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But, unlike the Sykes case, there was no proof of rape. For example, we read on the NAACP's current website:



Mike Nifong

Prosecutor who filed charges against the Duke lacrosse players without any evidence of their guilt.

The sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) found the "victim had signs, symptoms and injuries consistent with being raped and sexually assaulted vaginally and anally." The SANE also said the injuries and the victim's behavior were consistent with a traumatic experience. Theresa Arico, the SANE coordina-

tor at Duke Hospital said "there was a certain amount of blunt force trauma present to create injury" and that the injuries the victim suffered were "consistent with the story she told." The ER doctor on duty that night also has reported that Ms. M. suffered trauma consistent with her story.

Literally, not one word of that statement is true. The medical reports do not say anything about "blunt force trauma." That comes from a highly-discredited police report made without notes and leaked to the *New York Times* in late summer, and even the *Times* has been running away from that story ever since. Neither do the medical reports say anything close to what the NAACP alleges. In short, there was no rape, and even Nifong had to back down from that shortly before he handed the case off to the state attorney general's office.

Then there is the question of DNA. While the NAACP was willing to defend Hunt against the critics who claimed (wrongly) that Hunt could have raped and beaten Sykes and left no DNA anywhere, it now urges that the courts absolutely ignore any exculpatory DNA evidence in the Duke case. Interestingly, the same people who tell us that the Hunt DNA evidence is "proof" of his innocence are telling us that in the Duke case, DNA means nothing, and that these young men somehow could have raped and beaten Mangum, but left no physical traits on her or her body.

This simply is nonsense, yet the NAACP has made a number of political threats to North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper, using the *Wilmington Journal* as a mouthpiece. Try this case, the organization demands, or Cooper will pay a political price.

In the end, we see a sad reversal. Darryl Hunt was wrongly convicted, and it is obvious now that the state never had a case worthy of trial. It is further understood that once again, we saw North Carolina juries failing in their duties to seriously evaluate evidence instead of just assuming that prosecutors are omniscient and would not bring a case to trial unless they had serious evidence.

The NAACP and other black organizations were right in demanding Hunt's release, and I am glad that the authorities finally listened. Yet, I now see those same voices demanding the very kind of trial and conviction that they would denounce if the racial situation were not what it is in the Duke case. From its unrelenting praise of Nifong — who now faces serious misconduct charges from the North Carolina Bar Association — to its contemptuous dismissal of exculpatory evidence, the NAACP has discredited itself.



Crystal Gail Mangum

She told investigators six different stories about the alleged rape/assault by Duke lacrosse players. She has a history of making false assault allegations. Durham PD photo, March 16, 2006.

In the Duke case, the DNA — the very science that led the NAACP to demand the release and exoneration of Darryl Hunt — is the witness against the prosecution and for Seligmann, Finnerty, and Evans. The DNA and many other aspects of the case tell us clearly that it is a hoax.

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Stolen Cellphone Leads To Wrongful Robbery Conviction

Lloyd Simons' claim of innocence fell on deaf ears when he was convicted in December 2001 and sentenced to 33 years in prison for armed robbery, being an accessory to a rape, and unlawful possession of a weapon and ammunition. His convictions were solely based on him having sold a cellphone in 1998 that was stolen when those crimes were committed a year earlier in the North West province of South Africa.


After Simons' sentencing, his family hired a private investigator. The investigator uncovered proof that Simons bought the stolen cellphone from a man involved in the crimes, and Simons later sold the phone to another man. When use of the stolen phone was traced to that man, he identified Simons as the person he bought it from.

Simons' convictions were quashed based on the new evidence and he was released in late 2002 after a year of wrongful imprisonment.

In February 2007 a hearing was held in Pretoria's High Court concerning Simons' claim for \$157,700 (R1.1 million in South African money) in damages caused by the police's failure to properly investigate his case. Simons' asserts he not only had to endure imprisonment for a sex-related crime, but he lost his state job and had to sell his home to pay his legal fees. The Court did not immediately make a decision.

Source: Innocent man claims R1.1m from police, By Zeldia Venter, *Pretoria News*, February 8, 2007.

In *United States v. George W. Bush et. al.*, former federal prosecutor Elizabeth de la Vega lays out a grand jury indictment against defendants George W Bush, Richard Cheney, Colin Powell, Donald Rumsfeld and Condoleezza Rice, for the crime of conspiracy to defraud the United States.



Ms. de la Vega's expert review of the evidence and law establishes that President Bush and his team used the same techniques used by Enron's Ken Lay, Jeffrey Skilling, and fraudsters everywhere — false pretenses, half-truths, deliberate omissions — in order to deceive Congress and the American public into going along with the 2003 Iraq invasion and occupation that has resulted in more than 700,000 American and Iraqi deaths (as of Dec. 2006) and is projected to cost over \$1 trillion.

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