

The following is an interview with Dawn Wright. The interview was conducted on 10/24/97 starting at approximately 1620.

Q. State your name, please?

A. Dawn Rene Wright.

Q. Your date of birth, Ms. Wright?

A. 2/4/77.

Q. Your address?

A. [REDACTED]

Q. Telephone number?

A. [REDACTED]

Q. Ms. Wright, where are you employed?

A. Dairy Queen.

Q. And the address of that?

A. 9338 Winner Road.

Q. Were you working at Dairy Queen on Wednesday evening?

A. Yes.

Q. When I first contacted you, I showed you a photograph of a young lady and asked you if you did recognize her, and you responded by yes, you did.

A. Yeah.

*check notes for errors*

Q. Where do you recognize this young lady from?

A. She was down here Wednesday night. She was waiting for a ride. And she asked to use the restroom and then she come back out here and asked me for a feminine napkin, and I told her I didn't have one. So my husband brought down one. So I handed it to her and she started talking to me. And she had a . . .

Q. Your husband brought down?

A. A pad, a maxi-pad, a feminine napkin.

Q. Okay, you contacted your husband, does he work here also?

A. No.

Q. You called him at home?

A. Yeah. He never come in. He never even seen her. He just handed it to me. She had started her period and she didn't have anything, so I called my husband, I only live a couple of minutes away, so he brought one down.

Q. Okay. You had never met her before, correct?

A. No. No I haven't. Uh, she kinda seemed nervous a little bit upset. And I asked her what was wrong. She goes well, do you mind if I ask you a question? She said, this is really going to sound pretty weird. I said well, no, if you need somebody to talk to, let me know. I do it all the time to people, too. And she goes well, uh, I have plans with my boyfriend tonight, and I didn't, I lost my ride over there. So I called him to see if he can come pick me up, and he said that he had already made plans with his best friend. She goes, now if that was you and he told you that, what would you do? I said well, I'd ask him what's more important, me or your

friend? She goes, well I asked him that, and he said that he didn't, that his best friend didn't want me there. And I said well, you know, then I think you should tell him...may I cuss?

Q. Whatever.

A. I said, well I think that you should tell him that he's an asshole and not call him for a couple days. And she said yeah, I think that might be a good idea. And uh she just you know, kinda sat there for a minute. She goes, one more thing. I said what's that? She goes, can I use your phone? I said well, it's not a public phone, so she went back out there and she used the phone again and I went outside to smoke a cigarette, and this, I think it was about 9:00, I'm not for sure. It was about 9:00 or so and uh I seen her, she ran outside because three people had pulled up, there was two guys and a girl.

Q. What kind of car?

A. Uh, I didn't see the car. I just seen them walking by. It was a long car. I didn't see the color, it was dark outside. Uh, but she ran outside with them and I got ready to tell her bye, and she was walking with her hands in front of her like that with her head down and they just walked around the corner. That was the last that I had seen of her.

Q. Okay, was, did these people in the car get out?

A. Yeah, they all three had started walking up to the door and she met them outside. Finally, in the middle of that window right there, in the middle of that window.

Q. You say you saw these three people?

A. Yes.

- Q. Could you describe them for me?
- A. Uh, one was wearing a black long, it might have been dark green, but it was a trench coat, kinda had uh you know, hair to about right here. I think.
- Q. About collar length?
- A. Yeah. And it was you know, just straight. And uh the girl I don't, I think she had dark hair, I think it was short, I'm not for sure. And the other guy just had short hair and they were just all wearing dark clothes.
- Q. Was any one of them wearing glasses?
- A. No, I don't remember. I, the one that did catch my attention was the guy that had the kinda long hair and that was wearing the trench coat. Because that's the one that she was talking to and they looked like, you know, they were arguing. I couldn't hear what they were saying, but they were arguing. And she was pretty upset with him when she did leave here.
- Q. And when you saw them talking out there, then where did they go?
- A. Back around the building, and over to this side and that's where the car was, it was right over here.
- Q. That would be in the front of the building?
- A. Yes.
- Q. And did you see the car did you say?
- A. It was a long car. I couldn't see.
- Q. Okay, when you say a long car?

- A. Kinda like that, like an Impala long, an older.
- Q. Two doors?
- A. Four doors. I think it was four doors. I'm not for sure. I am really not for sure.
- Q. Okay, if you're not for sure then. . . Light color, dark color?
- A. Mmm, I'm wanting to say blue, but I don't know, cause it was dark and the lights over here don't really work well.
- Q. And they all got back in the car?
- A. All I seen was just them walk over beside the building and uh I come in at that time and that was it. I don't know if they all had gotten in the car or, I'm pretty sure she did, because that was her ride, to wherever she was going.
- Q. Okay. Did you see which direction they went?
- A. No.
- Q. Had you ever seen this girl before?
- A. Yes, that was the girl that came in here Wednesday night.
- Q. No, I mean before Wednesday night.
- A. No.
- Q. That was the first time you ever talked to her?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did you not think it a little unusual for her to ask for a feminine napkin?

- A. No. I didn't think it was unusual because you know, it's just nature when you start your period, you know, you don't know when it's going to start. And I mean, I've done it, so I didn't find it unusual.
- Q. Did she say anything else about her friends?
- A. No, just her boyfriend.
- Q. Just her boyfriend. Do you remember, did she call him by name?
- A. No.
- Q. Okay. And anything other than what you've already told me, can you remember now?
- A. Just she seemed really nervous like, you know, like jittery and you know, kinda like she was mad, but I can't explain it. You know, it was just like she was just sitting there doing things like that, I don't.
- Q. Did she give you any indication that anything bad was going to happen or she anticipated anything bad?
- A. She just seemed really, what's the word I'm looking for? Just real nervous, jittery, you know, like uh when you get into an argument with somebody and you don't want to argue, and you're afraid of the outcome or what's going to happen, you know, whether they're going to leave you or you know, you get real nervous and real worried. That's how she was. Now I don't know if that's what she was thinking, but that's, you know, that's the only thing I can relate the way she was acting to.
- Q. About what time did you say she got here?
- A. I'm thinking anywhere between 8:00 to 9:00, cause she was

here for about a half an hour before we closed, and we close at 10:00.

Q. And did she say anything about where they might be going?

A. No. No, she didn't.

Q. Anything else at all that you can remember?

A. No. She went out and used the pay phone quite a few times.

Q. About how many times?

A. I'd say about four.

Q. Okay, did she make any comments on who she called?

A. Uh, her ride, that's what she kept saying, and then when her boyfriend got there, you know, she said that her boyfriend was supposed to be coming picking her up.

Q. She mention anybody other than her boyfriend that she was calling?

A. No.

Q. Anything else at all?

A. That's the only thing. That's it. And I just, I can't believe it.

Q. You are aware our conversation is being tape recorded?

A. Yes, I am.

Q. End of interview.