Frank Vaiana 2121 Wertboro ave Alhamara, Ciri 91863 (in / How President Mix white House Washington D.C.

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## Environmentalist Warns Against 'Overillumination'... **Light Pollution Is Newest Threat** by MARGE FERRIS According to Malcolm To America's Health trialized societies to mature earlier. Scientist John Ott of

Wells, a prominent environmentalist, automobile fumes, industrial waste and sewage aren't the only types of pollution plaguing modern society.

There is now a new and possibly much more dangerous kind to add to the list light pollution!

Bad things happen at night --criminals become more active, automobile accidents increase, chickens lay fewer eggs. Because of these and other night-related problems, modern society seems hell-bent on doing away with darkness. Night, in fact, is being legislated out of existence, says Wells.

"Brilliant 'crime lights' are sprouting on downtown streets. Mercury-vapor bulbs glow over freeways, parking lots, bridges and playing fields. Even homes

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– like modern poultry houses - are lit all through the night for the 'welfare' of their inhabitants. We have become neurotic about night," claims Wells.

We may also be unwittingly doing away with a valuable natural resource, the scientist adds. Night and darkness are part of man's environmental heritage. The natural day, to which our bodies have been tuned, operates not by the clock but by the cycle of light and darkness. And this cycle is extremely important to health and happiness.

But soon darkness may be almost unavailable to urban people — except in private rooms or lightproof compartments --- "even though soft, restful darkness is a perfect setting for the deep rest that all daytime creatures require."

"We're losing all that," Wells warns. "Going, going, gone is the wonderful, private feeling of being outdoors in safety on a dark night.

"Kiss the stars good-by," the environmentalist says, refer-ring to the tremendous light spill from our overilluminated cities.

Observatories have felt the light spill problem for years. Light creeping up from Los Angeles has spoiled the view from Mount Wilson and put the observatory there just about out of business. Although the Mount Palomar observatory

has not yet been ruined, it is also being severely affected.

"Any observatory is going to have trouble," says Charles Federer, editor of Sky and Telescope magazine. "As light pollution spreads, even your average backyard astronomer is getting hurt.<sup>9</sup>

Excess light is also having biological effects.

Young female test animals. kept under prolonged illumination, begin menstruating earlier than animals kept to a standard light-and-darkness cycle. And according to N.A. Jafarev, a Pakistani physician, excess light causes girls living in indus-

Sarasota, Florida, also points an accusing finger at artificial light. His experiments have shown that unnatural lighting affects sexual activity and productivity.

Finally, the tremendous \* amount of electricity used to overlight cities and homes is depleting fuel reserves.

Malcolm Wells predicts that someday, perhaps in the not too distant future, strict laws will "limit artificial lighting to the surfaces that need light, and prevent light spillage into the sky or i 'o people's eyes,'

Dest: oving night could eventually become as serious a crime as polluting water or fouling the air.



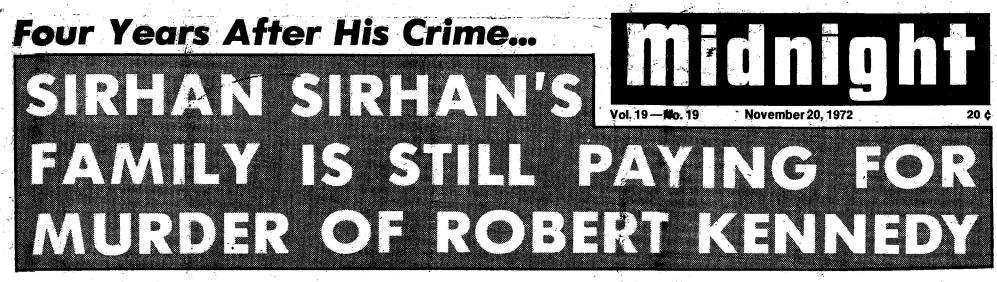
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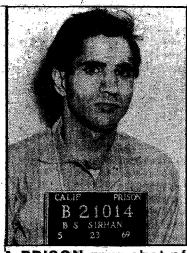
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## • Poverty, Shame & Feelings Of Mistrust Have Turned Them Against One Another



A PRISON mug shot of Sirhan Sirhan by CARL DAVIDSON

The lives of the Sirhan family have completely fallen apart since Sirhan B. Sirhan, the second youngest of five brothers, assassinated Senator Robert F. Kennedy four years ago. Since the trial following the

Since the trial following the 1968 shooting in Los Angeles' Ambassador Hotel, Sirhan, now 28, has been in San Quentin prison serving a life sentence.

The only word that can be used to describe the lives of his mother and four brothers since the assassination is "aimless".



MARY SIRHAN with her youngest son Munir — who is the only working member of the family

Sirhan's mother, 61-year-old Mary Sirhan, and every son except Munir, the youngest, have been out of work. They have very few friends and even fewer hopes for the future.

