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Appendix A: The Stop and Frisk Conference Notes of Justices Douglas, Brennan and Fortas; and Appendix B: A Side-by-Side Comparison of the Stop and Frisk Conference Notes of Justices Douglas, Brennan and Fortas

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# APPENDIX A: THE STOP AND FRISK CONFERENCE NOTES OF JUSTICES DOUGLAS, BRENNAN AND FORTAS

Wainwright v. New Orleans
The Supreme Court's Conference, October 13, 1967

JUSTICE DOUGLAS'S CONFERENCE NOTES<sup>528</sup>

Conference October 13, 1967 No. 13 -- Wainwright v. City of New Orleans

CJ [Warren] question whether case is properly here for he was found guilty only of assaulting officer in jail house - he thought when we took the case that he was arrested and tried for vagrancy - what happened outside the jail - on that ground he would reverse - but it looks like it was improvidently granted - no simple element of vagrancy or resisting arrest -

<u>HLB</u> [Black] he was wrong in granting this man was not even civil - nothing done to damage him - dismiss as improvidently granted - of course he was not a vagrant -

<u>WOD</u> [Douglas] <u>reverses</u> - he was unconstitutionally in jail

 $<sup>^{528}</sup>$  These conference notes are in the William O. Douglas Papers, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

JMH [Harlan] is there a federal right to resist an illegal arrest?
Yes - he takes a chance [page 2 of 3:] he was wrong - arrest was illegal - no vagrancy - no probable cause - was amount of force he used to resist police in jail beyond the pale? he can't make out the answer on this record - record too opaque so he would dismiss or vacate + remand for findings on amount of force used

<u>CJ</u> [Warren] he would be willing to vacate for findings

WJB [Brennan] Schmerber indicates there is no right to resist searchdismisses as improvidently granted - his presence in station house was result of illegal arrest - his May 14 trial was dismissed - then started (App B) the trial of assaulting the officer in the station house -

<u>CJ</u> [Warren] opinion of La Ct says he was legally arrested -

[page 3 of 3:]
PS [Stewart] dismisses as
improvidently
granted

BW [White] dismisses

AF [Fortas] "

TM [Marshall] "

## JUSTICE FORTAS'S CONFERENCE NOTES<sup>529</sup>

No. 13, Wainwright v. City of New Orleans 10-13-67

The Chief Justice [Warren]

Not vagrant - but question whether we can reach it

Black, J.

He voted to grant, but was

wrong - because P [petitioner] was not hurt!

Dismiss as improperly granted -

Douglas, J.

Would reverse - If P was properly in jail that would be one thing. But here, what's he supposed to do [if - crossed out].

Harlan, J.

You have a <u>right</u> to resist an unlawful arrest - not excessive force -

No probable cause to arrest him on vagrancy - Illegal arrest -

Was the amt of force used excessive -

Can't tell from this record -

Believes per cur can be written

that this record is too

opaque to [dismiss - crossed out] reach questions.

Otherwise would vacate + send back for findings on reasonable amt of force -

Brennan, J.

Dismiss as improvidently granted ---Most of the evidence is on different

These conference notes are in the Abe Fortas Papers, Yale University Library, Manuscripts and Archives.

charges -- a different case - that were discussed -- Conviction on new charge ----

Stewart, J. Dismiss as improvidently granted

White, J. Dismiss --

[crossed out: Indigent before used or not<sup>530</sup>]

Marshall, J. Dismiss as improvidently granted

<u>A.F</u>. [Fortas] Dismiss as improvidently granted

 $<sup>^{\</sup>tt 630}$  This transcription is of questionable accuracy; the note is extremely hard to read beneath the lines crossing it out.

