

43. Good

WAS GEORGE

MICHAEL

INNOCENT?

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Good

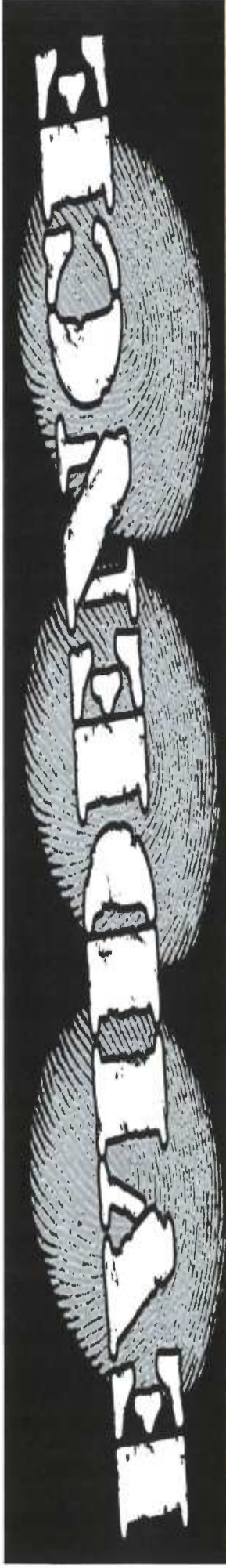
OVERVIEW

- * On April 11, 2012, George Zimmerman Was Charged With Second-degree Murder for Shooting Trayvon Martin.
- * George Zimmerman was a Neighborhood Watch Coordinator.
- * In Support Of The Charges, The State also Filed An Affidavit Of Probable Cause, Stating That Zimmerman Profiled And Confronted Martin And Shot Him To Death While Martin Was Committing No Crimes.

THE TRIAL

NULL HYPOTHESIS

- ⑧ The null hypothesis in this case is that the person (George Zimmerman) accused was innocent.
- ⑧ According to United States law, The status quo (Null Hypothesis) is Innocence.
- ⑧ Every person is innocent until there is an enough evidence to prove him guilty.



THE PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE

If the other person is dead, and there are no witnesses, as long as you tell the police, "He started it and I thought he was reaching for a gun" you have created some evidence that you acted in self-defense. And at that point, prosecutors have the burden of proof to show otherwise. Zimmerman was acquitted because the state couldn't prove beyond a reasonable doubt that Zimmerman started the fight.

✕ To prove him guilty , the prosecutor have to present reasonable evidence.

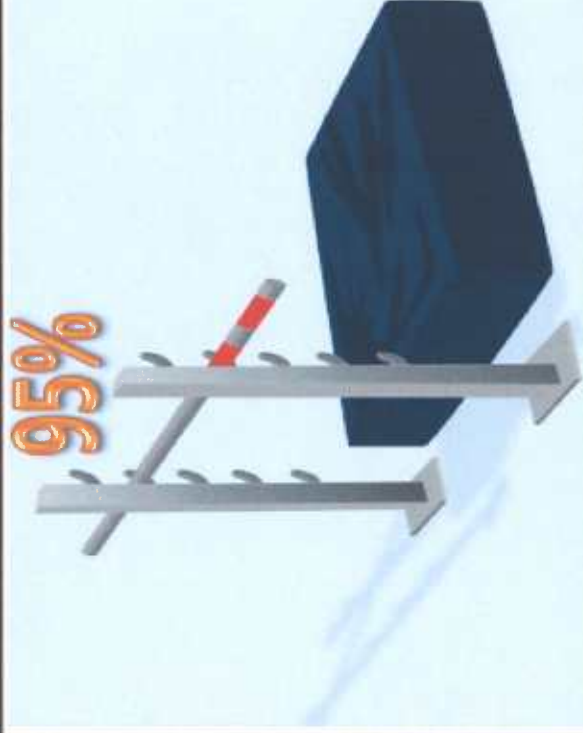
✕ In Florida, as in most states even the ones that don't have Stand Your Ground—the prosecution in a criminal case has the burden to disprove self-defense, beyond a reasonable doubt, once the defendant produces some evidence of self-defense.

THE PRESENTATION OF EVIDENCE

✗ The judge told the jurors that the prosecution had to prove that the killing was not self-defense. This meant that the prosecution had to prove that Martin was not the attacker—very hard to do, since Martin was dead and no one besides Zimmerman saw the fight begin.

✗ The jury is supposed to give the defendant 95% benefit of the doubt which is same as level of

Probability of Obtaining the Results, Given the Null Hypothesis Must Be Less Than 5%



95% is the MINIMUM amount of certainty required to reject the null hypothesis. Anything less, and the null hypothesis SHOULD NOT be rejected (based on currently accepted standards).

THE VERDICT

⑧ After one year trial, the jury verdict was “Not Guilty”!

⑧ The six women on jury decided Florida District Attorney did not present sufficient evidence that George was guilty of second-degree murder or manslaughter. Reasonable doubt remained.

⑧ When George Zimmerman was acquitted jury did not find him GUILTY FOR the charges of second-degree murder or manslaughter.

⑧ There were no reasonable evidence to reject null hypothesis.

⑧ We can also say that there were no reasonable evidence to accept alternate hypothesis.

CONCLUSION

- ✗ To Reject Null Hypothesis, we need reasonable evidence.
- ✗ Acceptance of Null Hypothesis means, we did not have enough evidence to reject Null Hypothesis.
- ✗ So, we cannot prove null hypothesis. We can just prove that George Zimmerman was not guilty.

CONCLUSION

The Criminal Trial Analogy

Like a criminal defendant who is presumed innocent until proven guilty, the null hypothesis is rejected only when error is unlikely

**PRESUMED
INNOCENT**

Defendant is innocent = null hypothesis

**NOT
GUILTY**

Not guilty verdict = Failure to reject null hypothesis

GUILTY

Guilty verdict = Rejection of the null hypothesis