

OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT
PROCEEDINGS BEFORE
THE SUPREME COURT
OF THE
UNITED STATES

CAPTION: PAMELA WITHROW Petitioners v.
ROBERT ALLEN WILLIAMS, JR.

CASE NO: 91-1030

PLACE: Washington, D.C.

DATE: November 3, 1992

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IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES

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PAMELA WITHROW, :
Petitioner :
v. : No. 91-1030
ROBERT ALLEN WILLIAMS, JR. :
- - - - -X

Washington, D.C.
Tuesday, November 3, 1992

The above-entitled matter came on for oral
argument before the Supreme Court of the United States at
11:02 a.m.

APPEARANCES:

JEFFREY CAMINSKY, ESQ., Assistant Prosecuting Attorney,
Detroit, Michigan; on behalf of the Petitioner.
JOHN G. ROBERTS, JR., ESQ., Deputy Solicitor General,
Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.; on behalf of
the United States, as amicus curiae supporting the
Petitioner.
SETH P. WAXMAN, ESQ., Washington, D.C.; on behalf of the
Respondent.

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1 PROCEEDINGS

2 (11:02 a.m.)

3 CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST: We'll hear argument
4 next in Number 91-1030, Pamela Withrow v. Robert Allen
5 Williams, Jr. Mr. Caminsky, you may proceed whenever
6 you're ready.

7 ORAL ARGUMENT OF JEFFREY CAMINSKY

8 ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONER

9 MR. CAMINSKY: For the last seven or eight
10 hundred years, the writ of habeas corpus has been one of
11 the Crown Jewels in Anglo-American jurisprudence,
12 providing a measure of protection for all who share the
13 heritage of the English common law from tyranny and
14 oppression.

15 In this case, I submit to the Court that we have
16 in front of us today a classic example of the extent to
17 which habeas corpus has strayed from its original and
18 intended purposes and gives us a paradigm of a Federal
19 district court employing a writ of habeas corpus as a writ
20 of Federal error.

21 If we take a look at the record of this case, we
22 see that before his arraignment respondent made three
23 separate statements to the police, the first statement
24 being severable into two separate parts, a pre-Miranda
25 segment and a post-Miranda segment.

1 Prior to trial, the respondent moved to suppress
2 all three statements on various grounds relating to the
3 Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Amendments, and actually
4 prevailed concerning two of those statements.

5 The only statement that the State trial judge
6 admitted into evidence was the first statement rejecting
7 the respondent's claim that it was obtained unlawfully and
8 in violation of his Fifth Amendment rights.

9 In a State court appeal, the respondent chose to
10 appeal on matters relating to this particular statement
11 only on grounds related to the Miranda issue. The State
12 Court of Appeals in Michigan denied his appeal and issued
13 an opinion affirming his conviction. The respondent then
14 filed an application to the Michigan Supreme Court which
15 denied review and ultimately filed a petition for writ of
16 certiorari to this Court which was denied back in 1989.

17 Respondent then went to Federal district court,
18 filing a petition for writ of habeas corpus. Again, as
19 far as this particular statement is concerned, respondent
20 raised only the Miranda issue.

21 In her opinion granting the writ, however, the
22 Federal district judge not only sustained his Miranda
23 claim, in effect overruling the finding of the State court
24 that the police had done nothing wrong, but also went on
25 to find the second half of that statement, the post-

1 Miranda statement, and actually both of the other
2 statements that had been suppressed in the State trial
3 court, to be involuntary.

4 We appealed to the Sixth Circuit, and while
5 finding parts of the district court's opinion slightly
6 inexplicable, the court nevertheless issued an opinion
7 affirming, and that is what brings us here today.

8 QUESTION: Did you complain in the Fifth
9 Circuit, Mr. Caminsky, about the district court's taking
10 up the involuntariness issue as well as the Miranda issue?

11 MR. CAMINSKY: Yes, we did. In fact, in the
12 Sixth Circuit I tried to draw a clear distinction between
13 the Miranda claim and a claim of involuntariness. I think
14 there are clear precedents from this Court under the
15 Quarles case and Harris v. New York and a number of others
16 where this Court has drawn a distinction between Miranda
17 defects and Miranda claims and claims of involuntariness,
18 and that was one of the things that I tried to point out
19 in the Sixth Circuit, apparently not as well as I would
20 have hoped, because in any event they rejected that
21 particular position, and in fact --

22 QUESTION: More specifically, though --

23 MR. CAMINSKY: Yes.

24 QUESTION: Did you object that the
25 involuntariness claim had never been raised in the

1 district court?

2 MR. CAMINSKY: Yes. We -- in a number of points
3 in our brief, what we tried to do was draw a distinction
4 between the Miranda claim and the involuntariness claim,
5 and we even noted in our brief in the Sixth Circuit that
6 this issue was not before the district court not only
7 because of the failure of exhaustion but because it had
8 never been raised in the petition for writ of certiorari,
9 so it is a little bit mystifying how we got to the point
10 of having to argue both the question of voluntariness and
11 the question of Miranda.

12 The Sixth Circuit, however, also drew no
13 distinction between the Miranda claim and the
14 involuntariness claim, and that is one of the points that
15 we're here to address today.

16 In fact, it seems to me that in many respects
17 the narrowest holding that this Court could issue, and
18 perhaps the core of this case, is simply the application
19 of Stone v. Powell to Miranda claims, and there are a
20 number of different ways this Court can go about that.

21 QUESTION: Well, is one of your questions in
22 your petition the failure to exhaust?

23 MR. CAMINSKY: Yes, it is.

24 I think in terms of helping the analysis, it may
25 help us to divide what we commonly consider to be

1 constitutional claims into three different
2 classifications, three different classes of claimed
3 constitutional violations.

4 The first claim would be matters of fundamental
5 fairness. Justice Cardozo in Palko v. Connecticut wrote a
6 rather interesting opinion outlining his conception of
7 what fundamental fairness was, and basically this Court
8 has issued opinions of similar import in recent years.

9 Teague v. Lane, for example, would even apply
10 retroactive changes in the law in habeas review in certain
11 cases relating --

12 QUESTION: Well, if you really raised the
13 exhaustion claim and we agreed with you, why, that would
14 be the end of the case, wouldn't it?

15 MR. CAMINSKY: No. There would still be the
16 Miranda claim to deal with. I mean, the exhaustion claim
17 only refers to the second half --

18 QUESTION: Yeah. Yeah.

19 MR. CAMINSKY: Of the statement, so as far as
20 that is concerned, that would be the --

21 QUESTION: Well, I don't know that I see the --
22 well, I guess I can read your questions as well as you
23 can.

24 MR. CAMINSKY: Okay. Well --

25 QUESTION: Never mind.

1 MR. CAMINSKY: See, this is one of the points of
2 some confusion in the Sixth Circuit. If the Court
3 examines the Sixth Circuit Appendix it will see that the
4 respondent in his State court appeal appeared through his
5 statement of the question to be raising only a question of
6 the State constitution.

7 At the time in Michigan there was a question
8 relating to focus and custody in terms of triggering
9 mechanism for Miranda warnings, and in large part his
10 argument in the State court related to that issue, and I
11 had originally challenged the Miranda claim on the
12 question of exhaustion as well. Upon reflection, it
13 seemed that there was enough language in his State court
14 appellate brief to raise the Federal part of the Miranda
15 issue as well, and therefore I think that part of it is
16 exhausted.

