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Sissy Farenthold, President of Wells College, said women "...have not gained confidence from the few battles we have won..." in a recent lecture at CSU.

Ms. F: In elected office, there aren't enough women. Elected office is the limelight, of course. But I look at appointed positions and there are more women there. Perhaps more can be done there.

Q: When you look back at your nomination for vice-president in 1972, what are your impressions?
Ms. F: As the first woman to be nominated for the position, I felt I was a token. The way the media handled it put it the best. Basically, they ignored it. Walter Cronkhite said on the air: "There's some woman from Texas running for vice-president." They never covered Gloria Steinem's nomination speech.

Q: What do you see as the prospects for the ERA?
Ms. F: I'm not in euphoria, but I'm hopeful. I think Indiana shows a positive shift.

Q: What advice would you give to young women lawyers today?
Ms. F: If you are in the top of your class, you have it pretty good. I remember when women in the top weren't even considered. It's better than it was...We are in the era of specialization. If you are able to specialize it would probably help you, I'd never rely on politics for a career, but it's an excellent experience. I'd like to see more young women run for elected office.

By Carol Vlack

"Women needn't be so afraid to risk failure. We needn't worry so much about provoking the powers that be...What's wrong with us is not that we are aggressive and audacious. We are the exact opposite. We have not gained confidence from the few battles we have won and continue to suffer from a traditional female complaint. What ails us is timidity."

These are the words of Frances Tarlton (Sissy) Farenthold as she reflected on her experiences in political life in an article called, "Are You Brave Enough to Be in Politics?"

Ms. Farenthold, an attorney and former Professor of Constitutional Law at Texas Southern University, is presently President of Wells College, a women's college in Aurora, New York. She spoke at CSU on January 27 on the "Transition of Women" claiming that we have achieved a consciousness of discrimination faced by women, but have done little to alleviate it. She said, in conclusion, that "What we have now is an awakened awareness. Women have lost their sense of isolation...We have some laws prohibiting discrimination: Equal Pay Act, Title VII, Title XI, but there's no commitment to the implementation of those laws."

In a short interview with Ms. Farenthold, we discussed her outlook on the recent Supreme Court decisions affecting women, her views on women in politics, and her advice to young women lawyers.

Q: What do you think of the Gilbert v. G.E. decision?
Ms. F: Disastrous. We hang on tenterhooks with the Supreme Court we have.

Q: How do you view the Supreme Court's recent decision in the areas of Equal Protection and Due Process?
Ms. F: I'm very troubled about the recent decisions, especially the Washington v. Davis case. These constitutional problems will only be resolved by changing the membership of the body of the Supreme Court. Probably, domestically, that will be the most important phase of the Carter administration. However, I hope he doesn't appoint people in the manner of Griffin Bell.

Q: How do you view the position of women in politics today?
Was Film Foreseeable?

PALSGRAF

Overcoming an initial technical delay, the "Sneak Preview" of Martin Schneider's "Palsgraf" was played last Thursday to an audience the size of a wished for first year torts class. It was worth the admission price and possibly another viewing.

The movie, twenty minutes in duration, centers on the giant 'battleground of the field of negligence': 'to whom is the duty of due care owed?' See W. Rutter, Gilbert Law Summaries: Torts, 9th ed. at 30 (1972); But see Restatement (Second) of Torts Sec. 435.

Although foreseeability is the basic theme, it is overborne by manner, technique, and mode of the movie. The show begins with the lyrical voice of KJ singing the ballad of Mrs. Palsgraf while the credits are displayed on the screen. The singing continues -- so do the credits.

The scene is New York City in all of its banality: cement, bridges, filth, subways and perverts. The basic plot centers around the cameraman's ability to follow three entities throughout the city for an hour as they converge at one point -- the railroad station. The three entities are Robert Leaf, the tortfeasor and negligent sniffer; Marilyn Klar, Mrs. Palsgraf; and the train as the train.

As the plot thickens, Mr. Tortfeasor obtains the instrument of destruction and injury: his time is rigid. Mrs. Palsgraf plods from her home to the station with exceptional sluggishness (her appearance is remarkable, which I will not remark upon for the very reason that one of the great moments of the movie is her remarkable appearance). I doubt if I can ever erase the picture of Mrs. Palsgraf from my mind -- I have enlisted in a TM program to do just that. The train is the fastest character in the movie and symbolically represents the pace of society (Mrs. Palsgraf excluded).

