

1: A Tangled Web Â» Blog Archive Â» Not on Trial for his life! really

Chicago Fireman On Trial For His Life--Updated Chicago, IL â€” Ted Kozak, 58 is a professional hero. He has saved many lives and many millions of dollars of property during his career.

Galileo viewed these moons as a smaller Copernican system within the Solar system and used them to support Heliocentrism. Galileo began his telescopic observations in the later part of 1609, and by March 1610 was able to publish a small book, *The Starry Messenger Sidereus Nuncius*, describing some of his discoveries: Other observations followed, including the phases of Venus and the existence of sunspots. In 1610, Galileo visited the Collegium Romanum in Rome, where the Jesuit astronomers by that time had repeated his observations. Christopher Clavius, the most distinguished astronomer of his age, never was reconciled to the idea of mountains on the Moon, and outside the collegium many still disputed the reality of the observations. In a letter to Kepler of August 1610, [7] Galileo complained that some of the philosophers who opposed his discoveries had refused even to look through a telescope: What do you have to say about the principal philosophers of this academy who are filled with the stubbornness of an asp and do not want to look at either the planets, the moon or the telescope, even though I have freely and deliberately offered them the opportunity a thousand times? Truly, just as the asp stops its ears, so do these philosophers shut their eyes to the light of truth. Brahe argued that the distance to the stars in the Copernican system would have to be times greater than the distance from the sun to Saturn. Moreover, the only way the stars could be so distant and still appear the sizes they do in the sky would be if even average stars were gigantic â€” at least as big as the orbit of the earth, and of course vastly larger than the sun refer to article on Tyconic System. Galileo became involved in a dispute over priority in the discovery of sunspots with Christoph Scheiner, a Jesuit. This became a bitter lifelong feud. Neither of them, however, was the first to recognise sunspots â€” the Chinese had already been familiar with them for centuries. Nevertheless, three years later another priest, Tommaso Caccini, did in fact do precisely that, as described below. Bible argument Further information: Heliocentrism, the theory that the earth was a planet, which along with all the others revolved around the sun, contradicted both geocentrism and the prevailing theological support of the theory. One of the first suggestions of heresy that Galileo had to deal with came in from a professor of philosophy, poet and specialist in Greek literature, Cosimo Boscaglia. Boscaglia had talked to Madame [Christina] for a while, and though he conceded all the things you have discovered in the sky, he said that the motion of the earth was incredible and could not be, particularly since Holy Scripture obviously was contrary to such motion. The exchange having been reported to Galileo by Castelli, Galileo decided to write a letter to Castelli, [18] expounding his views on what he considered the most appropriate way of treating scriptural passages which made assertions about natural phenomena. Preaching a sermon in Florence at the end of 1616, he denounced Galileo, his associates, and mathematicians in general a category that included astronomers. Lorini and other Dominicans at the Convent of San Marco considered the letter of doubtful orthodoxy, in part because it may have violated the decrees of the Council of Trent: Quoted in Langford, *The Roman Inquisition* suspected Galileo of violating the decrees of the Council. Museo Diocesano Tridentino, Trento. Mark feel that the letter contains many statements which seem presumptuous or suspect, as when it states that the words of Holy Scripture do not mean what they say; that in discussions about natural phenomena the authority of Scripture should rank last By presenting his case there, he hoped to clear his name of any suspicion of heresy, and to persuade the Church authorities not to suppress heliocentric ideas. In going to Rome Galileo was acting against the advice of friends and allies, and of the Tuscan ambassador to Rome, Piero Guicciardini. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. The question of heliocentrism had first been raised with Cardinal Bellarmine, in the case of Paolo Antonio Foscarini, a Carmelite father; Foscarini had published a book, *Lettera* After some preliminary salutations and acknowledgements, Bellarmine begins by telling Foscarini that it is prudent for him and Galileo to limit themselves to treating heliocentrism as a merely hypothetical phenomenon and not a physically real one. Further on he says that interpreting heliocentrism as physically real would be "a very dangerous thing, likely not only to irritate all scholastic philosophers and theologians, but also to harm the

Holy Faith by rendering Holy Scripture as false. He conceded that if there were conclusive proof, "then one would have to proceed with great care in explaining the Scriptures that appear contrary; and say rather that we do not understand them, than that what is demonstrated is false. Although he believed that the former may well have been possible, he had "very great doubts" that the latter would be, and in case of doubt it was not permissible to depart from the traditional interpretation of Scriptures. His final argument was a rebuttal of an analogy that Foscarini had made between a moving earth and a ship on which the passengers perceive themselves as apparently stationary and the receding shore as apparently moving. Bellarmine replied that in the case of the ship the passengers know that their perceptions are erroneous and can mentally correct them, whereas the scientist on the earth clearly experiences that it is stationary and therefore the perception that the sun, moon and stars are moving is not in error and does not need to be corrected. Bellarmine found no problem with heliocentrism so long as it was treated as a purely hypothetical calculating device and not as a physically real phenomenon, but he did not regard it as permissible to advocate the latter unless it could be conclusively proved through current scientific standards. This put Galileo in a difficult position, because he believed that the available evidence strongly favoured heliocentrism, and he wished to be able to publish his arguments. Galileo later stated that he believed this essay to have been instrumental in the action against Copernicanism that followed in February. Ingoli wrote that the great distance to the stars in the heliocentric theory "clearly proves Galileo did not write a response to Ingoli until , in which, among other arguments and evidence, he listed the results of experiments such as dropping a rock from the mast of a moving ship. Beretta points out that the Inquisition had taken a deposition from Gianozzi Attavanti in November , [38] as part of its investigation into the denunciations of Galileo by Lorini and Caccini. In this deposition, Attavanti confirmed that Galileo had advocated the Copernican doctrines of a stationary sun and a mobile earth, and as a consequence the Tribunal of the Inquisition would have eventually needed to determine the theological status of those doctrines. With no attractive alternatives, Galileo accepted the orders delivered, even sterner than those recommended by the Pope. To protect his good name, Galileo requested a letter from Bellarmine stating the truth of the matter. This letter assumed great importance in , as did the question whether Galileo had been ordered not to "hold or defend" Copernican ideas which would have allowed their hypothetical treatment or not to teach them in any way. In the end, Galileo did not persuade the Church to stay out of the controversy, but instead saw heliocentrism formally declared false. It was consequently termed heretical by the Qualifiers, since it contradicted the literal meaning of the Scriptures, though this position was not binding on the Church. The uncorrected *De revolutionibus* remained on the Index of banned books until Pope Urban demanded that his own arguments be included in the book.

