

Man who killed family gets life - Detroiters strangled his ex-girlfriend and beat his daughter and 3 other kids to death.

Detroit News, The (MI) - Thursday, December 23, 2004

Author: The Detroit News ; David G. Grant

DETROIT -- A 36-year-old Detroit man was sentenced to life in prison Wednesday after being convicted of killing his ex-girlfriend, their 9-year-old daughter and the woman's three other children in a crime that stunned the city.

"This was a very disturbing and terrible crime that affected everyone associated with (it)," Wayne County Prosecutor Kym Worthy said. "The defendant received justice at a fair trial, and I just hope that this verdict will give the families and friends of the victims some type of peace, especially during this holiday season."

Last week, a Wayne Circuit Court jury found **Roger Thompson** guilty of five counts of murder in the deaths of Lisa Shelton, 33, Aushanai Thompson, 9, Wanee Parker, 12, Wrandell Parker, 14, and William Parker Jr., 16.

The slayings occurred on the morning of April 1 in the Thompson home on Minnesota, between Brush and John R on the city's near east side.

Police said Thompson told them he strangled Shelton after they argued about money. He then bound and gagged the children in their bedrooms and beat them to death with a lead pipe, police said.

A fifth child inside the home, a cousin, Christina Knott, 13, also was bound and gagged and put into a closet, but hours later, she escaped and told neighbors, who called police.

After Thompson was arrested, he told homicide investigators he was distraught over his inability to support Shelton and her children.

He said he was tired of always arguing about money and the fact he did not have a job.

Thompson faces mandatory life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Section: Metro

Page: 02B

Company Name: #keywords2#

Index Terms: MURDER ; PRISON

Dateline: DETROIT

Record Number: det20490092

Copyright (c) The Detroit News. All rights reserved. Reproduced with the permission of Gannett Co., Inc. by NewsBank, inc.