



the genocide allegation, as well as to participate in the academic process of studying and analyzing the events that took place in the eastern provinces of the Ottoman Empire during World War I. I believe that by exercising my cherished constitutional rights -- rights central to a healthy democracy and a free marketplace of ideas -- I would risk physical harm or other retaliation at the hands of Armenian terrorist groups such as the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) and the Justice Commandos for the Armenian Genocide (JCAG), and their overt and covert agents and sympathizers in the Armenian American community.

7. The terrorist crimes the United States charged against Mr. Mourad Topalian in his October 12, 1999 indictment in the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Ohio, Eastern Division, heightened my anxieties about retaliation, especially because of Mr. Topalian's prominent position within the Armenian American community and his standing as a role model for Armenian American youths. I fear that if Mr. Topalian is not punished with the maximum sentences for his crimes under the law, Armenian American terrorism and violence against people of Turkish origin will not only continue, but will be encouraged. Moreover I find deeply disturbing, his openly unrepentant attitude towards Armenian terrorism against Turkish Americans and Turkey and his confessed admiration of co-terrorists such as Karnig Sarkissian who had been convicted of attempting to kill a Turkish Diplomat.

MY EXPERIENCE AS A VICTIM  
OF ARMENIAN AMERICAN EXTREMISM

8. I have been the victim of verbal and physical threats by Armenian Americans who disagree with my opinion that the events of 1915 do not constitute genocide. With the objective of explaining my position, which is shared by numerous respected historians and legal scholars, as well as the Turkish American community at large, on October 24, 1998, I participated in a conference entitled, "International Genocide" at the California State University, Sacramento. Ironically, the panel on which I was placed was nominally to discuss how the events of 1915 do not constitute genocide; yet it was entitled, "Post-Genocide". This title automatically characterized me as a sort of "genocide denier." Furthermore, of the 60 conference speakers, I was the only person of Turkish origin in contrast with seven speakers from the Armenian American community. Of the five speakers on my panel, two were Armenian Americans.

9. I was the final speaker on my panel. Soon after I approached the podium and began to speak, certain Armenian American members of the audience began screaming and yelling obscenities in English as well as broken Turkish. Two young Armenian Americans rushed at me, yelling obscenities and waving their fists. This caused me to stop my speech and duck behind the

podium for protection. The two intruders were intercepted by the moderator, Mr. John Hwang, who demanded that they and anyone else who could not listen peacefully leave the premises. Subsequently, approximately 15 to 20 people in the audience left the conference room. Although I resumed my speech without further interruption, the entire incident stole from my allotted time, upset me emotionally, and derailed my train of thought. Gripped with fear, I was unable to continue and I cut my speech short. The moderator, who was also quite upset, agreed that I should leave the premises immediately to avoid potential physical harm and harassment to myself and others. I also was urged not to attend the remainder of the conference or the closing banquet. Instead, I left as directed, in utter terror.

10. Over fifty people attended the panel "Post-Genocide". Only myself and one other Turkish American were present. Based on past anti-Turkish violence by Armenian Americans in California, the remainder of the Turkish American community of Sacramento had decided not to attend the conference for fear of physical harm due to their ethnic Turkish identity and disagreement with the Armenian allegation of genocide. I was stunned to experience the very type of violence that the Turkish American community thought might occur -- just for voicing my opinion.

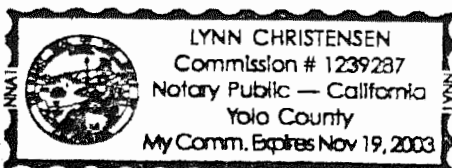
IDENTICAL TO HATE CRIMES

11. Mr. Topalian's terrorist crimes are as heinous as hate crimes because they have sent a message to the Turkish American community that verbal opposition or lobbying against the Armenian American agenda will lead to retribution of some sort, and thus de facto contributes to denying Turkish Americans the right to participate in the political process and debate over an issue of public importance.

CONCLUSION

12. Thus, I strongly believe that the sentencing of Mr. Topalian should consider as an aggravating or enhancing factor the acute intimidating effects his crimes have engendered in the Turkish American community and in other persons who do not subscribe to Armenian American orthodoxies about the alleged genocide.

Notarization:



Karahan Mete

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME

THIS 27 DAY OF SEPT, 2000,

BY KARAHAN METE

Lynn Christensen  
NOTARY PUBLIC

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