2: Socrates: The Good Life

Jesus was on trial for his life. All around him were the babble of accusation, political gamesmanship, shouts of crowds, insults and the brutality of soldiers. In the end, simply to win the crowd and keep the peace, he was condemned to death and handed over to executioners for crucifixion.

But it could be called the row that never was. Jesus was on trial for his life. All around him were the babble of accusation, political gamesmanship, shouts of crowds, insults and the brutality of soldiers. In the end, simply to win the crowd and keep the peace, he was condemned to death and handed over to executioners for crucifixion. It sounds as though he spoke quietlyâ€”not responding to the noise, not defending himself, not seeking justice or his rights, but challenging his accusers and judges to see for themselves who and what he was, even at one point keeping silent, to the amazement of his judge. He refused to join in the row. They would still have crucified him. So he was led, in the words of the prophet Isaiah, like a lamb to slaughter. But a lamb that knew very well what it was doing. Perhaps what Jesus was doing here was forcing those who wanted rid of him to look into their own hearts, to judge themselves, to see whether their claims were right, whether they were actually rowing with God himself, rejecting truth and love, condemning themselves. Sometimes a row is a sign of insecurity and weakness. Easier to shout back, to bluster and ridicule rather than listen and think and face truth. But sometimes we might feel we have every reason to pick a quarrel with God and to shout at Jesus. Maybe he invites us at that moment not to fight or reason things out with him, but to go with him on that journey through the noise of his trial to the agony and anguish of the cross. If we find it difficult to listen to what he says, or if his silence seems deafening, come alongside him insteadâ€”as he has come alongside us. When Jesus was arrested and tried, there were lone voices which protested the injustice of it all. Others were uneasy but were swept aside or simply bowed to group pressure. It takes courage to take a stand. Are there situations you know of which are plainly unjust, where you could take more of a stand, even if your voice is drowned out and ignored? If you were to argue with God about anything, what would it be? Does his resurrection, too, cast a different light on the issue?

3: Trial of Socrates - Wikipedia

Aguilar apologized to his mother, Elizabeth Fernandez, who sits each day of trial in the front row of the courtroom of Judge Raymond Dearie of U.S. District Court in Brooklyn. Aguilar expressed particular remorse that his trial prompted his mother to take the stand to plead for his life.

Clicking on the kitty will refresh the page to the very latest articles. He has saved many lives and many millions of dollars of property during his career. Kozak has never been a threat to anyone and has avoided a criminal record. That all changed in September of when police raided his home. Kozak believes that the words of our Constitution have real meaning. Keeping and bearing of arms suitable for military service is not some special privilege for the elite but the right of the people. Needing cancer surgery the ailing fellow asked Kozak to securely store his collection while he was being treated. The collection was safe until Chicago police found and seized the firearms. So were the other collectable firearms, found in his possession. Now Kozak is on trial for engaging in constitutionally protected activity in gun rights hating Chicago. Is this because he was evil? No, but because he has not bowed to the all powerful Oz and chose to enjoy his American rights. This is a rare gun case since it only involved simple possession. The usual drug or violence related charges, in so many other gun cases does not exist. A jury will be selected tomorrow, January 5th at S. California Avenue room , Chicago Illinois. This case will be tried by Daley appointee, Judge Jorge Allonzo. One juror can simply vote Not Guilty and they will be unable to imprison Kozak. Be sure to sit on his side of the courtroom and remain well-behaved. Kozak needs all the support he can get. I suspect after the lunch break deliberations will begin. There well may be a verdict by the end of the day. Be there in room

4: God Works Through Trials (James) | www.enganchecubano.com

The Short List: Obamacare's fate; Tsarnaev on trial for his life; Sunken battleship found. TsOut of the loop today? We've got what you missed on the Obamacare arguments at the Supreme Court, the.