17 But I would -- I would --

18 QUESTION: You think Stone v. Powell covers this
19 case.

20 MR. CAMINSKY: Yes, I do, for a number of
21 reasons. I mean, part of the reason is because of the
22 particular classification that Miranda would fall into,
23 and we have questions of fundamental fairness of basic due
24 process.

25 There's another class that I would consider to

1 be the Federal criminal constitutional procedural-type
2 guarantees that this Court has adopted through its
3 incorporation document.

4 The last class would be constitutional claims
5 relating to rules of deterrence, or rules of peripheral
6 access, and that is the type of claim that Miranda is, and
7 it seems to me that if you take the logic of Stone v.
8 Powell and apply it to the particular fact situations that
9 are likely to occur in a Miranda case, that the legal
10 parallels are rather compelling.

11 And in fact, as Justice O'Connor noted in her
12 concurring opinion in Duckworth, it seems to be even more
13 compelling in the Miranda context because we're not really
14 dealing with an actual violation of the Constitution,
15 we're simply dealing with a violation of the rule that
16 this Court has designed to create a buffer around the
17 actual constitutional violation.

18 QUESTION: Isn't there a very pragmatic
19 difference, though, because in the Fourth Amendment case,
20 if you preclude the litigation of these claims that's it,
21 it's all over, whereas if we preclude litigation in the
22 Miranda claims we then face the voluntariness claim.

23 MR. CAMINSKY: Well, this Court has --

24 QUESTION: It's not over.

25 MR. CAMINSKY: The Federal court is likely to

1 wind up having to face that claim anyway. In my
2 experience, it is the --

3 QUESTION: Well, it will face that case anyway
4 if the Miranda point is lost, but if the Miranda point is
5 won, it doesn't face that claim --

6 MR. CAMINSKY: Well --

7 QUESTION: So the -- I guess what my question
8 boils down to is, assuming you win, every case that -- at
9 least -- and I'm talking on pragmatic grounds here. Every
10 case that would readily have been disposed of will now
11 turn into a case of much more complicated litigation over
12 voluntariness and I question -- even if one were inclined
13 to accept your view in the abstract, I question what we
14 would be gaining by it, or indeed losing by it.

15 MR. CAMINSKY: Well, Your Honor, I suppose that
16 reasonable minds can differ in terms of our perception of
17 the practical benefits. In my experience, it seems that
18 defendants are always raising both issues. They tend to
19 treat them as twins and see how the factual record
20 develops and argue the point from there. It seems --

21 QUESTION: Would you concede that in this case
22 there certainly is a voluntariness issue which will be
23 litigated, is litigated?

24 MR. CAMINSKY: There was a voluntariness issue
25 that could have been litigated. If the Court, however,

1 examines the record and examines the tapes, it will see we
2 are not talking about the kind of voluntariness issue that
3 we discussed -- the Court discussed in Mincey, for
4 example, or in Brown v. Mississippi, where you're talking
5 about actual -- overt acts of physical coercion.

6 I mean, if there is a voluntariness issue, it is
7 rather -- rather odd that it not only passed by the
8 defense attorneys in the State court, but it completely
9 escaped the attention of anybody up until it was raised
10 sua sponte by the Federal district judge.

11 QUESTION: Do we have any way of gauging the
12 practical effect of ruling your way? I mean, do we have
13 to do this based on our own educated guesses from our own
14 backgrounds?

15 MR. CAMINSKY: Probably. I'm not aware of any
16 particular studies. My own sense is that there are a
17 considerable number of Miranda claims, but in any event,
18 if the Court looks to the text of the habeas statute it
19 does not talk about issuing the writ in cases where there
20 is a violation of a prophylactic rule. It limits this
21 Court and the Federal courts to cases involving the
22 constitutional laws or treaties of the United States.

23 QUESTION: Well, that's true. Do you carry that
24 to the point of saying we have no -- the Federal courts
25 have no jurisdiction to consider --

1 MR. CAMINSKY: Well --

2 QUESTION: Miranda claims?

3 MR. CAMINSKY: I think that a very strong
4 argument can be made along those lines. I think there's a
5 different question to be raised --

6 QUESTION: Do you want to rest on that argument?

7 MR. CAMINSKY: No. I think there's a -- there
8 is a distinction to be made between direct appeal and
9 habeas review.

10 I mean, habeas review historically has been a
11 rather limited mechanism for correcting fundamental
12 injustice, and in this type of case, if you are dealing
13 with Miranda claims you are not necessarily dealing with a
14 fundamental injustice. As Justice O'Connor noted in her
15 opinion, the mere failure to give warnings does not render
16 evidence inherently suspect or inherently unreliable.

17 In addition, we permit the use of Miranda-
18 defective confessions for impeachment purposes and for a
19 variety of other purposes as well, so we are not dealing
20 with a class of evidence that is by its nature excludable,
21 we are dealing with a very limited class of evidence that
22 creates a buffer around the actual core constitutional
23 right that's involved.

24 And it seems to me that if we are dealing with
25 the statute where the Federal court's warrant is not to

1 sit in review of what the State court did but to try to
2 search the record, trying to examine for fundamental
3 injustice, it seems to me that that is going to -- that
4 should be the responsibility of a habeas court.

5 QUESTION: Well, don't you think the Miranda
6 rule plays a role in preventing the extraction of possibly
7 involuntary confessions?

8 MR. CAMINSKY: I think it very well may in a
9 number of different cases.

10 QUESTION: Do you agree that there's some sense
11 in thinking that involuntary confessions may be
12 unreliable?

13 MR. CAMINSKY: Oh, I don't believe that any real
14 civilized system of justice could rely on involuntary
15 confessions at all.

16 QUESTION: Well, so the Miranda rules do play a
17 role in preventing the introduction of possibly unreliable
18 statements.

19 MR. CAMINSKY: In certain cases, Your Honor. I
20 mean, what the Miranda rules do is create a buffer around
21 the right.

22 QUESTION: Now, Stone against Powell has just --
23 Stone against Powell, the Fourth Amendment cases don't
24 have anything to do with a possible reliability,
25 unreliability of the result reached at the trial.

1 MR. CAMINSKY: Well, neither, strictly speaking,
2 does a Miranda violation.

3 QUESTION: Well, it prevents -- it helps -- you
4 just said it helps to prevent the extraction of
5 involuntary confessions.

6 MR. CAMINSKY: Well, it can in a certain case.

7 Anyway, perhaps I can make the point better by
8 way of illustration. We have a 65-mile-an-hour speed
9 limit on most interstates, and if that is what the law is
10 supposed to be, if the police decide that that law is so
11 important that they simply do not wish to allow anybody to
12 exceed the speed limit, if they adopt a rule that they'll
13 issue tickets every time somebody goes more than 40 miles
14 an hour, you're going to have a great number of people who
15 are issued tickets for exceeding the de facto 40-mile-an-
16 hour speed limit but never actually reach the status of a
17 violation of the law.

18 It seems to me that the Miranda case -- the
19 Miranda rule deals with situations falling in that buffer
20 as between the 40 and 65-mile-an-hour range.

21 QUESTION: A little far afield for me.

22 MR. CAMINSKY: Well --

23 (Laughter.)

24 MR. CAMINSKY: Sorry, Your Honor. In any event,
25 if there are any further questions I'll be glad to respond

1 to them. Otherwise I'd like to save some time for
2 rebuttal.

