

# Response

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Reflection The most obvious response anyone can give watching that video would be; racial discrimination is a sin, a crime and a curse. But there is more to it, almost towards the end of the video the attorney tells it like it is that many departments depend on the court money to run their operations and court generates that money through speeding tickets, drunk driving fines and in this case, through drug trafficking fines. The black community in that area is probably the easiest to target and make them plead guilty because they have no choice, either they can plead guilty and pay a probation fine (that some government departments are probably waiting on) or stay in the prison and go to the trial, which most of the people cannot afford. They are living on day jobs, if they stay in the prison, they can't make their daily wages and if they have kids back home who are waiting on them to bring food, no one can afford to stay in the prison. That was exactly the case with Erma Faye Stewart. She had a sick child at home and she had to gamble on whether she wanted to fight the US justice system by staying in prison or take the plea and pay probation fine, she chose the latter. But after of all this, the case was dismissed 5 months later on the grounds that the informant's evidence was 'worthless' and he 'lied' to the court. Despite of this revelation, the court didn't help the accused to clear their name as Regina Kelly, the other victim of this injustice, asked the court to state an apology but the court refused. The judge said that he's sure that all 27 people that went to trial were guilty; it's just that the court didn't have any hard evidence. The question arises, the informant 'lied' to the court. If that has been established, the court must have paid punitive damages to the people in trial for the damage the court had done by keeping them from their work and away from their family. But nothing of such kind happened.

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Throughout the video, every attorney and every judge is a white male even the person who was defending Stewart was a white person. Only black people that appeared in the video were the people being tried. Racial discrimination cannot be dismissed when the lawyer denies having ever represented the case of Erma Stewart.

#### Works Cited

" View Online | The Plea | FRONTLINE | PBS." PBS: Public Broadcasting Service. Web. 22 Sept. 2011. .