

THE COURT: Sir?

MR. CORRIGAN: That is the lady that
is in Mexico City.

THE COURT: Oh, yes. We could hardly
do anything else, could we?

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Thereupon HAROLD F. PLAGENS, being first
duly sworn, was examined and testified as follows:

EXAMINATION OF PROS. JUROR HAROLD F. PLAGENS

By the Court:

Q. Your name is Harold F. Plagens?

A That's right.

Q And you live at 564 Hemlock Drive in Euclid?

A Right, sir.

Q And how long have you lived there?

A Two years.

Q And did you live at 14002 Beaumont Street in East Cleveland
before that?

A That's right, sir, for eight years.

Q Are you a married man, Mr. Plagens?

A Yes, sir.

Q And have you a family?

A No children.

Q Just yourself and wife?

A Right.

Q And is there anyone else making up the household other than yourself and wife?

A No. The wife and I.

Q Just the two of you?

A That's right.

Q Is your wife employed?

A Yes. Part time.

Q With whom?

A Picker X-ray.

Q What does she do? Clerical work?

A Yes. She is secretary to the--I guess you'd call him president of the company.

Q You say you live there about two years?

A That's right.

Q How long did you live on Beaumont in East Cleveland?

A Eight years.

Q What is your occupation, please?

A I am a salesman.

Q What do you sell when the selling is good?

A Wholesale plumbing and heating.

Q And who are you employed by?

A Crane Company.

Q How long have you been in that business?

A Nine years.

Q Do you travel around the country, or is your service pretty much local?

A Yes. I have a territory on the East Side of Cleveland.

Q And you were here, I take it, a week ago last Monday morning?

A Yes.

Q And you heard these good people presented. Will you tell us if you know any of those people?

A You mean prior to the introduction?

Q Do you know them personally?

A Oh, no, no, I don't. See --

Q I am assuming from what you suggest that all you know is you have seen of their pictures, and so forth, and their names in the papers, is that right?

A That's right, sir.

Q But you don't know any of them personally?

A No.

Q Do you know the County prosecuting attorney, Mr. Frank T. Cullitan, or any member of his staff?

A No, I don't.

Q Or the Sheriff or any member of his staff?

A No, sir.

Q Or Dr. Gerber, the Coroner, or any member of his staff?

A No, I don't believe so.

Q When I mention family now I would like to include your wife's and your own, if I may -- are there any members of your family who are members of a police department or any law-enforcing agency, as far as you know?

A Well, my brother-in-law is a Parma policeman.

125 Q What is his name?

A Charles O'Connor.

Q And how long, if you know, has he been a Parma policeman?

A I believe it's been about two years.

Q How close are you? How much do you associate together?

A Well, I don't see him too often. Of course, I live way east, and I'd say probably five, six times a year I see them. We don't visit too often.

Q Do you folks visit back and forth?

A No. That's what I say. That's the only time I do see him occasionally during the summer on our way out to the lake, or something like that.

Q Have you seen him since the 4th of July of this year, since this Sheppard matter happened?

A Oh, yes.

Q Would the fact that you are related by marriage to him have any bearing at all upon your judgment in this case?

A No, I don't believe so; not that I know of.

Q Do you know?

A No, it wouldn't have any bearing at all.

Q All right. We will come to him later. Have you or any members of your family ever been visited by violence at the hands of any person, if you know?

A No.

Q I take it that you have heard of this Sheppard case before?

A Yes.

Q By what means?

A Well, I first read of it in the Press.

Q newspapers?

A Well, newspapers. I don't know whether it was the Sunday -- I can't remember when -- I don't know whether it was the Sunday paper or the Monday paper. I believe it was the Press.

Q But some newspaper?

A Newspaper, that's right, yes.

Q And have you heard radio or television comments?

A Well, perhaps on television. I don't listen to the radio very often. I don't recall what it was on TV, I imagine just a news program of some sort.

Q Have you discussed the matter with anyone?

A Well, the wife and I, of course, talked about it, naturally.

Q Have you discussed it with other people outside of your home?

A Well, I wouldn't -- perhaps in our home. I mean folks that

came over, I'm sure it was brought up sometime or another.

Q Have you discussed it with your brother-in-law, or whatever his relationship is by marriage, the Parma police officer, Mr. O'Connor?

A No, I don't think I have. Possibly because -- no, I don't think I did.

Q You don't recall?

A No, I don't recall talking to him specifically about that.

Q As a result of what you have seen or heard or discussed about the matter, have you formed any opinion at all as to the guilt or innocence of Sam Sheppard?

A No, I can't say that I have. The reason probably was rather confused, as I think anyone might be, reading it in the newspapers, you don't always get --

Q You mean to say you are confused?

A I don't say I would get a true picture by just reading the paper, and I surely couldn't know for sure one way or the other.

Q You are confused enough not to be able to form an opinion, is that it?

A That's correct.

Q Do you have any objection in a proper case to capital punishment?

A Yes, I do.

Q And how long have you entertained that objection?

A Well, of course, the most recent time -- two years ago
I was examined for jury duty and I stated then that I was
against capital punishment, two years ago. Of course, I'd
say prior to that practically as long as I can recall.

Q And you are still opposed to capital punishment?

A That's right, yes, sir.

MR. MAHON: Challenge for cause,
your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. You will
be excused.

(Thereupon Prospective Juror Harold F.
Plagens was excused.)

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