The Good Life Socrates is generally considered the first major philosopher of Western civilization. Before him there lived about a dozen other Greek thinkers, the so-called Pre-Socratics, who also produced significant work from about BCE on. But little of that work has come down to us. Socrates is the first Western philosopher about who a good deal is known. He was a widely discussed figure among the Greeks of his day, and he has remained an icon of wisdom in the history of Western thought. It is primarily through him that the West has gotten the idea of what philosophy is, and what it may be like to live a philosophical life. Socrates, one might say, gave us a philosophical definition of the good life. Socrates was born in , and he died in His entire life he lived in Athens. Athens emerged from that victory not only as one of the most important commercial centers of the Mediterranean world, but also as the leader of a military alliance that quickly transformed the city into a dominant naval power. By controlling the funds of the alliance, Athens managed to channel a significant portion of the annual contributions of her allies into a lavish building program that turned the city into a place of architectural and cultural splendor. Under the supervision of the famed sculptor Phidias, the Parthenon and other monumental structures were erected on the Acropolis. And around the agora--the market place and civic center of the city--numerous temples, court structures, halls, shrines and statues formed an environment that functioned as the visual and administrative center of a thriving imperial metropolis. Not far from the agora, the Odeon and the Theatre of Dionysus provided spaces for elaborate musical and theatrical productions. Twice a year such playwrights as Sophocles, Euripides, and Aristophanes competed for prizes with splendid performances for thousands of spectators. During official festivities countless visitors from all around the Mediterranean Sea came to admire the wonders of Athenian culture. The Acropolis of Athens During most of the 5th century Athens was a democracy. In addition, most court cases were decided by large juries of ordinary citizens. That made effective public speaking and forensic debating skills highly important for anyone who wanted to succeed in any area of public life. As a consequence numerous teachers of public speaking and forensic debating--known as the sophists--were attracted to Athens from all parts of Greece; the growing wealth of the city could afford handsome fees for their tutorial services. The presence of many sophists in the city was a primary reason for the transformation of Athens into the main center of Greek intellectual life. Sophists did not only educate the sons of the upper classes, they also absorbed and debated the works of Greek--and probably foreign--thinkers among themselves, thus creating an atmosphere of broad-minded intellectual exchange that laid the groundwork for a cosmopolitan civilization. While many smaller cities and outlying regions produced outstanding thinkers and artists, it was primarily in Athens that the various minds would meet and publish their work. Through cross-fertilization and competition within the context of a thriving and powerful metropolis, these minds developed their talents and productions to the high degrees of excellence by which classical Athens established itself as the first major center of Western civilization. Pericles was a powerful speaker and skillful politician. During the public funeral of the first casualties of the Peloponnesian War the popular leader of the city flattered his fellow-citizens by assuring them that they were the best, and that Athens was vastly superior to any other commonwealth in sight. Thus he declared, among other things: Our constitution does not copy the laws of other states: Our laws provide equal justice for all. Success in public life depends on ability and merit, not on social origin and class. I doubt that the rest of the world can produce a type of man that is as versatile, resourceful, and self-reliant as the Athenian. And that this is not just ceremonious bragging, but a plain fact, is proven by the power of the state based on such traits. For Athens alone among all cities is found, when tested, to be greater than her reputation. The war lasted from to Its basic cause was the imperial arrogance with which Athens treated not only her own allies, but also other Greek city states that were not under Athenian control. Some of her allies wanted to secede from the alliance, for example, because they did not wish to pay for the splendor of the domineering city with their annual contributions for defense. Athens prevented such secessions by military force and

economic sanctions, thus reducing many member states to virtual colonies. Athens also added further "allies" to her empire, whether these newcomers assented to such incorporation into the empire or not. In time more and more independent cities became afraid that they, too, would eventually be conquered and annexed. As a precaution they formed their own federation, and they made Sparta with its feared army their military leader. For a time the explicitly anti-democratic city of Sparta became thus, paradoxically, the widely acknowledged champion of Greek liberty. Many Greeks had no desire to engage in a major war. Even in Athens many were weary of such a prospect. Peace negotiations with Sparta took place. But Pericles, bent on making Athens the uncontested leader of the Greek world, repeatedly provoked hostilities and armed conflict. He was not only a competent administrator and general, but also a wily manipulator of public opinion; he knew how to nurture among ordinary citizens the kind of patriotism that assumed that everything Athenian was always better than anything else. A majority of Athenian voters was willing to follow Pericles wherever his ambition would lead them. The empire, after all, provided them with large amounts of tribute money, colonies, land for settlements in overseas regions, and with the emotional satisfaction of dominating the lives of other people. Given their powerful navy and their abundant resources, Athenians had plausible reasons for thinking that they could subdue Sparta and her allies in a short time, and thus crown their past achievements by making themselves the manifest hegemon of Hellas. The war proved to be a disaster not only for Athens, but for most Greeks. It lasted much longer than anyone expected. It decimated the population, caused vicious civil strife, wiped out whole cities, ruined much industry and commerce, brutalized Greek life, and in the long run subjected most of Greece to the power of foreign empires and rulers. The enterprise that Pericles conceived as the ultimate consummation of Athenian and Greek glory turned out to be a protracted exercise in self-destruction. Politically Greece never fully recovered from the events between and The only Athenian achievement that survived the war intact was Greek intellectual culture. Together with Greek as the international language of educated people it established itself as a dominant life-shaping force in the Mediterranean world for centuries to come. The brilliant achievements of Athenian and Greek culture did little to check the brutalities of armed conflict. Numerous atrocities were committed during the Peloponnesian War. One incident became especially notorious: The incident became well known because the Athenian general and historian Thucydides reported it in his history of the war "in conjunction with the sort of arrogant thinking that Athenian diplomats displayed when they tried to talk the citizens of Melos into an uncontested surrender. Mention of the incident is helpful, as it shows how dark the shadow was that the war cast on the city that had produced the cultural splendor of the "Golden Age. In that year, before also assaulting the much more powerful city of Syracuse in Sicily, Athens demanded that the small island become part of her empire and war effort. The Melians pleaded to be left alone; they had no desire to fight on either side. The Athenians threatened to attack them unless the Melians agreed to their demand. During a last parley the Athenian ambassadors offered the following piece of cynical reasoning: And we ask you on your part not to imagine that you will move us by saying that you, though once a colony of Sparta, have not joined Sparta in the war, or that you have never done us any harm. Instead we suggest that you should try to get what it is actually possible for you to get, taking into consideration what we both really think. For you know just as well as we do that, when these matters are discussed by practical people, the standard of justice depends on the power to coerce, and that the strong do what they have the power to do, and the weak accept what they are forced to accept. The Athenian Assembly then voted to put all Melian men, down to the age of fourteen, to death, and to sell the women and children into slavery to offset the cost of the military operation. After the mass execution the territory of the island was annexed and handed over to Athenian settlers. It was in response to the Melos incident that Euripides wrote the anti-war play *The Women of Troy*, a highly emotional pageant of misery that shows captured women as they are carted off, together with other war booty, as chattel or sex slaves. Euripides, although an ardent patriot at the beginning of the war, eventually became so disgusted with Athens that toward the end of his life he exiled himself from his native city. This, then, the splendor of the "Golden Age" as well as the brutality of the Peloponnesian War, was the social and cultural context within which Socrates lived his life. As will be seen, Socrates did not identify with the culture of his day. To understand Socrates the philosopher is to understand how much he stood against the very essence of the culture of his age. Socrates was a deliberate

