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***Making a Murder*, Season 1, Episode 1 (50 Points)**

As we view the first episode of the documentary series, please respond to the following questions.

1. Who is Steven Avery?

2. The documentary opens with Avery’s 2003 release from prison after he was wrongfully convicted. How does it impact the viewer’s perception of Steven Avery? Why do you think the filmmakers chose to introduce Avery’s story with his release rather than from the beginning (1985)?

3. According to the documentary, what kind of reputation did Steven Avery have in 1985? What events influenced his reputation?

4. Is it fair to say that the law enforcement in Manitowoc County had preconceived notions about Steven Avery when the 1985 rape of Penny Beerntsen takes place? Explain.

5. What was the inciting incident that seems to give the Manitowoc sheriff’s department reason to believe Steven Avery may have committed the rape?

6. Who is Gregory Allen? Why was the city police department surveilling him?

7. Why, despite the evidence showing Avery’s whereabouts on July 29, 1985, do you think the jury finds Steven Avery guilty of rape?

8. Why was Steven ineligible for parole?

9. What has to happen in order for an appeal to take place?

10. What “newly discovered” evidence is presented in 1995?

11. Why doesn’t Judge Hazelwood (AND the appeals court AND Supreme Court of Wisconsin) uphold the evidence in Avery’s appeal?

12. What new evidence is brought forward by the Wisconsin Innocence Project in 2001?

13. What motive did the Manitowoc County Sheriff’s Department and Denis Vogel (District Attorney) have for ignoring the leads the Manitowoc City Police Department had on Gregory Allen in 1985?

14. What happened as a result of Gregory Allen not being arrested for the 1985 rape?

15. Do you think the people involved in locking Steven Avery up for 18 years should be reprimanded? Why or why not?

**The Persuasive Appeals**

Each of the persuasive appeals are used throughout the episode. *How* does the director use each of these appeals? In the chart below, write 2-3 examples for each persuasive appeal. Consider the specific documentary techniques that the director uses to enforce each of these appeals.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Pathos** | **Logos** | **Ethos** |
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