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54/07/28 Why Don't Police Quiz Top Suspect: An Editorial

Cleveland Press

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Why Don't.

Police Quiz

Top Suspect?

PRESS

7-28-54

AN EDITORIAL

You can bet your last dollar the Sheppard murder would be cleaned up long ago if it had involved "average people."

They'd have hauled in all the suspects to Police Headquarters.

They'd have grilled them in the accepted, straight-out way of doing police business.

They wouldn't have waited so much as one hour to bring the chief suspect in.

Much less days.

Much less weeks.

Why all this fancy, high-level bowing and scraping, and super-cautious monkey business?

* * *

Sure it happened in suburban Bay Village rather than in an "ordinary" neighborhood.

So what?

What difference should that make?

When they called the Cleveland police in everybody thought:

"This is it. Now they'll get some place."

Now we'd have vigorous, experienced, expert, big-time action.

They'd get it solved in a hurry.

They'd have Sam Sheppard brought in, grill him at Police Headquarters, like the chief suspect in any murder case.

But they didn't:

And they haven't.

In fairness, they've made some progress.

But they haven't called in Sam Sheppard.

Now proved under oath to be a liar, still free to go about his business, shielded by his family, protected by a smart lawyer who has made monkeys of the police and authorities, carrying a gun part of the time, left free to do whatever he pleases as he pleases, Sam Sheppard still hasn't been taken to Headquarters.

* * *

What's wrong in this whole mess that is making this community a national laughing stock?

Who's holding back—and why?

What's the basic difference between murder in an "ordinary" neighborhood and one in a Lake Rd. house in suburban Bay Village?

Who is afraid of whom?

It's just about time that somebody began producing the answers—

And producing Sam Sheppard at Police Headquarters.