



Steven Avery's fiancée ends engagement



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Steven Avery's now-ex fiancée Sandy Greenman announced on Dr. Phil Monday that she's ending the engagement.

"I broke the engagement, but it had nothing to do with the case," she said, citing personal problems of her own as the reason.

Greenman also stood behind her original position, maintaining Avery's innocence.

"He just doesn't have the make up to do something like that ... he's not this violent monster that ... everyone has made him," she said.

Steven Avery's ex-girlfriend Jodi Stachowski recently [told CNN Headline News that he's a "monster," \(http://wbay.com/2016/01/13/steven-averys-ex-girlfriend-hes-not-innocent/\)](http://wbay.com/2016/01/13/steven-averys-ex-girlfriend-hes-not-innocent/) who

beat her before going to prison, and then threatened her life once in prison.

Meanwhile on Monday, part two of Dr. Phil's special on the Netflix series focused on the 2007 convictions of Steven Avery and his nephew, Brendan Dassey.

Both are serving prison time for the 2005 murder of Teresa Halbach.

One of Avery's trial lawyers, Dean Strang, was asked who he believed murdered Halbach. He said, "I don't know and we may never know. I remain deeply concerned that it wasn't Steven Avery. One of the larger issues I believe this film poses for us and allows intelligent viewers to answer, is what do we do in the face of uncertainty? Do we err on the side of taking someone's liberty away — do we err on the side of allowing them to go on and live with their liberty?"

As previously reported by Action 2 News (<http://wbay.com/2016/01/08/illinois-law-firm-takes-steven-averys-case/>), Avery has secured new legal counsel, Kathleen Zellner, in the Chicago area.

Zellner declined to appear on Dr. Phil and instead issued a statement.

"We are confident Mr. Avery's conviction will be vacated when we present the new evidence and results of our work to the appropriate court," she said.

Current Manitowoc County Sheriff Robert Hermann, who was also interviewed on Dr. Phil, said that he's skeptical that will come to fruition.

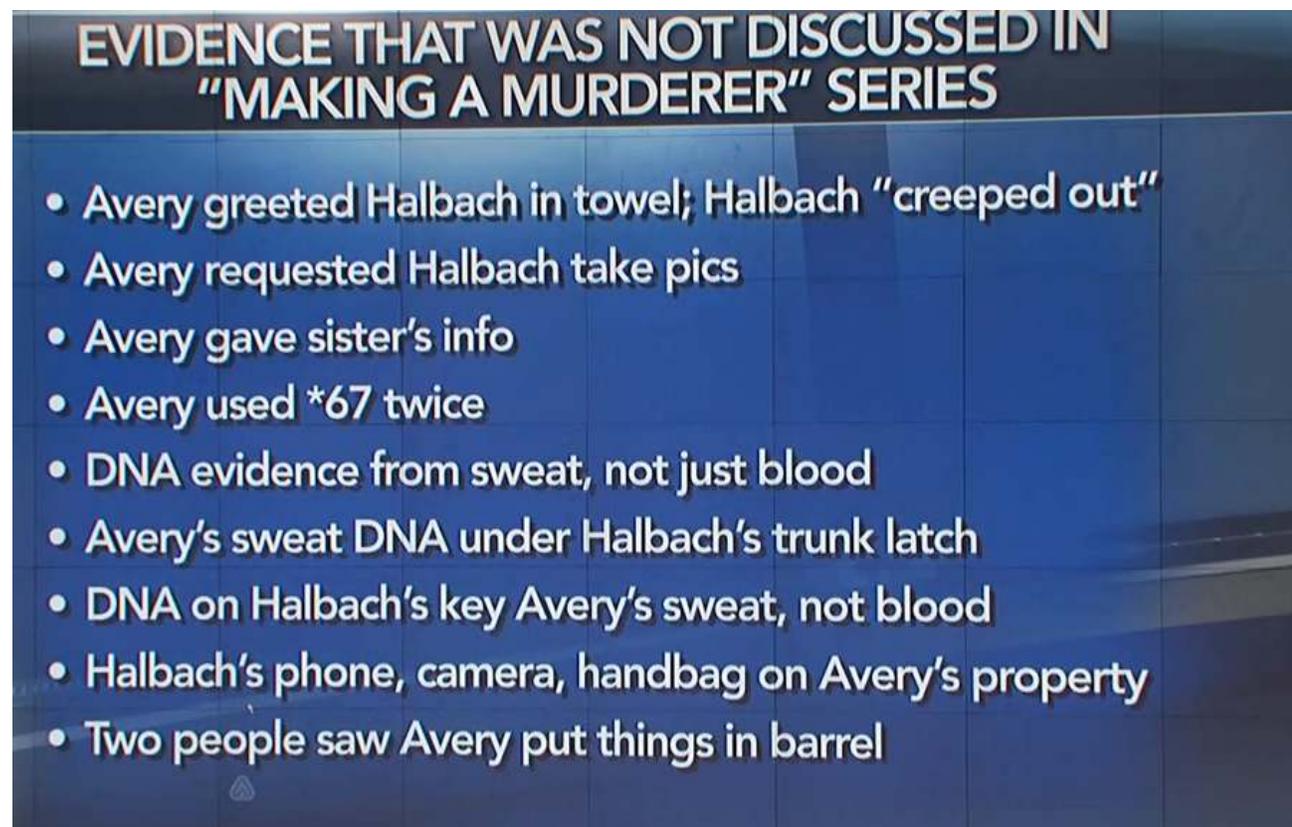
"I don't believe there is any (new evidence) out there, but this is a crime scene on over an 40 acre parcel ... so to say that every piece of evidence was picked up, I really can't say that," he said.

