yes.

28 **Manning:**

29 Was Cornel West a professor of theology and philosophy at Union Theological Seminary, and a
30 conjunction program that he could have had with Columbia here 1981 to 1983?

31 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

1 Yes.

2 **Manning:**

3 Now, in your own estimation, is it plausible that a young black student at Columbia University would
4 spend two years at Columbia in political science and never have an interview or take a class with the most
5 esteemed black professor -- or, the two most esteemed black professors in America at the time? Is it
6 plausible that a political science major who was allegedly black would fail to interact in any way if they
7 are attending the school where those professors are teaching? Is that plausible?

8 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

9 It would -- it's very implausible, particularly when you look at what Obama says his mindset was at the
10 time. He says that he was trying to get in touch with his sense of blackness. He was finding himself.
11 And he was also -- he claims that he was -- he was concerned, and involved with social issues.

12 Not to have any interaction -- and Cone never says that he ever met the man. West never -- you know,
13 there's no claim anywhere by West that he ever met the man. And you kind of remember something like
14 that, someone, years later, running for President. Never met him. And Obama never makes the claim in
15 any of his works that he ever interacted with, or even knew these men. So it's --

16 And the other thing about it is that the church that he attended in Chicago, that's all that was, was with
17 Wright -- Jeremiah Wright. That's all that was, was Conian.

18 **Manning:**

19 Yes. There are two -- there is Dr. Dwight Hopkins, who was a classmate of mine at Union, and yours as
20 well, under the PhD program --

21 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

22 Yeah, I know Dwight.

23 **Manning:**

24 -- who is now a leader at the Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago --

25 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

Right.

Manning:

-- who studied -- in fact, he was Cone's student, who guided him through the PhD program, the doctoral
program. And also, Jeremiah Wright, who was not a student at Union, but certainly, a deep and
compassionate follower of the teachings of James Cone.

But Obama, who became a member of the Trinity United Church of Christ, has never mentioned once that
he ever had any interaction with such esteemed persons as James Cone or Cornel West, and there's never
-- there's not any record, there's nothing written in any book, there's no class roster, where these two ever
came in contact with one another, though Obama was at Columbia and essentially at Union for two years.

1 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

2 Well, he says he was at Columbia.

3 **Manning:**

4 Oh, okay.

5 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

6 But -- no, that would be highly unlikely. I read the materials in Ohio, and I went to see these men, to
7 question them before I was even in a theological program. What's more significant is that they never
8 mention him. Or what's just as significant is that they have no knowledge of him.

8 **Manning:**

9 You grew up in this community.

10 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

11 Yes, sir.

12 **Manning:**

13 You remember the -- well, I suppose during your early years, the Apollo Theater was pretty -- a big place,
14 a pretty important place. You saw the long lines for James Brown?

15 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

16 Yes, I saw James Brown, [?--]

17 **Manning:**

18 You remember the baby grand, and the --

19 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

20 Yeah. I mean, I wasn't going in there as a boy, but yes. Yes.

21 **Manning:**

22 Now, in this community, there was, at the time of your growing up, there was a great sense of
23 nationalism, being spurned out of the teachings of Elijah Muhammad, Adam Powell again, Dr. King,
24 Malcolm X. I mean, nationalism was -- black nationalism was, indeed, most imminent. And there was a
25 store, a bookstore that prospered, that carried literature that you couldn't find at Columbia. Indeed, some
of the Columbia and Union professors would say to you, well, our bookstore does not carry this material,
but you can find it at the Liberation Bookstore, which was about black liberation and some of the writers
that were not on the approved list of the trustees of Columbia and Union. And it was just up the block
from here. This is Lenox Avenue, just outside to our West, 132nd Street, at Liberation Bookstore.

1 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

2 Right.

3 **Manning:**

4 Is it possible that any black student at New York University, Columbia University, Union Seminary, to
5 have completed a course of study in either political science, theology, or sociology, who would not have
6 gone at least once to the Liberation Bookstore?

7 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

8 Well, yeah. If you're part of this community, if you're part of the intellectual life of this community, then
9 yeah, it's someplace that -- actually, it's a historic site. And certainly, one would -- yeah. One would
10 expect that one would have gone there, at least known about it, or acknowledge it in someplace. It was
11 just that historic. Everybody went there.

12 In fact, the woman who owned it, when she was about to lose her lease, the whole community rose up. I
13 remember being her attorney, as a matter of fact, in landlord/tenant court. So [multiple speakers].

