

Frankenstein Court Case

Defendant - The Creature



Lawyers:
Lindsay Moffat
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Witnesses:
Justine Moritz - Crystal Greco
Developmental Psychologist - Alison Bello
Henrey Clerval - Ryan Sullivan
Ethicist - Shannon Burke
Mr. DeLacey - Anthony Rigollet
The Creature - Blake Moran

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Opening Statement

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Jury, today we will unveil the truth and determine right from wrong. This trial will unmask the true monster in this room-Victor Frankenstein. The purpose of this case is to prove that scientific advancement must still abide by morals and without guidance a child will have the inability to thrive in society. Members of the court room, picture yourselves without parents. Would you know right from wrong? Would you even know what morals are? Would you know how to control your emotions? A parent should bring a child into this world providing them with these fundamentals and necessities to life. Every single one of you, including Victor Frankenstein, have been taught these vital guidelines, aside from my client.

From the moment my client was given life, he had nothing to make of it. Victor Frankenstein stole dead body parts and fused them together to create this being. He never thought of how The Creature would feel about himself or how those around him would react towards him. He never even provided this creature with the most basic need, a name. He did not contribute to the very little time it would take to give my client a NAME! Victor Frankenstein did not think twice about walking out on my client's life, forever. Nor did he worry about the survival of his creation outside of his laboratory. My client was faced with the adversity of entering a world which was completely unknown to him. The Creature was forced to teach himself the skills of survival. Because of my client's appearance, he was not accepted by anyone he encountered. If Victor Frankenstein considered any of these factors, my client, *myself, and all of you* would not be standing in this court room right now.

My client never knew what love was. Having love in your life is important, but being loved by a parent is critical. Coming into life, my client should have had a chance at both of these, but in the end had neither. Victor Frankenstein promised my client a chance at love by creating another being. Because of his grotesque looks and demeanor The Creature's hope of happiness was once again shattered by his creator.

No one in this court room was taught how to have emotions, but you were all taught how to handle them. After being abandoned, neglected, and lied to, my client began to feel anger towards Victor Frankenstein. Considering my client was never taught how to manage his emotions, he expressed anger towards Victor in an unjust way. Victor Frankenstein abandoned his family and friends, devoting two years to the creation of my client, only to leave him to die. Victor Frankenstein is not only guilty of unacceptable parenting, but also negligence, malpractice, physical distress, and emotional distress towards my client. Looking at my client, it may seem as though he is the one who does not belong, but in reality Victor Frankenstein is the *true* monster. After you have heard the testimonies from all of our witnesses, you must find Victor Frankenstein guilty of all charges. Thank you.

Direct Examination

Justine Moritz - Crystal Greco

1. Please state your name.

Justine Moritz.

2. What was your relationship with Victor like before he went off to college?

Great, he treated me like part of the family before he went off to college.

3. Did Victor seem different when he returned?

Yes.

4. How did Victor change?

He used to be a very nice and caring person that loved his family, but then, after he left for college, he started to neglect and ignore his family and became very cruel and crazed.

5. You were charged with the murder of William Frankenstein, were you not?

Yes, I was.

6. Did you kill him?

No, I did not.

7. Did you tell anyone that you didn't kill him?

Yes, I told Victor.

8. Did he try to save you?

No, he did not.

9. Why did he let you take the blame?

He did not want anyone to know that it was his fault and that he had gone insane.

10. Who killed you?

Victor Frankenstein.

Follow Up Questions

1. Did Victor try to save you?

2. Did the creature frame you?

3. If it weren't for Victor creating the creature, would you be alive?

Direct Examination

Developmental Psychologist - Alison Bello

1. What is your name and what kind of medical examiner are you?

My name is Alison and I am a developmental psychologist.

2. How many years have you been a developmental psychologist?

Over 10 years

3. What is a developmental psychologist?

A developmental psychologist is a psychologist who studies age related changes through the human life span, including motor skills, emotional development, and moral understanding.

4. What exactly is your purpose here?

To determine if the creature was provided with a base in order to develop emotionally and morally.

5. Do you believe that my client was given this base?

No.

6. Do you think a parent plays a pivotal role in a child's development?

Yes.

7. Why is that?

Because a parent must be there for a child to provide moral support, and teach them wrong from right.

8. My client was abandoned by the one person he should have been able to depend on; do you think this affected my client?

Absolutely. Your client was never given a base to learn from. Nor was he given an environment that he would be able to thrive within.

9. Do you believe that when my client expressed anger toward Victor Frankenstein, that he was aware of the nature of his actions?

No. Your client was never taught what was acceptable in society, emotionally or morally. People are not taught how to have emotions, but how to control them, and your client was never learned this.

