With the rise of technology and social media, the criminal justice system has increasingly become transparent and information is now easily accessible and widespread. Your task is to research a recent controversial case in which a verdict was pronounced and provide a full, analytical report on it, responding to the following questions:

* What crime was committed? Who was being charged?
* What was the controversy? What concerns did it raise about the criminal justice system? What is your stance on the issue? What steps could be taken to resolve this controversial issue?
* What forms of technology were used in the investigation process? How did they affect the case? Do you believe the verdict would have been different if these forms of technology had not been used?
* How did social media portray and/or affect the case?
* What was the nature of the trial? How long was it? How many jurors were there? What was the verdict?
* If applicable: Do you agree or disagree with the sentencing? Why/why not?

Please keep in mind that your paper must demonstrate your knowledge and understanding of the theories and concepts discussed in this course, and your familiarity with various library and Internet sources of criminal justice literature.

Your paper must include the following:

* An introduction in which you provide an overview of the recent case/issue you will be analyzing;
* A thorough response to the questions above;
* A conclusion in which you propose steps to reform the issue at hand and reflect on today’s criminal justice policies;
* A resources section in APA format with **at least five** properly cited sources.

**PROPOSAL GUIDELINES**

To prepare for your paper, you will write a proposal of the case you will be analyzing. Your proposal should explain why you have selected the case and discuss steps you will be taking to provide a thorough analysis of it. You should be sure to include terminology from your textbook applicable to your research in the proposal and include **at least three** resources

**OUTLINE GUIDELINES**

You will prepare an outline for your paper that will include **at least four** resources. Your outline should plan out the structure of your paper and organize content.

# PAPER GUIDELINES

* Your paper should be 7-10 pages (double-spaced) in length.
* Your paper should be in APA format (1” margins, standard 12-point font).
* Your paper should be free of spelling and grammatical errors.
* Wikipedia is an unacceptable source.
* Your textbook may be used as a resource, but the majority of your research should come from other books, online databases, and other reliable resources.
* You must use internal citations to cite all facts and quotes