After what seems like miles and hours the three come together. You have read the case, or should have, whether by can, Gilberts, or Keeton, so I don't have to depict the gruesome details. The Scales, played by Bernadette Manly in a blind justice outfit, tipped accordingly both thematically and physically. The symbolism of indecision was paramount: justice knew not which way to tip -- for 90 seconds of screen time (A lifetime actuarially) the scale of justice wavered. The heavy weigh of justice came down on Mrs. Palsgraf -- it was not foreseeable, she was not within the scope.

Supporting roles were also handled in a manner befitting law students. Paul Weber, the conductor, assisted the tortfeasor -- judgment proof as he was -- onto the train as it rushed away. The music fit the gait of the character on the screen. Lyrics were excellent as was Schneider's direction.

One point of special excellence and almost unnoticed was the filming of the train as it pulled away from the station - - was the photographer in a shopping cart moving backwards?

The movie has been rated GP, so bring along your family for twenty minutes of hilarious yet profound oxymoronic fun.  

Paul Newman
PREGNANCY NOT SEX RELATED!

By Rita Fuchsman

A year ago, members of Prof. Jane Picker's Sex Discrimination clinic went to the Supreme Court in Washington to hear oral arguments in the General Electric Co. v. Gilbert case. Each class member then projected how s/he felt each Justice would vote. Perhaps voting how they hoped the court would decide, not one student predicted the actual outcome, a 6-3 decision holding that G.E.'s employee disability benefits plan "does not violate Title VII because of its failure to cover pregnancy related disabilities."

Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 outlaws job discrimination based, among other things, on sex.

The Court, speaking through Justice William Rehnquist, said that "it is impossible to find any gender-based discriminatory effect in this (disability benefits) scheme simply because women disabled as a result of pregnancy do not receive benefits...."

The Court relied heavily on a 1974 decision, Geduldig v. Aiello, which held that a similar disability plan established under a California law did not violate the Equal Protection Clause. Gilbert argued that the Constitutional basis for the Geduldig decision should not apply to Title VII case because the statutory standards are stricter. Yet the Court found that as a plan excluding pregnancy is not sex discrimination under the Fourteenth Amendment, neither is it unlawful sex discrimination under Title VII.

This holding goes against the decisions of all six Courts of Appeals which have addressed the question as well as the EEOC guideline which states that benefits "shall be applied to disability due to pregnancy or child birth on the same terms and conditions as they are applied to other temporary disabilities." The Court's decision ignored the lower court's conclusion that G.E.'s overall attitude toward women was a motivating factor in excluding pregnancy from the list of insured disabilities.

Rehnquist apparently was not disturbed by the fact that "although all mutually contractible risks are covered irrespective of gender...the plan insures risks such as prostatectomies, vasectomies, and circumcisions that are specific to the reproductive systems of men and for which there exists no female counterparts covered by the plan. Again, pregnancy affords the only disability -- sex -- specific or otherwise -- that is excluded from coverage." Justice Brennan's dissent.

Reaction to the decision has run from right-wing columnist James J. Kilpatrick's smug "the Court in this case did exactly what it should have done" to ACLU Women's Rights Project lawyer Susan rose's dire prediction, "the Supreme Court today legalized sex discrimination. The decision is a green light for employers to treat pregnant women as harshly as they like...."

Last month, the Coalition to End Discrimination Against Pregnant Workers was formed. The Coalition, which has met with members of Congress, includes, among others, the ACLU, National Organization of Women (NOW), the Assn. of Flight Attendants and the International Union of Electrical workers (IUE). It is likely that an amendment to Title VII will be introduced to Congress this term which will make exclusion of pregnancy from company insured risks unlawful sex discrimination.

"I hope I'm just getting a beer belly!"
CRIME IN CLEVELAND

By Michael Ruppert

The lives, incomes and habits of Cuyahoga County's 1.6 million residents are influenced—and in some instances, terminated—by the yearly commission of more than 90,000 serious crimes.

Locally, the official response to crime is the work of 160 loosely coordinated police departments, prosecutors' offices, courts, probation departments and correctional institutions. These agencies, comprising the local criminal justice system, spent approximately $124 million in 1975 according to estimates made by the Criminal Justice Public Information Center (CJPIC) in an upcoming publication, Profile I: Overview of Crime and Criminal Justice in Greater Cleveland.

Crime in Cleveland

According to the profile, 96,257 index crimes—murder, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, larceny and auto theft—were reported in 1975 to Cleveland police and the 59 suburban police departments in Cuyahoga County.

While practically all murders are reported or discovered, the other index crimes are reported to police at lesser rates. CJPIC used national and local victimization surveys in an attempt to estimate the actual, as opposed to the reported, crime. The Center estimates that more than 200,000 serious crimes were committed in Cuyahoga County in 1975.