10. And why do you believe my client was never taught these things?

Because from the moment your client was created, he was abandoned. A parent is supposed to be there to teach and support their child, but Victor Frankenstein stripped your client

of these necessities when he decided that he did not want to put in the effort to take care of the being he spent so long to create.

Follow Up Questions

1. Does framing Justine make him know right from wrong?

Direct Examination
Henrey Clerval - Ryan Sullivan

1. Please state your name

I am Henry Clerval.

2. How do you know Victor?

He has been my best friend since childhood.

3. How has Victor changed since you've known him?

Victor has gone through his ups and downs. When we were younger it felt like everything was innocent. Over time Victor has lost touch with his family and thrown himself into his work for long periods of time.

4. What was Victor studying at Ingolstadt?

He studied natural philosophy – science.

5. What do you know about his experiments?

Victor has always worked himself too hard and he is always working on something. There would be weeks where I wouldn't see him because he'd be in his laboratory.

6. Did Victor ever tell you about his creation?

When he was ill he mentioned something about the design of a person but I assumed - due to his mental state - that he was delusional. Now that I know what happened, my respect for him is even less than it was before.

7. Did you travel to England/Scotland with Victor?

Yes.

8. While traveling with Victor did you notice anything strange?

Victor was always in a hurry to separate and do things alone. We went on the trip together, and he was always trying to find ways to get me out of his way. He asked me to stay with someone I barely knew so he could go on his own for awhile...

9. Did Victor know what he was getting himself into?

No, he only thought of himself and “advancing science”. You can advance science in a legal way that doesn't include irresponsible actions in order to produce a creature you could care less about.

10. Who killed you?

The actions of Victor led to my death.

11. How is Victor responsible for your death?

Victor lost sight of what's important. He threw not only our friendship to the side, but his relationship with Elizabeth, and his relationships with his family and spent his time creating this creature, illegally. He is irresponsible, self centered, and insane. He is no longer my best friend, he is a **stranger** committing delusional acts and should now face the consequences for his actions.

Follow Up Questions

1. When did Victor tell you about his experiment
2. Why didn't you believe him?
3. Why would you be "fearing for your life" if you did not believe there was no creature?
4. Was it your fault?

Direct Examination

Ethicist - Shannon Burke

1. Please state your name.

Shannon Burke

2. Was it ethical to make a person out of dead body parts?

Absolutely not

3. Was it right for Victor to create this being?

No, Victor was not responsible enough to care and teach this being right wrong from, like a parent should.

4. Was it morally right for Victor to think about creating a mate for the creature?

Yes, the Creature deserved happiness. It was the last chance Victor could give for the Creature to have happiness, and he once again shattered it.

5. Did Victor have the responsibility to take care of his creation?

No, he left his Creature to die. His creation did not know how to take care of himself.

6. How did Victor treat the Creature?

Victor treated the creature inhumanly and expected him to know the fundamentals of living without it being taught to him.

7. Was Victor a bad friend/family member to others?

Yes, he did not tell any of his friends about his creation instead he kept everything a secret and did not tell anyone about the killings instead he let others go to jail for it. Also, he didn't speak to his family for months at a time.

8. Why did Victor let others take the blame?

He is a selfish and cruel individual.

Direct Examination

Mr. DeLacey - Anthony Rigolette

1. Please state your name.

I am Mr. DeLacey

2. How would you explain your relationship with the creature?

He wasn't really a friend of mine. He came into my house one time, we ended up sitting by the fire and talking about his life...poor guy... It's a shame a person so sincere, caring, and gentle had to face the troubles he did.

3. Why would you consider him sincere, caring, and gentle?

Well he explained how he lived in the woods. Recently, my family and I have been receiving tons of wood and supplies on our doorstep. It's been a rough winter. I assumed it was him giving us these wonderful things. Also, his presence alone was gentle. I could sense the stress he had, but I could see past that in my mind and discover the kindness in his heart. All he wanted was to have a conversation.

4. For the record Mr. DeLacey, you are blind, correct

Yes.

5. Now, you are a father, correct

Yes, of an incredible son and an amazing daughter.

6. Are you close to your children?

From the day they entered this world, until the end. They are my reason for life.

7. Would you say a child without a parent has no guidance and no one to rely on?

Absolutely.

8. Did you teach your children right from wrong?

Yes, as a parent should.

9. How about morals?

Of course.

10. And most importantly Mr. DeLacey, did you give your children love?

Parent to child love is most important. Without it there is no relationship between the parent and child. The parent must bring a child into this world knowing the hardships of raising a child. But you must also see the outcome of these hardships, and how enduring them can reward you with wonderful individuals that you created. I inevitably love my kids.

Follow Up Questions

1. Would you consider the talk you had good?
2. Did you teach him right from wrong?
3. Why don't you think he attacked Felix?
4. Did he fend for himself while he lived in the woods?

Direct Examination
The Creature - Blake Moran

1. Please state your name for the Jury.

I don't have a name.

