

1 THE COURT: No, that's an inappropriate question.

2 MR. SUTCLIFFE: Would you inquire as to -- is there  
3 anyone on the jury who doesn't understand that words have more  
4 than one meaning?

5 THE COURT: No, that's a totally inappropriate  
6 question. If the evidence warrants it and the inferences would  
7 permit it, you can argue that on your closing argument.

8 MR. SUTCLIFFE: Would you ask if there is anybody who  
9 does not believe that the context in which a statement is made  
10 is not important?

11 THE COURT: No, I won't do that.

12 MR. SUTCLIFFE: Would you ask them if they've ever  
13 heard of the artist known as "Eminem" or the broadcaster known  
14 as Rush Limbaugh?

15 THE COURT: No.

16 MR. SUTCLIFFE: Would you ask them if there is  
17 anybody who believes that broadcasters on the radio and TV  
18 should not have a right to voice their statements or opinions  
19 in a public forum?

20 THE COURT: None of these are relevant.

21 MR. SUTCLIFFE: I believe they are, Your Honor.

22 THE COURT: Well, I don't think that they are. The  
23 permissible scope of questioning doesn't extend to that. It's  
24 not saying that if you can't elicit evidence that would warrant  
25 an argument on closing argument, you would be denied that

1 right. In fact, you'll be given the right.

2 But I'm not going to be subjecting this process, this  
3 jury, to any kind of abstract vacuum-type questions that are  
4 not directly related to specific factual or evidentiary issues  
5 in the case. And even then, that standard would not be applied  
6 in a sweeping fashion, to begin with.

7 Anything else?

8 I must say, by the way, that these are questions that  
9 you are asking be put to the jury panel as a whole. Your  
10 opportunity to file proposals for that vanished long ago. I'm  
11 giving you the opportunity now, although I don't have the  
12 obligation to. So finish making your oral requests and then  
13 we'll break for lunch.

14 MR. SUTCLIFFE: Your Honor, no, I have nothing  
15 further.

16 THE COURT: Okay. I will ask Mr. Fandino about those  
17 ties with the L.A.P.D. officers. I am rejecting the motions  
18 for cause that Mr. Sutcliffe has expressed.

19 Yes?

20 MS. DUARTE: I have one scheduling question, Your  
21 Honor. I have two witnesses that --

22 THE COURT: We are not going to get to witnesses  
23 today.

24 MS. DUARTE: Okay. I'll dismiss them. Thank you.

25 MR. SUTCLIFFE: Your Honor, may I be heard before you