

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE POLICE
CONTINUATION OF INVESTIGATION REPORT

1764

1. CASE NO. MCI-00-216 Jeremy Hinton	2. INVESTIGATING TROOPER Sgt. James White	3. I.D. NO.	4. TOWN OF CRIME Kittery Maine	5. TN. CD. 0628	6. DATE OF REPORT November 09, 2000
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INTERVIEW OF JEREMY HINTON

EB Let's do a couple of administrative things okay Jeremy? I'm Detective Eric Baker today's date is November 9th at, ah, 20:50 hours. Present is Detective Jill Rockey from the New Hampshire State Police and we're speaking with Jeremy E. Hinton with a date of birth of [REDACTED] and he shows an address of 720B Central Ave., Dover, New Hampshire, with a home phone number [REDACTED]. Um... you know why we've asked you to come in today?

JH Sure.

EB Can you describe what the situation is or of what you know so far?

JH Ah ...Chad, I work for Chad, he stopped by my store... um, probably around 3:30, he said Kittery Police called him, he wasn't sure why. I didn't have any idea. Pretty close friends with him, he said he thought it had something to do with maybe ah Amanda's baby, because he knew it was dropped off, she was dropped off, um, with Jeff that's the only Kittery tie he could come up with.

EB Chad stopped by today at 3:30?

JH I think so.

EB Okay.

JH Um, 3:30, 4:00, it was around there, so I left, um, I went work out and I went to a local restaurant and I hadn't heard from Chad and wanted to make sure everything was all right. I didn't hear from him, so I just swung by the police station. Ah, he was here when I got here. The people out in the hall told me that Cassidy had passed away. And that was pretty much all I got, and then Jeff came out, and kinda told me what happened today as far as the ah 911 call and stuff.

EB Well, how well do you know Chad?

JH Chad, he's probably the closest friend I have. I know him pretty well.

EB How long have you known Chad?

JH For about four years now.

EB Where did you guys first meet?

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JH McDonalds.

EB What's your position with McDonalds?

JH I'm a restaurant manager at the Portsmouth store.

EB And what is Chad's position?

JH He's an area supervisor in charge of 6 or 8.

EB So how, how close of friends are you? What do you guy's do? Do you hang out together quite a bit?

JH Yeah, we hang out, ah, we workout a couple times during the week usually, we also hang out on the weekends when he you know (inaudible) we probably hang out once on the weekends if we're not to busy at work and stuff.

EB Okay so your schedules kind of match?

JH Yeah.

EB For you guys getting together.

JH Yeah, oh yeah, yeah. We both pretty much workdays you know. We seldom work nights unless something happens and then generally we both probably work it.

EB Okay do you have any girlfriends?

JH Um, I have a girlfriend well ex-girlfriend.

EB Yeah, so she, does she hangout with you guys over to Chad's and stuff?

JH Not very often.

EB All right you go over to Chad's mostly?

JH Chad's or Bruce's.

EB Bruce's? Bruce?

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JH His other his friend Bruce.

EB Um...

JH We will go to Bruce's and like watch football and we also work out there.

EB Okay, all right and ah...we've got how old you are, okay, so, um, what goes on over to Chad's house you guys have party's?

JH Oh no, he's, um, I've never been to like a party with booze there. He can't have booze in his house now.

EB Why?

JH He's on probation.

EB For what?

JH Ah, hitting his, his ex-wife Tristan.

EB Okay, were you there when that happened?

JH Um, I was pretty involved in it. I was kind of mediating their breakup as it happened cause I'm good friends with Tristan and good friends with Chad.

EB Who are you better friends with Tristan or Chad?

JH I met Chad first, ah... but I'd say I probably spend more time with him, but I consider both both probably my closest friends.

EB Okay, um, what's Chad's residence like, I mean you say he can't have booze there, but you know come on I'm sure that there's probably booze over there?

JH I've never. He's definitely not, I mean they come find booze there his probation officer, who just stops by there randomly. We had a get together during the summer for a someone's birthday, cop just showed up, well maybe it was July 4th. They went through the whole house there was nothing there.

EB Okay who else lives there?

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JH Travis just moved in, in the last three weeks, four weeks.

EB Travis lives there? Anybody else?

JH No that's it. Amanda's always over there I, I always kid Chad going Amanda lives there now huh and he says' no Jeremy she's finding a place and I go okay Chad. Which is kinda like a friendly jiving because you know you don't want to be there. You know he just got divorced not that long ago.

EB So he is, he is divorced?

JH Yeah, he was divorced October 24th. A couple weeks.

EB Now Amanda's been living over there for how long?

JH Um... I that's funny, cause I asked her yesterday how long she's been there, she said she's been there straight probably for four or five weeks now, but she's been staying there off and on pretty much since half way through the summer.

EB Okay.

JH But I, I don't think she's I remember just giving her a hard time about it and she said something about being there a good four weeks.

EB Okay, now do... where does, where does Kassidy usually stay when she's there?

JH She has....Chad has two, um, sons that don't live with him, but they have joint custody so she sleeps in the youngest one's bedroom. Or she's generally downstairs either with Chad or Amanda most of the time.

EB She... well how would you describe the place to me, I've never been there, so kinda walk me through it?

JH Yep.

EB It's a two story building, three story building?

JH Yep, it's a two-story building, you walk in and you have, um,

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EB An apartment building?

JH No it's a house.

EB Okay.

JH It's a full house. Um it's it's in the woods kinda like... it's a brown house, so it's kinda hard to see.

EB Does he own the house?

JH Yep, you walk in the house there's like a linoleum kitchen, and you go through another door there's the like the dining room, and there's an office off to the side. And you take a left and there's, um, there's like a living room.

EB But all the bedrooms are upstairs?

JH Yeah, all the bedrooms are upstairs. Travis lives downstairs in a kind of it's done over basement for two of the rooms. It's, ah, I've never seen Kassidy downstairs the wood it's wooden steps you know sometimes

EB you mean down in the basement.

JH Yeah, I've never seen any kids go down there.

EB Now, when you've been over there what has Kassidy been doing? She... did she play in the, um,...

JH I've honestly never seen her talk, she just sits there on the couch.

EB Just sits on the couch?

JH Try to talk to her I mean you know how you just say hi to a kid? She just sits on the couch.

JR Does she look at you when you talk to her?