# Sibron v. New York The Supreme Court's Conference, December 13, 1967

#### JUSTICE DOUGLAS'S CONFERENCE NOTES<sup>531</sup>

Conference Wednesday, December 13, 1967 No. 63 -- Sibron v. New York

CJ [Warren] looks like a manufactured case - does not reach constitutional question - it was not stop + frisk - not in ordinance - were arrest without probable cause - reverses would not go on mootness - would not remand to let AG confess error below

HLB [Black] reverses on confession of error + remand to Ct of A to consider that confession - search was illegal

WOD [Douglas] reverses -

JMH [Harlan] (1) this case is moot - (2) can't take DA confession of error against by Ct of A (3) on merits he would agree with CJ [Warren] - dismisses as moot - or vacate on confession of error

WJB [Brennan] reverses

<u>PS</u> [Stewart] he would forget mootness + reverses on merits - does

 $<sup>^{\</sup>tt 531}$  These conference notes are in the William O. Douglas Papers, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

not reach statute - it was an illegal search under  $4\underline{th}$  A

[page 2 of 2:]
BW [White] reverses

AF [Fortas]

 $\underline{\mathrm{TM}}$  [Marshall] " it was conditional arrest

## JUSTICE BRENNAN'S CONFERENCE NOTES<sup>532</sup>

No. 63, Sibron v. New York

The Chief Justice [Warren]

No stop + frisk - a plain arrest + search without probable cause

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>532</sup> These conference notes are in the William J. Brennan, Jr. Papers, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

#### JUSTICE FORTAS'S CONFERENCE NOTES<sup>533</sup>

No. 63, Sibron v. New York

The Chief Justice

Dont reach constlty of statute

No reasonable basis for stop -- + it was
a search, not a frisk

Black, J.

[Revse -- crossed out] Vacate on confession of error + send it back

It was an illegal search --

Douglas, J.
Follow Chief - reverse but just to send back to Ct of Appeals -

Harlan, J. Moot - +

Wouldn't take DA's confession of error in face of highest court of state -If reached merits, would agree with Chief --Dismiss as moot - or vacate -

Brennan, J. Reverse

Stewart, J.

<u>Reverse</u> -- unreasonable search
under 14th or 4th -

White, J. Reverse

These conference notes are in the Abe Fortas Papers, Yale University Library, Manuscripts and Archives.

<u>A.F.</u>

Reverse

Marshall, J.

Reverse --

# Peters v. New York The Supreme Court's Conference, December 13, 1967

### JUSTICE DOUGLAS'S CONFERENCE NOTES<sup>534</sup>

Conference Wednesday, December 13, 1967

No. 74 -- Peters v. New York

CJ [Warren] if this is stop + frisk, anything can be - police in his home + through peephole sees stranger - he calls police - gets gun + they start to run - probable cause to believe they were committing a crime - he arrested them - need not be a policeman to make an arrest - does not reach Act -

<u>WJB</u> [Brennan] can citizen arrest on probable cause? need not decide it for he was a policeman --

HLB [Black] affirms

<u>WOD</u> [Douglas] " - probable cause for believing a burglary was under way

JMH [Harlan] can't find probable cause - NY courts did not treat it that way - rests on the Act - if stop + frisk, it's OK

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>534</sup> These conference notes are in the William O. Douglas Papers, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

1998]

WJB [Brennan] affirms in CJ's [Warren's] hands

PS [Stewart] " " " "

[page 2:]

**BW** [White] affirms

AF [Fortas]

TM [Marshall] "

## JUSTICE FORTAS'S CONFERENCE NOTES<sup>535</sup>

No. 74, Peters v. New York

The Chief Justice

He had probable cause 
Treat this as if he were not a

policeman - but he has
jurisdiction

Black, J. Affirm

Douglas, J. Affirm

Harlan, J. Affirm ok if under stop + frisk

Brennan, J. Affirm

Stewart, J. Affirm

White, J. Affirm

A.F. Affirm

Marshall, J. Affirm

 $<sup>^{\</sup>tt 535}$  These conference notes are in the Abe Fortas Papers, Yale University Library, Manuscripts and Archives.

# Terry v. Ohio The Supreme Court's Conference, December 13, 1967

#### JUSTICE DOUGLAS'S CONFERENCE NOTES 536

Conference Wednesday, December 13, 1967 No. 67 -- Terry v. Ohio

CJ [Warren] would use the case to lay down hard rules for stop and frisk statute can't enlarge a policemen's rights.

