

"You're not married to this one--you can testify against him, so we want you to testify." So every one of those questions she refused to answer. So they put the other one on the stand and he'd read the question and read the answer and say, "Did you make that statement?" All she'd say was "Nope!" "Did you ever go to Tommy's house? Were you ever there?" "Nope!" Old Jess and I had the City Marshall get her out of there for us. They'd hide them in there, see.

(These are the two Lincoln girls?)

Bob: Yes. So I know good and well she was lying. And so she's still in jail. They got her for contempt of court. The judge commanded her to answer and she still said, "Nope!"

(Why won't they testify against each other?)

Bob: Why, Jess? Why won't an Indian testify against another Indian?

Jess: Well, I don't know--I never have experienced anything like that, but you know those girls claimed they were threatened if they exposed evidence, on those boys.

(Who were they threatened by?)

Jess: One of them Lime boys.

Bob: See, in that case right there--in this jail there's just a door between the women's ward right around here and the men's ward over here--

(This is in Canton?)

Bob: Watonga--county jail. And then they got a Negro trustee, you know.

These boys write notes and they'd pass them around there, and these girls were threatened that night, too. They said, "If you snitch on us, you'll get the same thing." That's what came out in that trial. That's their testimony.

Now that's just one case. In my work, whenever a parent calls me to come and do something with their kid--they're doing all this and that--and the parent will go down and be the complaining witness and file a complaint against them, and then we have the day of the hearing and the parent says, "No, I'm doing all right, now. I'm doing all right." They won't testify. Then they have to swear me in and then go ahead and do something with them.