90% of Campus Rape Accusations Are Bogus Says Top U.S. Dept. Of Education Official

Ninety percent (90%) of rape accusations on college campuses in the U.S. are false, according to Candice E. Jackson, who heads the U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights. Jackson is particularly qualified to speak out about rape accusations: she was the victim of a sexual assault, and she represented sexual assault victims as a private lawyer before joining the Department of Education.

Jackson's comments about rape on college campuses were published in *The New York Times* on July 12, 2017.

Jackson described that the overwhelming majority of coed rape accusations were fueled by regret or revenge for consenting to being sexually intimate with a man ... or men. Jackson was **quoted as saying** that investigative processes have not been "fairly balanced between the accusing victim and the accused student." She said students

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proof of her guilt, while disregarding the prosecution presented no actual evidence she had anything to do with the carjacking and his murder.

Thenjiwe was released later that day, after two years and four months in Westville Prison near Durban.

Immediately after her release Thenjiwe told a reporter for *The Witness* newspaper, "I am so excited I can't even talk. First I can thank God. I worshipped God like crazy. I was fasting for two months at a time. I would like to thank my attorney, Narain Naidoo, and my advocate, Shane Matthews, for everything. But most of all I thank God. He is great."

Sources:

Woman acquitted of husband's murder after 2 years in jail, News24.com, April 6, 2017

A free woman as judges overturn murder conviction, News24.com, April 7, 2017

KZN killer wife to appeal, Daily News (iol.co.za), May 29, 2015

Convicted wife denies her guilt, Daily News (iol.co.za), December 10, 2014

Carjacking: the everyday ordeal testing South Africa, *The Guardian* (London), March 2, 2006



Candice E. Jackson (twitter.com-cejacksonlaw)

have been branded rapists not only "when the facts just don't back that up," but in most cases there's "not even an accusation that these accused students overrode the will of a young woman. Rather, the accusations — 90 percent of them — fall into the category of 'we were both

drunk,' 'we broke up, and six months later I found myself under a Title IX investigation because she just decided that our last sleeping together was not quite right.'"

The administration of former President Barack Obama significantly reduced the legal protections for a person accused of sexual assault on a college campus. Under Obama the Department of Education approved the handling of campus sexual assault allegations by extra-judicial civil administrative procedures weighted toward finding an accused person guilty. Among other things those procedures restrict the introduction of possible exculpatory evidence by an accused person, who can be found guilty by a mere preponderance of the evidence. Without the due process protections of a criminal proceeding there is virtually no check on an innocent person being falsely found "guilty" and branded as a rapist.

Current Education Secretary Betsy DeVos is considering revising the federal governments mandates regarding the handling of sexual assault allegations on college campuses under Title IX, to protect the rights of accused individuals.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any educational institution that receives any form of federal financial assistance. Consequently, the federal government can dictate certain policies on every college campus in the United States that benefits from federal aid.

<u>Click here to read</u> The New York Times article that has Jackson's interview, "Campus Rape Policies Get a New Look as the Accused Get DeVos's Ear."

Sources:

Campus Rape Policies Get a New Look as the Accused Get DeVos's Ear, *The New York Times*, July 12, 2017

Title IX, Wikipedia.org



China Paid Wrongful Imprisonment Compensation To 10,881 People In 2014 & 2015

In 2014 and 2015 China paid compensation to 10,881 people who had been wrongly imprisoned. The largest payment was \$322,000 to the family of Mr. Huugjilt, who was 18 when executed in 1996 after being wrongly convicted of raping and murdering a woman. Huugjilt's posthumous acquittal on December 15, 2014 after a retrial was based on the actual perpetrator's confession. The compensation to Huugjilt's mother and father was awarded 15 days after his acquittal. The compensation took into account the time from Huugjilt's conviction to his exoneration 18 years later.

In 1995 compensation to the wrongly imprisoned was decreed in Article 33 of State Compensation Law of the People's Republic of China. An award of compensation for infringement of a citizen's personal freedom is based on the daily average wage in China. On May 31, 2017 China's Supreme People's Procuratorate – which is the approximate equivalent of the U.S. Department of Justice – announced that based on the average daily wage in 2016, the payment to a wrongly imprisoned person was immediately being increased to 258 yuan (about \$38) per day of imprisonment.*

The fairness of using China's standard daily wage as a basis for wrongful imprisonment compensation is being questioned, even in semi-official circles. A May 2016 editorial in the state-run People's Daily newspaper argued: "The core



Mr. Huugjilt (Huugjilt family photo)

value of the Rule of Law lies in human rights. When the most fundamental right of personal liberty is infringed in prosecution of criminal acts due to the miscarriage of justice by law enforcement agencies, decent compensation should be given to the wrongly convicted. This is the inevitable result of logic in context of modern laws by which human rights are respected and guaranteed. ... Is it appropriate to equalize the loss of personal liberty for 24 hours to a day job of 8 hours?"

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Eric Asante Exonerated By DNA Of Defiling Student In 2005

Eric Asante has been acquitted by the Supreme Court of Ghana of defiling a 14-year-old girl in 2005. Asante's acquittal was based on a DNA paternity test that excluded him as the father of the son born to the now 26-year-old woman.