Reported property crimes -- burglary, larceny and auto theft --

First of a series

totalled 47,403 compared to 13,486 reported violent crimes. “Cleveland's violent crime rate is eight times that of the suburbs and its property crime rate is twice that of the suburbs,” says the CJPIC report.

These statistics, meaningless per se, relay cryptic messages about the nature of our society: what crimes are increasing or decreasing; which places are safer to live in; whether we have

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RAPE LAW REFORM

By Ilene Klein

Four hundred ninety-one rapes were reported to Cleveland police in 1975; 270 suspects were arrested and charged with rape; 51 were convicted or pleaded guilty to the crime charged; one was convicted of a lesser charge; 55 were acquitted or otherwise dismissed according to the Cleveland Police Department's Annual Return of Persons Charged.

One reason the conviction rate is so low -- aside from public attitudes -- is the nature of the Ohio rape law. Rape is the only crime where the victim goes on trial for her actions although she is not the offender. Ironically, it is the only crime where the victim has been forced to pay for the collection of evidence while the State has that burden in other crimes.

The Ohio Legislature reformed the rape laws in 1975 in an effort to make them more equitable.

Under the old rape law, a man was presumed incapable of being raped. The legal definition of rape now permits both male and female victims. Rape is defined as the use of force or threat of force to engage in sexual conduct with another, not the spouse of the offender.

The new law has also redefined "spouse." Historically, a husband was presumed incapable of raping his wife even if they were no longer cohabitating based on the common law theory that a husband has a property interest in his wife. The law has been changed to correspond with the times. Parties who have entered into a written separation agreement or who have filed an action for annulment, divorce, dissolution of marriage or alimony are no longer considered married for purposes of rape prosecution. This is a substantial victory for rape victims who are often victimized by an angry spouse.

The law now specifically states that the prosecution need not prove physical resistance to the offender to show rape. Although this has never been an actual element of the crime, courts have seized upon it and continue to use it despite the law, as an outward element of consent. In effect, this provision merely decreased the degree of resistance required to prove rape.

Thus, while it was previously necessary, to get a rape conviction, to show that the victim vehemently exercised all of her physical and mental faculties to resist, the court must now consider such attendant factors as the victim's age, the relative strength of the parties, the amount of force exerted and the futility of resistance.

The court (or jury) is to determine whether the degree of resistance exerted was reasonable and adequate to negate consent, recognizing that at times resistance is futile. In reality, there is a good likelihood that a jury will not convict unless actual resistance is shown because of the attitude of many people that the victim somehow induces or facilitates the assault.

In the past, evidence of a victim's unchastity had been admissible to show the probability of consent and to impeach the woman's credibility. This is based upon the Victorian attitude that unchaste women could not be raped.

(Consenting once implies that one will always consent!)

In every other criminal trial the only proper subject of inquiry for purposes of impeachment is the truth and veracity of a witness. Hence the prosecution was never allowed to bring in evidence of the defendant's prior sexual promiscuity because that would be highly prejudicial and might be used to infer his guilt.

In an attempt to make the rape law more equitable, the Legislature added a provision which excludes opinion and reputation evidence of the victim's past history of sexual conduct to prove consent except if the evidence shows past sexual history with the accused or shows specific instances of sexual intercourse for purposes of showing origin of the semen, pregnancy or disease. A hearing is held to determine whether the evidence is too inflammatory or prejudicial.

Although this provision appears on its face to protect the rape victim it is a mere technicality. Although evidence of past sexual conduct is not admissible to prove consent -- unless the accused is claiming consent as a defence in which case it is admissible -- the defence may be able to use the very same evidence to impeach the victim's credibility. There is no safeguard against the introduction of evidence that is prejudicial, irrelevant or inflammatory with respect to the victim.

This rule often places the victim -- rather than the accused -- on trial. Evidence of the accused's past sexual conduct is still not allowed in, including prior similar acts such as a previous rape if the court determines that the evidence would be too prejudicial.

Thus, rape victims are reluctant to report the crimes because of the humiliation of going to the trial. This attitude, of course, reduces the number of convictions and allows some rapists to remain on the streets to victimize other people.

A unique provision of the present rape law is that at the hearing in the judge's chambers to resolve the admissibility of disputed evidence the victim may be represented by counsel -- either court appointed if s/he is indigent or one of her own choosing. This addition to the law is important because it gives the victim an opportunity to protect her rights and perhaps to prevent inflammatory material from coming out at trial. This right, of course, does not extend to the trial because at trial the victim becomes a witness and therefore has no right to an attorney.