Hermann believes that justice was served with the previous trial.

In part one of "Dr. Phil's" look at "Making a Murderer, which aired Friday, Action 2 News reporter Emily Matesic was interviewed (<http://wbay.com/2016/01/15/dr-phil-examines-making-a-murderer/>). She has covered the case since November, 2005.

Matesic noted that the series was condensed into 10 hours and not everything was included. Among many facts that were not included, details surrounding an event when Avery doused a cat in oil and enjoyed watching the cat burn — something that has caught the attention of animal rights groups. (<http://wbay.com/2016/01/09/peta-netflix-series-making-a-murderer-downplays-averys-animal-cruelty/>)

"Fortunately, today, the FBI recognizes cruelty to animals as a precursor to further violence and tracks animal abuse like it does homicides. ... The filmmakers were wrong to gloss over this important information, and viewers are rightly upset," said Colleen O'Brien, a senior director with People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.



Critics have also said it's important to never forget the victim or her family. (<http://wbay.com/2016/01/07/friends-of-teresa-halbach-shine-light-on-her-not-her-killers/>)

On Friday's episode, CNN Headline News host Nancy Grace also appeared. First she said that her opinion is completely unbiased because, "I don't have a dog in the fight. I don't have any skin in the game."

She quickly offered her opinion on the case.

"Steve Avery is the real killer of Teresa Halbach. And I can't sit here and play the fiddle and the music and splice up film and pull at your heart strings the way those two film students did to make you buy their line," Grace said.

Former Manitowoc County Sheriff Kenneth Petersen agreed with Hermann also saying that he believes that no new evidence will be presented by the defense that will allow for Avery's release. Petersen went one step further and said that if Avery got out now, he would murder again.

At the end of Dr. Phil's two part special, Dr. Phil noted that the documentary was "very one sided." He also mentioned how Manitowoc County has been getting inundated with negative comments on social media and has received harassing phone calls. Dr. Phil said that's not a solution to get justice.

"Don't harass these people at the Manitowoc County Sheriff's Department. ... Those phone lines need to be open. They need to be available because if something happens where you need them or your neighbors need them, they (law enforcement) don't need to be tied up with ridiculous harassing phone calls to people who actually weren't involved in the case to begin with. Please leave these folks alone," he said.

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