

Statement of Gloria Allred

I am here today with 2 of my clients who were brave enough to testify as prior bad act witnesses at the criminal trial of Bill Cosby. Tomorrow and Tuesday we plan to attend the sentencing of Mr. Cosby.

A number of questions will be raised and must be decided by the court in this case. Is he a sexually violent predator? Pennsylvania's sex offender board has found that he is a Sexually Violent Predator. He was examined by Pennsylvania's sex offender board and the conclusion of the Board was that he either has a mental defect or a personality disorder that makes him prone to criminal behavior. Although his lawyers will argue against that decision, I agree that the decision of the Board should be affirmed.

The next question is should Bill Cosby be sentenced to prison? The Philadelphia Inquirer has stated that 80 % of those convicted of the same crime and who had no prior criminal history were sentenced to prison, and some of those defendants had similar health problems. Mr. Cosby should not be treated differently because he is a celebrity. There must be equal justice under the law, no more and no less. Mr. Cosby, in my opinion, should be sentenced to prison. Although the potential sentence is 10 years for each charge the judge has discretion in applying the sentencing guidelines. I think Mr. Cosby should be sentenced to a substantial period of time for his criminal acts and should not receive probation. He should also not be freed on bail pending appeal and should not be sentenced to house arrest.

Judgement day has finally arrived for this convicted sexual predator who betrayed the trust of so many women. It is time for him to face the consequences of his criminal acts and stop denying what a unanimous jury found after careful and thoughtful deliberation. I am very proud of my courageous clients who are here with me today and I am glad that they will be here to see Mr. Cosby receive the justice that is so long overdue.

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