

For Immediate Release
01/11/2022

Statement on the Recent Sexual Assault Case in Judge Adrian's Courtroom

Quanada is outraged over Judge Robert Adrian's change of mind in the sexual assault case involving Drew Clinton and a local high school student.

After finding Clinton guilty in October for putting a pillow over a girl's head and raping her, Judge Adrian changed the verdict to not guilty last week.

"Mr. Clinton has served almost five months in the county jail...", said the judge, according to the court transcript obtained by the Herald-Whig.

"For what happened in this case, that is plenty of punishment," he said.

The judge apparently felt sorry for the rapist and not the victim. "By law," he said, "this court is supposed to sentence this young man to the Department of Corrections. This court will not do that. That is not just."

The minimum sentence in Illinois for rape is four years.

The 16-year old girl attended a graduation party. She drank alcohol. She swam in a pool. She fell asleep on a friend's couch.

After she fell asleep on the couch, Clinton raped her. He put a pillow over her face so she couldn't be heard. And that is OK with Judge Adrian who reversed his earlier decision, and then blamed the parents of the house where the party took place, the girl for drinking and swimming in her underwear and her parents whom he said "did not exercise their parental control."

He blamed everyone except Clinton.

The verdict and Adrian's comments send a chilling message to other rape victims that their behavior, not the rapists', will be judged. Shame the victims, free the rapists.

This judgment reinforces the fact that standards for women have always been impossibly high while they are impossibly low for men.

Remember the case of the Stanford Swimmer who raped an unconscious woman in 2015? Brock Allen Turner, an Olympic triathlete, was found guilty, sentenced to six months but walked after three months. "I think he will not be a danger to others," said California Judge Aaron Persky. (Voters later ousted Persky as a result of this sentence.)

In the Quincy case, the girl now wishes she hadn't come forward, according to her father. For this high school student, justice was not done.

Justice was not done for any of us.

Women in Adams County should be angry and afraid. One message is clear: If you are raped, avoid Judge Adrian's courtroom.

About Quanada

Quanada provides services to victims of domestic and sexual violence in west-central Illinois including counseling, legal/medical advocacy, emergency shelter, and transitional housing. All services are completely confidential and free of charge.

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