In 2005 Eric Asante was 28 and a teacher at the Nyorhini Presby Junior High School in Tamale, Ghana. Tamale is a city of 360,000 people about 269 miles north of Ghana's capital of Accra that is on Africa's Western coast.

One of Asante's female students was 14-year-old Rubamatu Mohammed.

In January 2005 Rubamatu and several relatives informed the police that Asante forcibly had sex with her one time, and she became pregnant.

A medical examination showed Rubamatu was pregnant.

Asante was charged with defiling Rubamatu, and on February 1, 2005 he was relieved of his teaching position.

During his trial in the Tamale High Court the prosecution's case was based on the testimony of Rubamatu and the hearsay testimony of her relatives, that he had sex with her and got her pregnant.

Asante's defense was he only had a professional teacher-student relationship with Rubamatu, and he never had any sexual

China cont. from p. 9

* The daily rate of 258 Chinese Yuan was equivalent to US\$37.87 on May 31, 2017, when the exchange rate was 6.812917 Chinese Yuan (CNY) per US\$1 (1 CNY = \$US.14671).

www.xe.com/currencyconverter/convert/

Sources

<u>Time really is money for China's top court</u> – about US\$38 per day: People's Procuratorate sets new rate for settling cases of wrongful incarceration, *South China Morning Post*, May 31, 2017

Commentary: It is Unreasonable to Compensate 24-hour Wronged Jail Time with 8-Hour Salary, People's Daily Online, May 19, 2016

Current and Historical Rate Tables, www.xe.com (Currency exchange on 12-31-2015, 0.1539593169 (\$US1 per CNY) and 6.4952223738 (CNY per \$US1)



Eric Asante after his release from prison in 2015 (The Mirror, Accra)

Although Rubamatu had given birth to her baby boy, Rubamatu's lawyer did not request a paternity test.

Faced with a "He said, She said" case, the judge chose to believe Rubamatu

and her relatives. Asante was found guilty on September 5, 2005, and he was sentenced to 15 years in prison at hard labor.

Asante's appeal to Ghana's Court of Appeal was denied on October 6, 2006.

The Mirror, a weekly newspaper in Accra took an interest in Asante's case. The Mirror's parent company, the Graphic Communications Group Limited (GCGL), approached prominent human rights lawyer Francis Xavier Sosu about representing Asante. He agreed, with the GCGL paying all legal and filing fees.

In 2012 Ghana's Supreme Court granted Asante leave to appeal his conviction. His appeal claimed there were inconsistencies in the prosecution's evidence presented at trial that failed to prove his guilt.

In addition, he requested an order for a paternity test to determine if he was the biological father of Rubamatu's child. The Supreme Court promptly granted Asante's request and ordered a paternity test. The order was served on Rubamatu's aunts Juliet Tinjina and Gladys Abokokpa in Tamale, who were taking care of Rubamatu's child. They were commanded to bring the child to the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in

Accra within eight weeks of being served with the court order. The women refused to bring the child to Accra, even after the Northern Regional Police Commander intervened in an effort to force their compliance with the court order.

After almost three years of non-compliance with its 2017. (Emmanue 2012 order, the Supreme Court issued an order on February 11, 2015 that Tinjina and Abokokpa make Rubamatu's son available to Ghana's Police Forensic Unit, so a sample of his DNA could be obtained for a paternity test. Tinjina and Abokokpa complied with the second court order.

contact with her. In July 2015 the Police Forensic Unit noti-Although Rubamatu had given birth to excluded him as the boy's biological father.

lawyer Asante was released in September 2015 after ten years of imprisonment. The Supreme Court granted his release on bail for his good behavior in completing two-thirds a "He of his sentence at the Nsawam Maximum d'" case.

On November 10, 2015 the Supreme Court publicly released the DNA test result that Asante was not the biological father of Rubamatu's son.

Asante told *The Mirror* in response to the DNA test result: "Right from the beginning of this case, there was no evidence to show I had defiled the girl, except for the pregnancy. It has been over 10 years of pain and suffering for a crime I did not commit. It saddens my heart that all these years have been wasted. I have suffered for nothing and it has cost me so much."

Nineteen months after receiving the exclusionary paternity test, Ghana's Supreme Court unanimously granted Asante's appeal on January 26, 2017, and ordered his acquittal and discharge from custody. The Court ruled there was no substantial evidence supporting Asante's guilt, and the trial judge would have found Asante not guilty if he had known the exculpatory DNA evidence that was discovered after his conviction.

The Supreme Court directed that Asante could file a claim for compensation. Asante's lawyer Sosu told reporters Asante would apply for 10 million Ghana Cedi (About US\$2.1 million) in compensation.[1]

Asante called for Ghana's Attorney General to open an investigation of the case, because "there is a true culprit out there who committed the crime and connived with the lady to implicate me." The lady he referred to is Rubamatu Mohammed. The sixty-four dollar questions are why

she falsely accused him of

ing the father of her child, why she actively participated to ensure he was falsely convicted, and why she did nothing while he languished in a maximum security prison for ten years before his release.

Ghana is a former British colony whose



Eric Asante (in blue) with his lawyer, Francis Xavier Sosu outside the Supreme Court building in Accra after his acquittal on January 26, 2017. (Emmanuel Ebo Hawkson)