

Dear State College Community:

As many of you may know, though I have no connection to Penn State, I have been investigating the Jerry Sandusky story for over two years now. I have created a popular website (www.FramingPaterno.com), and a free documentary film, as well as a free online book about the case.

Most of my focus here has been on my belief that Joe Paterno was unfairly “convicted” in this case by the media and the PSU Board of Trustees. When I went on the Today Show after my first in-prison interview with Sandusky, I declared that Paterno had been “railroaded.” I have never been more positive that this assessment is accurate than I am now.

However, as I have gotten more information and recently interviewed Sandusky a second time, I now believe that it is also very possible that Joe Paterno was not the only person swept up in the crazed rush to judgment of November 2011. I have come to believe that it is plausible that a great injustice was also done to Sandusky himself.

I fully realize that to many people this assertion will sound insane, but I can assure you I have not come to this dramatic evolution of thought lightly. In fact, I have fought coming to this conclusion with nearly every fiber of my being.

However, both the facts and my instincts have continually led me to the assessment that Joe Paterno, Graham Spanier, Tim Curley and Gary Schultz were not guilty of a cover up in this case because there simply was very little, if anything, to cover up.

While the facts of this case are extremely complicated, I wish to share just a very few important and overlooked numbers in an effort to possibly open up your mind about what really did and did not happen here and why the Sandusky trial was an embarrassment to our judicial system.

- Number of Sandusky victims who reported clear sexual abuse to anyone in a remotely contemporaneous fashion: 0
- Number of original Sandusky victims who claimed clear sexual abuse in their first version of the story: 0
- Number of victims who originated from Sandusky’s football camps: 0
- Number of Sandusky foster children who claimed abuse: 0
- Number of Sandusky adopted children who claimed abuse: 1 (Matt Sandusky)
- Number of times Matt Sandusky testified under oath that he was NOT abused: 1
- Number of times Matt Sandusky testified under oath that he WAS abused: 0
- Number of Sandusky family members who believe Matt: 0
- Number of key victims who need Dottie Sandusky to have perjured herself for them not to be lying: 2
- Number of witnesses who testified that they saw Sandusky acting clearly inappropriately with a boy: 1 (Mike McQueary)
- Number of witnesses who testified that they saw Sandusky acting clearly inappropriately with a boy and who didn’t get the day/month/year of the incident all horribly incorrect: 0
- Number of times the “McQueary Victim” or his lawyers have ever publicly said that Sandusky abused him that night: 0
- Number of allegations or findings of pornography in this case: 0
- Number of allegations of alcohol plying in this case: 0
- Number of allegations of attempts to provide hush money in this case: 0
- Number of samples of DNA in this case: 0
- Number of cell phone videos/photos or taped phone calls documenting abuse in this case: 0
- Number of audio tapes of a key victim’s lawyer conspiring with investigators to lie to get the victim to finally claim sex with Sandusky: 1
- Number of charges on which Sandusky was somehow convicted without even a “known” victim: 9
- Number of charges on which Sandusky was somehow convicted without a victim, a direct witness, a date, or a contemporaneous report: 5
- Number of continuances provided to the defense in a trial which was somehow completed just seven months after Sandusky’s arrest: 0
- Number of trial victims who did not pursue a huge financial settlement with Penn State, or are not currently suing Penn State: 0

These numbers should be frightening to anyone who cares about due process in this country. No matter what you may feel about Jerry Sandusky, there is no doubt in my mind that he did not get a fair trial and that the evidence against him is far more suspect than anyone seems to be willing to publicly admit. Based on my extensive interaction with him and his wife Dottie over the past year, I am quite certain that neither of them possess anywhere near the consciousness of guilt necessary for him to be guilty of most of the crimes of which he was convicted.

Both Sandusky and the truth deserve a new trial. Aaron Fisher (whose former stepfather was recently arrested and charged with dozens of counts of child molestation, apparently of his own child) and his therapist/co-author Mike Gillum, both need to finally be asked some legitimate questions by the media. So do Matt Sandusky and his victim-producing attorney Andrew Shubin. Similarly, Mike McQueary warrants far greater scrutiny and Victim 2 needs to finally come forward and (just as he did to a defense investigator on the day Joe Paterno was fired) tell the truth of what really did and didn’t happen the night that McQueary claims to have seen an assault of some sort.

My only goal here is truth and justice. If you care about either in this case I urge you to go to www.FramingPaterno.com and watch a brand-new video I have released there about my most recent interview in prison with both Jerry and Dottie Sandusky. It explains a rather logical alternative narrative of what happened here which I now think deserves very serious consideration.

No matter how unpopular, the truth should matter. In this case, at least so far, it has not.

Sincerely,



John Ziegler
Documentary Filmmaker
www.FramingPaterno.com