JH Yeah, if you call her name, she looks at you, you say, "Hi Kassidy." Sometimes she'll say, "Hi", but that's about it. But I, I go over there because I don't I like kids Chad has two. I like to play with them, but she just always she always sits there. I mean it's to, to a point where I went over there for Chad's birthday in October and there was this little blonde girl

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looked just like her. And she was talkative and playing around with everyone and I said to Chad's brother said what's up with ah Kassidy why is she all the sudden talking? And ah Jason told me it was Jason's kid. It wasn't Kassidy so.

EB Now, Amanda sleeps in the same bed with, with ah Chad?

JH Yeah.

EB Okay.

JH There was one night, um, I stayed over there, I don't know the date, but it was the night of the Jets and Miami Monday night football game. It was kinda late, so I just crashed there and I stayed in Brent's room and, ah, that's Chad's oldest son.

EB Hm, hm

JH And then when I woke up that morning, cause Kassidy was in bed by the time we got there. Um, Kassidy was in like I saw Kassidy in Amanda's, Chad's bedroom and I'm like, is she sleeping with you guys or something, that's kinda odd, cause you know they're kind of sexually active. And... um... he said that, no she fell out of the bed that night. And I'm like, well that's not good. Ah, well she always falls out of the bed. I said, "Oh", and then that... um... there was a couple later the next week or something during that week. In fact it was the night we got home from, the next morning we had a golf tournament on Tuesday that we went to. That night I got home it was the first time like I ever said anything to Chad about the bruises, because like that one I told you that was on when I was outside.

EB Hm, hm

JH Was that I said Chad she's got bruises on her and they look pretty bad.

EB Was this before this the bruises on the butt?

JH No this, this was at night. When that happened. Chad goes, oh come here, and then called Kassidy over and Kassidy came over, and showed me her butt. I said Chad that's... what's that, that's obviously you know. Cause, I'm not, that's not right you know, I don't care how close my friend is. I'm like Chad did you do that? Because I knew his sister and Tristan wouldn't. He said Jeremy I wouldn't touch kids. I'm like okay, who did it? You know and he said it was Jeff. And I said yeah are you going to fucking kill him or something I mean that's wrong.

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EB Um, um

JH And he said he just talks to him he just spanks her really hard and you know. I mean even outside I, I because I asked Jeff when I got here well Jeff did you touch that kid? And he goes ah I spank her but I don't spank her that hard to kill her.

JR I wasn't when you were explaining to, um, the detective outside I, I didn't hear that you were just pointing to the neck area?

JH Yeah, there was just um, um I was telling him what I saw bruises on Kassidy the first time, they were... there was just a couple bruises on her neck that just...just an odd place to have a bruise I thought, so I asked him about it and he said he never explained to me how the bruises on her neck got there, but he showed me her butt. And honest to God I've never seen anything.

JR Oh, you pointed out the bruise

JH Yeah.

JR on her neck

JH Yeah, yeah.

JR and then he showed you the bruise on the on her rear end?

JH I mean I don't... I mean, I grew up with my dad and mom obviously spanked me. You know.

EB Hm, hm

JH There old school parents we all got spanked but (inaudible)

EB So this... those bruises happened during, um, you said during the Jets football that Monday night football game

JH No.

EB you saw them at that time? You saw them that time for the first time?

JH Well she had, um, I didn't see her that night when I was she was in bed.

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EB Hm...

JH You saw her the next day I mean?

JH The next day was that Tuesday was the first time I saw them.

EB Okay did you see any other bruising on her?

JH I do remember the only other time, it was it was probably a month ago I was talking to Amanda and I said, "you know you going home this weekend" or something and, ah, that was back when she was still like making trips home. And she said that no her mom would flip out if she saw the bruises on Cassidy's face and I looked at Cassidy and I go I don't see any bruises. I didn't really ask her anything, she just said she was really klutzy, she'd fall and I said oh. So that was probably a good month ago. It was before that period where she stayed consistently at Chad's house. She was probably going there for two nights and coming back for two nights. She wasn't working it was kind in September, she hadn't started school, but she was going to start school and then she didn't start school.

EB Who was going to start school?

JH Amanda.

EB Oh.

JH I've never... I've been around Chad's kids and I, I was probably the first person to tell him what he did to his wife was wrong. You know I mean he did the typical guy thing. Ah, I really didn't hit her that much. And, ah, I was quite honest with him you know, because I talked to Tristan and I said I don't believe it you know I want to talk to you about it. You know it was kinda he went through a phase when I wouldn't talk as much at first but. I've never seen him lay a hand on one of his two kids. I mean I would never

EB Did he ever compare his kids to Cassidy? Did he ever think anything was different between the two?

JH No, he never... I mean the two kids that he's kinda responsible for the oldest one isn't even his. And he's always treated him if anything better than Kyle.

EB They're both boys?

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JH Yeah, ones Brent and he's first grade age and Kyle is three. And this is he obviously you know he doesn't let them do anything, he'll scold them.

EB Hm, hm

JH But I've never seen him so much as spank either one of them.

EB Okay.

JH And Brent the older kids and Kyle are really well behaved child, but Brent obviously grew up in it just wasn't a healthy situation. He's not very ...I think he's in first grade, but should be in like third grade, he's not a very quick.

EB A little on the slow side?

JH Yeah.

EB You said that, ah, Chad stopped by at 3:30 today. Why does it... is it, is it normal for him to stop by your place of work and tell you what's going on? Or?

JH Yeah.

EB What did he exactly say to you when that happened?

JH He just said, Jeremy I don't know what's going on the Kittery Police paged me and I go what did they say, and he told me they said, we'll talk about it when you get here. I said, did they say anything else. He said no. He goes, I'm just nervous Jeremy because I'm on probation, he goes, I haven't. Did you hit Amanda or anything. He goes, ah, no I've never laid a finger on her. He says I'm not dumb. You know and I says well, you know, we, we didn't really talk much about like, you know, he said I said well what about Kassidy, does it have something to do with Kassidy and he say's, oh yeah, I dropped her off at Jeff's in Kittery. And that was about it.

EB Well did he say when he dropped her off in, in Jeff's place in Kittery?

JH Well he, I'm sorry he didn't say he dropped her off, he just said she was at. Kassidy was in Kittery at Jeff's place for the day. No I'm sorry, I said wasn't she supposed to be starting daycare, cause last night Amanda told me she was starting daycare today.