14 **Manning:**

15 Well, let me ask you another question. Malcolm X was the leader -- or at least, founder, of Mosque No.
16 7, which again, is just down the block south, on 116th Street -- Lenox Avenue, the next avenue outside of
17 this church. You travel down to 116th Street, and there was Mosque No. 7.

18 Now, Malcolm was not always the teacher, or the Imam there, but he founded that mosque under the
19 leadership of Elijah Muhammad, and established Islam in New York in a very powerful way. As you
20 know, it was Malcolm's duty to establish mosques all over America, and he did a great job of that. So
21 that has a historic, if you will, presence, and people traveling from around the world generally go into
22 Mosque No. 7, because they know that Malcolm X taught there. And simply for its historical value,
23 people want to be in that space for that timeframe.

24 Are you aware of anyone from the Islamic group, from Farrakhan's now leadership of the black Muslims?
25 Or any writings or statements by Obama during the time of his campaign, or in any of his writings, in
Audacity of Hope, or Dreams From My Father, where he states that he happened to either pass by
Mosque No. 7, made famous by Malcolm X, or went there to see what Islam was about in this
community? Are you aware of any statement anywhere, where he references or acknowledges Mosque
No. 7, which is right here in Harlem?

26 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

27 Let me just answer the question this way. The short answer is, no. He -- I did that research. Really, the
28 truth of the matter is, there is nothing in the thousands or millions of words that Barack Obama has
29 spoken since the time he declared for President, up until now, that he mentions any of the landmarks that
30 one would expect somebody to have seen, if they were in this community, if they were right up the block
31 at Columbia, not the Liberation Bookstore, not the mosque, not the place where Marcus Garvey was, not
32 the Schoenberg library, which is world famous -- nothing. There's no indication of anything, that --
33 there's no footprints of his anywhere in this community. Except for Sylvia's, where he came to eat once, I
34 think.

1 **Manning:**

2 Was that during the campaign?

3 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

4 That was during the campaign. Not during his --

5 **Manning:**

6 Well, I like to be fair. I think he did mention that at one point, he used to kind of sneak into the
7 Abyssinian church, sit in the back while listening to the choir. And they -- because he was looking for his
8 black roots. This was in his book, Dreams From My Father, and we can get you the page and the
9 statement where he stated that. He did go to Abyssinia occasionally, searching for his roots. But he
10 never mentioned the pastor, he never mentions a sermon, and he never mentions that anyone knew him at
11 Abyssinia, searching for his roots. So I -- that -- and Abyssinia is a big icon in this community, as some
12 of you may or may not be aware.

13 But beyond that, there are no -- now, his friend, Sahol Sadiki, and making comments to BusinessWeek
14 magazine, stated that while he and Obama were roommates, that they took in the ambience of New York,
15 they went to Central Park, they went downtown, they -- but they never mentioned coming ever to Harlem.
16 And -- are you aware of that, as statements about his relationship of the landmarks in this community?

17 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

18 I'm aware of that, and again, that raises red flags, it raises questions. I mean, obviously, I wasn't with
19 Obama 24/7 to account for his whereabouts. But the truth of the matter still remains that for him to say
20 that he was searching for his roots, for him to have said that he was at Columbia, and not to mention these
21 things, is almost like saying that I've gone to Paris and know nothing about Notre Dame, or Le Seine, or
22 the Louvre. They're just things that one would expect.

23 And even with Abyssinia, I remember Dr. Proctor [ph] -- I think he came and he preached right here, and
24 students from Columbia, from Union, if they were coming into town, it was his joy to greet -- it was his
25 custom, and I believe also with Butts [ph], I'm not as clear on Butts. But it was their custom to greet the
26 students, and to sit down with them, and to encourage them, knowing that they were far away from home,
27 to give them any assistance.

28 So I mean, I can't dispute that he was at Abyssinia, but I find it hard to believe, knowing the MO of the
29 pastors in the church.

30 **Manning:**

31 Now, you are the corporation counsel for this church, is that right?

32 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

33 Yes, sir.

34 **Manning:**

35 So you're here quite often.

1 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

2 Yes, sir.

3 **Manning:**

4 Have you ever witnessed students from Columbia University or New York University, working on their
5 PhD program, make appointments with me and come and sit with me for hours, discussing this
6 community, black nationalism, Socialism, the whole idea of black development economically. Have you
ever witnessed that take place, with the students coming from Columbia to this church to talk with me
about their PhD thesis?