Another significant provision in the new law concerns medical care. In the past, a rape victim incurred the expenses of the medical examination following the rape. Now no costs incurred for the examination are charged to her when the examination is to gather evidence for possible prosecution. The costs will be charged

Continued on page 6
From the Colonel

Anyone interested in clerking for a Federal Court judge in 1978, must apply by April 1, 1977.

Voluntary guidelines were developed at the recent meeting of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) in conjunction with the Federal judiciary "governing the timing of applications for and selection of law clerks" for Federal judges, said C-M Placement Director Walter Greenwood, Jr.

"In brief, these guidelines provide that applications for such openings would be accepted through April of the year preceding the appointment and the judge would announce their selections by the following September -- in other words, a full year in advance of the effective date of appointment," he explained.

"Clerking for a Federal judge is one of the most valuable experiences a new attorney may enjoy," Greenwood explained the field is highly competitive and, "in recent years, the increasing number of new attorneys entering the job market has created an unmanageable flood of applications to the judiciary."

Those interested in applying should send the judge of his or her choice a personal letter, a resume and an example of his or her "best writing," provided it is not too lengthy, Greenwood said, and offered to assist students in developing their resumes or drafting their letters.

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DEAN SEARCH

It will be at least two weeks before any announcement is made concerning a new C-M dean.

At least two names have been suggested to CSU President Walter Waetjen following the C-M faculty's January 21st evaluation, according to William L. Tabac, head of the dean search committee. Tabac would not reveal nor how many candidates were suggested, explaining, "even the faculty doesn't know who was recommended."

The candidates are Robert L. Bogomolny of Southern Methodist University, Julian C. Juergensmeyer of the University of Florida at Gainesville, Michael Kindred of Ohio State University and Joseph D. Harbaugh of Temple University.

Waetjen is expected to act on the C-M faculty recommendations when he returns from an out of town commitment in about two weeks, said Tabac.

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CRIME

progressed in the fight against crime or lost ground.

"In terms of change from 1974, Cleveland generally paralleled national trends except for murder and burglary, where the Cleveland figures were considerably lower. The suburban rape increase was significantly higher than the national trend," according to Jack Sweeney, CJPIC director and editor of the report.

Crime data, court and probation department caseloads and placements in penal institutions, among a myriad of other factors, determine resource allocation, albeit in a rather uncoordinated manner.

The report notes, "when the FBI publishes its crime data, the news media often look first to local police officials for comments on the 'reasons' why crime has gone up or down. (When it goes up, the police often blame lenient courts or lack of police manpower. When it goes down the police often credit police performance.)" Sweeney feels, however, that placing the amount of crime and the control thereof in such a context is far too narrow, for "...as the FBI points out, 'Crime is a social problem and the concern of the entire community. The law enforcement effort is limited to Factors within its control', and given the complexity of crime, its causes and control, few solid conclusions can be made. One is ventured: police should neither be solely blamed for increases in crime nor solely credited for decreases."

In our complex, modern society the primary response to crime is the work of the criminal justice system: police identify and arrest suspects; courts determine their innocence or guilt and impose punishment and/or treatment; probation departments and prisons carry out the courts' sentences.

How much work do the individual components -- police, courts and corrections -- perform? How much do they spend? These questions, and others, are the topics of later articles to be run in this Gavel series on crime in Cleveland.

Statements and data reproduced from Profile III: Overview of Crime and Criminal Justice in Greater Cleveland, 1977, with permission of the Criminal Justice Public Information Center.

Ohio Rape Law

to the municipality or local governmental agencies. In addition, any hospital which offers emergency services must have a physician on call 24 hours a day for examining rape victims.

Several problems exist despite this provision. Many rape victims still pay because of ignorance of the new law. The hospital often does not inform the victim that she is not required to pay, sometimes in ignorance. In addition, if a victim is told that she is not required to pay, she may be harassed by collection agencies because it's easier to intimidate her then the local government.

A second problem with this provision is that it is used as a means to harass victims. She is often required to make a decision on the spot as to whether she intends to prosecute. This is especially true when a woman goes to a hospital with no support or with someone who has little knowledge of rape laws. The furthest thing from a victim's mind initially is whether she is going to prosecute.

A final problem with the provision is that it may backfire on the victim in the area of corroborating testimony. Corroboration is a requirement unique to the rape law. Evidence other than the victim's testimony is required to support a conviction. Because rape is usually a crime with no witnesses the only corroborating testimony normally available is the physical evidence obtained from the examination. If the victim wants to get an examination or washes away some of the evidence, as it is instinctive to do, this can be used against her at trial to impeach her credibility.