outsider among his fellow-Athenians and fellow-Greeks, an intellectual stranger, and his critical distance to the culture and society that surrounded him is a significant part of what defines him as a philosopher. This should become clear by taking a closer look at some of the outstanding traits of his life and thought. Unlike many of his well-to-do and aristocratic friends and disciples, Socrates was of middle-class origin. His father was a stonecutter or sculptor, and his mother a midwife. He may have inherited a modest estate, which allowed him to pursue his true calling--philosophical inquiry. By dedicating his life to the intensive pursuit of wisdom, however, he eventually neglected the economic side of his life to such a degree that he became rather poor. That fact did not bother him personally, but it may have made life less than comfortable for his wife Xanthippe, who had to run their household and raise their three sons. Then as later, people differed with regard to the amount of material goods that are necessary for a good life. Xanthippe may have had her own ideas about the matter, and there may have been marital tensions because of that. Men who want to become expert horsemen will not acquire the most docile horses, but the spirited ones. They believe that if they can handle these they will be able to handle any horse. I take a similar approach. I want to be able to deal with all human beings. I have Xanthippe to deal with. Getting along with her insures me that I will get along with the rest of humankind. Although he never aspired to any elevated rank, he seems to have distinguished himself through courage and endurance under adverse conditions. In he held a minor office in the democratic administration of the city when it was his allotted turn. Otherwise Socrates deliberately stayed out of the politics of the city, the area in which most ambitious Athenians tried to distinguish themselves. The contribution that he wished to make to the life of Athens was of a different kind. The fame or notoriety that he enjoyed among his fellow-citizens was based entirely on his philosophical work. What, then, was this work? Considering that Socrates never wrote any books, what exactly did he do? He regularly went either to the agora, or to one of the gymnasiums outside the city walls, to meet his friends and to discuss certain fundamental questions with them. Often bystanders and chance visitors became involved in the discussions as well.

5: Saudi Arabia: Cleric who Backed Protests on Trial for His Life | Human Rights Watch

Now she's dead, and he's going on trial for his life. A story of wealth, privilege, guns, and race. By. Steve Fennessy - October 11, Illustration by Edel Rodriguez.

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The case involved illicit sex in the House of Commons, blackmail, a murder plot and the cold-blooded shooting of a blameless dog. A week earlier, Margaret Thatcher had swept into Number 10 as the first female Prime Minister - her former opponent Thorpe, once seen as a potential Liberal PM, had lost his seat to the Tories. But over the next 31 days Jeremy Thorpe was to lose everything as his political career and personal reputation were engulfed in a gay sex scandal. Thorpe arrives at the Old Bailey at the start of his trial for conspiring to murder Norman Scott in Image: Thorpe, who continued to deny the claim to his death, was also charged with incitement to murder Scott in a plot allegedly aimed at silencing him for ever. Rex Features Thrope and his wife Caroline, who was killed in a car crash, and his infant son Rupert in Image: Scott also said the MP gave him money and clothes and helped him to find a job. He was flattered by the attention. Thorpe was the leader of the Liberal Party Image: He cut a flamboyant figure in his trademark trilby, Edwardian three-piece suit and watch chain. He was a brilliant speaker and his wit served him well in politics. They had a son, Rupert, but in tragedy struck - Caroline died in a road crash. The public lost trust in Thorpe as the scandal unfolded Image: Hulton Archive Thorpe got married again in , to Marion, Countess of Harewood, who stood by him through the tribulations that followed. But the brooding, highly-strung Scott was still lurking in the background "and starting to talk about their alleged affair. Worried Thorpe confided in fellow Liberal MP Peter Bessell, who used secret party funds donated by Jack Hayward, a well-meaning, Bahamas-based multimillionaire, in a misguided attempt to buy off Scott, who only became more unbalanced. That, said the prosecution at the Old Bailey trial, was how the conspiracy to murder was born. They claimed Holmes and Bessell recruited two other men, fruit-machine salesman George Deakin and carpet retailer John Le Mesurier, to find a solution. Ways of getting rid of Scott were discussed, including luring him to a bar and poisoning his drink or pushing him down an old mine shaft, but they finally settled on a shooting. Thorpe and second wife Marion Image: In October , posing as a journalist, he met Scott in Devon and drove out to Dartmoor. Newton ordered Scott, who was with his Great Dane, Rinka, to get out of the car. He shot the dog dead then turned his gun on its owner. But the firearm jammed and Scott escaped into the mists of Dartmoor. In the saga exploded in public when Newton went on trial for misuse of a firearm. He was jailed for two years but he did not implicate Thorpe. However, Scott launched a savage public attack on Thorpe in court, knowing that his testimony would be reported. Bunnies can and will go to France. The scandal blew up again in when Newton was freed from jail, now declaring that he had been hired to kill Scott. PA Thorpe leaves court after being found "not guilty" Image: Hulton Archive [Read More](#)

Ruth Ellis was last woman in Britain to be hanged - but did she have an accomplice and was the lover she killed beating her up? But to the surprise of the public, on June 22, , the jury returned a not guilty verdict. He was a broken and pathetic figure who could not return to politics or any other area of public life. In he was appointed a director of Amnesty International, but staff protested so he withdrew. His loyal family said he never lost his sense of humour or his devotion to them. In he gave his first press interview in 25 years. Back then they were very troubled by it. Peter Bessell lived in California until he died of emphysema, aged 64, in November Norman Scott, 77, is thought to live in Devon where he buys and sells horses.