2. You don't have name.. Why is that?

My creator never gave me one.

3. And who may this "creator" be? Can you please point to this person?

My creator is Victor Frankenstein. *point to Victor*

4. If I may ask, how were you brought to this world?

According to Victor's journal, I was comprised of various body parts obtained from morgues and cemeteries.

5. How did that make you feel when you discovered this information?

It horrified me. It made me realize that I am nothing but a man-made creation brought to this world to be an experiment and not live a normal human life.

6. What is your first memory with the defendant?

All I remember is Victor looking at me, horrified. He then left the laboratory with great haste. He abandoned me.

7. With you two being together only a short time before he left you, did he teach you anything?

No.

8. He didn't teach you how to speak?

No he did not.

9. Did he teach you right from wrong?

I cannot say he did.

10. Interesting. We'll return to those later. So tell us what happened after Victor abandoned you.

I wandered into the unknown world. I ended up going into the woods and hiding in a hovel that was connected to a cottage.

11. What did you do there?

I observed the De Lacey family there.

12. Did you learn anything by doing so?

Yes. By observing the family, I learned how to speak and even read.

13. By observing them, did you learn right from wrong?

No I did not.

14. Can you explain your relationship with Mr. De Lacy?

Absolutely. One day when the rest of the family was out so I ended up speaking with Mr. De Lacey. He was rather kind and I enjoyed our talk. He wasn't like any of the other people I interacted with.

15. Care to elaborate on that?

You see, Mr. De Lacey is blind. He didn't judge me because of my looks. He treated me like a human being.

16. If I may ask, over the course of your talk, did Mr. De Lacey teach you right from wrong?

No he did not.

17. What happened after your talk with Mr. De Lacey?

His son came in the cottage and attacked me with a stick. He drove me out of there and it was horrible. He's yet another person judging me solely because of my looks.

18. Allegedly after that, you murdered the defendant's younger sibling, William Frankenstein. Can you please explain your actions?

When I returned to Geneva, I encountered the boy. It came to my knowledge that he was Victor's brother. Suddenly a sensation of uncontrollable anger and hatred against Victor came over me and before I knew it I was unable to control myself.

19. You say you were filled with anger and hatred. Did anyone ever teach you how to deal with such emotions and how to act rationally in a situation like this?

I was never taught that.

20. Are you aware of what happened to Justine Moritz?

Yes. She was accused and convicted of what I did. I am terribly distraught and saddened of what had occurred. I feel that if I knew right from wrong and if my actions had consequences this would not have happened.

21. When was the next time you had contact with the defendant?

We both found each other on the summit of Montanvert.

22. What happened there?

I told him of what I'd been through since he abandoned me. I then made a final request.

23. What was the final request?

I asked him to make me a mate; another creature. I felt that another creature is only fair as I wouldn't be alone anymore. I would finally be happy. If he agreed, I told him I would go to South America with the new creature and never be in contact with humans again.

24. Before we go any further, I would like to ask you this: During this encounter with Victor, did he now teach you what's right from wrong? Did he teach you that killing is wrong?

No he did not.

25. Interesting. To go back to what we were talking about before, from the sound your previous statement, it appears that you were terribly alone.

Yes, I was. The loneliness was killing me inside and I didn't know how to deal with it.

26. Did Victor agree to make the creature?

Yes, he did. He did not go through with it however.

27. What happened then?

He went seemingly mad and destroyed his progress mid through.

28. How did that make you feel?

It made me furious, and also saddened me because he again destroyed by only chance at happiness.

29. You allegedly killed Victor's best friend Henry Cleval shortly after that happened. Can you explain your actions to the jury?

I was filled with anger and stress that I had no idea how to deal with. I saw Henry and I knew he was Victor's friend. Before I knew it, I was unable to control my emotions because I was never taught how.

30. Do you think you should be responsible for these deaths?

I don't think I should. I was never taught what's right and what's wrong. I was never taught what was morally right and morally wrong. I am the victim here. I'm nothing but a child thrown into an unknown world.

Follow Up Questions

1. Why did you leave Victor's apartment?

2. Does a good parent leave their child because they don't want them?

3. So Victor left you?

Cross Examination

Psychiatrist

1. So you believe that Victor Frankenstein was depressed because he lost his mom?
2. What are the signs of depression?
3. Tired... Do you think someone who is tired would want to start a two year experiment?
4. So you still believe he was depressed?

Cross Examination
Ethicist

1. Is it morally right to give life to a being and abandon them?
2. Is it right for a parent to never educate their child?
3. Is it right for a parent to never provide their child with shelter?
4. Is it morally right for a person to steal body parts from dead humans graves and use them for their own needs?
5. If a person was taught morals from their parents, would they know not to do such a thing?
6. Is it right to hold a person accountable for their actions, even though they were never taught they were right or wrong?