Rape is a major problem in today's society. Although the laws are changing to make it less humiliating to prosecute rape is still difficult to prove. Attitudes that the charges are false, that the accused's identity is wrong or that the victim provoked or consented to the rape are still prevalent.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Sources for this article were Rape Reform Legislation: Is It The Solution? 24 Clev-Mar L Rev. 463 (1975) and a speech given by Lynn Hammond of the Rape Crisis Center.
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WATERGATE AT C-M: Two former Watergate prosecutors will be visiting the C-M campus in the next few weeks. Jill Wine Volner will speak in February and Archibald Cox will judge the 8th Annual Moot Court Competition in May. Ms. Volner, a Washington trial lawyer, will speak Thursday, Feb. 17 at 3 p.m. in the CB Lounge in a talk sponsored by the SBA. Cox, a Harvard Law School professor, will judge the finalists in the Moot Court competition on the C-M campus the evening of May 14.

ICE AGE COMING: CSU geologist James Regar reports that despite the recent Cleveland weather the next Ice Age isn’t due for another several thousand years. Regar reports the earth is now in an “interglacial” period...whatever that means.

TAX REFORM: Harvard Law Professor, Stanley S. Surrey, is the first Cleveland-Marshall Fund lecturer this year. Surrey will discuss “reflections on the Tax reform Act of 1976” at 3 p.m. Thursday (Feb. 5) and will also speak to tax classes and luncheons. The Gavel will publish a report of his appearance next issue...FUTURE SPEAKERS: Coming up on the C-M visiting scholars program are Robert B. McKay, director of the program on justice, society and the individual for the Aspen Institute for Humane Studies, Feb. 16 and 17, and Walter V. Schaefer, retired justice of the Illinois Supreme Court April 5 and 6.

PROFITABLE CITATIONS: Barnes & Noble, the CSU bookstore, is selling the 12th edition of the Harvard citator for $2. It is available at the CWRU bookstore in the basement of Thwing Hall, 11111 Euclid Ave., for $1.50.

ALUMNI NOTES: 1975 C-M graduate Deborah L. Hiller has been working for the Justice Department’s antitrust division for the past month. Ms. Hiller, an issue editor of the C-M Law Review, joins 15 other lawyers, including five women, whose duties include enforcement and prosecution of federal antitrust laws in the 6th district. She had been law clerk to Federal Judge Robert Krupansky since graduation.

AWARDS AND PRIZES: C-M students are eligible for at least three legal writing and scholarship awards -- the annual Howard L. Oleck Award for outstanding legal writing...the Howard C. Schwaab Memorial Award for the winner of an essay contest in the field of family law...and the annual Corpus Juris Secondum Awards to the outstanding freshman, sophomore, junior and senior law student “who has made the most significant contribution toward overall legal scholarship.” Details on the Oleck and C.J.S. awards are available from Assistant Dean Carroll Sierk. For information on the Schwab contest students should write to the Section of Family Law, American Bar Assn., 1155 East 60th St., Chicago 60637.

BELATED CONGRATS: to Prof. William L. Tabac who won the 1976 Twyla M. Conway Award for radio public service programming. Tabac’s “The Law and You” can be heard Sunday evenings at 11 on WHK (1420 AM).

C-M CALENDAR

February
W-TH 2-3: Marshall Fund Visiting Scholar Stanley Surrey at C-M; lecture 5 p.m. Thurs., CB Lounge.
F 4: “Palsgraf,” 20-minute color film by Martin B. Schneider, CB 2099 at 2, 4 and 5:30 p.m. (admission $1).
F 4: NLG Happy Hour at Fat Glenn’s, 3-7 p.m.
S 5: SBA Committee of 1000 meeting, 1 p.m. CB Lounge.
F 11: C-M Faculty Meeting, 3 p.m., CB 2062.
M 14: Moot Court competition deadline.
W-Th 16-17: Marshall Fund Visiting Scholar Robert F. McKay at C-M.
Th 17: Jill Wine Volner, former Watergate prosecutor, 3 p.m. CB Lounge, sponsored by SBA.
F 25: C-M Faculty meeting, 3 p.m., CB 2062.
F-Sun: “When You Comin’ Back, red Ryder?” see note for 18-20.

MOOT COURT

Second-year students interested in improving their oral advocacy and brief writing skills are invited to consider join the Moot Court. Moot Court teams engage in regional and national competition with other law schools in the practice of these skills. Students may pick up the Winter competition problem at the Moot Court office, CB 1002 or CB 1091. Briefs are due February 14th with oral arguments scheduled for February 19th.

The Gavel
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