6: Orlando Sentinel - We are currently unavailable in your region

Now, he faces trial for his life " again George Skene / Orlando Sentinel Clemente Javier Aguirre-Jarquín in Seminole County court on Sept. 25, , after he was convicted and sentenced to death.

The new website has a cleaner look, additional video and audio clips, revised trial accounts, and new features that should improve the navigation. Why, in a society enjoying more freedom and democracy than any the world had ever seen, would a seventy-year-old philosopher be put to death for what he was teaching? The puzzle is all the greater because Socrates had taught--without molestation--all of his adult life. What could Socrates have said or done that prompted a jury of Athenians to send him to his death just a few years before he would have died naturally? Finding an answer to the mystery of the trial of Socrates is complicated by the fact that the two surviving accounts of the defense or apology of Socrates both come from disciples of his, Plato and Xenophon. Historians suspect that Plato and Xenophon, intent on showing their master in a favorable light, failed to present in their accounts the most damning evidence against Socrates. What appears almost certain is that the decisions to prosecute and ultimately convict Socrates had a lot to do with the turbulent history of Athens in the several years preceding his trial. An examination of that history may not provide final answers, but it does provide important clues. He pushed ahead with an unprecedented building program designed not only to demonstrate the glory that was Greece, but also to ensure full employment and provide opportunities for wealth creation among the unpropertied class. Growing to adulthood in this bastion of liberalism and democracy, Socrates somehow developed a set of values and beliefs that would put him at odds with most of his fellow Athenians. Socrates was not a democrat or an egalitarian. To him, the people should not be self-governing; they were like a herd of sheep that needed the direction of a wise shepherd. He denied that citizens had the basic virtue necessary to nurture a good society, instead equating virtue with a knowledge unattainable by ordinary people. Striking at the heart of Athenian democracy, he contemptuously criticized the right of every citizen to speak in the Athenian assembly. Writing in the third-century C. Laertius wrote that "men set upon him with their fists or tore his hair out," but that Socrates "bore all this ill-usage patiently. In his play *Clouds*, first produced in B. He is portrayed "stalking the streets" of Athens barefoot, "rolling his eyes" at remarks he found unintelligent, and "gazing up" at the clouds. Socrates at the time of *Clouds* must have been perceived more as a harmless town character than as a serious threat to Athenian values and democracy. Socrates himself, apparently, took no offense at his portrayal in *Clouds*. Plutarch, in his *Moralia*, quoted Socrates as saying, "When they break a jest upon me in the theatre, I feel as if I were at a big party of good friends. Other plays of the time offer additional clues as to the reputation of Socrates in Athens. Comic poet Eupolis has one of his characters say: Aristophanes labels a gang of pro-Sparta aristocratic youths as "Socratified. The standing of Socrates among his fellow citizens suffered mightily during two periods in which Athenian democracy was temporarily overthrown, one four-month period in and another slightly longer period in The prime movers in both of the anti-democratic movements were former pupils of Socrates, Alcibiades and Critias. Athenians undoubtedly considered the teachings of Socrates--especially his expressions of disdain for the established constitution--partially responsible for the resulting death and suffering. Alcibiades had other strikes against him: Critias, first among an oligarchy known as the "Thirty Tyrants," led the second bloody revolt against the restored Athenian democracy in Critias, without question, was the more frightening of the two former pupils of Socrates. One incident involving Socrates and the Thirty Tyrants would later become an issue at his trial. Although the Thirty normally used their own gang of thugs for such duties, the oligarchy asked Socrates to arrest Leon of Salamis so that he might be executed and his assets appropriated. Socrates refused to do so. Socrates would point to his resistance to the order as evidence of his good conduct. On the other hand, Socrates neither protested the decision nor took steps to warn Leon of Salamis of the order for his arrest--he just went home. While good citizens of Athens were being liquidated right and left, Socrates--so far as we know--did or said nothing to stop the violence. The horrors brought on by the Thirty Tyrants caused Athenians to look at Socrates in a new light. His teachings no longer seemed so harmless. He was no longer a lovable town eccentric. Socrates--and his icy logic--came to be seen as a

