

**WHY EVEN INNOCENT PEOPLE SHOULD  
NEVER TALK TO THE POLICE**

**Your Right to Remain Silent:**

Our legal system is built on the presumption of innocence until proven guilty. By remaining silent, you are protecting your right not to incriminate yourself. Anything you say can potentially be used against you in court, regardless of your innocence. It's about ensuring that your rights are preserved throughout the legal process.

**Complexity of the Legal System:**

The legal system is intricate and nuanced, and even innocent statements can be misconstrued or taken out of context. Innocent people might inadvertently say something that could be later used against them. By consulting with your lawyer before making statements, you can navigate the complexities of the legal process more effectively.

**Unpredictable Outcomes:**

Police investigations can take unexpected turns, and statements made during questioning may influence the direction of the case. Remaining silent ensures that you have the opportunity to consult with legal counsel and present your side of the story in the most strategic and favorable manner.

**Talking Cannot Help:**

Basically, once the police decide to interrogate you, they have already formed an opinion that you have some guilt. You will never change their minds. Furthermore, anything you say to a policeman that helps convict you can be used against you at trial. To the contrary, anything you say to prove your innocence could not be used for you at trial!

**Misunderstandings and Memory Errors:**

Human memory is fallible, and misunderstandings can occur during police interrogations. Innocent individuals might provide inaccurate information unintentionally, leading to complications down the line. Taking time to consult with a lawyer allows for a more accurate and thoughtful response. Over the course of a highly-stressful police interrogation, one could mistakenly reveal a minor falsehood that has the potential of making you look bad later on.

Even an innocent person who tells the complete truth, error free, can get into trouble. What if the police officer's memory of your interrogation is not 100% accurate? Later at trial, you have created an issue where none should have existed.

When talking to a policeman, one could easily implicate oneself for some obscure crime of which one was unaware. The American Bar Association estimates that there are more than ten thousand (10,000) crimes contained within the United States code. These offenses cover the gamut of agriculture, commerce, banking, interstate commerce, import/export, medicine, hunting, fishing, aviation, manufacturing, etc. (This does not even include the IRS code or the laws of the fifty (50) states.) It is always better to remain silent.

### **What is the Hurry?**

Suppose one is guilty. Why give a confession to a police officer without any benefit? Why not exchange a confession for a favorable plea bargain? Allow your lawyer to work out a favorable deal in exchange for such a confession. But if one has already confessed before the lawyer gets involved, there is no benefit to be gained.

### **The Role of Legal Counsel:**

Legal professionals are trained to protect your rights and ensure fair treatment within the legal system. By seeking legal advice before providing a statement, you empower yourself with the knowledge and guidance necessary to make informed decisions that will safeguard your interests.

### **Conclusion:**

In conclusion, while cooperation with law enforcement is worthy, it is equally important to recognize your rights and seek legal advice when facing police questioning, even if you believe you are innocent. By exercising your right to remain silent, you can ensure a fair and just legal process that upholds the principles upon our legal system is built.

Remember, the guidance provided here is not a substitute for legal advice. If you find yourself in a legal situation, always consult with a qualified attorney to understand your specific circumstances and receive personalized guidance.