

home while they were asleep. As a result, when Jessie was not home, the women occasionally kept Robbie in bed at night by means of handcuffing him to his bed.

Anita continued to have a variety of health problems. In October 1993, she had a tonsillectomy. In April 1994, she had gallbladder surgery. That year was a traumatic year for Anita in many ways. Around January 1994, Anita's mother had open heart surgery in Little Rock. Anita and her children went to Batesville after the surgery to spend time with her.

Around late April 1994, Anita began working at the Final Harvest Ministry's wood shop in Atoka. It was owned and operated by Eddie and Diane Fields, who employed less than a dozen people to make craft items that were sold to Hobby Lobby. At work Anita became close to Michael Williams, and possibly contemplated moving in with him when she decided to leave Jessie and Sherry in July 1994. It was that decision which resulted in her going to the police for assistance in getting Robbie and Ashley away from Jessie in order to leave him, and which led to Anita, Sherry and Jessie being arrested in July 1994.

Anita is serving a Life sentence for her Second Degree Murder conviction for shooting Judy Mayo. Her parole date is March 2003. She is currently incarcerated in a private prison for women in Newport, Arkansas.

H. Lahoma Yaws: The False Rape Allegation Invented to Help her Sister

Lahoma Yaws had eight children by various men. Her oldest child is Sherry Cummings, who was born in 1967, when Lahoma was 16 years old. Lahoma's youngest child is also named Lahoma Yaws [hereinafter "Lahoma II"]. The birth certificate for Lahoma II indicates that her father was Charlie Yaws, her mother's husband who died seven months before Lahoma II was born. However, it is well known that Lahoma II's biological father is Douglas Pearson who lives in the Batesville, Arkansas, area.

Lahoma Yaws and her extended family are classic members of the "Poor White Trash" subculture (see Part I, below). The family is constantly moving, living in various rental properties in Arizona, California, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Colorado, to name a few states. Many times their

paths crossed with that of the Cummings' family. Incest and sexual abuse runs rampant in the Yaws' family system. Lying and cheating are second nature to them, and Welfare is the main source of income. For example, Lahoma Yaws currently has custody of three young children born to her oldest son, Michael Colvard. The parental rights to these children have been terminated due to parental abuse, and Lahoma Yaws has adopted the children or is in the process of adopting them. In connection with having custody of the children, Lahoma is not suppose to let David Potter live with her, presumably because of his history of being a child abuser. Lahoma and David are pretending he is living with a brother in Arkansas, and that David only comes by the house to visit occasionally because David's daughter Vicki is married to one of Lahoma Yaws' son, Orlin Yaws, who have two sons.

After Lahoma Yaws' husband, Charlie Yaws, died in 1977, in ^{CALIFORNIA} Arkansas, a series of boyfriends lived with Lahoma Yaws and her children. Some of these men were abusive to her children, including Frank Clark. When Lahoma Yaws and her children were living in Afton, OK, in 1987, she met Clarence David Potter [herein "David Potter"] who was a year older than Lahoma. David quickly became Lahoma's boyfriend and moved in with her and her children. Lahoma II was around 10 years old at the time. David Potter had a daughter, Vicki Potter, who was born in 1972. David's parental rights to Vicki were terminated when she was a young child as a result of accusations he was abusing and molesting her. In 1992, when Vicki was an adult, she located David and they were reunited. David has a brother, Patrick Potter, who has been incarcerated in Missouri since 1994, for having sexually molested Lahoma Yaws' grandchildren.

In March of 1991, David Potter, Lahoma Yaws and her children were living in Bethesda, Arkansas, which is in Independence County. Batesville is the county seat. On March 22, 1991, the DHS office in Batesville filed an incident report with the Independence County Sheriff's Office. It alleges that David Potter had been sexually abusing Lahoma II, who was 13 years old at the time (Appendix 38). When these charges were investigated, however, Lahoma II told the police she had lied about David molesting her, and no charges were filed.

Within a few weeks, David and Lahoma left Arkansas and moved back to Oklahoma, renting a house on Forest Hill Road outside of Atoka, Oklahoma. They contacted Sherry to obtain help from the Cummings in moving their belongings to Atoka. Lahoma II and her siblings were enrolled at Tushka Elementary School. According to school records, they were enrolled on April 12, 1991.

At the sentencing hearing of Jessie's trial, Lahoma II was called as the only witness for the prosecution. She claimed Jessie had raped her in his home in April of 1991, while Sherry and Anita Cummings held her down. No evidence at trial was presented to corroborate this incident took place. This alleged rape supposedly resulted in Lahoma II becoming pregnant and having a miscarriage a few months later. However, the alleged incident was never reported to the police, and Lahoma II was never seen by a doctor, hence there are no medical records to corroborate either a supposed pregnancy or miscarriage.

Few of Lahoma II's family members report they believe Lahoma II's story about the rape. Family members are candid about Lahoma II having a reputation for being a liar, which appears to be legendary within the Yaws family system (Appendix 7). Even Lahoma II admits she has a "habit of lying" (Appendix 7). Some family members also acknowledge Lahoma II has a reputation for sleeping around which predates the alleged rape. Other people who knew Lahoma as a young teen confirm that Lahoma II's has such a reputation. (Appendix 7)

At the time of Jessie's May 1996 trial, Lahoma II was 18 years old and nine months pregnant, but not married. She gave birth to a daughter shortly after testifying. She now lives near Batesville, Arkansas, and is pregnant again. She has not been on speaking terms for some time with her mother, David Potter and most of her relatives. Lahoma II's propensity to lie resulted in her cheating her mother out of \$1400 about a year ago.