

# Unbalancing Justice

by Earl P. Holt III

For the 30 years I lived in the city of St. Louis, I was summoned for jury duty approximately 10 times. I attribute this to the enormous volume of crimes committed in St. Louis, and the shrinking pool of city residents without a felony conviction and thus eligible to serve as a juror.

The last time I was called for jury duty was in the early 2000s, and it was the only time I was actually chosen to serve on a *petit* jury. It was an eye-opening glimpse into our criminal justice system, and an education in why our justice system is falling apart in our large, urban areas.

The criminal case I sat on involved a large and brutish black gorilla in his late 20s or early 30s, who was charged with domestic violence and violating a court-ordered Restraining Order. **When the facts of the case were revealed to us at trial, they sounded very different from the actual charges against him.**

The Defendant's baby-momma had earlier broken up with him, so he violated his Restraining-Order by forcing his way into her house while armed with a shotgun. Once inside, the Defendant had fired a 12-gauge, double-barreled shotgun through the walls of her Section 8 residence to give emphasis to his anger, even though their four kids were home and asleep at the time.

**The Defendant was clearly distraught and depressed over their breakup, and went through the motions of attempting to commit suicide in front of his baby-momma, whom he held captive in her Livingroom. However, she pushed the weapon aside to prevent his suicide and then immediately seized the opportunity to flee her own**

**residence to escape him. The Defendant proceeded to chase her down the street and repeatedly fired at her unsuccessfully with the shotgun.**

According to an expert witness, the only thing that saved her life was the fact that the shotgun was very loose, "*rackety*" and poorly maintained, so its two firing pins failed to make adequate contact with the primer in either live shotgun shell each time he pulled the triggers to fire. The victim testified that she heard three or four "*clicks*" as he tried to shoot her in the back while pursuing her down the street with his shotgun.

When the jury was sequestered to consider a verdict, the charges against the Defendant presented an immediate problem. The jury consisted of equal numbers of whites and blacks, and equal numbers of males and females. The black females immediately insinuated that police had "***put a case on***" the Defendant because the charges against him seemed very different from the facts that emerged during his trial. (I'll explain the reason for this later.)

**Two younger black women began muttering their reservations about "*sending one more black man to prison.*" I knew from personal experience how blacks like to parrot *clichés* like that one, and so I was prepared with my own line. I immediately replied to them both (verbatim): "*If you want to cut this guy loose, I'll vote with you. He can be back with Lakeesha and the kids TONIGHT.*" This defused their posturing, and allowed us to concentrate on public safety and the wellbeing of the victim and her kids.**

We found the Defendant guilty on both counts and, if I remember correctly, he was sentenced to life in prison. He didn't testify in his own defense, probably because -- as we learned during sentencing -- he had more prior felony convictions than the *Gambinos*. I also learned why he had been charged as he was.

As I was waiting for an elevator to leave, I saw the bright, 30-ish white female Assistant DA who prosecuted the case. I asked her why the Defendant hadn't been charged with multiple counts of attempted murder or assault with a deadly weapon, rather than simply domestic violence and violation of a restraining order. I added that this anomaly created a problem for the jury. She looked me in the eye and stated emphatically: "***The person who brought those charges is no longer with us.***"

My interpretation was that a young and incompetent, black Assistant DA -- who was the beneficiary of affirmative-action -- had brought those charges. She was fired for pursuing her personal and eccentric notions of justice and racial solidarity rather than follow the ***Missouri Criminal Code***.

She was not the first black public official to attempt to undermine our justice system, and she was soon followed by hundreds of other incompetent, black county prosecutors who have engaged in similar corrupt and racist actions in pursuit of their own arbitrary notions of "justice." They are also reluctant to "***send one more black man to prison.***"

**The Defendant in this case was black, the victim was black, half the jury were black, and so was the Assistant DA who initially charged the Defendant too generously. Our justice system is swamped with blacks, which means that our standards of justice have inevitably declined with their increasing levels of participation. It's a n\*gger thing.**