

Sentinel-Observer: Does the prosecutor have a case here?

Yoder: Against Randy Samuels?

Sentinel-Observer: Yes.

Yoder: I doubt it, unless she has information that has not been made public thus far. Manslaughter, to my understanding, implies a kind of reckless and irresponsible act, causing death of another. Does this description apply to Samuels? I think the prosecutor's best bet is to stress his lack of knowledge in the application domain if it can be shown that he did engage in a deliberate deception.

I read last week that 79% of the people favor acquittal. People are inclined to blame the corporation and its managers.

Last night, one of the network news anchors said, "Samuels isn't a murderer, he's a product of his environment".

Sentinel-Observer: Could you restate your position on the matter of ultimate responsibility in the case of the killer robot?

Yoder: In my mind, the issue of individual versus corporate responsibility is very important. The corporation created an environment in which this kind of accident could occur. Yet, individuals, within that system, acted unethically and irresponsibly, and actually caused the accident. A company can create an environment which brings out the worst in its employees, but individual employees can also contribute to the worsening of the corporate environment. This is a feedback loop, a system in the classical sense. Thus, there is some corporate responsibility and some individual responsibility in the case of the killer robot.

Sentinel-Observer: Thank you, Professor Yoder.