3 QUESTION: Very well, Mr. Caminsky.

4 Mr. Roberts, we'll hear from you.

5 ORAL ARGUMENT OF JOHN G. ROBERTS, JR.

6 ON BEHALF OF THE UNITED STATES

7 AS AMICUS CURIAE SUPPORTING PETITIONER

8 MR. ROBERTS: Thank you, Mr. Chief Justice, may
9 it please the Court:

10 The United States believes that the rule of
11 Stone v. Powell should apply to bar the assertion of
12 Miranda claims on habeas corpus if the habeas petitioner
13 has had a full and fair opportunity to raise the claim in
14 State court for the same reasons that the rule bars the
15 assertion of exclusionary rule claims on habeas corpus.

16 Like the exclusionary rule, the requirement of
17 Miranda warnings is an extraconstitutional, judicially-
18 created rule. Just as the exclusionary rule bars the
19 admission of probative evidence to deter Fourth Amendment
20 violations, Miranda bars the admission of probative
21 statements to deter Fifth Amendment violations, and
22 just --

23 QUESTION: Do you think the court had the power
24 to adopt the Miranda rule, Mr. Roberts?

25 MR. ROBERTS: The court in Miranda explained its

1 adoption of the extraconstitutional rule as a means of
2 vindicating Fifth Amendment interests. We're not here
3 challenging the application of Miranda at trial or on
4 direct review. We just think that the purposes of the
5 rule have to be assessed in the habeas context, just as --

6 QUESTION: But if asked, what is your position?

7 MR. ROBERTS: I don't have a position on that,
8 Your Honor.

9 QUESTION: Okay.

10 MR. ROBERTS: We don't challenge its application
11 in trial or on direct review.

12 QUESTION: But just a Miranda rule is the law of
13 the United States within the meaning of the habeas corpus
14 statute.

15 MR. ROBERTS: I don't think the phrase,
16 Constitution laws and treaties, laws can include both
17 statutes and judicially-created constitutional common law,
18 as it were.

19 QUESTION: I understand. Is your answer yes?

20 MR. ROBERTS: Yes. Yes, and as the Court
21 explained in Stone that there's little additional
22 deterrent effect from applying the exclusionary rule on
23 habeas corpus, so, too, there is little, if any,
24 additional deterring effect from applying Miranda.

25 QUESTION: You have no disagreement with the

1 proposition that voluntariness can be tested on habeas.

2 MR. ROBERTS: No. We agree with that. We
3 don't --

4 QUESTION: Is an element of voluntariness
5 whether or not a Miranda warning has been given?

6 QUESTION: Yes.

7 MR. ROBERTS: It is a factor to be considered in
8 the totality of the circumstances, yes.

9 QUESTION: So if we adopted your rule, we would
10 be inquiring into whether or not the Miranda warning had
11 been given and its effect in any event in all those
12 voluntariness cases.

13 MR. ROBERTS: Well, it would be one of the
14 factors to be considered. This goes to Justice Souter's
15 question.

16 We think there's a very significant gain from
17 excluding Miranda from habeas corpus. This Court knows
18 from its own Miranda jurisprudence that cases under
19 Miranda can present very difficult technical issues -- the
20 content of the warnings, when they're triggered, how they
21 apply to subsequent arrests.

22 In cases that the Court knows seldom present
23 serious issues of voluntariness under the Fifth Amendment,
24 extending Stone to Miranda would keep those technical and
25 difficult issues out of habeas corpus, issues that have

1 nothing to do with guilt or innocence, while leaving only
2 voluntariness claims under the Fifth Amendment. That's a
3 significant gain.

4 QUESTION: But which do you think are more
5 difficult, the Miranda claims or voluntariness claims?

6 MR. ROBERTS: Well, as this Court knows from
7 cases like Duckworth and some of the other cases like
8 Prysock, I don't think there's any great distinction. How
9 they apply in subsequent interviews, when they can be
10 reinitiated, what's the exact content, as was the issue in
11 this case, when are the requirements or the warnings
12 triggered, they're very difficult.

13 QUESTION: I thought bright line rules generally
14 made decisions easier. We're supposed to have a bright
15 line rule there which we don't have in the voluntariness
16 issue. Maybe that is a bright --

17 MR. ROBERTS: Well, Miranda has been -- I guess
18 could be described as a bright line rule, but I think the
19 Court has found that it's not so bright on application.

20 QUESTION: What do you think the rule is,
21 Mr. Roberts, when on habeas corpus there is a -- you are
22 dealing with a claim of involuntariness? What does a
23 habeas court do?

24 MR. ROBERTS: Well, it looks to the totality of
25 the circumstances to determine --

1 QUESTION: And it reviews it de novo.

2 MR. ROBERTS: Yes, under Miller v. Fenton it is
3 a --

4 QUESTION: Yes. Yes.

5 MR. ROBERTS: De novo review.

6 QUESTION: So that's a considerable undertaking,
7 isn't it?

8 MR. ROBERTS: Well, in particular cases it may
9 be, but I suppose that, when you mentioned, Justice
10 Souter, the practical effect, I think what the assumption
11 is that a prisoner is going to sort of raise a claim even
12 if it's frivolous, and --

13 QUESTION: Well, it's a considerably tougher
14 operation than applying the Miranda rules, I would think.

15 MR. ROBERTS: Well, but it's an operation that
16 the courts have to undertake now in any event. This isn't
17 going to be an additional --

18 QUESTION: Well, we don't have to take them in
19 any event. I mean, in a case in which the Miranda claim
20 succeeds, that's the end of it.

21 MR. ROBERTS: Well, that is the end of it, yes,
22 on direct review, and the question is what happens on
23 habeas corpus. We're suggesting that's going to be the
24 end of it if our rule's accepted.

25 QUESTION: What percentage of cases does the

1 Miranda claim succeed? I mean, I guess that's a crucial
2 fact, isn't it?

3 MR. ROBERTS: When does a -- on the record --

4 QUESTION: Yes, because we're going to have to
5 go through the involuntariness anyway every time a Miranda
6 claim is made unless we find that we throw the whole thing
7 out because of the Miranda claim, right?

8 MR. ROBERTS: Right.

9 QUESTION: So what percentage of Miranda claims
10 succeed, do you think, on habeas?

11 MR. ROBERTS: I don't have any statistics on
12 that.

13 QUESTION: Do we have any reason to think it's
14 like, 90 percent --

15 MR. ROBERTS: No.

16 QUESTION: Are successful?

17 MR. ROBERTS: I think it's a much smaller --

18 QUESTION: Probably more don't succeed than
19 succeed.

20 MR. ROBERTS: Most don't because --

21 QUESTION: That's certainly my impression.

22 MR. ROBERTS: Yes.

23 QUESTION: Do you think that the exclusionary
24 rule is a law of the United States that was involved in
25 Stone?

1 MR. ROBERTS: I think it is what's been
2 described as constitutional common law.

3 QUESTION: Yeah, I think so, too.

4 QUESTION: Do you have any -- and I assume you
5 don't, but I don't want to overlook it. Do you have any
6 facts, any statistics on the percentage or the number of
7 cases on which the Miranda claim fails and voluntariness
8 is then litigated?

9 MR. ROBERTS: No. No, I don't.

10 I think the key distinction that the respondent
11 has suggested between the exclusionary rule under the
12 Fourth Amendment and Miranda's exclusionary rule is that
13 the exclusionary rule doesn't prevent a constitutional
14 violation from occurring. That's complete upon the
15 illegal search and seizure.