EB Where?

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JH Chad told me in Kittery, he thought she was going to a daycare place in Kittery.

EB Hm, hm

JH And it must have been Jeff. Because when I called Chad's house last night Amanda was on the phone and she was looking for daycare I says oh. Cause she just started working again.

EB You called there last night? What time did you call over there?

JH Um... I'm just trying to remember what was last night Wednesday?

EB Yeah.

JH Ah 7, 6 no I think it was before I worked out at 5.

EB You called?

JH Amanda's and Chad's.

EB In Rochester?

JH Yeah, I was looking for Chad.

EB And so Amanda answered the phone?

JH Amanda answered the phone. Yeah, it was in the afternoon because Amanda was heading to work, so it was before 5. Amanda worked at 5 last night.

EB Oh, so you called him before 5?

JH Yeah.

EB I thought you said 7 o'clock?

JH No it just it was before 5.

EB Was ah...Chad home at that time?

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JH No, he was still working. I was trying to get a hold of him. I probably had a question about work or something.

EB Um, did you know if Kassidy was home at that time?

JH No, I just asked Amanda what she was up to she said nothing I'm just trying to find a daycare and I said daycare. She said, oh cause she's working and it's not working out their schedules, so she needed to find a more reliable daycare other than Jeff. And I said, oh okay and that was it. And I said well okay if you see Chad just tell him I called. She said yeah.

EB How often, ah...

JH Because I, I when, when Chad was there, I was like Chad did she start that new daycare? I'm like did the daycare see the bruises? I did ask him that at work today.

EB At 3:30 when he stopped by?

JH Yeah.

EB You didn't see him any other time today or talk to him any other time today?

JH Nope, he called me up and told me to do something for work, but it was a very short conversation and he said photocopy this and give it to the store by such and such a time. I said okay.

EB Okay, ah... go back to the thing where you talked about the bruises.

JH Oh yeah, I said Chad are you she was supposed to start new daycare today, maybe she went to the daycare and they saw bruises and called the police. He said I don't know Jeremy.

EB That's all he said?

JH Yeah.

EB I don't know.

JH He said that's possible. That was it. He really just I mean he was visibly upset he didn't know if Amanda was all right and he didn't know if Kassidy was all right. He just knew that he didn't have a good experience with the whole police thing. Until ah about a month ago

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EB Hm, hm

JH So

EB Hm, hm have you ever seen him be violent before?

JH As far as striking someone?

EB Yeah

JH Never, the only time I've ever seen him hit another person, ah, was one night at a party when Tristan his ex-wife hit him and he just kinda grabbed her, he didn't really slap her, he just kinda grabbed her and held her up against the wall, and said don't hit me.

EB When was this?

JH Ah it was right when I first met them. It was a long time ago.

EB Four years ago?

JH Yeah, it was one of the first times that I kinda hung out socially. But never physical violence, I never seen him hit.

EB Well, what about a temper, what type of temper does he have?

JH He doesn't, I mean I'm not going to say that he doesn't have a temper. He has a temper, um, but it, it's not, it's not one of those tempers that just where he, he's always angry you know. It takes a lot to piss him off he's never you know I've worked for him for four years. And I'm a good worker, but he's never yelled at me at work or anything like that. No I, I we're good friends. But you know we don't do anything really to each other to make each other yell at him. But you know our work relationship I would say you have a right to yell at them I know he's yelled at a couple of the other managers before.

EB Hm, hm

JH But he's not the type of person that just snaps you know

EB Hm

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JH because someone who coughs or like that. You know I have a brother that does that you know you sneeze the wrong way around him puts him in a bad mood.

EB Um, you make pretty good money every week?

JH Yeah.

EB As a district manager?

JH Store Manager.

EB Store manager you make good money?

JH Yeah

EB Ah, obviously he probably makes more money than you?

JH Yeah

EB How much does he probably take home in a week do you think?

JH Ah I, I take home before taxes it's 775 so his is probably close to 850, 9 thousand probably somewhere in that range he has a company car to so.

EB Hm, hm

JH Which kind of changes.

EB Does he seem like he's hurting for money right now?

JH Oh no, not at all.

EB Not at all? Do you know if he has any ah... illegal types of gambling, betting ah... drug use or anything like that? I mean you're hanging around him and he... we're talking here... well with a shut door, we're not going to go running back to him and say well you told us this and this and this.

JH No, I just I don't. The illegal gambling, I mean how much is.

EB Well, all right let me does he gamble does he owe anybody money for gambling and so forth.

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JH No. He doesn't owe anybody any money.

EB Are you sure?

JH I'll be honest. Yeah. I'm positive.

EB I mean because of some of these questions I'm asking you I know the answers to.

JH Yeah

EB I just

JH (inaudible)

EB and I'd hate to and I'd hate to see you lie to me about something that is so simple.

JH No, I just feel funny talking about illegal activity in a police station with state police.

EB Well

JR The main, the main focus obviously you know why we're here and that's the main focus of our

JH I'll be honest with you I just picked up a good chunk of money for him tonight. So.

EB Where? I mean for what for gambling purposes?

JH Yeah

EB And people that owed him money or for him to pay off?

JH People that owed him money.

EB Okay, all right.

JH Am I like going to get in trouble for this?

JR No, you're not no.

EB You're not in trouble.

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JH I'm not I feel like I, I it's just friendly

JR Jeremy take a deep breath

JH I

JR you're not going to get in trouble here but, but as you know these things can effect how people act okay?

JH Oh yeah.

JR And we do have some information.

JH Sure

JR And ah that's, that's why you're being questioned about that. Um... so you did pick money up tonight. As far as you know is this the only source where he gambles

JH Oh yeah.

JR or is there other?

JH No it's only place we gamble.

JR So there's one place that he gambles that you know of?

JH Yeah he, he, he met the person through me I can tell I know him now can I get arrested for that by the way?

EB No, you're not getting arrested

JH All right.

EB We're, we're concerned about what's happened to Cassidy.

JH Hm, hm

EB But we need to find out a full background. And we're all ready asking you a few questions that we know answers to.

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JH Yeah

EB And, and when you give us the untruthful answer

JH Yeah I

EB We begin to question what type of person we're actually talking to that is sitting across from us.

