

DEAR SUPERVISOR,

ENCLOSED IS A COPY OF THE RESPONSE TO THE IRRESPONSIBLE ARTICLE YOUR DETECTIVES RELEASED TO THE PRESS.

I'M SURE THAT YOU'VE ASKED YOUR DETECTIVES WHAT LED TO MY CONFESSION AND IF THEY WERE HONEST WITH YOU, THEY WOULD HAVE TOLD YOU THAT I HAD NO CHOICE BUT TO DO SO. IT WAS COMPLETELY OBVIOUS TO ME THAT THEY WERE NOT GOING TO LET ME LEAVE UNTIL THEY HEARD WHAT THEY WANTED TO HEAR. WHEN I TOLD HIM 1 1/2 HOURS INTO INTERROGATING ME, AFTER TRYING TO ANSWER QUESTIONS I COULDN'T POSSIBLY ANSWER, THAT I WAS JUST SAYING THESE THINGS TO GET OUT OF THERE, HE THREW A FIT, SAID IT WAS BREAK TIME AND PERIODICALLY LEFT THE ROOM. WHEN I OFFERED TO LEAVE MY PURSE AND PACKAGE IN THE ROOM AND STEP OUT OF THERE FOR A CIGARETTE I WASN'T EVEN ALLOWED TO DO THAT. I WAS ALLOWED TO SMOKE IN THE "NON-SMOKING" INTERROGATION ROOM.

IT HAS BEEN PROVEN THAT JUST ABOUT EVERY THING THESE PEOPLE SAID IN THAT ROOM WAS A LIE.

I AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT HOW YOUR PEOPLE TREAT VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT BEFORE THIS HAPPENED TO ME. I WOULD HAVE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO ANY ASSAULTED WOMAN THAT SHE REPORT IT! NOW I WOULD STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT SHE SETTLE DOWN IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARDS, GATHER HER THOUGHTS, THINK ABOUT HER NEXT STEP, AND PREPARE TO BE VILIFIED AGAIN, ESPECIALLY IF, HEAVEN FORBID, SHE HAS ANY HISTORY AT ALL WITH DEPRESSION OR ANY MINOR MENTAL ILLNESS THAT WILL BE USED AGAINST HER.

I'LL TELL YOU RIGHT NOW YOU CAN USE THIS AS YOU WISH, BUT TOM HAS CAUSED ME MORE HARM TO MY MENTAL HEALTH THAN THE ENTIRE REST OF MY LIFE HAS.

Pat



10-22-97

Wisconsin State Journal
1901 Fish Hatchery Rd.
Madison, WI 53713

Attention: Editorials Department

To whom it may concern:

I cannot believe you would release such a story as a 'made up sexual assault', without hearing from the VICTIM. Have you asked the detectives in this case why I suddenly changed my mind and said I made it up?

For one thing, this detective has met me only twice and claims to know my entire psychological make-up. I was interrogated for two hours in a closed room, without any possibility of leaving unless I said it did not happen. Many, many threats were made, such as:

*"If you think I was good working with you, you should see me working against you."

**"This would go away quietly if you admit making this up. Otherwise, my findings will be released to the press." (He did call and tell them--he carried out his threat.)

**"I'll call your boyfriend and one of the suspects to tell them that I have forty-two pages of proof that this didn't happen."

More threats were made. These are just a few.

What would you do? The only answer is to say what they want to hear and get out of there so I could start trying to prove what happened. I am trying to do this with no help from the Madison Police Department. The detective made the statement the "women do this all the time." Now, we have to wonder if this is true or if most women drop their case even though there is physical evidence because of the brutal treatment from the police and the court system.

These are matters that should be addressed by the press. The investigating detective on my case was not only unprofessional, but may have by his behavior put myself as well as other women in danger by not taking my complaint seriously. He is sending out the message that we are not to be believed.

Sexual Assault and Police Brutality Victim