CJ [Warren] no stop and frisk law here did police have "probable cause" (1) to talk to them (2) to think he was in danger of his life -an officer who sees what he saw has a duty to pursue it + frisk if there is a crime about to be committed -they don't have to answer + they can walk away -- at that point there would be no probable cause -- but their actions may give him probable cause to think he's in danger -- he can protect himself by seeing if they are armed -- affirms - he rests solely on "probable cause" -- would not disregard probable cause There was probable cause (1) to talk to the man (2) to fear he might be

These conference notes are in the William O. Douglas Papers, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

endangered -stop + frisk law can't change these hereafter

HLB [Black] - affirms
agrees with CJ [Warren]
to stick by
"probable
cause" -- he
would construe reasonable suspicion
in NY law to mean

[page 2 of 4:]
[in circle:]

TM [Marshall] interrupts to say that police did not go up to them to question them [end circle]

HLB [Black] probable cause - he did not make arrest by talking to them - he arrested them only [crossed out: by] when he stood them up - right to question citizen is not a 4th A right - right to stop + ask questions is part of body of law, not 4th A -4th A does not fit into it until there is an arrest policeman has right to defend himself + to frisk them to save his life - evidence taken would be admissible he would say this citizen can't just walk away + refuse to talk to the police when questioned - there is a right to investigate he could delay him temporarily tho not arrest him - no need

[page 3 of 4:] not decide that now but that's how he would decide it -

WOD [Douglas] affirms - agrees with CJ [Warren]

<u>JMH</u> [Harlan] affirms - frisking took place pretty early - cop can't do that i.e. frisk without probable cause that a crime is committed - he does not look at this as a questioning case -

WJB [Brennan] affirms - there is 4th A - it deals with seizure of persons + there must be "probable cause" - there is a seizure not for purpose of booking him for a crime but for purposes of frisking - is this probable cause to stop him question him, frisk him - he passes over case where there is a frisk + nothing found + police yet detain him - refer to Miranda + custodial detention includes a jail.

PS [Stewart] - agrees with CJ affirms [page 4 of 4:] would not say a citizen can refuse to answer a cop - state can make stricter standards than the 4th A - need not reach case where the frisk turns up contraband

<u>BW</u> [White] affirms - questioning is not 4th A - it is involved in

a frisk or search for there is detention -

<u>AF</u> [Fortas] affirms with a precisely refined opinion not a <u>Miranda</u> type - we are writing a new kind of probable cause - he would be cautious - he would go case by case - he would leave untouched the round up type of frisks.

TM [Marshall] affirms

### JUSTICE BRENNAN'S CONFERENCE NOTES<sup>537</sup>

No. 67, Terry v. Ohio

The Chief Justice [Warren]

Did police officer have prob cause to talk to these + did he have prob cause to believe his life was in danger But people don't have to answer + may walk away. Having in mind a trained policeman may read it differently from ordinary citizen

#### Black, J.

Agree that should use "probable cause" + not reasonable suspicion. Don't think they arrested these people until after he got guns. Does officer have a right to interrogate people doing peculiar things? Don't know that this is forbidden by anything in Const. Right to stop people does not stem from Fourth. Further has right to defend himself don't want anything said that police can't make guv stav until he answers or he stubbornly refuses

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>537</sup> These conference notes are in the William J. Brennan, Jr. Papers, Library of Congress, Manuscript Division.

## JUSTICE FORTAS'S CONFERENCE NOTES<sup>538</sup>

No. 67, Terry v. Ohio

The Chief Justice [Warren]

Affirm

Policeman may accost people + ask question - They need not answer + may go off - But then

Did he or did he not have probable cause to protect himself 
Wouldnt put it on any basis other than probable cause - not suspicion or reasonable grounds -
Would write at length + say rights of police stems from 4th amdmt + not from a statute -

Black, J.

Agrees up to a point -Agrees that you should stay
with "probable cause" -- NY statute
means "probable cause" -Arrested only when he told them to go
into store + put their hands on wall Here: may police interrogate persons
who are acting so they suspect
crime -- This does not stem from
4th Amdmt -- "Seizure" means
arrest.

