

A Response to Misinformation

The Whole Story is Different from Selected Portions

By Central Chester County Democrats Staff

It's easy to craft a narrative that appears to support your viewpoint if you only tell part of the story. Doing so is underhanded and deceptive. Unfortunately, the far-right activists trying to fool Pennsylvanians into voting against our own best interests are not known for fair play. If they need to play loose with facts to con us into believing them, well they're perfectly OK with that. In fact, that's likely the only way that they will convince people to agree with them.

Case in point—you may have received a postcard in the mail or seen an ad on TV urging you to vote against the three judges up for retention. The reason, they say, is that the justices overturned the conviction of a sexual predator. On the surface, this sounds horrendous. No one is arguing that sexual predators belong in jail. But if you educate yourself by reading the actual legal opinionⁱ, you'll learn a few things:

1. The sexual predator in question is Bill Cosby
2. His conviction was overturned; on this they are correct (but it's the only thing they are right about)
3. The conviction was overturned because of significant legal problems in the prosecution; it made no judgement on his guilt or innocence, on the terrible nature of his crimes, or anything else to do with the facts of the case. The prosecutors broke the law, and that is why the conviction was overturned.
4. **Four** justices voted to overturn Cosby's conviction. The fourth was **Republican** Sallie Updyke Mundy, who still sits on the PA Supreme Court

I believe that everyone—Democrats and Republicans—wishes this were not how the case turned out. But **we are a nation of laws**. The prosecutors in the case broke the law in their overzealous pursuit of justice and **THAT** is why case to had to be overturned. If the **FOUR** justices (remember, including a Republican) had not voted to overturn the case, then our legal system would have failed.

It's unfortunate that sometimes the justice system doesn't work the way we may want it to. But to use an example of the legal system actually working the way it **should** as an attempt to dupe people into supporting your extremism is reprehensible.

Don't let the Republican extremists con you into voting against Pennsylvania's best interests. The three judges up for retention are good for all Pennsylvanians.

Vote YES to retain the justices; vote YES to support the law.

ⁱ <https://www.pacourts.us/Storage/media/pdfs/20210630/163038-june302021opinionwecht.pdf>