JH Yeah I know yeah I

EB So, I always find that it's much easier that if you tell me the truth and tell the truth

JH Oh yeah, I that's the only question that I didn't hesitate tonight at all was because only cause I don't want to

EB We're talking about gambling or are we talking about a murder?

JH Yeah, I'm talking about gambling.

EB I know, but um... see what I'm saying?

JH Yup, I understand.

EB Now, we need to know what type of temper that, ah, Chad has shown you. He's, he's only been a friend for four years?

JH Yep

EB And you know how, how far do you want to go for a friend that you've only known for four years? How much protection do you feel you need to give him?

JH I, I honestly if I thought for a doubt at any minute that Chad did that to my I wouldn't ever try to protect him. I'm not even I, I didn't tell you that because I wanted to protect him at all. I told you that because I saw a kid with bruises that I've never seen before in my life. I mean never I was very lucky I had two great parents.

EB Hm, hm

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JH Both still together. Two great brothers and I've never seen anything like it.

EB Hm, hm

JH And you know I just that's why I want you know there was bruises on that kid. And

EB Do you question did you have any thought that maybe those bruises you didn't even question at all where what his excuses were for where the bruises came from?

JH No I, I seen him around his boys, I mean his Kyle you won't meet a smarter, more energetic, intelligent kid that's three years old.

EB Hm, hm

JH You know and I really admire him for what he's done for Brent, you know, even after the divorce. Obviously, he's not legally obligated to you know pay for a dime for Brent, you know, and he's puts money away for them for an education IRA still. He you know treats him like he's his own. Any time he can spend time with him, when Tristan calls him, yep, no problems and he's canceled plans before to spend time with his, with his kids and.

JR But those are his kids Jeremy!

JH Yeah.

JR Even though Brent isn't his natural kid. Those are his kids. And if you recall earlier in the interview when the detective questioning you, you said when you noticed those bruises and you questioned him about them. You said now why'd don't you go beat why don't you go beat the shit out of him? I think it was

JH Yes

JR pretty close to what you said?

JH Yeah

JR That it even your child and those bruises incensed you that much that you had the urge to go out and beat the crap out of somebody?

JH Yeah

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JR Again what was done for Cassidy?

JH He told me he called her, he said Jeremy I've talked to him and he said he just didn't realize he hit her that hard. That was it, it was kind of

JR But again, you said you

JH Oh yeah

JR just observing it, just looking at it you knew those bruises were not caused by a spanking. You knew that. You don't have any children but, but you grew up and you looked at that child's body and you knew that that was not caused by a spanking.

JH Yeah

JR Chad has two children of his own. I'm sure that he knew that that was not caused by a spanking to. Does that sound reasonable?

JH I mean it definitely could. I mean were how else would it get there if it wasn't caused by a spanking?

JR Well, but not by a normal... not when you discipline a child. There's a spanking and there's abuse.

EB
There's one thing about slapping a kid on the ass.

JH Oh, oh yeah no, no it was ah... I see what... I know, but I mean I'm pretty sure it was with a hand just really hitting hard.

JR Hm but right I'm, I'm what I'm saying is

JH Oh yeah

JR it wasn't a disciplinary spank.

JH it wasn't yeah it wasn't like a spanking like I got from my dad or anything.

JR ...

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EB Is that a good enough answer for you?

JH No, oh no, you're right I never, I guess, I just never thought of it, but yeah.

EB How about the bruising on the neck. She fell out of bed and she got bruising on her neck?

JH Ah, no she fell out of bed that night. When I woke up he didn't, he didn't offer that as explanation.

EB What was his explanation for the bruising on the neck?

JH He didn't give me one he just said check this out and showed me that and that was it. Ah, ah he didn't I didn't ask him where the bruise on her neck came from. I said Chad that, that looks like someone's been hitting and that's when he showed me

EB The one on the neck looked like someone had been hitting her?

JH Yeah

EB What did it look like to you? Did it look like finger marks or a fist mark or?

JH Ah... it almost it looked it wasn't really cause it wasn't on both sides so I

EB Do you remember what side it was on?

JH She... the couch is here, she was sitting here, so it had to have been on her left.

EB On her left side?

JH Yeah, it just had to have been. Cause... I couch... I was sitting on the couch here and she's on the couch here.

EB Do you know if he's right or left handed?

JH He's left-handed.

EB Left handed? Um ...the last time you were at the residence was when?

JH I think it might have been that night I hung out with him at Bruce's house and we decided to go down to his house. His house.

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EB Was Kassidy or ah Amanda with him at that time at Bruce's house?

JH Nope, I haven't seen Amanda.

EB You guys have obviously talked very recently because of you having to go pick up some money for him?

JH Yep

EB And when did you guys talk?

JH At 3:30 today.

JR Was that the business thing he asked you to take care of real quick?

JH No, no, no I had he had we had a labor law coming up in Greenland, so he had me photocopy something.

EB But he, I mean you must of known like that you had to go take care of this, this cash deal for him. Did you... when did talk about that?

JH We all, we always do like it's a set pick-up or drop-off time... we always... it's pretty standard. That was... it was every Thursday night. We start up the new cycle.

EB But he's, he's probably pretty heavily in debt with the gambling?

JH No he's definitely not in dept.

EB So he's on the winning side of it?

JH Oh yeah.

EB Just recently on the winning side of it?

JH No all year. I'm the one that's probably well not in dept. But I'm the one that's been losing.

EB What type of, what type of it of it are you gambling towards horses or

JH No

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EB or what type of

JH No it's just sports betting.

EB sports betting, okay. Staying in New Hampshire or are you guys traveling out of state for that now?

JH Staying in New Hampshire.

EB Okay um

JH I don't know if the person we gamble with does it legally I'm not sure.

EB But you go through a private person?

JH Yeah

EB Okay, my concern is though is that there's more going on in that residence than meets the eye. And maybe not what everybody is telling us. That's why it's important that you keep

JH I, I, I

EB It's vitally important that you keep in good communication with us. And give us the truth.

JH I'm being absolutely honest with you it, it doesn't

EB Because listen, I mean we've got a child that's laying on a piece of metal slab, ah... and you remember what that kid looks like. Well let me tell you... we've the two of us went and looked at the child tonight and there's a lot there, there's a lot there.