16 Miranda, on the other hand, respondent argues,
17 prevents a constitutional violation from even occurring,
18 and is therefore worth pursuing even on habeas corpus.

19 That, I think, begs the question. It assumes
20 there's a Fifth Amendment violation to be deterred, to be
21 prevented.

22 As this Court has explained, a violation of
23 Miranda is not the same as a violation of the Fifth
24 Amendment, and once that's understood, the distinction
25 cuts the other way. The exclusionary rule, after all,

1 prevents the State from taking advantage of a
2 constitutional violation in every case in which it
3 applies.

4 Miranda sweeps more broadly than the
5 Constitution, so we think the rule of Stone v. Powell
6 should apply a fortiori, and with respect to the
7 significance, the practical impact, it's noteworthy I
8 think that 36 State Attorneys General have filed an amicus
9 brief in this case suggesting that they regard the impact
10 as significant in terms of the respect accorded by the
11 Federal system to the finality of State court judgments.

12 Now, turning to the voluntariness question in
13 this case, the statements that were made after the Miranda
14 warnings were given and waived, the totality of the
15 circumstances shows this: we had a lucid individual not
16 under the influence of drugs or alcohol, not too young to
17 be susceptible to police influence, a veteran of police
18 procedures -- he knew the jargon. He testified that he
19 had six prior B&E's.

20 Police taped the interview, not something
21 they're likely to do if they're embarked on a campaign to
22 overbear his will, and of course, as noted, Miranda
23 warnings had been given.

24 Now, in that circumstance, what is it that makes
25 respondent's statements involuntary in response to this

1 promise of leniency? Not that -- it was but-for cause.
2 Brady tells us that that's not enough. Not that it was a
3 promise of leniency. Fulminante made clear that
4 statements in Bram suggesting that was enough were no
5 longer good law.

6 Not that there was any possibility that this
7 would generate a false admission of guilt. This isn't a
8 case, you know, confess and we'll release your spouse or
9 your child. In fact, the only condition he had to meet
10 was to tell the truth.

11 Nor is there anything improper about the
12 inducement that was offered in this case. It wasn't, as
13 in Fulminante, talk and we'll save you from a beating.

14 QUESTION: Do you think the voluntariness issue
15 is before us?

16 MR. ROBERTS: Yes, I do. Well, assuming the
17 Court disagrees with the exhaustion point -- we haven't
18 briefed the exhaustion point. WE have looked at the
19 record. It does seem to us that voluntariness, the
20 promise of leniency as opposed to Miranda --

21 QUESTION: Right.

22 MR. ROBERTS: Was not raised in the State system
23 on appeal, and therefore could be considered not to be
24 exhausted, but if it is exhausted I do think --

25 QUESTION: Well, and isn't it also possible the

1 State waived the exhaustion argument? I don't know,
2 but --

3 MR. ROBERTS: The record's very ambiguous in the
4 Sixth Circuit about whether there was a concession to that
5 effect or not.

6 QUESTION: Was it raised in the Federal district
7 court?

8 MR. ROBERTS: The promise of leniency point was
9 not.

10 QUESTION: Was the involuntariness point raised
11 in the habeas court?

12 MR. ROBERTS: No. The habeas petition mentioned
13 solely the failure to give Miranda warnings. The
14 promise --

15 QUESTION: Well, isn't that a possible obstacle
16 to whether it's properly before us.

17 MR. ROBERTS: Well, the district court went on
18 to reach it and decide it.

19 QUESTION: In the absence of anybody knowing
20 that it was before it and having any opportunity to speak
21 to it?

22 MR. ROBERTS: Exactly. There was no trial
23 proceeding. The -- it was mentioned at the suppression
24 hearing in State court, and then I think not mentioned any
25 further, and then it reemerged in the district court's

1 opinion and that was the first point at which it
2 resurfaced.

3 QUESTION: And that places it properly before
4 us.

5 MR. ROBERTS: Well, to --

6 QUESTION: I mean, I think there's properly
7 before us the question of whether it was validly reached,
8 but --

9 MR. ROBERTS: Well, yes, but I think the Court
10 can reach it --

11 QUESTION: By being before it.

12 MR. ROBERTS: But the Court can reach it, since
13 it was decided by the district court and by the court of
14 appeals. Now, whether it was proper for the district
15 court to reach it is a different question, and I think
16 it --

17 QUESTION: Don't you think it's a question we
18 have to consider?

19 MR. ROBERTS: Yes, as well as --

20 QUESTION: I mean, as well as then to judge the
21 record that was made by a prosecution that had no notice
22 that this issue was even going to be decided?

23 MR. ROBERTS: The issue did come in as a
24 surprise in the district court opinion, yes.

25 Thank you, Your Honor.

1 QUESTION: Thank you, Mr. Roberts.

2 Mr. Waxman, we'll hear from you.

3 ORAL ARGUMENT OF SETH P. WAXMAN

4 ON BEHALF OF THE RESPONDENT

5 MR. WAXMAN: Chief Justice Rehnquist, and may it
6 please the Court:

7 All four Federal judges who have considered this
8 case have concluded that a writ of habeas corpus must
9 issue in Mr. Williams' favor for two independent reasons.
10 First, because the prosecution introduced at his trial as
11 evidence of guilt statements Mr. Williams made in response
12 to custodial police interrogation prior to receiving any
13 Miranda warnings, and second, independently, because the
14 prosecution also introduced at trial statements
15 Mr. Williams made in response to custodial interrogation
16 by -- which were elicited by means which rendered them
17 involuntary under the totality of the circumstances.

18 Unless this Court overturns both of those
19 rulings, a writ of habeas corpus must issue and
20 Mr. Williams must be given a new trial.

21 The Miranda issue in this case is simply whether
22 the rule announced by this Court in Stone v. Powell should
23 be extended to claims that a petitioner's rights under
24 Miranda v. Arizona were violated.

25 QUESTION: Or whether we should adopt such a

1 rule even if Stone v. Powell had never been decided.

2 MR. WAXMAN: That -- of course, you could adopt
3 such a rule. That's not how the question is phrased.

4 In -- there -- the first point I want to make is
5 that there is no challenge in this Court --

6 QUESTION: Well, I know, but I take it that
7 if -- say we thought that Stone v. Powell was completely
8 different from this case, it would still be open to us to
9 say but nevertheless we should say that the Miranda claims
10 aren't open on habeas.

11 MR. WAXMAN: Certainly, Your Honor, if this
12 Court were to conclude that Federal courts had no
13 jurisdiction to hear Miranda claims, it could and must
14 reach such a conclusion.

15 My first point is that there was no challenge,
16 though -- there is no challenge in this Court to any
17 aspects of the merits of the Miranda rulings below, and in
18 our view the rule announced in Stone v. Powell should not
19 and cannot be applied to violations of Miranda's
20 constitutional rules.

21 The rights protected by the Fifth Amendment
22 privilege against self-incrimination are so unlike those
23 under the Fourth Amendment, and the relationship of
24 Miranda to the privilege is so different than the
25 relationship between Mapp and the Fourth Amendment, that

1 the concerns that inform this Court's decision in Stone
2 and, we submit, no other concerns counsel favoring
3 extension of that rule to Miranda claims. Indeed, those
4 factors counsel against extending the rule in Stone to
5 Miranda.

