



Written by [Larry Elder](#) on April 18, 2024

OJ Simpson Is Dead — Ron and Nicole Are Unavailable for Comment

As to the double murder case against O.J. Simpson, there was so much evidence that his guilt was obvious. This evidence included, but was not limited to, blood at the crime scene and on and in Simpson's white Bronco; a bloody glove found at the crime scene and a matching glove found at Simpson's home; a knit cap, with hair that resembled that of Simpson, found at the crime scene; footprints matching Simpson's foot size found at the crime scene; blood found in Simpson's home; blood on socks found in Simpson's home; and the limo driver, scheduled to pick up Simpson on the night of the murder, buzzed Simpson's intercom and got no response.



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There was other evidence, including the infamous low-speed Bronco chase, not used against Simpson. Evidence was not used either because the prosecution elected not to use it, the judge refused to allow it, or certain things, like Simpson taking and flunking a polygraph, were inadmissible.

One piece of evidence not used was testimony from a witness named Jill Shively. On the night of June 12, 1994, Shively saw a white Bronco driving quickly and recklessly from near the scene of the crime and around the time of the crime. The driver of the Bronco nearly hit Shively's car. When she learned about the murders, she called the police, described what happened, gave them the Bronco's license plate and identified the driver as Simpson.

One would consider this a crucial piece of evidence placing Simpson near the crime scene on the night of the murders. Why did the prosecution choose not to use this eyewitness? Shively sold her story for \$5,000 to one of the tabloids. Lead prosecutor Marcia Clark believed this tainted Shively's credibility, and Clark decided against putting her on the stand to face cross-examination. Besides, the prosecution reasoned, there is so much evidence pointing to Simpson's guilt, why bother with an iffy witness?

Simpson, without a lawyer present, was interviewed by the police the day after the murders. The detectives saw cuts on Simpson's hands. Simpson claimed he sustained them "when I was rushing to get out of my house," but in his pretrial deposition he claimed the cuts came from a glass he broke in anger when he heard about the death of his ex-wife.

The jury consisted of eight blacks. Given the jury's unwillingness to apply reason and common sense, none of the evidence really mattered. Years after the trial, one of the jurors, a black woman named Carrie Bess, in an interview admitted she ignored the evidence.

Interviewer: Do you think there are members of the jury that voted to acquit O.J. because of Rodney King?

Bess: Yes.



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Interviewer: You do?

Bess: Yes.

Interviewer: How many of you do you think felt that way?

Bess: Oh, probably 90% of them.

Interviewer: 90%. Did you feel that way?

Bess: Yes.

Interviewer: That was payback.

Bess: Uh-huh.

Interviewer: Do you think that's right?

After that question, Bess just put up her hands and shrugged.

During the trial, an inner-city New Jersey high school teacher wrote an article called "Race, O.J., and My Kids." It was published in a center-left magazine called The New Republic:

"No more than four of my 110 students (most of whom are black) think O.J. Simpson is definitely guilty and few are willing to admit the possibility that he might be. This faith in Simpson is strongest among black girls....

"One student suggested that Ron Goldman killed Nicole before killing himself and then throwing away the knife. Another believes the dog did it. Shenia suggested that Al Cowlings, Simpson's best buddy, did it. Bryant believes the killer is O.J.'s son. Philip blames 'that (gay) dude who wants to marry O.J.'; that would be Kato Kaelin, Simpson's houseguest....

"Jon, a bright student, had his own scenario: O.J. was shaving and cut himself. Kato took the blood from the shaving cut, brought it to the crime scene and dumped it."

What can one say other than this? O.J. Simpson has died. Ron Goldman and Nicole Brown Simpson were unavailable for comment.

Larry Elder is a bestselling author and nationally syndicated radio talk-show host. To find out more about Larry Elder, or become an "Elderado," visit www.LarryElder.com. Follow Larry on Twitter @larryelder. To read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate webpage at www.creators.com.

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