JR And it's not disciplinary.

JH I ah

EB This is

JR That girl's been through a lot.

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- EB She has been she, she suffered and suffered I mean it's... you would not even want to face what we saw tonight. I'm going to tell you that right now.
- JR And she's a year and a half year old.
- JH Guys I, I, I wouldn't even laugh at my brothers with something like this I mean this is just like to me I, I can not stomach it. I can't you know I'd be honest I don't know Cassidy that well, but my relationship with her is her just sitting on the couch but.
- EB Did you ever Amanda um... discipline her or?
- JH I've seen Amanda like just leave her upstairs in her room and the kids crying and she won't do anything about it.
- EB Well did ah... Chad goes upstairs and takes care of it.
- JH Oh yeah, yeah and Chad would bring her downstairs.
- EB What would he do he'd go upstairs and do what?
- JH He would just bring her downstairs and Amanda's like she's never gonna learn this to da, da, da
- EB What do you mean da, da you've got to talk in regular language.
- JH She said she was never going to learn if he would just go get her when she cry's every time you pick her up. She's not going to learn anything by that.
- JR So did Chad react every time she cried? I mean
- EB Would Chad get frustrated with it?
- JH No, he never he would, he would just any time his reaction was going in to pick her up or sometimes he would listen to Amanda and he would just ignore her. I really... she... I only seen her cry a few times for the most part she'd. I'm not kidding you, she just sits there on the couch. And obviously for obvious reasons now but she just sat there.
- JR Was she watching TV or anything?

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JH Nope, the TV's like, the couch the TV's here. She's just sitting there and one time I even came over Kyle was watching a children's show and she was sitting on that couch. I, I don't know, Amanda's brother is kinda slow, I didn't know if... I didn't ever asked I mean it's not something you want to ask, hey is your kid slow, she always just sat there. I'm not I wouldn't I'm not trying to protect Chad I'm just giving you all the information I have you know and that is it.

JR Let me ask you because we're getting different information.

JH Sure

JR especially about the gambling ah we were lead to believe that Chad was in financial trouble. Why, why how are you so sure that he is not having a gambling problem if that is costing him?

JH I have \$900 bucks out in my car I can go get it.

JR I, I believe you. What I'm asking is how you know that that's the only person that he deals with?

JH Well I mean I, I talk to Chad probably once in the morning, once before I leave at night, and he doesn't come to my store often because I, I think I have pretty good control on things so usually most of our work interactions is done by phone. You know we usually check in with each other in the morning and check in with each other at night. Sometimes we even talk at night. Just about shooting the shit.

JR Um... this is not to get you in trouble, but we already have a name of a person that Chad has been associated with in gambling.

JH Sure

JR Who, who is the person who picked the money up from him tonight? Again this is from

JH I don't want to get killed because I on some bookie you know what I'm saying?

JR Let me tell you something no body is going to find out

JH I don't want it to be my murder.

JR No, no, no just listen we've talked to a lot of people tonight a lot

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JH The guy's name is Scott. That we drop off and pick up with.

JR Okay, Scott what? That's a common first name?

JH Yeah I don't know his last name he's a bartender.

JR A bartender where?

JH (inaudible) bar and grill.

JR In Portsmouth? Okay um and he's always the person you deal with?

JH Yeah

JR Okay

JH I've never seen the bookie, never talked to him, kind of a drop off and pick up kind of thing.

EB How much money do you guys usually bet at that time?

JH I only bet generally \$50 bucks a game. They bet sometimes Bruce and Chad they split their bets. They bet anywhere from \$100 to \$200 bucks on a game.

EB Okay, all right... I mean our focus is if there's a lot going on in Chad's life.

JH Yeah.

EB And

JR Oh, I'm sorry financial problems can create a great deal of stress in people's lives.

JH Yeah he, he, he just bought a couple three wheelers recently. He... hey, I really money... he is very sound investment wise. He probably has over I don't know I know for Tristan and his kids and himself he probably has at least \$40 thousand put away for their education and future and stuff. And he has plenty of money. He doesn't have a car bill. He has a company car they pay for gas, insurance. Nothing, I mean he has his house bill and he takes his settlement with Tristan was he'll pay for every single dime of Kyle you know from now until he's 18. If Kyle needs 10 bucks for grocery money, 10 bucks for school to buy a pair of shoes and Chad says he's going to take care of his whole college education offered to put

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money away still for Brent. And Tristan said, no... um... said if you ever need money for Brent I'll give you money for Brent. He just... he's always loaning people money. You know people come to him and say hey I need money. You know that guy Travis that lives with him, Chad gave him a car. You know

EB What type of car did he give him?

JH A RX 7.

EB Fairly new?

JH No, I mean it's an old beat up \$1000 dollar car. That he had bought at a car auction.

EB How often does Brent and Kyle come to the... ah... house and stay there, he only has part-time custody of the children?

JH Oh no, he has Kyle at least 4 nights a week. Um... Brent's more on a... when he can see him kind of thing. There is nothing written about Brent, cause he's not, he doesn't have legal custody over him during the marriage. But he has joint physical custody of Kyle.

EB Okay, what about drug use?

JH I've never seen him touch the stuff.

EB You've never seen him touch it?

JH I know I've seen him around it. But he never tried it. He drinks. He doesn't drink much anymore, but I'd say before his whole marriage thing with Tristan that was one of the reasons that lead to his problems he'd drink a lot. Not really a lot, but when he drank he drank a lot. You know what I'm saying he's not I wouldn't call him an alcoholic I'd call him a problem drinker. When he drinks he drinks too much. But you know before he got arrested. That's the way he was.

JR How was he when he drank too much?

JH I, I usually passed out before I saw... I've never seen him violent or anything when he was drunk.

EB Well why would you call him a problem drinker then if you've never seen him?

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JH He drank a fifth of Vodka and case of beer in an night you'd call that a problem.

EB Okay

JH I mean he'd just never get sick from it. I mean we went up camping and this summer, me and him split a bottle Whiskey and I passed out at six after the bottle was gone. I guess he'd get up and drink beer he said.

EB Okay, but you've never seen any drug use?

JH Ah no I, I've I mean we've talked about it I've never done it you know he said he tried it back when he was in high school in Keene and he's never done it since.

JR Well

JH He said it didn't do it for him?