6 I'd like to briefly give the reasons why, and
7 then explain in more detail why I say this. First,
8 because in complete contrast to the Fourth Amendment
9 exclusionary rule, Miranda is specifically designed to and
10 does both prevent the constitutional violation from
11 occurring and, if a violation does occur, it redresses the
12 constitutional injury.

13 Second, unlike Stone, which reduce the burden on
14 Federal courts and friction with State courts by taking
15 Federal courts completely out of the business of
16 adjudicating the constitutionality of the admission of
17 physical evidence, depriving Federal habeas courts of the
18 power to adjudicate Miranda claims will produce no such
19 result, and third, unlike the Fourth Amendment
20 exclusionary rule, Miranda is not unrelated to fairness
21 and reliability at trial.

22 Before I elaborate on those three points, I
23 would like to stress two points which I think are very
24 fundamental in this case, one about Stone and one about
25 Miranda.

1 Stone v. Powell is not a decision about the
2 scope of the habeas corpus statute, it is a decision about
3 the scope of the judge-made exclusionary rule designed to
4 reinforce the Fourth Amendment. Stone itself makes this
5 very clear, and this important distinction is apparent and
6 reiterated in all of this Court's subsequent decisions
7 that have declined to extend Stone beyond the strict
8 confines of the Fourth Amendment and with good reason,
9 because Stone is bound up in the unique status of the
10 Fourth Amendment exclusionary rule.

11 With respect to Miranda, the contention that
12 Miranda v. Arizona announced nothing more than
13 nonconstitutional rules is wrong, and it critically
14 obscures the issue in this case. We readily agree that
15 one thing that Miranda v. Arizona did was to announce
16 rules that are not required by the Constitution. The
17 warnings themselves, for example, are not constitutionally
18 required. Miranda says this, and that's what cases like
19 California v. Prysock and Duckworth v. Eagan are about.

20 Similarly, the mere occurrence of unwarned
21 custodial interrogation absent a use of the statements as
22 evidenced at chief -- at trial, while decried by Miranda,
23 does not amount to a constitutional violation because the
24 statements haven't been used against the defendant as
25 testimony. This is the precise teaching of this Court's

1 decisions in Michigan v. Tucker and Oregon v. Elstad.

2 These types of Miranda violations are not at
3 issue in this case. They're not currently enforced on
4 habeas corpus. They're not enforced against the States at
5 all.

6 What is at issue in this case --

7 QUESTION: Excuse me, how are they ever enforced
8 outside of habeas corpus?

9 MR. WAXMAN: They -- excuse me, I -- they
10 could -- they are not enforced, for example, on direct
11 appeal to this Court from a State conviction.

12 QUESTION: Yeah, I mean, I don't understand how
13 they are ever enforced unless a non-Mirandized confession
14 is sought to be admitted. The fact that you get a
15 confession without Mirandizing is cost-free, right?

16 MR. WAXMAN: Well --

17 QUESTION: It's not enforced in any forum,
18 neither habeas or elsewhere.

19 MR. WAXMAN: It's not enforced because under
20 Miranda and under this Court's decisions interpreting
21 Miranda it doesn't announce a constitutional rule. It
22 announces rules that there are good reasons for police to
23 follow.

24 QUESTION: No, but my point is that habeas is
25 not distinctive in that regard.

1 MR. WAXMAN: And that's precisely my point, too,
2 Justice Scalia. Those kinds of Miranda violations, like
3 the violations at issue in Egan and Tucker and Elstad are
4 not at issue in any court.

5 What is at issue here is something fundamentally
6 different, because in addition to these nonconstitutional
7 prophylactic rules, Miranda v. Arizona announced both a
8 fundamental constitutional principle under the self-
9 incrimination clause and a prophylactic rule that this
10 Court said was necessary to protect that right, and if I
11 could just go through both of those briefly, I think it
12 would at least point up my understanding of what's at
13 issue in this case when you are asked to apply Stone v.
14 Powell to Miranda claims.

15 Whatever nonconstitutional rules Miranda
16 announced, it also unambiguously holds that a suspect in
17 custodial interrogation has a fundamental self-executing
18 right to remain silent. That is, to say nothing that the
19 prosecution can use against him as evidence of guilt at
20 trial.

21 Now, that right, Miranda says, under the self-
22 incrimination clause, can be waived, but only if the
23 suspect understands the right and understands the
24 consequences of waiving it.

25 That fundamental right was --

1 QUESTION: Do you think it violates the Fifth
2 Amendment to make him speak?

3 MR. WAXMAN: It violates the Fifth Amendment to
4 make him speak in custodial interrogation if he doesn't
5 understand that --

6 QUESTION: I thought the Fifth Amendment was
7 violated only by the introduction of the evidence.

8 MR. WAXMAN: Well, that's the -- the holding
9 I -- this Court's jurisprudence is that the amendment
10 itself is only violated once the statement is used. Your
11 Honor is absolutely correct, and I misspoke. In Michigan
12 v. Tucker, that's the reason why there wasn't a
13 constitutional violation, but it does say that in the
14 station house --

15 QUESTION: Well, he has a right not -- you say
16 he has an unqualified right to remain silent under the
17 Constitution, does he?

18 MR. WAXMAN: That's not accurate. I mean, this
19 Court frequently says it. What it means is, you have an
20 unqualified right not to make statements that the
21 prosecution can use against you as evidence of guilt at
22 trial.

23 QUESTION: Right.

24 MR. WAXMAN: Now, that can be waived, but it can
25 only be waived, this Court has held many times, if you

1 know you have that right and you understand the
2 consequences of it, and that right, interestingly, was
3 violated in this case, because there is no evidence in
4 this record whatsoever that prior to his receipt of the
5 warnings Mr. Williams understood and intelligently waived
6 his right not to make statements that could be used
7 against him.

8 Now, the district -- the lower courts, of
9 course, did not base their ruling on that finding, because
10 they didn't need to, because to protect that
11 constitutional right under the self-incrimination clause,
12 Miranda holds that because warnings or their equivalents
13 are necessary to ensure that a suspect understands his
14 rights and the consequences of waiving it, and to overcome
15 the compulsion that's inherent in custodial interrogation,
16 therefore the prosecution cannot, consistent with the
17 privilege, use any unwarned statements it made in response
18 to custodial interrogation as evidence in chief at trial.
19 That's --

20 QUESTION: He had been Mirandized before in
21 other -- after other arrests, is that right?

22 MR. WAXMAN: Well, the record --

23 QUESTION: I mean, I don't find it very
24 persuasive that he'd been tricked into confessing when
25 he's been Mirandized on other occasions.

1 MR. WAXMAN: The record on that issue is very,
2 very sparse. There is a very short colloquy that's
3 reported in the Joint Appendix where he's asked by the
4 prosecutor in the suppression hearing, you've been
5 arrested before, and he says yes, and the prosecutor says
6 you understood these rights, and he said well, I've heard
7 some of them, and the prosecutor says, in fact you know
8 what they are, and he says no, I don't.

9 But remember that as this Court reiterated in
10 Colorado v. Connolly, this is a burden that the
11 prosecution has. I submit that there is no way -- if the
12 Court below had to reach this issue, there's no way that
13 any court could find that the State carried its burden,
14 but what's at issue in this case is --

15 QUESTION: Well, the State courts must have
16 found that the State carried the burden --

17 MR. WAXMAN: Well, I --

18 QUESTION: Because they affirmed the conviction.

19 MR. WAXMAN: The State court did affirm the
20 conviction. The trial court found that there was no Fifth
21 Amendment violation.

