

MAYCOMB LIBERAL CITIZENS GAZETTE

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The Trial of Tom
Robinson.
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Is Tom Robinson's Trial Beneficial To Maycomb?

by : Maudie Atkinson

Recently, Tom Robinson was put on trial for a crime of rape that he didn't commit. This black man was put up against a jury of white men. Although Tom had the most extraordinary lawyer a black man in this situation could ask for, he still had no hope because there was a white jury evaluating him. Atticus Finch, a white man with exceptionally different views

than the majority of Maycomb, put his best efforts forth into saving this man from his obvious fate: death or imprisonment. Mr. Finch was hand-chosen to defend Mr. Robinson because Judge Taylor knew that Atticus could give Tom the best chance of maybe winning this trial. Atticus isn't the same as most folks in Maycomb. He and I share views and standards that many

citizens should have: everyone should be equally respected and given an equal chance.

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The events following the verdict, deaths (of a white and a black man), laziness, strange occurrences, and a white man helping out a black woman, have been much gossiped about over this period of time. Tom Robinson, a black man in jail, tried to escape from prison. When the guard shot Tom, he didn't know of his "crimes", he just

shot him because it was the law. I do agree with Tom's shooting because in his situation he was a "criminal" trying to escape, and attempted escapees face the consequences. His reasons are unclear; therefore, I am in no right mind to know what he was thinking - making me unable to judge him. Tom was shot for a reason; he was shot seventeen times. Seventeen times, now, that is inexcusable. One shot would have done the deed, but shooting this man seventeen times is wrong from all angles. Mr. Bob Ewell had found himself a job; however, he was soon thereafter fired due to extreme laziness on his part. Judge Taylor even reported a strange noise at his house on a silent Sunday night, suspected to be Bob Ewell. Bob Ewell seems to be everywhere - he harassed Robinson's wife, Helen, who is newly employed, having her bring her employer, Link Deas in to settle matters. In the end, Bob Ewell was found dead in the field by the school. Some of this aftermath was unnecessary, but some of it was a big turning point that may one day change the way everyone in Maycomb thinks. Was all of this a coincidence?

This trial was unfair, but totally necessary for Maycomb's white society. Maycomb has its usual curse

that everyone picks up; however, not everyone has picked it up. There are a fair amount of people, Atticus and I included, who avoid the diseased racism trend at all costs, even trying to teach it to children such as Jean Louise and Jem Finch. Maycomb, listen here: we need to stop racism. Tom's case helped us see that we are unfair, we are cruel, we are under the blanket of racism. Maybe if we lift this heavy blanket, Maycomb's white society will finally realize everyone is equal and everyone has an equal chance. Tom Robinson's case is beneficial for our community, you just may not know it.

What's Happening Around Town?!

- Thanksgiving is soon! Donate goods to your local church to help the less fortunate.
- Clean-up from the Halloween pranksters is happening right now! Help out a fellow neighbor and take part!
- Please start gathering materials to donate to the school's up-coming Christmas Bazaar.
- Support Reverend Syke's choir! They will be performing for ALL next week. Don't hesitate in going to see the wonderful children.
- Sara Fillard is moving! Show her support by showing up at her yard sale. We will miss her!

A REMINDER TO ALL :

Spend time with your family. It's the most precious time of the year to love your family and friends.