JR Well what did he try?

JH Marijuana

JR But nothing about using cocaine at all?

JH No

JR Okay

EB No heroin, crack, or anything like that?

JR You're sure Jeremy?

JH I'm positive.

EB Especially when

JH I would, I would know oh yeah

EB You looked you were about to tell us something about it.

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JH I think I asked him once if he tried coke and I can't remember if he said he tried it in high school he said his brother had tried it.

EB Just a minute.

JH But he... um... but he, that was along time ago.

EB We'll stop.

JH I mean I know it's, it sounds trivial because we're talking about a murder here

EB Yeah

JH And I've never you know been around it murder, but I don't know the two guys that I do it well with and I don't know what would happen if you know somehow their business got cut off like you know that's it.

EB Yeah that's it.

JR What?

JH I don't I don't want to sound cold hearted or selfish but

EB We're not focusing on that.

JH Yeah she, she I fell bad.

EB Okay, okay

JH (inaudible)

EB I mean our concern is at all is a 18 month old child that's dead. And ah someone has some explaining to do and, and that's what we're trying to find out.

JH Ah that's why I'm here.

EB And we're making sure that you're not protecting someone because, you know, maybe you didn't know the child that well. But that child still is a human being and had her whole life a head of her. And now it's been completely taken away from her from someone not being about to control themselves. And if you don't think that I mean it upsets me physically and

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especially to see what we saw tonight. Um, I have kids and it bothers the heck out of me. I'm not sure if you have any kids or not.

JH No I don't. But

JR I don't either but it still bothers me.

JH Oh yeah right

JR And I know it bothered you cause you mentioned it.

JH Oh no, I mean that's I remember that's I don't think I remember that night as clear as I do except for I, I can still see it. And it was definitely someone hitting her. You know.

EB Someone definitely hit her in the side, in the side of the neck?

JH Well I, I couldn't say for sure, but when I saw the butt and the legs I mean it just wasn't the butt

EB It's on her legs to?

JH Oh yeah, it went all the way down to the back of her legs. That's how I knew it wasn't just you know like I said a spanking. I mean it was just it was very it was sick. I mean I, I just'

EB But Chad didn't, but Chad didn't seem upset about it?

JH No ah

EB No honestly, did he seem upset?

JH He didn't seem... I know if it was Kyle you're right, he differently, probably would have been more upset about it. No doubt you know thinking back now if that was Kyles butt and lets say Tristan was hitting him like that or whoever the daycare was or ah yeah, I

EB He would have probably gone after him?

JH Oh yeah, I'm sure.

EB Cause he... did Amanda say anything to you about this child when you saw these beatings?

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JH Chad was whispering it to me in the living room, she was in the office doing the survey thing that she was doing at the time. And... ah... she said what are you guys whispering about? And then Chad's like I just was showing him what Jeff did to ah... Cassidy. And then I was walking out before and I said bye Amanda and she's a bye and that's the extent of conversation after that.

EB But you've never seen any other you've never seen Chad act up? How about Amanda acting up?

JH I, I have never seen really Amanda, except for at the house. Around the kid that much, I mean she just you know...times we've gone out. We out went out to New York one weekend, me, Chad, and Amanda. Neither one really, they didn't seem like they had that violent thing that Amanda, I mean that Tristan and Chad had. Tristan and Chad differently had a violent, you know it was a mutual

EB Why did the three of you go to New York?

JH It was the six of us.

EB Oh, six of you.

JH It was another couple and my ex-girlfriend.

EB All right just couples down there?

JH Yeah we just went down and got a room. And just had a good time.

JR How long were Chad and ah Tristan together?

JH About four years.

JR Okay

JH They got together when I met Chad.

JR And how long have ah

JH Chad and Amanda?

JR Yeah

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JH They got together the end of the summer, their first date was at the concert, one of the first concerts was at Hampton Beach Casino. So, right at the end of the summer.

JR So, maybe they haven't gotten to that point yet?

JH That's possible.

EB Do you know how they met?

JH Jeff introduced them and I'm pretty sure.

EB And you're, you're friends with Jeff as well?

JH Hm we hang out I, I mean he's not someone I hang out with on a regular basis even though we see each other he's rapping up mowing my lawn or doing plowing. We'll go out for a beer hang out or something. I mean we've hung out a few times socially, but we never I don't I wouldn't know his home phone number or anything like that.

EB Okay did you ever ask him about the ah?

JH Oh, I haven't seen him since then.

EB You haven't seen him since then? You saw him out here tonight?

JH Yeah that was the first time I saw him.

EB Did you ever ask him out here tonight?

JH Oh yeah, I asked him, I said you know because he came out and he was pretty much talking like Chad did it. And I said Jeff you spanked her. Ah... he said I just spanked her, I didn't put those bruises on her. And at that point I just, I didn't to talk to him, I just said whatever. And me and Bruce left.

EB What's Jeff like you know what his background is?

JH Um... I don't well I the only personal information is that I know about him is he just talks about girls he's dated and stuff. I know he had a problem with one where she was married and I'm not sure if that's why the restraining order was involved. I just know he had a restraining order on him for that.

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EB How long ago was that?

JH Um, probably 12 or anywhere a year to two years. No actually it was longer than that cause the store that I am in now Portsmouth was where it started and we didn't own it, and so it was probably before 1999.

EB Who else hangs out at this house that's at Chad's with you? Who else was some of his friends?

JH No one really hangs out at that house except for his family. His sister Nicole, his brother Jason and his mom and dad.

EB They come over?

JH Um... they all come, well his mom was coming up quite a bit she hasn't lately cause she's kinda sick.

EB Where's she, where are they from?

JH They're from Keene.

EB All from Keene.

JH Oh Nicole's from somewhere up in Northern New Hampshire, Laconia in that area. But Jason and his parents live in Keene.

EB So Nicole is his sister; Jason's the brother?

JH Yep and his parents are Pam and Chetty.

EB Chetty?

JH Chet

EB Okay Chet. Do you know the last time they may have been around?

JH I'm sure it was Chad's birthday. Which was October 14th, 15th I get them mixed up, it was one of those two days. They were up for the weekend. Got there on a Friday evening and left Sunday before the twelve o'clock football game started.

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EB You were there that time?