22 QUESTION: Well, they -- that's a finding that
23 the State carried its burden, surely.

24 MR. WAXMAN: Well, it's a conclusion of law, I
25 suppose. My point, Mr. Chief Justice, is that the

1 fundamental -- the core constitutional right was not
2 litigated in this case at all, I admit that.

3 He didn't come in and say look, I didn't
4 knowingly voluntarily and intelligently waive, because he
5 didn't have to. All he said is, I was interrogated for 45
6 minutes without receiving any Miranda warnings, and the
7 question in this case is, are Federal courts going to hear
8 that kind of claim? That's the only thing that was ruled.

9 QUESTION: A straight Miranda claim, so to
10 speak.

11 MR. WAXMAN: A straight Miranda claim, but
12 nonetheless the kind of Miranda claim that this Court has
13 held over and over and over again is one that is required
14 by the Constitution.

15 It's require -- in Estelle v. Smith, Chief
16 Justice Burger, speaking for the Court, stated the Fifth
17 Amendment privilege is directly involved here because the
18 State used as evidence of guilt the substance of the
19 defendant's disclosures during the pre-trial psychiatric
20 examination.

21 In Edwards v. Arizona, Justice White, speaking
22 for the Court, said the use of Edward's confession against
23 him violated his rights under the Fifth and Fourteenth
24 Amendments as construed in Miranda.

25 In Orozco v. Texas, this Court held that use of

1 custodial admissions obtained in the absence of the
2 required warnings is a flat violation of the self-
3 incrimination clause of the Fifth Amendment as construed
4 in Miranda.

5 QUESTION: Orozco has been limited by later
6 cases, hasn't it?

7 MR. WAXMAN: I'm not sure, Mr. Chief Justice.
8 If it were, I suppose Orozco stands -- to the extent that
9 it stands for anything novel, it stands for the
10 proposition that one can be in custody outside the station
11 house. It was the first case that so applied it.

12 One might question whether on the facts
13 Mr. Orozco was in fact in custody, although I certainly
14 would argue that he was. He was awakened by a number of
15 police officers at 4:00 in the morning in his -- asleep in
16 his home, but that statement of Orozco, as I think the
17 quotes that I've just provided to the Court from Estelle
18 and Edwards, and there are many other cases, does remain
19 good constitutional doctrine.

20 In fact, in Elstad itself, this Court
21 distinguished its prior decision in United States v.
22 Harrison on the ground that there, quote, the prosecution
23 had actually violated the defendant's Fifth Amendment
24 rights by introducing the confessions at trial.

25 In other words, what's at issue in this case,

1 unlike Eagan and Tucker and Elstad, is the violation of a
2 constitutional right, or at the very least, a rule that
3 this Court has repeatedly emphasized is required by the
4 Constitution, and the question is, can this rule be
5 analogized to Stone?

6 We submit that not a single one of the factors
7 that motivated this Court's decision in Stone to restrict
8 the scope of the Fourth Amendment exclusionary rule,
9 counsels that result in this kind of a Miranda violation.

10 First of all, the foundation for Stone was the
11 recognition by this Court in many, many cases following
12 Mapp, that the Fourth Amendment exclusionary rule was not
13 a personal, constitutional right or a personal right of
14 the defendant because it can neither prevent the Fourth
15 Amendment violation from occurring, nor can it redress the
16 Fourth Amendment injury that the defendant has suffered.

17 Rather, as Justice O'Connor explained in her
18 concurring opinion in Duckworth v. Eagan, the Fourth
19 Amendment exclusionary rule is a structural device
20 designed to promote sensitivity to constitutional values
21 through its deterrent effect. It's a constitutional rule,
22 but it's constitutionally required where and only to the
23 extent empirically it serves the function of general
24 deterrence.

25 In instances where there is no empirical basis

1 for the rule, for example, where the police are acting in
2 good faith, as this Court held in Illinois v. Krull and
3 United States v. Leon and Janis, the rule simply does not
4 exist. It doesn't extend that far.

5 And that's what this Court decided in Stone. In
6 Stone, this Court concluded that since the deterrent
7 effect, quote, if any, of applying that deterrent rule in
8 collateral proceedings is negligible at best and the
9 societal costs of enforcing it on Federal collateral
10 proceedings substantial, therefore this Court held that
11 this judicially created deterrent remedy simply doesn't
12 include resort to Federal habeas courts.

13 Now, Miranda is totally different from that on
14 every score. In the first place, unlike the Fourth
15 Amendment, which has nothing whatsoever to do with trials,
16 the Fifth Amendment self-incrimination clause is first and
17 foremost a trial right. The very purpose of the clause is
18 to protect against the introduction at trial of compelled
19 statements of the defendant.

20 Indeed, unlike the Fourth Amendment, which is
21 violated by an unreasonable search regardless of whether a
22 trial ever occurs, no violation of the Fifth Amendment
23 self-incrimination clause is ever completed.

24 QUESTION: Well, Mr. Waxman, if what is really
25 driving the Miranda requirement of certain warnings is a

1 concern about voluntariness of the statement before it's
2 offered at trial, why shouldn't the focus on habeas go to
3 that question rather than to some technical question of
4 whether certain magic words were articulated? Why isn't
5 it better that we focus on habeas, on the real issue,
6 rather than some peripheral issue?

7 MR. WAXMAN: Well, Justice O'Connor, I have two
8 answers, and I hope I'll be able to remember both of them.

9 The first one, and the less substantive one, is
10 I don't believe it is in this Court's power to decide
11 which constitutional claims are better to reach and which
12 aren't. This Court could decide, as it did in Stone, that
13 there simply is no Fourth Amendment claim that a
14 petitioner --

15 QUESTION: Wait a minute. Do you take the
16 position that the Miranda warning in all its technicality
17 is constitutionally mandated?

18 MR. WAXMAN: No, and perhaps I wasn't clear
19 enough. The warnings themselves, and even the prohibition
20 against unwarned interrogation, is not constitutional.
21 What is constitutional is the rule that the introduction
22 of an unwarned statement at trial violates the
23 Constitution.

24 Now, the other answer I have to Your Honor and
25 the more substantive answer I have is that what Miranda v.

1 Arizona stands for is the proposition that the self-
2 incrimination clause imposes a standard different than and
3 in addition to the voluntariness standard.

4 Under the self-incrimination clause, it is not
5 simply enough to show that a defendant's statement was
6 voluntary. If that were the case, there would have been
7 no point in ever applying the self-incrimination clause to
8 the States in the first place, because the voluntariness
9 test has always adhered in the Fourteenth Amendment and in
10 the Fifth Amendment itself.

11 Instead, the self -- what Miranda holds is that
12 the self-incrimination clause, a) applies in the station
13 house and b) require -- allows a suspect in custody the
14 privilege not to make any statements that can be used
15 against him as evidence of guilt at trial unless he
16 knowingly and voluntarily waives that right, and I submit
17 that this Court's decision in Miranda v. Arizona is
18 replete with references to the fact that of course these
19 cases would not have been otherwise decided if the only
20 issue was voluntariness, and --

21 QUESTION: Well, we're not bound by all the
22 dicta in Miranda, surely.

23 MR. WAXMAN: No, no, and I -- but I don't think
24 that that is dicta in Miranda. In fact, I think if one
25 examines Justice Harlan's dissent in Miranda, one can see

1 very clearly that certainly he understood that the Court
2 was announcing a constitutional principle.