Douglas, J. Affirm Harlan, J. Affirm

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>538</sup> These conference notes are in the Abe Fortas Papers, Yale University Library, Manuscripts and Archives.

[page 2 of 2:]
Brennan, J.

Affirm

4th amendmt problem -- there
 is a "seizure" of a person here -Is there probable cause to detain,
question + frisk -Would reserve on questions of
whether fellow may walk away -or whether other things may
be used, having been found
in course of frisk

#### Stewart, J.

**Affirm** 

Wouldn't like to see us face question of right to go away --

#### White, J.

Affirm -- police man [crossed out word] may ask question -- [crossed out word] But 4th amdmt involved on frisk or search --

#### AF. Affirm

but narrow + precise -

#### Marshall, J.

**Affirm** 

I might put it on suspicion of heist -- not that [they were -- crossed out] cop was going to talk to them - but was going to frisk them Agrees - narrow + precise APPENDIX B: A SIDE-BY-SIDE COMPARISON OF THE STOP AND FRISK CONFERENCE NOTES OF JUSTICES DOUGLAS, BRENNAN AND FORTAS

Notes of the Court's Conference, Wainwright v. New Orleans, October 13, 1967

Notetaker:

Douglas

**Fortas** 

Speaker:

Warren

<u>CJ</u> question whether case is properly here for he was found guilty only of assaulting officer in jail house - The Chief Justice

he thought when we took the case that he was arrested and tried for vagrancy —what happened outside the jail -

on that ground he would reverse – but it looks like it was improvidently granted- no simple element of vagrancy or resisting arrest - Not vagrant – but question whether we can reach it

Black

HLB he was wrong in Black, J. granting this man was not even civil – Black, J. He voted to grant, but was wrong –

Black, J.
He voted to grant,
but was wrong –
because P
[petitioner] was not
hurt!

nothing done to damage him -

dismiss as improvidently granted - of course he was erly granted not a vagrant -

Dismiss as improp-

Douglas

WOD reverses - he was unconstitutionally in jail

Douglas, J. Would reverse - If P was properly in jail that would be on thing. But here, what's he supposed to do [if - crossed out].

N	ote	taker	

### Douglas

#### **Fortas**

#### Speaker: Harlan

is there a federal right to resist an illegal arrest? Yes – he takes a chance he resist an unlawful was wrong - arrest was illegal -

Harlan, J. You have a right to arrest - not excessive force

no vagrancy – no probable cause -

No probable cause to arrest him on vagrancy - Illegal arrest -

was amount of force he used to resist police in jail beyond the pale? he can't make out the answer on this record -

Was the amt of force used excessive -Can't tell from this record -

record too opaque so he would dismiss or vacate +remand for findings on amount of force used

Believes per cur can be written that this record is too opaque to Idismiss - crossed out] reach questions. Otherwise would vacate + send back for findings on reasonable amt of force -

Warren

CJ he would be willing to vacate for findings

1998]

Brennan

<u>WJB</u> Schmerber indicates Brennan, J. there is no right to resist search –

dismisses as improvidently Dismiss as improvigranted - dently granted ----

Most of the evidence is on different charges --

<u>Speaker:</u> Brennan	Notetaker: Douglas  his presence in static house was result of it arrest — his May 14 it was dismissed — their started (App B) the it assaulting the officer the station house —	llegal trial n trial of	Fortas  a different case that were discussed – Conviction on new-charge
Warren	<u>CJ</u> opinion of La Ct he was legally arrest	-	
Stewart	PS dismisses as imp dently granted	rovi-	Stewart, J. Dismiss as improvidently granted
White	<u>BW</u> dismisses		White, J. Dismiss –[crossed out: Ending it before
Fortas	<u>AF</u>	ı	us does not]
Marshall	<u>TM</u>	11	Marshall, J. Dismiss as improvi- dently granted
Fortas			A.F. Dismiss as improvidently granted

