

The Tom Robinson Trial, A Liberal Matter

By: Maudie Atkinson

Tom Robinson, a black man was, only a short time ago, put on trial accused of raping Bob Ewell's 19 year old daughter, Mayella Ewell. An elaborate argument was put forth on Atticus' part even though all of his hard work was proven useless as Tom Robinson was later convicted of the crime, although, it was almost impossible for him to have committed it because of his crippled arm and how little he can use it even for his everyday tasks. It is preposterous, the outcome of the trial when it was clear that Tom was not guilty and was surely only convicted guilty because of the jurors lack of dignity and uncommon circumstances. If the defendant were, instead of a black man, a white one, he would easily be not guilty, but in this old town of Maycomb County, it appears that the standing of whites and blacks differ greatly which results in unjust thoughts and decisions of the black community and its members.

To go off of the last point I stated, all people should be treated equally, so when Atticus' maid Calpurnia went to help him with a terrible situation, Alexandra Hancock and I had no problem helping to fill in for her because we feel that it is unnecessary to have a negroe serve us all of the time unlike

many other white people in this community. We should not need servants or maids for silly little duties and chores, such as laundry or serving dinner unless you are similar to a person in Mr. Finch's position, where you have two growing children with no wife to watch over them and you are stuck in work all day. I myself, am an independent woman who has gone to hell and back losing my husband and then having my house go up in flames and I have gone through it without a servant or maid and I am still living a happy life now with my flowers, the new loves of my life. If we keep living our lives in this way, our little county may never grow or improve.

It also appears that Atticus has not received the proper amount of credit for all of the amazing work and effort he put into the Tom Robinson trial. The case he put forth surely had an effect because the jury stayed out of the room for multiple hours, which around here is much more time than usual for choosing a white woman over a black man. He worked night and day protecting and defending that man and everyone knew it, but what did he get in return? His client being convicted of the crime he did not do and then, it got even worse when Tom was shot 17 times to death as he tried to escape the

jail he was in by going over the fence during an activity taking place there. This was an inhumane way to be killed and he did not deserve to be shot so many times nor does anyone else for that matter. This result just goes to show how much of a coward the whole jury was for following what would keep them safe rather than take a stand for what they knew was right.

Although, the jury would have most likely called their verdict back to Tom's previous criminal record for getting in a fight with a white man even though he paid the fine and served the time with little fuss. This would have been the only thing they could have used to support their concluding verdict since the trial clearly proved that he was not guilty. I as a liberal could not believe or take into account anything that came from the victims argument.

It really bothers me and it should bother anyone reading this article, that our humble society is becoming more corrupt by the day. If we continue to put ourselves and the rest of the white community up on a pedestal, the whole community and world we are used to may crumble. I really hope that you all really begin to realize what is happening in the world around us and try to make it right, if not for my sake, then for your own.