JH Um, I was there on Friday night, yep. Chad had ...um... That was the night I was telling you about Jason's kid was up, and I had never seen Jason's kid before, and I said wow Kassidy's talking a lot, and he said that's not Kassidy that's Jason's kid.

EB Oh okay.

JH That was a Saturday night it happened.

EB Are there any other incidents that ever happened that you know of? Any other bruises that you've seen on that child. Did you ever notice her hair?

JH Oh, the only other time was that same weekend Amanda came over. Amanda didn't go over to Chad's that Saturday night. And I wasn't, I wasn't sure why and then she came over that Sunday to... ah drop presents off at Bruce's and stuff, before she was bringing Kassidy to the baby-sitters or something and ah... I said why isn't Kassidy staying here, ah she got bruises on her. I said Amanda she got bruises all the time. Said I she told me that's when she said I know I talked to Jeff and that I thought was kinda funny and I'm like it's really strange she didn't seem that upset about it. That's her own kid but she didn't Amanda's never really seem like, I don't want to say who is a good mother or a bad mother, but she's never been one to, she just doesn't strike me as a good mother. I just wouldn't I wouldn't bring my kid over to a house that someone I was just dating didn't stay there all the time you know. I wouldn't go off to New York and leave her with my mom for three days, but that's just me you know. I never had anyone watch, watch me but my, my parents. My uncle and that was it. Nobody's going to watch my kids except me and my wife.

EB Okay

JH She never... she just doesn't seem too concerned.

EB Do you know if there's any problems with the flooring over to Jeff's house or over at Chad's house?

KH I've never been to Jeff's house. Chad's house um the kitchen is hard um

EB Hard wood floor?

JH No it's ah broader

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EB Linoleum?

JH Yeah linoleum, not ceramic, yeah linoleum

EB Okay

JH Um, the dining room is hardwood. Um, and then the living room is carpeted.

EB Have you ever seen the child walk before? Have you ever seen Cassidy walk?

JH Yeah like, like that night Chad called her over she walked right over.

EB Walk fine?

JH Yeah she

EB You didn't see anything out of the ordinary?

JH Didn't see her limp or anything I've seen get up and like go upstairs.

EB Was this the night of the football game?

JH The nights of the Jets yep.

EB So she's always in this

JH I've never seen her limping or anything like that. She had, she doesn't walk as much as a normal kid. She I, I she just sat there you know. I, I'm starting to feel like I could have done something.

EB Maybe, it sounds like a few people could have done something. You are just one of many.

JH Yeah, it's not a good feeling.

EB But the only good feeling that may come out of this is if we figure out exactly how this happened. When someone tells us the complete truth about what happened. And that's, that's what's going to come out. Um... and you need to think about long and hard about what's going on.

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JH Ah I'll be honest if I can think or remember something I'll call you guys first. I don't have a problem with that it's sickening.

JR I mean somebody may want to talk to you.

JH No I

JR I'm not talking about us I'm, I'm saying one of the people here tonight may at some point talk to you about something

JH Oh I know I'm sure.

JR and say things to you, you know we would appreciate a phone call.

JH Yep, nope, I have no problem with that. Does it matter who I call?

JR Cause I want me to give him mine?

EB I'll give him my card for now. Um cause we don't know exactly how this will be handled overall.

JH I mean can I... is Chad like the one that's suspected or?

EB A couple suspects.

JH or if it Jeff?

JR We're not ruling anybody out at this point.

EB Exactly.

JH I mean this is hard a kid laying dead and my closest friend maybe a suspect.

EB You've got to think about some things tonight.

JH Well I

EB Think about what your conscience and you have got to live with.

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JH I'm thinking, I'm thinking right now how's it if honestly if I ever saw Chad Evans hit one of those kids that I

JR Keep in mind this was not his kid.

JH Well

EB And that's what, and she's said this several times to you and

JH Sure

EB she's completely right.

JH But I mean

EB It's not his kid.

JH The thing about it, it's weird that I never, you know Amanda's attitude about Cassidy isn't like Chad's is about his own kids, you know what I'm saying.

JR Yeah I do

JH It's almost like it's not, you know just thinking about that conversation I had in Bruce's driveway when she dropping off the presents, she's like you know. I know one night she that, that day I think she said you know, I said are you bringing her to your moms? She's like no I can't bring her to my moms, mom would flip out if she saw the bruises on her. That like, I don't know why I didn't say anything then, but I mean she wasn't flipping out about it either you know.

EB Hm, hm

JH But to me I... if someone touched my kid and I know Chad would do the same about his own kids. Obviously it wasn't about Cassidy, but neither one of them.

EB Do you think Chad was capable of causing bruises on, on to her?

JH I, I, I don't Chad I think you know if one of his friends got into a fight he'd be the first person probably to step in and fight. You know what I'm saying, you know I could easily see Chad getting into a fight, I've never seen him actually fight you know, but he's told me about some fights he was in, in high school just when we were talking about high school

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days. I, I, I don't think I don't think Chad's capable of I've never seen him spank Kyle and I've never seen him spank Brent you know and just the way I was brought up.

EB Have you ever seen him spank Cassidy?

JH No, I've never she him hit Cassidy either. But I, I mean I've only been around Cassidy

EB When he's picked up Cassidy how did he pick her up?

JH Just put her in his arms like this.

EB So, he didn't pick her up by the arms and drag her and bring her in or pick her up in anyway that you thought was a little bit rougher ...

JH No

EB than you'd pick up a child?

JR Was he affectionate with his own children?

JH Yeah, Chad was very affectionate with them

JR How?

JH Kyle the little ones always sits up and plays with his ear. He sits there you know and plays with his ear for ever. Kyle does that and to anyone he's close to or trusts, but he's always you know kissing him and saying I love you, I mean me and Chad joke about it cause I've never kissed my dad on the lips. You don't kiss your son on on the lips that kind of thing. He says I kiss my son on the lips I love him you know. Brent the same way.

JR Did he ever show affection with her with Cassidy?

JH No except for the times when he would go upstairs and get her cause she was crying (inaudible)

JR But

JH But not like affection just kind of held her to get her to stop crying.

JR And brought her down? Okay.

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JH Never, never he shows... he's had Kyle show affection you know, this is Kassidy you know say good night and give her a kiss and that thing so.

EB But no one else goes over and visits the house? Or that Chad ah hangs around with? He doesn't have to visit the house how about he just hangs out with?

