



## Does Patty Munn                          Gossip? Part 3

Based on a review of Patty Munn's sworn testimony it appears she loves to pass on gossip. We'll start a series of some of her favorites. Sometimes she's the subject of gossip. We'll report those, too.

Here's another example of her predisposition to gossip. (This example was previously reported on usmnews.net. Munn was under oath, by the way.) Gossip, in her own words, represents the sum total of her knowledge, and she doesn't hesitate to use gossip to ruin other peoples' lives. You may be next, if you don't "**view the world in the correct manner,**" her "correct" manner.

### **Patty Polk Munn**

Ms. Patty Polk Munn was an instructor of accounting at USM for several decades, and a student at USM for many years before becoming an instructor. She eagerly participated in mobbing faculty. She acts on gossip and passes on gossip as if it is the Truth. This is verified in her deposition and is reported below in her own words.

Why was Ms. Munn an instigator and participant in the mobbing? One can only speculate on what goes on inside someone's head. However, in Ms. Munn's case, her own words may provide some insight.

Several times Ms. Munn screamed in my face that she didn't like being portrayed as a character on one of my novels. Others witnessed these rants. The first time I got her to calm down after a rant of several minutes and asked who she was supposed to be and in which novel. She said Sadie Putz in *Choking Dead Chickens*. I was surprised, to say the least. I didn't know Ms. Munn except to say hello in the hallway at school. I had no idea what her life was like. I tried to tell her each time she ranted and screamed at me that she was mistaken. She, nevertheless, insisted she was Sadie Putz in the novel. She wasn't, but no matter what I said, she was convinced that she was that character. Actually, Sadie Putz was a minor character who sought power, position and control through sexual favors. Blackmail was her *modus operandi*. Venal administrators were her targets.

Ms. Munn claimed she was identified with the character because Sadie was short and her friends said it must be her. I have no idea who her friends are or whether those friends were teasing her for fun or whether they knew something about her that I didn't. Or maybe they

were retaliating against her for gossiping about them. Who knows? I did tell Ms. Munn that when I revised the novel, I would change the character's physical attributes, but that did not calm her rants. In the revised novel, renamed "*Rufus McCoy and Profiteers in the Ivory Tower*," there is no longer a Sadie Putz character. However, no matter what I said or did, Ms. Munn remained red-faced, furious with me. And, as discussed below, ultimately she created a fiction intended to destroy my career.

I have read of other authors who have had similar experiences: acquaintances seeing themselves as a character in the writers' novels. Let me say once again, I neither had nor have any idea whether Ms. Munn was or is in any way using sexual favors to blackmail venal administrators. I will say this. If Ms. Munn sees herself as Sadie Putz, perhaps she should take a hard look at herself and leave me out of her fantasies.

The following is taken from the actual sworn testimony of Patty Polk Munn, taken on June 10, 2008, in the case, *DePree v. University of Southern Mississippi* (Q. is my attorney's questions directed to Munn; A. is Munn's responses):

Q. I believe you just stated **you had heard** of things that happened in the community that led you to believe that Marc DePree was unstable; is that correct?

A. Yes.

Q. What had you heard of in the community prior to February of 2000?

A. The first thing the first occurrence was I don't know the exact date. I think it was in late 80s or early 90s. He was bitten by a dog...

Q. Was he seriously injured?

A. I'm not -- I don't know how seriously. I'm sure he his version of it in the hearing was that he was. And that's I don't have any other knowledge. So I don't know, but he certainly he was he was bleeding. He it bit his hand I think, it did some damage to some tendons. I'm not sure. I can't -- I don't know.

Q. So how did Marc being attacked and bitten by a dog and being hospitalized as a result lead to your conclusion that he was volatile or unstable?

A. I'm just saying this is when it started. Marc had them put the dog to sleep...

Q. And tell me who you got the understanding of these events from?

A. From the daughter and grandson of the couple [who owned the dog]. They [owners] are now dead.

Q. What are the names of this daughter and the grandson?

A. Mr. and Ms. Little are the grandparents [the dog owners]. The daughter is Billy Jean Williams and the grandson is John David Williams.

Q. And they communicated these facts to you?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you ever talk to Marc to determine if they were true?

A. No.... I don't know much about the case itself.

Q. And you **didn't bother to check up** or check it out and confirm it with Marc?

A. **No, I did not...**

Q. Okay. You use the term sober with connection with Dr. Depree a minute ago. What did you mean by that?...

A. I guess I meant rational, stable, person who **views the world in the correct manner...**

Q. Okay. So what did you -- do you recall what you explained to Carl Nicholson? [Carl Nicholson is a local CPA and was member of Institutions of Higher Learning who received a complaint from me. Ms. Munn used my complaint to exemplify that I did not "view the world in the correct manner".]

A. Well, he is talking about Crockett and Alvin and his [DePree's] allegations that about the equity pay and --

Q. What was Marc saying about that situation?

A. This it's been so long since I've even thought about testimony he was basically saying that Jim gave his good buddy Marvin a raise.

