

1. There were no witnesses or video evidence to proceed with any other judgment than solely their social status. However, the DCFS did the best they could to ensure that there was punishment implemented. The fact was that there were children harmed. There was a situation that got out of hand, and there was a need for consequences. When children are killed, there is a need for justice within the community.
2. Under no circumstance do I feel that a person who received three different types of prescribed psychotropic medication. Interestingly, the investigators stated that the defendant didn't react to what should be expected under the circumstances. Consequently, from this horrific accident, Amanda was admitted to a psych unit. She was affected a lot if there was a need to be admitted to a psych unit. Additionally, she was traumatized if she was on three psychotropic medications and in a psych unit. A situation where you are not in the right mind and require help. "Symptoms like delusions usually go away within a few weeks, but the full effects of the medication may not be seen for up to six weeks." (National Institute of Mental Health, 2016, para. 38).
3. There were many poor choices made by Maurice. Taking on three children is a lot for many people. Postpartum is a condition involved with a woman, and It is also a condition a man can suffer (Ricci et al., 2017). It is hard to understand a person's state of mind if you didn't witness the situation. However, I believe he had poor judgment. I think it is

unfair that people should judge this kind of circumstance when there is a lot of missing evidence.

4. I do feel there had to be some racial bias involved with this circumstance. I do think it unfair that Maurice was given a far worse sentence than Amanda. It's hard for me to understand the kind of conviction implemented when there was a lot of missing information. Additionally, different statements were unreliable because none of them matched one another.
5. Amanda was given a sentence. Also, she reached out for help after the situation happened. I don't think people should be allowed to take other's human rights away. When people start getting involved in taking away human rights, there should be consequences for those who implement harsh judgments with a clear indication of missing evidence.
6. It is inappropriate for people to get involved in situations without proper education. Also, they will need to know and given all the facts. People are continually given judgments on what people think and not what is right. It is not moral to try and take away a human's rights. There are international laws involved when it comes to human rights and children's welfare. Unless you are educated and are in the justice system, given all the facts, and have enough evidence, there should be no reason to take away another human's children when there is no abuse or neglect involved. Also, how are the people involved allowed to take out the father's rights without reason? The fact that this has happened makes it clear that there is an apparent failure in the justice system and people's judgment.

7. The judgment of anticipatory neglect seems harsh. I understand that there are some laws implemented for reasons. However, I feel the concern is reasonable. “They may also be filed for anticipatory neglect, or when the child is at risk of abuse or neglect or substantial risk of abuse” (Illinois Legal Aid Online, 2020). There is a lot of absent evidence that makes it very hard to make an actual decision. Numerous individuals make hasty verdicts without examining and investigating the truth and facts before believing what they are told. Plus, implementing decisions that will affect an entire family for the rest of their lives.

References

Illinois Legal Aid Online. (2020). *Family & safety*. <https://www.illinoislegalaid.org/legal-information/dcfs-cases-and-child-protection-services>

National Institute of Mental Health. (2016). *Mental health medications*.

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