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Statement of Janice Baker Kinney

I began living in Reno and working at Harrah's sometime around the summer of 1980. I worked my way up from keno runner to cocktail waitress to bar back and then began bartending at Harrah's in October of 1981. I worked predominately in one of the showrooms and was often acquainted with many of the performers. Many of the bands performing in the smaller showroom were booked for 2 weeks at a time and the headlining acts were there for approximately 1 week. It was not unusual to get to know the performers and for them to get to know the regular staff that worked the shows since these acts were booked sometimes more than once per year. When the headliners were booked at Harrah's, I recall that they had the option of staying at the hotel in a penthouse suite or at a home owned by Harrah's. I know Mr. Cosby chose to stay at the house because that is where I was sexually assaulted by him in May of 1982.

I had been at that house a couple times previous to that night, invited there for after-show parties. I remember going to one party hosted by Wayne Newton. It wasn't out of the ordinary. So when a friend said that Bill Cosby invited her to the house for a 'pizza party', I didn't think it was strange and I agreed to meet her there. I DID think it was strange though when I arrived and my friend Judy was ringing the front doorbell holding a pizza. When I joined her at the front door and Bill Cosby opened the door, it took me a few minutes to realize that this was a pizza party for 3. I figured I would have a beer and a slice of pizza, hang for a little bit and then be on my way.

These are the moments I can remember:

Bill Cosby offered me a pill. I took one from him. He then told me to take 2, that it would be fine. I took 2. I guess I thought it must be ok! Bill Cosby said it was! I began to play a game of backgammon with Mr. Cosby. We were in the kitchen or dining area. I remember telling him 'This game isn't fair.' He asked why? I said 'because I can't see the board anymore.' And then I passed out.

I woke up to voices sometime later. It was my 'friend' Judy leaving. I was now in the living area on the couch with my jeans unzipped and my blouse opened. Bill Cosby came and sat down with me on the couch and asked if I was feeling OK. He had me leaning against him on the couch while his arm was around me. He put his hand inside of my open blouse then. I remember him helping me up the stairs to a bedroom. I was in no condition to leave or to say anything. I was humiliated that I had passed out and didn't know what had happened, because he had assured me that it was O.K. to take the pills, but obviously it was not.

I woke up the next morning naked, in bed with a naked Bill Cosby. He was touching me on my belly and on my genital area. The phone rang and it seemed to be a business call. I got dressed and went downstairs to leave. I was mortified at what had happened. He came down and met me at the front door. As he opened the door for me he stopped it part of the way before I could get out and said these exact words: "this is between me and you" and he put his finger to his mouth like a 'shhhh' sign. I told him that I was not planning on alerting the media. I left.

I told one of the cocktail waitresses who was also a close friend what had happened. When we were leaving work that night we had to walk past the poker pit on the way to where our cars were parked. Bill Cosby was there playing a game. I know this because I heard my name being called and looked over and there he was with a big smile waving to me. I gave a little wave back then grabbed my friend and lowered my head, kind of covered my eyes and said 'oh my God, let's get out of here'. I was humiliated seeing him.

All this time, and for many, many years, I felt this was my fault. I took the pills from him. I justified what HE did by saying to myself that none of this would have happened if I had not accepted the pills from him. I never thought of it as rape. What is strange to me is the fact that when I read about date rapes or women being drunk or drugged at a party and being raped, I was appalled that anyone would take advantage of an incapacitated human being like

that. But I still had difficulty putting myself in that category. I still felt like I was solely to blame. It wasn't until recently when I began to read the accounts of the other women who claim that Bill Cosby drugged and raped them that I realized the SAME THING HAPPENED TO ME!!! It was like the light bulb FINALLY went on after all these years. I am a victim. I believe he insisted I take 2 pills to accomplish what eventually took place with me that night. I was 24 years old and I was naïve thinking that this funny and sweet, trustworthy man would never give me something that would harm me. I was wrong and now I know that Mr. Cosby is a predator and needs to be held accountable for what he did to me.

Janice Baker Kinney

Represented by Gloria Allred

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