dangerous and corrupting influence, a breeder of tyrants and enemy of the common man. He could only be charged for his actions during the four years preceding his trial in B. It appears that Socrates, undeterred by the antidemocratic revolts and their aftermaths, resumed his teachings and once again began attracting a similar band of youthful followers. The final straw may well have been another antidemocratic uprising--this one unsuccessful--in Athens finally had enough of "Socratified" youth. In Athens, criminal proceedings could be initiated by any citizen. In the case of Socrates, the proceedings began when Meletus, a poet, delivered an oral summons to Socrates in the presence of witnesses. The summons required Socrates to appear before the legal magistrate, or King Archon, in a colonnaded building in central Athens called the Royal Stoa to answer charges of impiety and corrupting the youth. The Archon determined--after listening to Socrates and Meletus and perhaps the other two accusers, Anytus and Lycon --that the lawsuit was permissible under Athenian law, set a date for the "preliminary hearing" anakrisis , and posted a public notice at the Royal Stoa. The preliminary hearing before the magistrate at the Royal Stoa began with the reading of the written charge by Meletus. Socrates answered the charge. The magistrate questioned both Meletus and Socrates, then gave both the accuser and defendant an opportunity to question each other. Having found merit in the accusation against Socrates, the magistrate drew up formal charges. The document containing the charges against Socrates survived until at least the second century C. Diogenes Laertius reports the charges as recorded in the now-lost document: This indictment and affidavit is sworn by Meletus, the son of Meletus of Pitthos, against Socrates, the son of Sophroniscus of Alopece: Socrates is guilty of refusing to recognize the gods recognized by the state, and of introducing new divinities. He is also guilty of corrupting the youth. The penalty demanded is death. The jury consisted of male citizens over the age of thirty, chosen by lot. Most of the jurors were probably farmers. The jurors sat on wooden benches separated from the large crowd of spectators--including a twenty-seven-year-old pupil of Socrates named Plato--by some sort of barrier or railing. Guilt Phase of Trial The trial began in the morning with the reading of the formal charges against Socrates by a herald. The prosecution presented its case first. The three accusers, Meletus, Anytus, and Lycon, had a total of three hours, measured by a water clock, to present from an elevated stage their argument for guilt. Easily the best known and most influential of the three accusers, Anytus, is widely believed to have been the driving force behind the prosecution of Socrates. Plato quotes Anytus as warning Socrates: Plato quotes Socrates as saying, "I had a brief association with the son of Anytus, and I found him not lacking in spirit. Adding to the displeasure of Anytus must have been the advice Socrates gave to his son. Stone attaches far more significance to the political crimes, while other historians such as James A. Colaiaco, author of *Socrates Against Athens* , give more weight to the charge of impiety. Stone argues that "Athenians were accustomed to hearing the gods treated disrespectfully in both the comic and tragic theatre. It was the political, not the philosophical or theological, views of Socrates which finally got him into trouble. He notes that Plato wrote the *Apology* within a few years of the trial and must have expected many of his readers to have firsthand knowledge of the trial. Since the *Apology* seems to give great weight to the charge of impiety--and relatively little weight to the association of Socrates with the Thirty Tyrants--Colaiaco assumes this must have been a fair reflection of the trial. It included not just respect for the gods, but also for the dead and ancestors. The impious individual was seen as a contaminant who, if not controlled or punished, might bring upon the city the wrath of the gods--Athena, Zeus, or Apollo--in the form of plague or sterility. The ritualistic religion of Athens included no scripture, church, or priesthood. Rather, it required--in addition to belief in the gods-- observance of rites, prayers, and the offering of sacrifices. Any number of words and actions of Socrates may have contributed to his impiety charge. Preoccupied with his moral instruction, he probably failed to attend important religious festivals. He may have stirred additional resentment by offering arguments against the collective, ritualistic view of religion shared by most Athenians or by contending that gods could not, as Athenians believed, behave immorally or whimsically. Xenophon indicates that the impiety charge stemmed primarily from the contention of Socrates that he received divine communications a "voice" or a "sign" directing him to avoid politics and concentrate on his philosophic mission. A vague charge such as impiety invited jurors to project their many and varied grievances against Socrates. Dozens of accounts of the three-hour speech apologia by Socrates in his defense existed at one time. The two accounts agree on a key point. Socrates gave a

defiant--decidedly unapologetic--speech. He seemed to invite condemnation and death. Meletus accuses Socrates of believing the sun and moon not to be gods, but merely masses of stone. Socrates responds not by specifically denying the charge of atheism, but by attacking Meletus for inconsistency: He reminds them of his exemplary service as a hoplite in three battles. More importantly, he contends, he has battled for decades to save the souls of Athenians--pointing them in the direction of an examined, ethical life. He reportedly says to his jurors if his teaching about the nature of virtue "corrupts the youth, I am a mischievous person. Stone is right, the most damaging accusation against Socrates concerned his association with Critias, the cruel leader of the Thirty Tyrants. He argues this act of disobedience--which might have led to his own execution, had not the Tyrants fallen from power--demonstrates his service as a good citizen of Athens. Stone notes, however, that a good citizen might have done more than simply go home to bed--he might have warned Leon of Salamis. He argues that he never presumed to be a teacher, just a figure who roamed Athens answering the questions that were put to him. He points to his pupils in the crowd and observes that none of them accused him. Moreover, Socrates suggests to the jury, if Critias really understood his words, he never would have gone on the bloody rampage that he did in Hannah Arendt notes that Critias apparently concluded, from the message of Socrates that piety cannot be defined, that it is permissible to be impious--"pretty much the opposite of what Socrates had hoped to achieve by talking about piety.

7: CRIME, GUNS, AND VIDEOTAPE: Chicago Fireman On Trial For His Life--Updated

A former South Carolina police officer on trial for murder in the shooting death of an unarmed black man took the stand in his own defense Tuesday and said that he was in "total fear" for.