3 If I could just quote the beginning of Justice
4 Harlan's dissent, having decided that the Fifth Amendment
5 privilege does apply in the police station, the Court
6 reveals that the privilege imposes more exacting
7 restrictions than does the Fourth Amendment's
8 voluntariness test.

9 It then emerges that the Fifth Amendment
10 requires for an admissible confession that it be given by
11 one distinctly aware of his right not to speak, and
12 shielded from the compelling atmosphere of interrogation.
13 From these key premises, the Court develops the safeguards
14 of warnings counsel and so forth.

15 Similarly, this Court in Michigan v. Tucker
16 stated, before Miranda, the principal issue in these cases
17 was not whether a defendant had waived his privilege
18 against self-incrimination, but simply whether his
19 statement was voluntary, so --

20 QUESTION: Mr. Waxman, but surely the
21 exclusionary rule is a constitutional rule.

22 MR. WAXMAN: Surely.

23 QUESTION: And yet we have drawn the line on
24 habeas with respect to that --

25 MR. WAXMAN: Well --

1 QUESTION: And how can you square that with your
2 earlier assertion that we have no power or no right to
3 make a distinction between various constitutional rules?

4 Now, what you say is well, we did it in Stone on
5 the basis of the purpose of the constitutional rule, and
6 we can't do it here on the basis of the purpose. Perhaps
7 that's so, but that does not establish that we can't do it
8 here on some other basis.

9 MR. WAXMAN: Well, yeah, Justice Scalia, the --
10 when I agree with your statement that the exclusionary
11 rule is a constitutional rule, let me make sure that you
12 and I both agree on all -- what I understand to be the
13 premises of that statement.

14 The Fifth Amendment self-incrimination clause
15 itself is an exclusionary rule. In addition to that, it's
16 quite clear, it seems to me, under the core Fifth
17 Amendment right, that if Mr. Williams came to this Court
18 and said, look, those statements were taken from me, I
19 had -- with no knowledge whatsoever that I had a right to
20 remain silent or they could be used against me, and the
21 State agreed with that.

22 The Fifth Amendment itself, without reference to
23 any prophylactic rule, would require, by its own operation
24 of law, that those statements be excluded.

25 Now, Miranda also applies an exclusionary rule

1 which does sweep somewhat more broadly, because in some
2 indeterminate number of cases there are people whose
3 statements -- unwarned statements are introduced, and in
4 fact it was a law professor who teaches constitutional law
5 and was not at all coerced and made a deliberate decision
6 to waive his rights and try and talk his way out of it,
7 but constitutional law is filled with prophylactic rules
8 like that. Indeed, it would be impossible for the courts
9 to give meaning to the core principles of the Constitution
10 without access to prophylactic rules like this.

11 Now, the reason that I'm saying in this
12 particular case -- let me not take on the burden yet of
13 all prophylactic rules in the Constitution -- with respect
14 to this case, the fundamental reason why what this Court
15 did in Stone should not and cannot be done here is that in
16 Stone this Court was not dealing with an exclusionary rule
17 that represented the personal right of the defendant in
18 any way. It was a rule that was designed because over the
19 course of years this Court threw up its hands and said,
20 there has to be some way to make -- to enforce respect for
21 the Fourth Amendment.

22 QUESTION: Well, that may well be, but it was
23 surely his constitutional right at trial in the State
24 court before habeas -- it was his constitutional right to
25 have that evidence excluded.

1 MR. WAXMAN: It was a --

2 QUESTION: Did he not have a constitutional
3 right to have it excluded?

4 MR. WAXMAN: The Constitution required that it
5 be excluded. I don't think one can read this Court's
6 decisions in Calandra and Elkins and Linkletter as saying
7 that it was his right. I think that --

8 QUESTION: It was not his right. Somebody else
9 could have asserted it.

10 MR. WAXMAN: He can assert it, but those -- this
11 Court was careful to emphasize throughout, and it
12 certainly emphasized in Stone, that it was a
13 constitutional right, otherwise it could not have been
14 applied --

15 QUESTION: Right.

16 MR. WAXMAN: To the States --

17 QUESTION: Right.

18 MR. WAXMAN: But it was not one that either
19 prevented the Fourth Amendment injury from occurring or
20 redressed it in any way.

21 QUESTION: Well, I understand that, but all
22 we're saying then -- I think -- I guess we're in agreement
23 that you can, on habeas, enforce -- decide that because of
24 the nature of habeas some constitutional rights need not
25 be enforced. Thereafter, the disagreement is over whether

1 the reasons for enforcing it here are as -- for not
2 enforcing it here are as justifiable as the reasons for
3 not enforcing it in Stone.

4 MR. WAXMAN: With all --

5 QUESTION: And Mr. Waxman, it seems to me that
6 when you have a -- before Stone, what you were doing when
7 you had a Fourth Amendment issue before you, you were
8 really asking in most of the cases whether or not there
9 had been a violation of the Fourth Amendment.

10 MR. WAXMAN: Yes, that's correct.

11 QUESTION: Namely, whether there had been an
12 unreasonable search or seizure.

13 MR. WAXMAN: That's correct.

14 QUESTION: And that was the issue in most of the
15 cases, and yet in Stone we said that you needn't face --
16 decide that constitutional -- and that is a personal right
17 that they were deciding --

18 MR. WAXMAN: Well, I --

19 QUESTION: In those cases.

20 MR. WAXMAN: With all due respect to both of
21 you, and I say this with great trepidation. First of all,
22 Justice Scalia --

23 QUESTION: Don't worry. Don't worry, we --

24 (Laughter.)

25 MR. WAXMAN: I don't want you to go back and say

1 bad things about me.

2 QUESTION: No hard feelings, Mr. Waxman. Go on,
3 let us have it.

4 (Laughter.)

5 MR. WAXMAN: Very well, Your Honor.

6 (Laughter.)

7 MR. WAXMAN: Please do not let me be
8 misunderstood on this very critical point. I do not agree
9 with you that this Court can decide that some
10 constitutional rules can be enforced on habeas corpus and
11 some can't. I disagree with you on that point most --
12 more vociferously than anything else in this case.

13 What this Court said in Stone is not that. What
14 this Court said in Stone is, the Fourth Amendment
15 exclusionary rule doesn't exist in habeas corpus, just as
16 in those direct review cases like Leon it said it doesn't
17 exist where there's good faith reliance.

18 As a result of Stone v. Powell, there is no
19 right to apply.

20 QUESTION: So if we're to rule against you here,
21 we would have to say that Miranda doesn't exist on Federal
22 habeas.

23 MR. WAXMAN: That's correct.

24 QUESTION: But I mean, you know, there are
25 arguments pro and con, but I don't see that it turns on

1 the particular phraseology.

2 MR. WAXMAN: Oh, I agree, Your Honor, and if it
3 turned on the particular phraseology I would have become a
4 bunch of noodles. My mind would have disintegrated a long
5 time ago reading all this Court's and the lower court's
6 habeas Miranda jurisprudence.

7 QUESTION: How do you think we feel?

8 (Laughter.)

