

THE BAILIFF: Mrs. Norfleet, will  
you please take the witness chair?

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THEREUPON, AUGUSTA E. NORFLEET, a member  
of the prospective jury panel, having been  
previously sworn, was examined and testified on  
voir dire, as follows:

THE COURT: Good morning, Mrs.  
Norfleet.

MRS. NORFLEET: Good morning.

THE COURT: Is that the correct  
pronunciation of your name?

MRS. NORFLEET: Yes.

THE COURT: Mrs. Norfleet, the  
lawyers are going to put questions to you, and you  
will remember that in responding to these questions,  
Mrs. Norfleet, that you are under oath.

MRS. NORFLEET: Yes.

THE COURT: You must keep your  
voice up, Mrs. Norfleet.

MRS. NORFLEET: Okay.

THE COURT: So that Mr. Romito  
will be able to report your responses and record  
them. That is his obligation and his duty in this  
courtroom, to put into the record your responses

to these questions.

Do you understand that?

MRS. NORFLEET: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: It is also necessary for you to keep your voice up so that each person in this room can hear your responses.

Now, are you a little bit nervous?

MRS. NORFLEET: A little bit, yes.

THE COURT: You just sit back and relax and listen to the questions, and answer the questions accurately and forthrightly; will you do that, please?

MRS. NORFLEET: Yes.

THE COURT: Thank you. Please proceed.

VOIR DIRE EXAMINATION OF AUGUSTA E. NORFLEET

By Mr. Corrigan:

Q Mrs. Norfleet, for the record good and loud will you tell us what your name is?

A Mrs. Augusta Norfleet.

Q Will you spell your last name?

A N-o-r-f-l-e-e-t.

Q Where do you live?

A 3520 East 133rd Street.

Q Who lives at that address with you?

A My husband, and we have renters upstairs.

Q You have what?

A Renters.

Q Renters?

A Upstairs.

Q It is a double?

A It is a double house.

Q I see. Do you have any children, Mrs. Norfleet?

A No.

Q How long have you lived at that address?

A About seven years.

Q You say you have renters upstairs, I take it from that you own that home?

A Yes, sir, we are buying it.

Q What type of work is Mr. Norfleet engaged in?

A He is a machine operator at Upson-Walton Company.

Q How long has he been employed with that firm?

A About 12 to 14 years.

Q Do you work outside the household?

A Yes, I do.

Q What type of work do you do?

A I am in Bead repair at Thayer Bead Service.

Q Bead Repair?

A Yes.

Q Jewelry beads?

A Yes, cultured pearls.

Q What is the name of that company?

A Thayer Bead.

Q How long have you worked for that company?

A About seven months.

Q Did you have some other type of employment before that?

A Babysitting.

Q Babysitting for friends and around the neighborhood?

A No.

Q Professional babysitting?

A Professional.

Q How long did you work as a professional babysitter?

A Oh, for about four years.

Q Did you work for a babysitting company, or did you have your own business?

A No, I didn't work for a company.

Q You had your own --

A I just hired to private families.

Q Did you have anybody working for you?

A No.

Q Where were you living in 1954?

A In Wilmington, Ohio.

Q Are you a native to Cleveland?

A No, I am not.

Q May I ask where you are native to?



A Well, Wilmington, Ohio.

Q When did you come to Cleveland?

A In 1961.

Q Prior to 1961 you had lived the first part of your life and all your wife in Wilmington, Ohio, is that correct?

A Yes.

Q This, Mrs. Norfleet, is the case of the State of Ohio vs. or against Sam H. Sheppard; do you recall reading anything in the newspapers about this case?

A Yes, I do.

Q Do you recall when that was?

A During the time of the trial.

Q Did you see anything on television or hear anything on radio?

A Yes, I did.

Q Did you read any books or magazines about this case?

A No, I did not.

Q Did you discuss this case with others?

A I did, yes.

Q And others in turn, of course, discussed it with you?

A Yes, sir.

Q Did any of these people ever express an opinion to you relative to the guilt or the innocence of the defendant?

A Yes, they did.

Q Again, answering this question yes or no, did you ever express an opinion to them?

A Yes, sir.

Q Do you have an opinion today predicated on what you read and heard?

A Yes, I do.

Q Is this a fixed opinion?

A It would be hard to change it?

A It would be hard to change it?

A Yes, sir.

Q Do you feel if you were selected as a juror, Mrs. Norfleet, that you could put out of your mind any previous opinion that you had and predicate your decision, your verdict, solely on that which you would hear in this courtroom, put out of your mind anything else that you have?

A No, I don't think I could.

Q Do you feel, Mrs. Norfleet, that for that reason you could not give to this defendant and/or to the State of Ohio a fair and impartial trial?

A No, I could not.

MR. CORRIGAN: Challenge for cause,  
your Honor.

THE COURT: May I see counselors  
at the bench, please?

(Thereupon counsel and the Court conferred at the

Court's bench out of the hearing of the jury panel, as follows:)

THE COURT: Counselor Bailey, do you have anything you wish to address to the record with respect to --

MR. BAILEY: With respect to the motion?

THE COURT: -- to the challenge?

MR. BAILEY: Yes. With respect to the two motions I made as to Mrs. Wochele,<sup>and</sup> the former witness I talked about, I take the same position on both as to this witness, relative to our right to know what the opinion is.

THE COURT: The motions are hereby overruled, and the motion of the defense-- the motions of the defense are hereby overruled, and the Court will grant the State's challenge for cause.

MR. BAILEY: Now, I would like to put into the record that the jury be discharged because of the inherent prejudice in having them sit here and listen to the examination, particularly of the last two jurors.

THE COURT: Is your motion to the challenge to the array, counselor?

MR. BAILEY: Yes, as much as in the courtroom now, yes.

THE COURT: Your motion is hereby overruled.

(Thereupon proceedings were resumed within the hearing of the jury panel, as follows:)

THE COURT: Let the record show that the State's challenge for cause as to Mrs. Norfleet is hereby granted.

Mrs. Norfleet, before excusing you as a prospective juror in this case, the Court wishes to thank you for the time you have spent in this building, and for offering yourself as a prospective juror in this case.

We know that this has been a sacrifice to you, as to all who come forward in any case to serve as a juror.

Now, Mrs. Norfleet, before excusing you the Court instructs you as follows:

You must follow these instructions, and I know you will, you must not discuss this case even with your husband or anyone at home who may wish to discuss it with you, or with anyone else.

You must not make any statements with respect to this case, with respect to any opinions



that you may have about this case, or you may have had about this case, or what little you know of the case.

Do you understand that?

MRS. NORFLEET: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: And you will not discuss this case or express an opinion or participate in any interviews of any type with anyone, until such time, Mrs. Norfleet, as you learn for a certainty that a jury in this case has returned its verdict in open court.

Do you understand those instructions?

MRS. NORFLEET: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Thank you very much, Mrs. Norfleet. You are hereby excused.

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