7 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

8 Yes. Quite frankly, I've lost count of how many times that's happened.

9 **Manning:**

10 So if you're in -- if you're a student, even at the PhD level, of Columbia, you seek out people within the
11 Harlem community who have some sense about the community. So --

12 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

13 Yes.

14 **Manning:**

15 It would have been something that a student, that -- like Obama would have done with James Cone. I
16 certainly am not as widely known as James Cone. But over the years, a large number of PhD students
have been in this church. They've actually come to worship, to try to discover exactly what makes us go.

17 Can I just change the line of questioning for one moment? I want to try to determine the years that Mr.
Obama would have been here in New York, at Columbia. And I want to see what the stage of our nation,
and what was happening globally, with respect to politics.

18 We know that the Iranian hostage crisis, on the heels of the fall of Saigon, and the loss of prestige of our
19 military, having to cut and run, if you will, out of Vietnam, and then our embassy leaders were taken
20 hostage in Iran by a group of students, and held that way for 440-some days, and released upon the
21 exchanging of the Presidency of Carter to Reagan. So we were in a very difficult time. The Carter years
were very difficult economic years, they were difficult military years, a difficult time for America in
general.

22 Could you help me to understand -- because in 1979, the Soviet Union invaded the nation of Afghanistan.
23 And of course, there had been the war going on between Iraq and Iran.

24 Could you help me to understand something about the mindset of both the Carter administration and the
25 Reagan administration with respect to foreign policy, with what was happening in -- with the Contras, the
Sandinistas in South -- Central America, and what was happening with the invasion, and how both Carter
and Reagan interpreted what American support could do.

1 If that question's not too long -- I'll try to break it up for you, but I think you have a general idea of what
2 I'm trying to ask you.

3 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

4 Sure. You're right. The Soviets invaded Afghanistan in 1979, and the United States followed -- as best I
5 can tell, the policy that we had ever since 1947 in the Truman administration, and that is, wherever
6 Communism was on the move, wherever there was Communist aggression, that it was the policy of this
7 nation to oppose it.

8 And so, we gave aid and support to the Mujahedin, who were fighting against the Soviets in Afghanistan.
9 And same thing in Nicaragua, although in that case, the Sandinistas were the government. They were the
10 ones in charge. And in that instance, we gave aid to the group known as the Contras, that were opposing
11 the Socialists.

12 **Manning:**

13 And how do we aid the Contras in Nicaragua?

14 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

15 Oh. Well, we supplied -- we supplied them with both arms and with financial support. There was sort of
16 a -- there was a -- there was a -- there was a plan put in place that involved Iran and Iraq.

17 Maybe the best way to answer that question is just to give a -- is to go back, give a little bit of
18 background, and then try to hit it.

19 **Manning:**

20 We'll do that. We'll hear that.

21 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

22 We all remember the 52 hostages that were held in Iran, up until the day that President Reagan was
23 inaugurated. But what we don't remember quite as well is that other American hostages, and other
24 western hostages, were taken even after that. And what the Reagan administration sought to do was to
25 gain the release of those hostages, and a plan that was developed within the National Security Council, it
was -- well, maybe if we aided the Iranians in their war against Iraq by supplying them with arms, that it
would lead to the release of those hostages. And that plan kind of, in a nutshell, mushroomed, and as we
sold arms to third parties that didn't -- distributed them, we got a flood of money, and then the idea
developed, well, why don't we use some of that money to aid the Contras [multiple speakers].

26 **Manning:**

27 Is it customary and tradition for the National Security Council and the President to conference and make
28 decisions about the selling of arms to enemy nations or friendly nations? Or should there be some
29 Congressional approval about arms deals?

30 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

1 Well, let me just say, in fairness to President Reagan, it's not clear that he ever knew about those parts of
2 the plan that were illegal, but yes. We -- actually, people got indicted in the administration, because there
3 was an arms control law that set parameters. Remember, we -- Iran was still technically our enemy.
4 They're taking our people hostage. So --

5 **Manning:**

6 But now we're selling them arms --

7 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

8 Yeah. And there was also -- the Arms Control Export Act was in place, that made some of what
9 happened there illegal. In fact, using private citizens to funnel money, using third parties, did contravene
10 Congressional mandate.

11 Same thing in Nicaragua. Even though -- even though our firm policy was to withstand Communism or
12 Socialism wherever it reared its head, there were ways to go about it. And in this instance, it was illegal,
13 because there was something called the Boland amendment, which had been passed in Congress, saying
14 that we were not allowed to directly interfere in the internal workings of, in this case, Nicaragua. But we
15 did. And --

16 **Manning:**

17 Is it common knowledge that in the efforts to supply the Contras with funding to fight the Sandinistas in
18 Nicaragua, and at the same time, to seek -- to help the Iranians, who were our enemies, overthrow an even
19 greater enemy, Iraq, that there were illegal arms sales going on, and that the administration -- while you
20 state that Reagan may have -- may perhaps may not have known about this, used the Central Intelligence
21 Agency to make this process work?