Q. Doesn't he allege certain facts to exist as to why the raise was improper?

A. He does.

Q. **And can you tell me that those [DePree's] allegations are factually incorrect?**

A. **I can't tell you that...**

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Q. No one has ever told you that they believed that one of the characters in Choking Dead Chickens was you, have they?

A. **Many people have told me that they believe Marc meant it to be me.**

A. Who has told me that he intended to?

Q. To defame you or put you in a false light in the public?

MR. HOOKS: I object...

Q. **Did they say anything like that Dr. Depree wanted everybody to believe?**

A. **Oh, everyone said that...**

Q. Have you reviewed USM pride dot com or USM news dot net at any time?

A. I have visited it.

Q. Have you found articles which you found to be objectionable?

A. Yes.

Q. Which articles?

A. The ones that I felt presented my colleagues with half truths and innuendo.

Q. Have you or today Dr. Depree or anyone else connected with those websites any information to show that the facts are half truths or incorrect or innuendo?

A. No. **Because I was told** that others had and it was always twisted and it was never he never took that information and published it in the way it was meant to be.

Q. **Who told you that?**

A. **I don't remember.**

Q. You're aware of certain individuals who have had connections or have presented their views on the website, are you not?

A. Have had connections?

Q. The corrections have been made or submitted or people have submitted opposition to articles that have been published?

A. **I don't know, because I don't read it really...**

Q. **Has Dr. Depree ever come to your office?**

A. To sit down and talk?

Q. For any reason?

A. Maybe way back he came and said something, I don't know.

Q. Well, let's say in the past seven or eight years?

A. No.

Q. **Has ever said anything to you other than say hello?**

A. **No...**

Q. Exhibit 6. In it you describe the situation in Joseph Greene Hall as being a little scary; is that correct?

A. I described the fact that Marc and I were alone on Wednesday night in our faculty suite as being scary.

Q. A little scary?

A. Yeah.

Q. **But you never did go to campus security** and Doctor Doty never did advise you to go to campus security, did he?

A. He said let me know if we need to make arrangements.

Q. Well, was it necessary to make arrangements to protect your sense of personal security?

A. **I don't know.**

Q. **Well, did y'all make any arrangements?**

A. **We did not...**

Q. I hand you a copy of document that's been produced D04322. Ask you if can you identify that?

A. This is a letter I wrote to Steve Jackson in 13 August...

Q. Upon which Marc DePree's removal from the classroom was based?

A. Yes...

- Q. **Is it fair to say that your fear of Marc DePree was based upon what other people had told you or his reputation or was it based on what had personally observed...**
- A. Observed in what way?
- Q. Well, **did you observe anything?**
- A. **Observed with my eyes?**
- Q. **Yes, yes.**
- A. I think **hearing from the mouths of Bill Powell** and his name has left me... I'm old. I can't remember names. **You know personal conversations with people I trust, if that is observing then I observed, yes.**
- Q. Other than that is there anything that you observed?
- A. **I observed his anger.**
- Q. Okay. **Be specific about his anger please?**
- A. **I observed it in his writings** [In the novel, Choking Dead Chickens, the only violence occurred when the main character—a whistle-blower, at the beginning of the story, was bombed.].
- Q. **Can you be specific about his anger?**
- A. **No...**
- Q. Now, Virginia Tech played a part in you being afraid of Dr. Depree?
- A. It got everyone's attention.
- Q. Okay. And you believe that **Marc DePree is capable of doing something like what occurred at Virginia Tech?**
- A. He is very comfortable with arms and **I do think he could snap.**
- Q. During the period of time on Wednesday nights when you were encountered him did Dr. Depree do anything untoward or anything that caused you to be afraid or scared?
- A. He didn't do anything, but **it wasn't necessary for him to do anything in order for me to be afraid...**

Let me see if I can summarize Ms. Munn's view of the world. If she doesn't like what you have to say, she can define you as dangerous and seek to have you fired. In her own words, you don't have to do anything for her claim to be afraid. Scary thought, isn't it?

This purported ability to predict who will become a "Virginia Tech" killer is consistent with Ms. Munn's apparent ability to read other peoples' minds. Even though I had no idea who Ms. Munn was or anything about her personal life, she **knew** I intended the character, Sadie Putz, in the novel, *Choking Dead Chickens*, to be identified as her.

As you read this editorial, did you notice how many times Ms. Munn based her accusations on facts? If you say zero, you are absolutely right. She said her accusations came from second-hand, third-hand, or worse -- non-existent information -- information. Ms. Munn's testimony translated to her belief that gossip is to be accepted -- without a shred of proof -- as objective evidence. In fact, she freely admitted had observed **nothing** herself to support the allegations she made to fire me.

Her participation in mobbing me and trying to fire me is in retaliation for the sins she imagined I committed against her. She projects what she does to others: gossip.

If Ms. Munn decides you don't "view the world in the correct manner" -- i.e., her view of the world -- what will she grow from that evil seed?