

(A)

HELLO;

THIS IS MY FIRST BLOG AND I'M VERY NERVOUS. I WILL START FROM MY ARREST DATE OF 7/2/86. I DO HOPE THAT MY STORY WILL HELP OUT SOMEONE WHO'S HEADED DOWN THE WRONG PATH, TO DO THE RIGHT THINGS IN LIFE & NOT GO DOWN THIS HORRIBLE ROAD AS I HAVE.

MORNING (7:23AM) OF JULY 2ND, 1986. I WAS AWAKENED BY MY MOTHER WHO WAS GONNA TAKE ME TO A NEARBY TOWN TO GET MY LICENSE RE-NEWED, BEFORE WE LEFT FOR KANSAS TO GO TO A FAMILY REUNION OF SUCH FOR THE 4TH OF JULY. YES, I WAS LIVING WITH MY PARENTS AT THIS TIME, AS WAS GOING THROUGH A DIVORCE FROM MY WIFE.

WHEN WE GOT INTO THE CAR & SHE STARTED IT UP, THE CAR MADE A SCREELING NOISE AND I KNEW IT WAS THE ALTERNATOR BELT SLIPPING. SO I GRABBED SOME TOOLS AND PROCEEDED TO FIX IT. WHILE I WAS DOING THIS, FOR SOME REASON IT FELT AS THOUGH I WAS BEING WATCHED. I GOT IT FIXED AND WE DROVE OUT OF TOWN. MY MOM JOKED THAT THE CHIEF OF POLICE WAS SITTING AT HIS HIDING SPOT & THERE HE WAS, OR SO I THOUGHT. I NOTICED AS WE DROVE BY, THAT IT WASN'T HIS CAR, BUT AN UNMARKED CAR. IT STARTED TO PULL OUT AS WE DROVE BY, BUT STOPPED. AGAIN SOMETHING DIDN'T SEEM RIGHT. AS WE WERE APPROACHING I-40 TO GO EAST, MY MOM SAID "THERE SURE ARE A LOT OF CARS BEHIND US WITH LIGHTS". I SAID "JUST PULL OVER THEN". AS I LOOKED OVER MY SHOULDER, I KNEW WHAT IT WAS ALL ABOUT.


THE CARS SURROUNDED US & I'VE NEVER SEEN SO MANY GUNS AT ONE TIME IN MY LIFE. THEY (POLICE) WERE ASKING THE PASSENGER (ME) TO SLOWLY GET OUT OF THE CAR WITH HANDS UP. MY MOTHER WAS TERRIFIED AT THIS POINT, SO I LEANED OVER & GAVE HER A HUG & TOLD HER TO DO AS THEY ASKED, THAT ALL WOULD BE ALRIGHT. I KNEW THEN THAT THE ONE PERSON IN MY LIFE WHOM I LOVED THE MOST AND WAS MY BEST FRIEND, I HAD LET HER DOWN AGAIN, AND IT WAS A HORRIBLE FEELING. SO I GOT OUT OF THE CAR AND DONE AS THEY INSTRUCTED. THEY READ ME MY RIGHTS, SEARCHED ME & PUT ME IN A COUNTY CAR, AND THEN READ ME MY RIGHTS AGAIN, TO MAKE SURE. A LADY OFFICER WAS SEARCHING

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MY MOM AND IT HURT ME TO SEE HER GO THROUGH THIS + BE TREATED AS SHE WAS. THE COUNTY SHERIFF ANNOUNCED TO ME THAT I WAS UNDER ARREST FOR MURDER 1^o.

ON THE WAY TO COUNTY JAIL, I HEARD OVER THE RADIO THAT THEY WERE AT MY FATHER'S HOUSE + HAD IT SURROUNDED + WERE TRYING TO GET HIM TO COME OUT. I TOLD THE DEPUTY, THAT HE WAS ASLEEP + IF YOU ALL (POLICE) BARGED INTO THE HOUSE, THAT SOMEONE WOULD GET HURT OR DIE, BECAUSE MY FATHER WAS ALWAYS ARMED. SO THEY FINALLY GOT HIM ON THE PHONE + HE CAME OUT.

I WAS BOOKED INTO COUNTY JAIL + PUT IN A CELL. AS I WAS LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW, I SAW THEM BRINGING IN MY FATHER + 30 MINS. LATER; I SAW THEM BRINGING IN MY FATHER'S FRIEND. IT SEEMED LIKE EVERYTHING WAS GOING IN SLOW MOTION + ALL I COULD THINK ABOUT WAS MY MOM IN THE FRONT OFFICE BEING INTERROGATED BY WHO KNOWS WHO + WHAT SHE WAS GOING THROUGH. AFTER ABOUT 2 HRS I SAW MY MOM GOING OUT THE FRONT DOOR WITH A VERY GOOD FAMILY FRIEND (A PREACHER). I WAS SOMEWHAT RELIEVED, BECAUSE I KNEW SHE WAS IN GOOD HANDS. I WAS PULLED OUT + QUESTIONED BY O.S.B.I. + TOLD THEM NOTHING.

THE NEXT DAY WE WERE TAKEN TO COURT + OFFICIALLY CHARGED WITH MURDER 1^o + CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT. ALL OF MY LIFE FLASHED BEFORE MY EYES + I FELT VERY ILL. BECAUSE I WAS SCARED + HAD A LOT OF PEEP PRESSURE ON ME, I WAS THRUST INTO THIS SITUATION I WAS IN. AND, BECAUSE I KNEW OF THIS CRIME BEFORE + AFTER THE FACT AND BECAUSE I PICKED MY FATHER UP AT SCENE OF CRIME AND BECAUSE I DIDN'T MAKE MY OWN DECISION, I KNEW I WAS FACING A LOT OF TIME. 