22 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

23 Yes. There's a -- within the CIA, there's a -- let me make sure I have the right word. There's a group
24 called the Special Activities Group, and sometimes they do good things, and sometimes it's not so good. I
25 mean, in this instance, what they always do, they are the spearhead for -- for any insurgency movements
that we're making in other countries, any covert activities that we are doing in other countries such as Iran
or Nicaragua. That group is directly involved in the planning. If people need to be placed or planted in a
country, that's the group that was responsible. If money needed to move, that's the group that was
responsible.

26 **Manning:**

27 So when Reagan became President, he was faced with two major wars going on. One was Iran and Iraq,
28 and the other would have been the Soviet Union and Afghanistan, but also, very critical in Central
29 America, would have been Nicaragua. So there was an explosion of wars that he needed to be able to try
30 to manage, that we might maintain our leadership.

31 What would have happened -- and you don't have to be an expert on this, but what do -- in your
32 estimation, would have happened if the Soviets had been successful in overthrowing the Mujahedins and
33 taken power over the nation of Afghanistan? How would that have affected our American policy, China's
34 policy towards both Afghanistan and Pakistan, and the ultimate effect upon all of the Islamic world, if the
35

1 Soviet Union had been able to conquer that nation? Just your -- you don't have to be an expert on this,
2 and we'll just hear what you have to say.

3 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

4 Yeah, I'll just take the parts that I have fairly certain opinions on. I think that in the end, even though
5 there may be questions of the legality or illegality, I think that American policy was basically right. I
6 think that we had to withstand the Soviet expansion. We had to -- well, we had to do it in Nicaragua, we
7 had to do it in Afghanistan. And I think that the wisdom of the policy lay in this -- that once you saw
8 victory in Afghanistan, it sent a signal to the whole world that the Soviets were not able to secure a piece
9 of land right around its own border. And it didn't take -- I think maybe three years after the end of that
10 war, you saw the beginning of the collapse of the whole Soviet regime.

11 **Manning:**

12 Yes.

13 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

14 So I think that the policy itself -- Afghanistan was critical. I think everybody knew it, because upon it
15 hinged the whole east/west conflict. That's just my take on it.

16 **Manning:**

17 And I want your observation as well of the general policy of the Central Intelligence Agency during those
18 years, prior years, and at present, would have been to do recruitment on college campuses, and to some
19 degree, high school campuses as well. And if -- I would like to know if you are aware of the CIA ever
20 having been involved in recruitment on college campuses, high school campuses as well, and whether or
21 not you are aware of any public knowledge about the CIA involvement in supplying arms to the
22 Mujahedins during the Soviet invasion.

23 **Mr. Counselor _____:**

24 Well, it's all public now. The first answer is yes. I'm aware, through the research that I did, about college
25 recruitment taking place with the CIA -- yeah, I'm very much aware of that. And it is -- in fact, I forget
the gentleman's name, but the person who was actually the head of Special Activities has long since come
out and acknowledged that the CIA was involved in giving aid to the Mujahedin.

I mean, these people up in the hills, the weaponry was sophisticated. It had to come from somewhere.
And we helped. And I think it was a -- the policy -- the way it was done, there may be some debate over
it, but the policy itself proved successful. So Afghanistan was critical.

Manning:

Okay. All right. Attorney Jones, I think that's all of the questions that I have for you. I want to thank
you for your time, and for the information that you've given. I'd like to reserve the right to recall you.

And Your Honor, since the defendants have chosen not to be represented here at this proceeding,
obviously, there's no one to cross examine or to challenge. So if it's -- your permission, the witness can
stand down at this point.

1 Thank you, Attorney Mr. Counselor ____.

2 Your Honor, also, I would like to, at this time, to indulge the Court just one more time for a complete
3 adjournment for today, inasmuch as that there are two other -- three potential witnesses that I need to
4 prepare, that I have not had the opportunity to do so, because they are out of state, and they may have to
be -- the presentation may have to come on Skype, or we may delete them altogether. But as we stated as
well, that tomorrow being Monday, will be a fuller day, and Tuesday, we'd like to try to wrap things up.

5 With your permission, Your Honor, I'd like to ask for an adjournment of all today's proceedings, and we'll
meet tomorrow morning after the march, if you make such a pronouncement.

6 **Mr. Judge ____:**

7 Okay, Court adjourned.

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