## Notes of the Court's Conference, Sibron v. New York, December 13, 1967

<u>Notetaker:</u> <u>Speaker:</u> Warren	Douglas	Brennan	Fortas
	CJ looks like a manufactured case - does not reach constitutional question -	The Chief Justice	The Chief Justice Dont reach constlty of statute
	it was not stop + frisk - not in ordinance - were arrest without prob- able cause - re- verses	No stop + frisk - a plain arrest + search without probable cause	No reasonable basis for stop + it was a sear <u>ch</u> , <u>not a fr</u> isk
	would not go on mootness - would not re- mand to let AG confess error below		
Black	HLB reverses on confession of error + remand to Ct of A to consider that confession -		Black, J. [Revse crossed out] Vacate on confession of error + send it back
	search was illegal		It was an illegal search

Harlan

<u>JMH</u> (1) this case is moot -

(2) can't take to DA confession of error against by Ct of A

(3) on merits he would agree with CJ -

dismisses as moot - or vacate on confession of error Harlan, J. Moot -+

Wouldn't take DA's confession of error in face of highest court of

state -

If reached merits, would agree with Chief --

Dismiss as moot - or vacate -

Spoolsore	Notetaker: Douglas	Brennan	Fortas
<u>Speaker:</u> Brennan	WJB reverses		Brennan, J. <u>Reverse</u>
Stewart	PS he would forget mootness + reverses on merits -		Stewart, J. <u>Reverse</u>
	does not reach statute - it was an illegal search under 4 <u>th</u> A		unreasonable search under 14th or 4th -
White	<u>BW</u> reverses		White, J. Reverse
Fortas	<u>AF</u> "		A.F. Reverse
Marshall	TM "it was conditional ar- rest		Marshall, J. Reverse

### Notes of the Court's Conference, *Peters v. New York*, December 13, 1967

Notetaker:

Douglas

Speaker: Warren

<u>CJ</u> if this is stop + frisk, any-thing can be -

The Chief Justice

**Fortas** 

police in his home + through peephole sees stranger - he calls police - gets gun + they start to run -

probable cause to believe they were committing a crime - he arrested them - He had probable cause-

need not be a policeman to make an arrest -

Treat this as if he were not a <u>policeman</u> but he has <u>jurisdiction</u>

does not reach Act -

Brennan

WJB can citizen arrest on probable cause? need not decide it for he was a policeman --

Black

HLB affirms

Black, J. Affirm

Douglas

1998]

<u>WOD</u> " - probable cause for believing a burglary was under way Douglas, J. Affirm

Harlan

<u>JMH</u> can't find probable cause - NY courts did not treat it that way rests on the Act - if stop + frisk, it's OK Harlan, J. Affirm ok if under stop + frisk Notetaker:

Douglas **Fortas** Speaker: WJB affirms in CJ's hands Brennan, J. Brennan Affirm Stewart PS Stewart, J. Affirm White, J. **BW** affirms White Affirm **Fortas** <u>AF</u> A.F. Affirm

 $Marshall \quad \underline{TM} \quad \text{ } \quad \text{ } \quad Marshall, J.$ 

<u>Affirm</u>

## Notes of the Court's Conference, Terry v. Ohio, December 13, 1967

Notetaker:

Douglas Brennan Fortas

Speaker: Warren

The Chief The Chief Justice

Justice Affirm

CJ would use the case to lay down hard rules for stop and frisk

statute can't enlarge a policemen's rights.

CJ no stop and frisk law here -

did police
have
have prob
"probable cause to talk
cause" (1) to to these + did
talk to them
(2) to think he
was in danger
of his life -
Did police
have prob
cause to talk
to these + did
he have prob
cause to bewas in danger
was in danger

an officer who sees what he saw has a duty to pursue it + frisk if there is a crime about to be committed Policeman may accost people + ask question -

\_\_

they don't have to answer + they can walk away -- But people They don't have to answer + may off - walk away.