Mrs. Sirhan has been divorced for years from her husband, who still lives in Jordan. Neighbors in the Pasadena, California, community where she lives with two of her five sons say they feel sorry for her.

"She looks so old and frail," says Gabriel Arandia, a 25-year-old mother of six who lives next door to the Sirhan residence.

"She rarely goes out of the house and sometimes refuses to come to the door or answer the telephone.

"Sometimes I see Mrs. Sirhan watering her lawn, but most of the time she sits in the house," said Mrs. Arandia.

Life has been a series of troubles for the remaining brothers since Sirhan assassinated Kennedy. The five brothers range in age from 24-40.

Said, the oldest, is currently facing a municipal court trial on charges of disturbing the peace. The charges were leveled against him by his mother.

Police say he broke a window in his mother's house in July and threatened to burn the home down in the belief that Mrs. Sirhan had been withholding family funds.

Mrs. Sirhan claims, "I have no funds and no income other than from Munir (her youngest son)." Said has also been convicted of

LSD and marijuana possession, and a public drunkenness. Shariff Sirham, 39, needs con-

stant medical attention for his ulcer and a nervous condition. Shariff told reporters, "The

MIDNIGHT — November 20, 1972 sharift told reporters, The memory of the shooting is always there in front of my eves. My life



SIRHAN BEING restrained by a guard. So far he has served four years of his life sentence

has become worse than hell." Shariff and Said, the oldest of the five brothers, live together, and Shariff says, "Often Said and I go days and even weeks at a time without eating."

Shariff, who was convicted in 1965 of sawing through the brake lines of his ex-girlfriend's car, has had two post-assassination allegations against him dropped. He was accused of threatening the lives of Sittan's defense attorneys and of causing a disturbance at the Pasadena Hospital where his brother, Said, was recovering from a car accident.

Shariff says it is impossible for him or his brothers to get jobs.

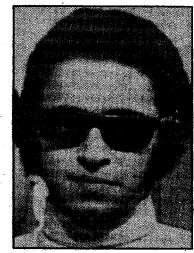
"When we are interviewed," he says, "the employer asks us about ow relationship to Sirhan. They ask a lot of questions and never call us back."

Adel, 33, is the only one of the brothers who has not been in trouble with the police over the past four years. He is an unemployed flute player and lives at home with his mother and younger brother, Munir.

Munir, 24, is the only wageearner in the family. He lives at home and holds jobs as a mechanic. at two different gas stations.

"Munir is a good boy," says his mother. "He supports me and keeps me alive."

Shariff told reporters, "The while Said and Shariff are alienmemory of the shooting is always there in front of my eyes. My life ment for which Mrs. Sirhan



MUNIR, 24, is a ''good' boy'' his mother says

brought charges against her oldest son, Munir and Adel stick close by her side.

They have given up the church activities which provided them with their only social outlet.

"I lost my job as housekeeper at the church," said Mrs. Sirhan. And Adel added, "Ever since the shooting people have looked at us differently."

Of all the brothers, Shariff is the one who feels strongest about his younger brother's conviction.

"Our lives will go on being troubled until the truth comes out in Sirhan's case. After that, everything will be all right," he says.

MOMENTS AFTER he was struck down by Sirhan's bullets, Robert Kennedy lies bleeding on the floor

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## JUL 14 19/2

Miss Bonnie Snapp Wichert Community c/o Consolidated School District No. 262 Wichert Rural Station St. Anne, Illinois 60965

Dear Bonnie:

President Nixon has referred to this Department your correspondence postmarked May 13, 1972. We apologize for our delay in responding.

Sirhan Sirhan was tried, convicted and sentenced to death, in a California State Court for the first degree murder of Senator Robert Kennedy. The California Supreme Court has subsequently declared the death penalty unconstitutional and Sirhan's sentence was reduced to life in prison. He is presently serving his sentence in a California State Penitentiary.

James Earl Ray pled guilty in Tennessee to charges of first degree murder in the slaying of the Reverend Martin Luther King. He is presently serving a life sentence in a Tennessee State Penitentiary.

Sincerely,

DAVID L. NORMAN Assistant Attorney General Civil Rights Division

cc: Records Chrono Corres. Unit

Janet -Hope this is enough. Judy B. O Kennedy - Sikhan Sikhan; tried in California State Court for first degree munder - convicted - sentenced to death. Since that time, Calif. Supreme Court held death penalty unconstitutional and Sirchan's sentenced reduced to life in PRISON. Presently 15 Serving Sentence in California State Penitentiary,

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2 King -James Earl Ray j pled quilty in Tennessee State Court to Charges of first degree murder. Sentenced to life in prison. Presently is serving sentence in Tennessee State Penetentiary,

P.S. They might want to write state court for exact Sentencing + Tocation of cenitentinics. Obviously, due to state action, we were not involved at all is the first 3 con the keeped's on them pro

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