

No. \_\_\_\_\_

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES**

OCTOBER TERM, 2015

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CHRISTOPHER FLOYD,

*Petitioner,*

v.

STATE OF ALABAMA,

*Respondent.*

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ON PETITION FOR WRIT OF CERTIORARI TO  
THE ALABAMA SUPREME COURT

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**PETITION FOR A WRIT OF CERTIORARI**

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**CAPITAL CASE**

## QUESTIONS PRESENTED

Christopher Floyd was tried by an all-white jury in Houston County, Alabama, where African Americans comprise twenty-seven percent of the population. The prosecutor, who has a documented history of racial discrimination in jury selection, marked African American venire members with a “B” on his strike list, then struck ten of eleven qualified African American prospective jurors. One of the African American jurors this prosecutor struck, Inez Culver, provided answers to all of the prosecution’s questions during voir dire, yet when asked to explain his peremptory strike of her the prosecutor asserted that he could not come up with a race-neutral explanation because she failed to respond to any questions and he did not know anything about her. Even though this was not true and was merely an explanation for not having a race-neutral reason, the Alabama courts refused to find an Equal Protection violation.

1. Did the Alabama courts’ failure to find racial and gender discrimination in the selection of Mr. Floyd’s jury conflict with this Court’s precedent in Batson v. Kentucky and J.E.B v. Alabama?
2. Should this Court hold this case in abeyance pending its resolution of Foster v. Chatman, 136 S. Ct 290 (2015) (No. 14-8349)?

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

QUESTION PRESENTED ..... i

TABLE OF CONTENTS ..... ii

TABLE OF CITED AUTHORITIES ..... iv

OPINIONS BELOW ..... 1

JURISDICTION ..... 3

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS INVOLVED ..... 3

STATEMENT OF THE CASE ..... 2

REASONS FOR GRANTING THE WRIT ..... 12

    I.    THE EVIDENCE ESTABLISHES THAT THE PROSECUTION  
          REMOVED PROSPECTIVE JURORS BASED ON RACE. .... 15

        A.    The Lower Court’s Determination that the  
              Prosecution Provided A Race Neutral Reason For  
              the Strike of Inez Culver Is Contradicted By the  
              Record and Conflicts With Precedent From This  
              Court. .... 16

        B.    The Lower Court’s Failure to Consider the Fact That  
              the Prosecutor Made Notations About Race  
              Conflicts With United States Supreme Court  
              Precedent. .... 19

        C.    The Lower Court’s Failure to Find Disparate  
              Treatment of White Jurors Conflicts With Miller-El  
              v. Dretke. .... 20

        D.    Additional Strikes of African American Jurors  
              Demonstrate Racial Bias in Jury Selection. .... 22

::

II. SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THE EVIDENCE OF  
DISCRIMINATION IN THIS CASE AND IN FOSTER v.  
CHATMAN WARRANT THIS COURT'S INTERVENTION. . . . 25

CONCLUSION ..... 28

APPENDIX A Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals order remanding for Batson hearing and opinion on return to remand. Floyd v. State, No. CR-05-0935, 2007 WL 2811968 (Ala. Crim. App. Aug. 29, 2008) (opinion on return to remand).

APPENDIX B Alabama Supreme Court order remanding to trial court. Ex parte Floyd, No. 1080107, 2012 WL 4465562, (Ala. Sept. 28, 2012).

APPENDIX C Alabama Court of Criminal Appeals order denying relief. Floyd v. State, CR-05-0935, 2013 WL 5966917 (Ala. Crim. App. Nov. 8, 2013).

APPENDIX D Alabama Supreme Court order affirming denial of relief. Ex parte Floyd, No. 1130527, 2015 WL 3448098 (Ala. Aug. 21, 2015)(modified on denial of reh'g).

## TABLE OF CITED AUTHORITIES

### CASES

<u>Andrews v. State</u> , 624 So. 2d 1095 (Ala. Crim. App. 1993) .....	26
<u>Ashley v. State</u> , 651 So. 2d 1096 (Ala. Crim. App. 1994) .....	26
<u>Batson v. Kentucky</u> , 476 U.S. 79 (1986) .....	passim
<u>Bush v. State</u> , 615 So. 2d 137 (Ala. Crim. App. 1992) .....	26
<u>Ex parte Floyd</u> , No. 1080107, 2012 WL 4465562 (Ala. Sept. 28, 2012) ...	passim
<u>Ex parte Floyd</u> , No. 1130527, 2015 WL 3448098 (Ala. Aug. 21, 2015) 2, 3, 11.	15
<u>Floyd v. State</u> , No. CR-05-0935, 2013 WL 5966917 (Ala. Crim. App. Nov. 8, 2013) .....	2, 3
<u>Floyd v. State</u> , No. CR-05-0935, 2007 WL 2811968 (Ala. Crim. App. Aug. 29, 2008) .....	passim
<u>J.E.B. v. Alabama</u> , 511 U.S. 127 (1994) .....	2, 5
<u>Johnson v. California</u> , 545 U.S. 162 (2005) .....	19, 23
<u>McCray v. State</u> , 738 So. 2d 911 (Ala. Crim. App. 1998) .....	26
<u>Miller-El v Cockrell</u> , 537 U.S. 322 (2003) .....	passim
<u>Miller-El v. Dretke</u> , 545 U.S. 231 (2005) .....	15, 19, 20, 21
<u>Roger v. State</u> , 593 So. 2d 141 (Ala. Crim. App. 1991) .....	26
<u>Snyder v. Louisiana</u> , 552 U.S. 472 (2008) .....	15, 21
<u>Williams v. State</u> , 620 So. 2d 82 (Ala. Crim. App. 1992) .....	26

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