They need not answer + may go

at that point there would be no probable cause --

but their actions may give him probable cause to think he's in danger

--

Having in mind a trained policeman may read it differently from ordinary citizen

<u>Notetaker:</u>

Douglas Brennan

**Fortas** 

Speaker:

Warren

he can protect himself by seeing if they are armed --

> But then Did he or did he not have probable cause to protect himself -

affirms -

he rests solely on "probable cause" -would not disregard probable cause

Wouldn't put it on any basis other than <u>prob-</u> <u>able cause</u> - not suspicion or reasonable grounds

There was probable cause (1) to talk to the man (2) to fear he might be endangered--

stop + frisk law can't change these hereafter

Would write at length + say rights of police stems from 4th amdmt + not from a statute --

Black

HLB - affirms Black, J.

Black, J.

agrees with CJ to stick by "probable cause" -- Agree that should use "probable cause" + not reasonable suspicion. Agrees up to a point --Agrees that you should stay with "probable cause"

<u>Speaker:</u> Black	Notetaker: Douglas  he would construe reasonable suspicion in NY law to mean	Brennan	Fortas
Marshall	[in circle:]  TM interrupts to say that police did not go up to them to question them [end circle]		
Black (continues)	<u>HLB</u> probable cause -		NY statute means "probable cause"
	he did not make arrest by talking to them - he arrested them only [crossed out: by] when he stood them up —	Don't think they arrested these people until after he got guns.	Arrested only when he told them to go into store + put their hands on wall -
			Here: may police interrogate per- sons who are acting so they suspect crime —

Does officer have a right to interrogate people doing peculiar things? Don't know that this is forbidden by anything in Const.

right to question citizen is people of not a 4th A not stem right - right to stop + ask questions is part of body of law, not 4th A - 4th A does not fit into it until there is an arrest

Right to stop people does stem from not stem from Amdmt -- Fourth. "Seizure"

This does not stem from 4th Amdmt --"Seizure" means arrest. Notetaker:

Douglas

Brennan

**Fortas** 

Speaker:

Black

policeman Further has

has right

right to defend himself

to defend

himself + to frisk

them to

save his

life -

evidence

taken

would be

admissible

-

he would don't want say this anything said that police citizen can't just can't make walk away guy stay until + refuse to he answers or talk to the he stub-bornly police refuses when questioned - there is a right to investigate - he could delay him temporarily tho not arrest him - no need not decide that now but that's how he would decide it -

Douglas

WOD affirms - agrees with CJ

Douglas, J. Affirm

Harlan

<u>JMH</u> affirms - Harlan, J. Affirm frisking took place pretty early - cop can't do that i.e. frisk without probable cause that a crime is committed - he does not look at this as a ques-

tioning case -

Notetaker:

Douglas Brennan **Fortas** 

Speaker:

Brennan

WJB affirms -

Brennan, J. **Affirm** 

there is 4th A - it deals with seizure of persons + there must be "probable cause" there is a seizure not for purpose of booking him for a crime but for purposes of frisking -

4th amendmt problem -- there is a "seizure" of a person here --

is this probable cause to stop him question him, frisk him -

Is there probable cause to detain, question

+ frisk --

he passes over case where there is a frisk + nothing found + police yet detain him - Would reserve on questions of whether fellow may walk away

--

or whether other things may be used, having been found in course of frisk

refer to <u>Miranda</u>

+ custodial detention includes a jail.

## Stewart

PS agrees with CJ affirms Stewart, J. Affirm

would not say a citizen can refuse to answer a cop Wouldn't like to see us face question of right to go away -- state can make stricter standards than the 4<u>th</u> A -

need not reach case where the frisk turns up contraband

<u>Speaker:</u> White	Notetaker: Douglas Brennan  BW affirms - questionin g is not 4th A -	Fortas  White, J.  Affirm police man [crossed out word] may ask question
	it is in- volved in a frisk or search for there is detention -	[crossed out word] But 4th amdmt involved on frisk or search
Fortas	AF affirms with a precisely refined opinion not a Mi- randa type - we are writing a new kind	AF. <u>Affirm</u> but narrow + precise -
	new kind of prob- able cause	

- he would be cautious - he would go case by case - he would leave untouched the round up type of frisks.

## Marshall

Marshall, J.

Affirm
I might put it on suspicion of heist -- not that [they were -- crossed out] cop was going to talk to them - but was going to frisk them

TM affirms

Agrees - <u>narrow</u> + <u>precise</u>