9 MR. WAXMAN: If I had the opportunity to switch
10 places with you, Justice White, I would. My --

11 (Laughter.)

12 MR. WAXMAN: My point -- but this is serious.
13 My point, Mr. Chief Justice, is that this is a case in
14 which one cannot dismiss *Miranda v. Arizona* as dicta, or
15 as merely announcing nonconstitutional rules. *Miranda*
16 announces something, a sacred and fundamental self-
17 executing right under the self-incrimination clause, and
18 that's why this case is different.

19 QUESTION: Yes, but that self-executing right
20 can be enforced without *Miranda*, you will agree with that,
21 won't you?

22 MR. WAXMAN: It could be enforced without
23 *Miranda*, but this Court in *Miranda* held that there was
24 every good reason not to.

25 I mean, one can say that every fundamental

1 right, maybe, somehow could be enforced without access to
2 a rule of application.

3 QUESTION: Well, this one could be enforced --
4 for example, if you go beyond voluntariness to waiver of
5 the privilege against self-incrimination this could be
6 enforced simply by saying, we will examine every question
7 of the -- every issue on admissibility of a confession to
8 try to determine whether he was aware of his Fifth
9 Amendment right and hence his speaking could be construed
10 as waiving it.

11 We can do -- that may be a very awkward inquiry,
12 but we can do it without having a Miranda ruling.

13 MR. WAXMAN: It's so awkward that this Court
14 explicitly held in Miranda that, because it is so
15 impossible to determine what actually went on in the
16 station house and because it is so impossible for courts
17 after the fact to gauge the amount of coercion or
18 compulsion of the atmosphere, that it heeded its own words
19 and plea in *Culombe v. Connecticut* and announced this
20 rule.

21 Of course, one could say --

22 QUESTION: But isn't it equally impossible to
23 enforce the Fourth Amendment without an exclusionary rule?
24 Everybody knows that tort remedy doesn't work.

25 MR. WAXMAN: Well, I submit that is a completely

1 different question, but because when one is, quote,
2 enforcing --

3 QUESTION: Yes, but isn't the answer the same?

4 MR. WAXMAN: No, it's not --

5 QUESTION: Sure. You can't enforce the Fourth
6 Amendment effectively without the exclusionary rule, can
7 you?

8 QUESTION: I think that there is great cause to
9 question whether the exclusionary rule causes it to be
10 enforced, period, one in which this Court has held many
11 times, but it is a fundamental of the Fifth Amendment
12 self-incrimination clause that it includes an exclusionary
13 rule.

14 If I could just say one word, please, if I have
15 time, about the exhaustion point, because I want to make
16 sure that the Court is clear at least on what my position
17 is.

18 Our position is that the exhaustion claim raised
19 in this Court should not be considered, because it is the
20 end game of a deliberate strategy of the State to sandbag
21 the Federal courts in violation of what this Court in
22 *Granberry v. Greer* said should not be allowed to happen.

23 The prosecutor is now stating that -- at oral
24 argument it's clear that the State invited the court of
25 appeals to overlook the exhaustion argument without making

1 any distinction whatsoever in its briefs or in oral
2 argument between Miranda involuntariness, and the court of
3 appeals explicitly found that at oral argument the
4 exhaustion position had been effectively conceded by the
5 State. That --

6 Thank you.

7 QUESTION: Thank you, Mr. Waxman.

8 Mr. Caminsky, you have 4 minutes remaining.

9 REBUTTAL ARGUMENT OF JEFFREY CAMINSKY

10 ON BEHALF OF THE PETITIONER

11 MR. CAMINSKY: Thank you, Your Honor. I have
12 just a few brief points in rebuttal.

13 Counsel for respondent has questioned whether
14 this Court really can or should limit Miranda claims on
15 habeas review. I would simply cite this Court to 28
16 U.S.C. 2243, which authorizes the habeas court to dispose
17 of the matter as law and justice require.

18 It seems to me that if this court concludes that
19 it is a better use of the Federal judiciary's time not to
20 delve into the technical aspects of the Miranda claim on
21 habeas but simply to delve into the very heart of the
22 Fifth Amendment to try to prevent any sort of fundamental
23 injustice involving involuntariness, that is certainly
24 within this Court's power.

25 I think brother counsel and I may disagree about

1 whether that would be a wise thing to do, but I think this
2 Court certainly has the authority to do that.

3 Counsel also mentioned the four Federal judges
4 who've considered this, and their conclusion on the merits
5 of this case. I would not want this Court to look -- to
6 overlook the 20 judges on direct appellate review, the 20
7 judicial officers who passed on the Miranda claim and
8 found that it -- found it to be meritless.

9 I think that essentially goes to the heart of
10 why Miranda claims do not belong on Federal habeas review.
11 A habeas petitioner, if he has had a full and fair
12 hearing, or if the opportunity for a full and fair hearing
13 in the State court, and has lost --

14 QUESTION: Did all the State judges agree with
15 the same result on direct review?

16 MR. CAMINSKY: I beg your pardon?

17 QUESTION: Weren't the State courts divided on
18 the issue?

19 MR. CAMINSKY: No, not on this issue. The issue
20 that they were divided on --

21 QUESTION: Not this -- oh, I'm sorry.

22 MR. CAMINSKY: Was the question of effective
23 assistance of counsel. There was some question about
24 whether a plea offer had been conveyed to the defendant,
25 and that's the issue that caused the dissent.

1 QUESTION: And did the Michigan Supreme Court
2 unanimously deny review?

3 MR. CAMINSKY: Yes, it did, and this Court
4 denied cert without -- without a dissenting justice as
5 well.

6 Lastly, brother counsel has made the point, or
7 has made the assertion that the Fourth Amendment does not
8 exist on Federal habeas review. That is simply incorrect.
9 What is true is that on habeas review this Court's inquiry
10 into Fourth Amendment concerns is limited to whether there
11 was a full and fair hearing of the matter in the State
12 courts.

13 If the Court finds that there was ample
14 opportunity to fully litigate the matter and that the
15 petitioner's other due process rights were not violated,
16 that is the end of the matter, but if it finds that for
17 one reason or another the petitioner was precluded from
18 raising the Fourth Amendment claim in the State court,
19 then it simply goes on and uses the mechanism Congress has
20 established resolving the claim on the merits.

21 Lastly, I would simply remind the Court there
22 doesn't really seem to be any disagreement between brother
23 counsel and myself that Miranda does sweep more broadly
24 than the Constitution.

25 It seems to me that Justice O'Connor's point was

1 absolutely correct, once the matter passes through the
2 State appellate system and we get to the Federal habeas
3 court, this Court should be concerned not with the
4 technical rules, not with the rules at the periphery of
5 all these amendments, but rather with the core
6 constitutional right that is involved here, and in the
7 Fifth Amendment context, that right would be the question
8 of involuntariness.

9 Are there any other questions?

10 QUESTION: Thank you, Mr. Caminsky --

11 MR. CAMINSKY: Thank you.

12 CHIEF JUSTICE REHNQUIST: The case is submitted.

13 (Whereupon, at 12:01 p.m., the case in the
14 above-entitled matter was submitted.)

CERTIFICATION

Alderson Reporting Company, Inc., hereby certifies that the attached pages represents an accurate transcription of electronic sound recording of the oral argument before the Supreme Court of The United States in the Matter of:

Withrow v Williams Jr.

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BY Ann-Marie Federico

(REPORTER)