

# CROSS EXAMINATION DEMO

# Theory of Defense

Melissa's only concern is protecting herself and her boyfriend Michael; Javier was the quick and easy scapegoat. She wants to keep living her life and having fun so when her mom discovered she had an abortion, Melissa couldn't admit to her the truth...the truth that her and Michael are having sex and she got pregnant. It's easier for Melissa to play victim than to accept blame.

# Things I considered preparing my cross

- Tone
- Chapters that advance my theory
- The order of my chapters
- I can't get Melissa to say she's a liar
- I can't get Melissa to say she is having sex with her boyfriend Michael
- Impeachable moments

# Chapters (in this very limited cross)

- Melissa just testified Javier threatened her with a knife (surprise chapter)
- Started dating Michael in High School
- She breaks the rules (curfew, missing school, drinking, etc.)
- All the times she didn't mention being assaulted (didn't put it in her diary, didn't tell her mom, didn't tell Patty Chambers, etc.)

MELISSA JUST TESTIFIED JAVIER THREATENED  
HER WITH A KNIFE  
(IMPEACHMENT)

SHE STARTED DATING MICHAEL IN HIGH SCHOOL  
WHEN SHE WAS YOUNG AND HE WAS OLD

SHE BREAKS THE RULES (CURFEW, MISSING  
SCHOOL, DRINKING, ETC.)

ALL THE TIMES SHE DIDN'T MENTION BEING  
ASSAULTED (DIDN'T PUT IT IN HER DIARY,  
DIDN'T TELL HER MOM, DIDN'T TELL PATTY  
CHAMBERS, ETC.)