Log in here Dislike seeing ads? In an unusual twist, the defense chose to focus its closing arguments on cold-blooded planning that went into the murder-for-hire for which Aguilar, 34, now faces the death penalty. So the crime that an assistant U. In the law library of a prison, Aguilar stabbed a handcuffed inmate in the neck with a shiv made of a pen and piece of metal, Mr. This latest crime happened after a day of jury selection, only hours after the jurors had seen Aguilar in court, Mr. Bitkower told the jury. Bitkower repeatedly called the death penalty an "appropriate sentence. He kept his eyes on the pad of paper in front of him even as prosecutors requested his death. His first noteworthy act of violence happened in , when he stabbed a man to death with a screwdriver in a schoolyard. Although acquitted of murder in state court, Aguilar was convicted and sent to prison for threatening to shoot a year-old eyewitness to that murder. Yesterday morning, Aguilar briefly addressed the jury for the first time in his trial. District Court in Brooklyn. Aguilar expressed particular remorse that his trial prompted his mother to take the stand to plead for his life. He suggested that Aguilar did not deserve all the blame for the murder of a low-level drug dealer, Jose Fernandez. The defense had called the wife, Quincy Martinez, to testify. Martinez who gave the go-ahead for the murder, Mr. He told the jury that the defense had called her forward as a witness so that each juror "could see the face of evil. Log in here Comment on this item Submission of reader comments is restricted to NY Sun sustaining members only. If you are not yet a member, please click here to join. If you are already a member, please log in here:

8: Brooklyn Gang Leader On Trial for His Life

Harvey Weinstein on trial: All the questions about his legal battle, answered. A series of bombshell developments in the Weinstein legal saga unfolded on Friday, as the disgraced movie mogul.

I mean it was the kind of thing that rose the hair on the back of your neck. We know what he told his friend Bill Crane. Were they Black Lives Matter protesters? It had, after all, been a summer of anger across America. Just four days earlier, in Charlotte, protests over the police shooting of an unarmed black man led to one person shot dead. And the day before, while Tex was in Putnam County buying feed for his cattle and grocery shopping for dinner, there were more Black Lives Matter protests at Lenox Square, a block and a half from their Atlanta condo. Now race was part of the story. The whole tragic, hubristic affair sounds like something that Tom Wolfe would dream up. In fact, he kind of already did, except it took two novels—"The Bonfire of the Vanities and A Man in Full"—to anticipate the McIver drama, from the fateful turn off the highway Bonfire to the prideful lawyer stuck in traffic outside the Piedmont Driving Club Man in Full. And so Tex McIver has become a symbol. What kind of symbol says more about who we are than who he is. To those close to him, convinced that he loved Diane without question and could no more shoot her intentionally than sprout wings and fly out of his jail cell, Tex is a victim of reverse prejudice, a convenient scapegoat for a society riven by class and racial resentments. Diane McIver is remembered on the Corey Tower. Photograph by Caroline C. She called Diane, who had risen through the ranks at U. Enterprises, the advertising and media company founded by Bill Corey, owner of the Corey Tower. Enterprises president—"her first marriage at age 40 had been a mistake. But Tex was persistent, and she finally agreed to join him for dinner at his apartment. Sure enough, they started dating; Tex even leased out his unit and bought one next to hers. He was going to propose to Diane. In they married at the ranch; guests sat on hay bales. Every marriage is a merging of assets and liabilities, both literal and figurative. To their union, Diane brought a frankness that could be disarming. Enterprises, visitors would be surprised to see that the woman arranging the food before a lunch meeting turned out to be the very person running the meeting. Over the years, Diane had built up a small but fiercely loyal support network that Tex would enjoy now too. There was her housekeeper. There was her assistant. There was the man who detailed her cars and ran errands. And there was Dani Jo Carter. When a federal grand jury indicted former Congressman Pat Swindall in on 10 counts of perjury amid a money laundering investigation just weeks before he was up for re-election, McIver doubled down on his man. He was, on nine counts, and sentenced to a year in prison. For 12 years, until his resignation last spring, he served on the State Election Board, where he used his position to vigorously push forward a voter photo ID law, even authorizing the mailing of , letters touting the new law though it had been deemed unconstitutional. In early Governor Sonny Perdue appointed McIver to the Judicial Nominating Commission, which recommends to the governor names for vacancies on court benches. McIver was a party stalwart with both hard and soft skills, a potent combination of means and desire. Those means allowed him to purchase his country retreat in Putnam County, with its private lake, guest house, and horses. And Diane loved it, too. Ward instead bought a lot across the road, built a house, and the two men—"and their wives"—became fast friends. Tex brought other things to his marriage with Diane, not the least of which was his regrets from his first marriage, which had ended five years before in a divorce so acrimonious it poisoned his relationships with two of his three grown children. Oh, and Tex brought his guns. One afternoon, about four or five years ago, she looked out her window and saw, sitting on her terrace, a buzzard. He got up and returned with a pistol. The sliding door was open, and he pointed the gun through it. According to Calhoun, she and Diane were sitting in the dining room, closest to the terrace. Austin Schwall was in the condo, too, but in the kitchen. Austin is 11 years old, so he would have been six or seven at the time. Schwall was recommended to Perdue by his Judicial Nominating Commission, of which Tex was, back in , a new member. This kind of connection between Tex and Georgia power brokers is typical. Tex raised his pistol and shot at the buzzard through the screen door. The bird flew away, uninjured. Calhoun told this story in court on April One of the conditions of his bond was that he not possess any guns. On April 27, he was indicted on seven counts, including felony murder. Calhoun and the McIvers, it turns out, have a