TO CUT THIS A LITTLE SHORT, TRIAL WAS ALL A BLUR + COULDN'T TELL OR TO THIS DAY; TELL YOU 3/4 OF WHAT WAS SAID OR WENT ON. WE WERE ALL (THE 3 OF US) SENTENCE TO LIFE - PLUS. 2 WKS LATER WE WERE TAKEN TO THE CORRECTIONS RECEPTION CENTER. AFTER 3 WKS THERE, I WAS SENT TO THE ONLY MAXIMUM FACILITY (OSP) IN THE STATE + MY 2 CO-DEFENDANTS WERE SENT TO SEPERATE MEDIUM FACILITIES. I KNEW I WAS ON MY OWN FOR A WHILE.

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I SPENT 1 1/2 YRS THERE + WENT TO THE WORST MEDIUM IN THE STATE - O.S.R. I WAS THERE FOR 1 1/2 YRS + ONLY FROM THE TIME I CAME TO PRISON TO THEN, I ONLY SEEN MY MOTHER + GRANDMOTHER ONE TIME. IT WAS VERY HARD ON THEM BOTH + I FELT LIKE AN EEL, BECAUSE I HAD PUT LOVED ONES IN A VERY STRANGE + AWKWARD PLACE + TIME. THEN I WAS SENT TO ANOTHER FACILITY + WAS HOUSED IN THE SAME UNIT AS MY FATHER. IT WAS OK AT FIRST, BUT THE STRESS + PEER PRESSURE WAS GETTING TO ME AGAIN, BECAUSE I FELT AS THOUGH HE WAS RUNNING MY LIFE ALL OVER. I HAD A VERY GOOD CELLIE, WHO HAS TURNED OUT TO BE MY BEST FRIEND STILL, AND HIS FAMILY LOVED ME AS ONE OF THEIR OWN. I ALSO DATED (SO TO SPEAK) HIS SISTER FOR THE TIME I WAS THERE (3 YRS). I WAS FEELING HALF HUMAN, BECAUSE I WAS FEELING NEEDED + LOVED + I REALLY FELT IN LOVE WITH HER DAUGHTER. WHY, BECAUSE AT THE TIME I HAD A 7 YR OLD DAUGHTER WHOM I LOVED VERY DEEPLY + HADN'T SEEN IN 3 YRS. I GUESS I WAS LIVING LIFE THROUGH HER AS MY OWN DAUGHTER. I FELT SO MUCH LESS AS A HUMAN, LET ALONE A FATHER, BECAUSE I WASN'T THERE FOR HER AS I SHOULD HAVE. I MISSED OUT ON HER LIFE + BEING THERE AS HER PROTECTOR. I MISS MY DAUGHTER SO MUCH. ☹️

ANYWAYS, I WAS GROWING UP IN PRISON VERY QUICKLY. HALF THE TIME IT WAS OK, AS PRISON COULD GO, BUT THERE WERE TIMES TO WHERE LIFE REALLY SUCKED + I FELT ALONE + WANTED TO END IT ALL. THE REASON I KEPT GOING TO THIS DATE, IS BECAUSE OF MY MOM, AS SHE GIVES ME STRENGTH TO KEEP MY HEAD UP + TO HAVE HOPE. WITHOUT HER, I WOULD NOT OF MADE IT THIS FAR. GOD BLESSED ME WITH A GOOD MOM.

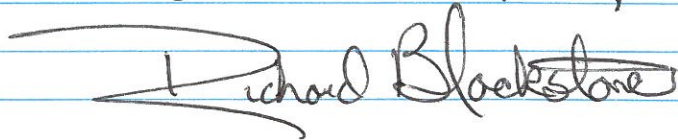
SO, AFTER SPENDING 3 YRS. THERE, MY FATHER WAS SENT TO ANOTHER MEDIUM FACILITY FOR BEING A PROBLEM INMATE. HE WAS SENT TO THE BEST MEDIUM FACILITY IN THE SYSTEM. MY MOM HAD ASKED IF I WANTED TO GO THERE, SO IT WOULD BE EASIER ON EVERYONE TO VISIT US BOTH AT SAME TIME. I HAD MY DOUBTS ABOUT GOING, BECAUSE I FELT MORE AT EASE AWAY FROM MY FATHER. BUT AFTER 6 MONTHS I DECIDED TO GO. IT WAS A GOOD MOVE SO TO SPEAK, AS IT WAS LIKE BEING AT A COLLEGE CAMPUS, JUST WITHOUT THE WOMEN. I LIKED IT THERE, AS SO MUCH FREEDOM + COULD KEEP BUSY.

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SINCE 1988 MY MOM HAD MOVED TO KANSAS TO BE AT THE HOMESTED AND TO WATCH OVER MY GRANDPARENTS. WHILE SHE WAS THERE, SHE WENT BACK TO SCHOOL & GOT HER NURSING DEGREE. I WAS VERY PROUD OF HER, BECAUSE SHE WAS DOING SOMETHING SHE LOVED AND BEING WELL TAKEN CARE OF. SHE HAS ONLY RETIRED IN THE PAST 3 YRS.

WELL, MY FATHER PASSED AWAY IN '94. IT WAS DEVASTATING TO ME IN A WAY, BECAUSE SO MUCH WAS LEFT UNSAID BETWEEN US. OUR PAST TOGETHER WASN'T THE GREATEST BECAUSE OF RESENTMENT DO TO CERTAIN THINGS THAT WERE DONE. THE MAIN THING THAT WAS LEFT UNSAID, WAS A SORRY OR FORGIVE ME, SO MANY BROKEN PROMISES.....

UNTIL NEXT TIME,

Richard Blackstone