Follow Up Question

1. Do you think that if Victor would have cared about my client appearance, he may have been accepted by society?

Cross Examination

William Frankenstein

1. Your older brother William, did he seem different after returning from college?
2. Did Victor keep in touch with you while he was away at college?
3. Why did your brother return home from school William?
4. Do you think that is the only reason?
5. Do you know what your brother was studying at school?
6. Did you know about my client William?
7. Do you know how he was created?
8. Did Victor tell anyone in your house about creating my client?
9. Do you know that Justine did not kill you?
10. Do you know that Victor also knew that Justine did not kill you?
11. Justine is close to your family, correct?
12. Did Victor try saving Justine's life when she was convicted of murdering you?
13. If Victor would have come out and told the truth about his creation killing you...do you think Justine would still be alive?

Follow Up Questions

1. Did Victor abandon your family when he went to college?
2. Did he ever warn you about his creation?
3. Would you believe that there was a "big scary monster"?
4. Would you have been in the woods?
5. You were taught this by a parent, no?

Cross Examination

Robert Walton

1. Do you know Victor Frankenstein?
2. How did you meet him?
3. You are a smart man Mr. Walton, How would you consider Mr. Frankensteins mental state at the time you met him?
4. How about his physical state?
5. Did he tell you anything of importance at the time you met him?
6. Warn you of anything?
7. How about a story?
8. He then gave you advice, what was it?
9. Did you know Victor Frankenstein created my client?
10. You love learning, don't you Mr. Walton?
11. You became obsessed with your expedition, so much so that you took your own men out on a journey that endangered their and your life. Would you say that after hearing Victor Frankensteins story, you would consider him as obsessed as you are?
12. The advice Mr. Frankenstein gave you... Did you follow it?

Cross Examination

Victor Frankenstein

1. What was your main reasoning for creating my client?
2. Did you ever think twice about the crude nature of your actions?
3. Did you ever tell your family about your creation?
4. Why not?
5. Did you ever teach your creation anything?
6. Why not?
7. Why did you abandon him when he came to life?
8. (If abandoned because of appearance) Did you not see him the entire time you were creating him?
9. So why wait until he is a living being to leave him helpless?
10. You brought your creation to life, so you are technically his parent, no?
11. Who in your life taught you right from wrong and how to control your emotions?
12. Why did you teach your child those things?

Cross Examination

Elizabeth Frankenstein

- 1. While Victor Frankenstein was away, did he keep in contact with you or your family?**
- 2. Did you have any idea what he was doing while he was away?**
- 3. How did Victor appear when he returned home?**
- 4. Do you know why he appeared this way?**
- 5. Did Victor ever tell you about his creation?**
- 6. Why do you think he didn't?**
- 7. Did you feel betrayed because he didn't?**
- 8. Who was the main cause of your death?**

Follow Up Questions

- 1. Could you please reiterate to me what you composed my client of?**
- 2. Do you think that this was morally right?**
- 3. How would you feel if someone dug up your deceased family members body parts and used them for their own selfish needs?**
- 4. So how do you think those families felt?**
- 5. Is it illegal to steal body parts?**
- 6. So you believe yourself to be above the law?**
- 7. You were taught right from wrong, correct?**
- 8. But you still broke the law?**
- 9. Do you think it is fair that my client was never taught this and is being blamed?**
- 10. Is a baby left alone when they are born?**
- 11. There are nurses to care for them, no?**

12. Did my client have someone taking care of him when you abandoned him?

Closing Statement

Gentlemen of the jury, for the past week you have heard a case that has outlined right from wrong and the roles of a parent. You have also learned the consequences if these are not followed. Victor Frankenstein has been accused of malpractice, negligence, physical distress, and emotional distress. Given all of the evidence we have shown you, you must find Victor Frankenstein guilty of all charges.

Victor Frankenstein has failed at giving my client the basic necessities to life, such as knowledge, shelter, morals, or even a name. Victor abandoned my client from the moment he was brought to life. It is a fact that my client did not abandon Victor... Victor abandoned my client. My client taught himself basic fundamentals and in the end was able to realize that Victor Frankenstein was the cause to his physical and emotional distress.

My client was never taught right from wrong. Yes, he gained intelligence but not before he committed the crimes. However, Victor Frankenstein was in fact taught right from wrong and still broke the law. Not only did he illegally dig up dead body parts, he did not think twice of the consequences of his actions nor did he think of how my client would be affected.

Members of the court room, picture yourselves without parents. Would you know right from wrong? Would you even know what morals are? Would you know how to control your emotions? A parent should bring a child into this world providing them with these necessities to life. You must find Victor Frankenstein guilty of all charges. It is a fact that if not for Victor Frankenstein, then none of us would be in this room today.