JH He's a very friendly guy I mean he'll you know, and have a beer with someone. And he'll go out and have dinner with someone that we work with, but I would really say his close friend that are probably Bruce and I. The people he hangs out with most of the time.

EB Has it ever really confided something in you and really told you a deep dark secret of his?

JH Yeah

JR What?

JH Oh, with out getting graphic he told me you know, I know he was cheating on his wife. Um back when they were married and that's something that he may not have told Bruce.

JR Okay, but that's a sexual exploit.

JH Yeah

JR I'm, I'm talking about

JH Yeah, he's never he didn't tell Bruce that and he's known Bruce a lot longer than he's known me.

JR No, no, no I understand that, but I believe what the detective is talking about is did he ever tell you about a time that he beat the crap out of his wife? Did he ever tell you one day I walked up to her and punched her in the nose?

JH No we've talked you know. We've talked pretty extensively about that too because.

JR Who initiated those conversations?

JH Um, he 50/50, I the only conversation I can really think of is after it all happened and you know they were... he wanted to get back together with Tristan. You know he wanted my help in talking to Tristan and stuff. And you know I sat down and said Chad I need to know

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what happened you know. I'm not going to you know, I think you're giving the macho I would never hit my wife version of the story. You know and

JR Did he tell you never hit his wife?

JH No, no he kinda said I didn't really it's like I just grabbed her and I really didn't hit her that hard. That kind of thing and but

JR So he minimized what he did?

JR Yeah, he was very minimizing. But I had gotten my ex-girlfriend works in the safe place in Portsmouth. And she um... she had gotten the police report cause it's pretty standard and it's a pretty safe place or she knew it was more of the details so. She had confided in me about that. You know cause I was telling her you know I wasn't sure I didn't know what to think and she said oh she said I could lose my job for telling you I shouldn't, but you seem pretty hung up on what to do in the situation. But at first I went... I don't want to help you get back with your wife Chad if you're going to keep hitting her

EB So in other words you found out Chad was minimizing everything he was telling you?

JH Yeah, and so I sat down and talked to him and said Chad I, I want to know if you hit her. You know he told me, he gave me more of the details of the two main incidents that I think that lead to Tristan leaving. And he gave me the full details of...you know when one of them was in a hotel he punched her and held her down. That wasn't the one on the police report. The one on the police report he said he used an open fist you know. And slapped her across the face one night she came home, she hadn't called nothing, that was the night the police got involved. So he's on probation from. That's when her tooth got chipped. So

JR You don't chip a tooth with a open

JH Oh yeah that's

JR With an open slap.

JH that's what I told him and he's like, he's like all right I swear Jeremy, then Tristan even said that he just opened, he didn't punch her, he opened caulked her, he is a pretty strong guy. I, I really I mean if I, I would say something, I'm not you know. I, I sitting out there I'm thinking there's no way in heck that Chad did it. I'm not saying that I think he did it now. I just

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JR Why do you think he could beat his wife but not a child?

JH I, I think that I've never seen him beat Amanda. I've never seen him I know he didn't hit the girlfriend before Amanda, I before Tristan.

JR How do you know that?

JH Just I, I can only go by his word and I asked Bruce about it and I asked Tristan about it and Tristan said he never really as far as, I mean they were both violent people Tristan would... I've seen Tristan hit Chad ten times more then I ever seen Chad yell at her.

JR Ok, But my point is you gone on other peoples words, but you really don't know

JH No like I said

JR before

JH Yeah like I said don't

JR You know he hit his wife?

JH Hm, hm

JR You know that?

JH Oh yeah

JR And you know that he didn't admit that to you?

JH Yeah, he admitted it to me but he minimized it

EB But, he minimized it.

JH And said this is why she came home and she was drinking and she didn't tell me where she was and that

JR And that's a excuse of why it's okay to do it?

JH Yeah

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JR But my point is why, why do you think he can hit his wife, hit a women and not be capable of doing that to a child?

JH I just think they, I think they have a violent element between them. I mean I know myself and my ex-girlfriend not that I would ever hit her. You know but people say to me all the time that Jeremy I can't even picture you mad you know. You've a very even keeled person and I don't show emotions, I never get upset. But that girl can you know, I'd never would lay a finger on her. Um, but that girl could get me to yell like no one could get me to yell know, I don't know what is. It was something between us. So when were pretty much together all we did was fight.

JR But that's coming from your prospective.

JH Yeah

JR Like you just said you're not capable of doing that she would make you angry enough to make you yell. But you would never think of hitting her, right?

JH Oh yeah

JR So, why is it you don't think he wouldn't hit a child when you already know he's capable hitting his wife?

JH I think it's just

JR Somebody that he loves?

JH I think it's his way of I've seen him with his two boys and I understand they're his boys but you know. There's a lot of

JR Does he treat, does he treat Kassidy the way he treats his boys?

JH I don't know if I've been around him enough you know. But I've been around Kyle since he was two

JR From what you've observed?

JH He, he doesn't all I've ever seen Kassidy do really is sit on the couch.

JR I'm not asking about Kassidy. I'm asking

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EB But she stayed more with Chad, correct?

JH She's living at Chad's house, but during the day Jeff would watch the kid. So, Chad comes home at 7 o'clock usually most nights. 5 when he has Kyle.

EB I'm all set for now.

JR You are do you have any questions for us or anything else you think we should know.

JH No, I if I think of something, I mean do you have a card or something?

EB Why don't I give you a card? I want you to be thinking about it is that you guys are obviously you're all going to talk when you guys leave here that's normal human nature to talk.

JH Sure

EB But ah if you're that close of friends and he said something that you think is, is not right you might want to really start thinking about calling some people. Because ah think about that little 18 month old girl that's laying on that slab right now. She's got no life ahead of her.

JR And how she was tortured.

EB That child suffered. It wasn't like she was killed instantly. It took it's time. And how fair is that to that child? So, you need to if you do see something or you hear something you need to make some phone calls because you're the one that's going to have to live with whatever you hear and see.

JH I, I, I got other there's no way if I hear something you guys are definitely the first ones I will call. I don't know, I don't even know how much I want to talk to anyone about this. I want to be alone.

EB You think about it for a while. Okay the times a 9:55.

END OF INTERVIEW WITH JEREMY HINTON

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