JONNIE WARNER, Missouri Sister of Dennis Griffin, murdered in Missouri in 1980 Sister of Larry Griffin, executed in Missouri in 1995

Jonnie Warner's brother Dennis Griffin was murdered in 1980, and a man named Quintin Moss was questioned in connection with that crime but then released for lack of evidence. Six months later, Quintin Moss was killed in a drive-by shooting, and Larry Griffin was charged with capital murder. He was executed in 1995. In 2005, after a year of investigation, the NAACP Legal Defense Fund issued a report raising substantial doubt that Larry was in fact guilty of the murder of Quintin Moss, and the prosecutor's office has agreed to re-open the case. That investigation is currently in process.

Jonnie has worked with both the Eastern and Western Missouri Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty and has spoken about her experience to churches and local organizations.

"I really was naïve. I believed that if you were innocent, you would be proven innocent. Larry's first lawyer was very compassionate but very inexperienced in trying a murder case. He did the best he could, but he was outmatched in terms of experience and resources. People don't understand that the death penalty has an impact on families that is so far-reaching. My mother has never gotten over it; she has changed so much since it happened. All of the kids have a hard time understanding it. The death penalty creates so many more victims. Both families are emotionally and socially impacted by their losses."



Jonnie Warner



Larry Griffin

Links to more information:

http://www.deathpenalty.org/index.php?pid=Gri ffin

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