mutual acquaintance: Calhoun works for Trinity Services Group , which provides food services to the corrections industry, including the Putnam County jail, over which Sills presides. In many ways, the McIver case illustrates just how small a town Atlanta really is. Calhoun retrieved about four pistols from his closet floor, another from his armoire, plus one long gun. She put them all in her closet. Last Christmas Eve, Sills backed up his car to the garage at the ranch and loaded his trunk with the guns Tex kept there. Sills told me he transported about 35 guns from the ranch to the evidence room at his office. He seemed still in shock. In years past, Tex had joined Sills and others on a pheasant hunting trip to South Dakota. The annual trip was approaching, and Sills asked Tex if he wanted to come. Wright was a partner at Fisher Phillips and had interviewed Tex before he joined the firm in Lawyers, of course, often have to set aside their personal beliefs in order to best serve their clients, but no doubt Tex found the work of Fisher Phillips, which represented exclusively management in labor disputes, to square neatly with his own conservative beliefs. Although Tex claimed in a deposition that the woman was merely a tenant, Jinx said in court papers that Tex and his alleged paramour had taken trips and attended parties together. The woman was not Diane McIver, whom Tex began dating years after his divorce. A good producer, worked hard. Finally, on July 31, , the two sides struck a settlement. The settlement even stipulated how Tex could visit their dog, Malone. Crane told me that Tex was especially hurt when he was not invited to the wedding of his daughter, Meredith. He was not happy about being left out. After he married Diane, the two couples went on a cruise together. I mention it only because it demonstrates that these were people living extraordinarily beautiful lifestyles. She saw a woman hustling about, wearing a hat, clearly in charge. I wanted to be like that woman. So I introduced myself to her. Sometimes when you meet somebody you just click. It was there that Styles first met Tex McIver. She intimidated a lot of men. It was just a perfect setting for her. But never would they disagree to the point where there was any hostility or whatever. A receptionist working under Diane at Corey was on sick leave. Would Rachel be interested in filling in for a few months? Styles stayed more than three years. One day at the office in late , Diane asked Styles to make copies of some confidential papers for her. At a court hearing in early September, Hudson took the stand while chief prosecutor Clint Rucker tried to jog his memory. Among the documentation that Hudson turned over to investigators, as a result of the search warrant, was a email from Hudson to Tex and Diane. Austin Schwall was named in the email outlining the proposed new will. The will in probate court now was executed in , before he was born. If Diane died, according to the email, the farm would go to Tex, and if he were not alive, it would go into a trust for Austin. Rucker was particularly interested in deliberations between the McIvers and Hudsonâ€™ deliberations around possibly changing the ownership designation of the ranch to a limited liability company. Such a move, Hudson said, would have meant tax benefits for both McIvers. She wanted to protect her share for Austin Schwall. And they disagreed, or talked about that, in your presence, right? I got a feeling that issue had been going on for a long time before I met with them. She wanted her interest in the ranch to go to her godson, Austin Schwall. No, I think Tex also wantedâ€™ they were both very, very keen on Austin. What was the codicil about? I think the codicil was about the jointly held property.

9: Ken Saro-Wiwa: A writer on trial for his life

In The Trial of Socrates (), I. F. Stone said that Socrates wanted to be sentenced to death, in order to justify his philosophic opposition to the Athenian democracy of that time, and because, as a man, he saw that old age would be an unpleasant time for him.

His wife A writer on trial for his life. Anthony Daniels recalls his last meeting with Ken Saro-Wiwa, the Nigerian author and activist accused of treason and murder. THE LAST time I was on my way to visit the Nigerian writer Ken Saro-Wiwa - who is now on trial for his life - at his office on the Aba Road in Port Harcourt, an appeal was broadcast over the radio for the authorities to remove the naked corpse which had lain in the Aba Road for the last few days and was now swelling and smelling horribly. When I arrived at his office, a hundred yards away from the corpse, we talked of the cornucopia of subject-matter which presented itself every day to writers in Nigeria. For example, a scandal had just broken which might one day provide Saro-Wiwa with a theme for a novel: When his scheme collapsed, as it was inevitable that it should, everyone - from market women to state governors - was found to have believed in his promises of quick wealth. Alas, Saro-Wiwa felt there were more important matters than literature in hand. The federal Nigerian government returned none of the revenues it derived from this oil to Ogoniland, which is deeply impoverished, without proper schools or medical facilities. In Saro-Wiwa, the son of an Ogoni Chief, started a protest movement - both for a share of the oil-revenues and against environmental degradation - which culminated in a peaceful demonstration of , or 60 per cent of the Ogoni. Indisputably non-violent, Saro-Wiwa argued the Ogoni case with logic and passion but - most dangerous of all - without ever losing his sense of humour. They were likely to reply in the only way they knew: Saro-Wiwa has been held for nine months in solitary confinement and is currently undergoing trial. If found guilty by the military tribunal, he could be shot. Though it is doubtful whether the regime would do anything so foolish as to execute Saro-Wiwa, it might just feel that it needed to do so to demonstrate its determination to survive and its independence of world opinion. Saro-Wiwa is a remarkable man. Born in , he was educated at Umuahia Government College the school also attended by the novelists Chinua Achebe and Elechi Amadi and the poet Christopher Okigbo and then at University College, Ibadan, from which he graduated in English. His experience of a traditional British education gave him a deep respect for it he sent both his sons to Eton , now all but lost in its country of origin. In he submitted a radio play to the BBC which was accepted. But his literary ambitions were thwarted for a time, first by the Nigerian civil war in which he served on the federal side and then by the need to earn a living to support his family. He became a grocer for a while, and it is typical of him that he talks of this period of his life not with embarrassment or shame, as many writers would surely do, but with affection and humour. He says - surely with reason - that there is a great deal to be learnt about human nature by providing people with their groceries. In the s, however, he devoted himself to literature. A Novel in Rotten English, it is undoubtedly a masterpiece of African literature. A Bildungsroman, it is the story of a quarter-educated village boy who enters the civil war because his young wife Agnes thinks that military uniforms look smart and manly. He ends up fighting on both sides without ever knowing what the fight was about, and in the process loses everyone dear to him. What is remarkable about this book is that it is told through the eyes of a village boy in language which is half-pidgin and half-English without a trace of condescension on the part of the author. The language is both poetic and accessible; both romantic and credible. It could only have been invented by a man with a deep love of the English language which Saro-Wiwa acknowledges and a genuine sympathy for people less educated than himself. The book reaches a moving conclusion:

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