

**RDW#1:** Read the following two articles and mark up the margins with thoughts and questions. After you finish reading, consider the questions and answer them in a complete full page RDW. Integrate and **highlight** pursue, document, and two compound-complex sentences.

1. What story was posted on the internet? Was it true?
2. What happened to the family after the story was posted?
3. What happened to KFC after the story was posted? How did they react?
4. Why do you think the family may have posted this story? According to the second article, what seems to be their motive?
5. Why do you think there was such a quick and angry response to this story?

## **Meet The Darling Little Girl A KFC Kicked Out For Being Disfigured By A Pit Bull Attack**

**BY KEVIN BOYD**

A family, including a 3 year old girl, went to a KFC restaurant in Jackson, Mississippi to have lunch last week. The family ordered her a large sweet tea and some mashed potatoes.

However, some customers complained that the girl was frightening them and the restaurant asked her and her family to leave.

See, the 3 year old girl, Victoria Wilcher, survived a pit bull attack at her grandmother's house in April and she was still scarred from the attack. She suffered numerous scars and injuries in that attack and she was still on a feeding tube when the family went into KFC.

The family posted this picture on Facebook and asked, "Does this face look scary to you?"

KFC's social media person responded and apologized to the family and promised an investigation on the matter. KFC also promised to do something special and acceptable for the family to compensate for this.

As for the little girl, she has many surgeries left to go, but she's in good spirits and she's progressing well. The Facebook page that her family set up after the attack to keep people updated on her condition has grown from just a few hundred likes to over 14,000 likes since this story broke.

While it wasn't right for the KFC restaurant to ask the girl to leave, it is good to see KFC working to make it right. Hopefully this family has this unfortunate incident turn into a blessing.

# Report: Story of girl getting tossed from KFC hoax

Sean Murphy, Laurel Leader-Call 10:04 a.m. CDT June 24, 2014

The heart-wrenching story of a disfigured 3-year-old child being asked to leave a Jackson KFC because her appearance was scaring other customers was a made-up story that resulted in the family bilking (cheating) the public and professionals for more than \$135,000 in cash, as well as gifts and free surgeries, sources with deep knowledge of the investigation said exclusively to the Laurel Leader-Call.

The sources spoke on the condition of strict anonymity because they were not permitted to speak on the record.

Kelly Mullins, the child's grandmother who was reportedly with her at the store, told KFC that the incident happened on May 15. Mullins told WAPT-TV in Jackson shortly after the incident went viral on social media June 12 that: "I ordered a sweet tea and mashed potatoes and gravy. I sat down at the table and started feeding her and the lady came over and said that we would have to leave, because we were disturbing other customers, that Victoria's face was disturbing other customers."

On June 12, Victoria's Victories, a Facebook page to support Victoria, posted: "Does this face look scary to you? Last week at KFC in Jackson MS this precious face was asked to leave because her face scared the other diners. I personally will never step foot in another KFC again and will be personally writing the CEO."

After it went viral, employees and managers at both Jackson locations have faced death threats, have had drinks thrown at them through the drive-thru window and have faced constant verbal harassment, the source confirmed.

National and world media such as CNN, Nancy Grace, Huffington Post and "The Today Show" jumped on the story, lambasting (scolding) the employees, KFC and YUM! Brands, KFC's corporate owners. Riding a wave of anger at KFC, virtually overtook social media with calls for boycotting KFC.

The incident garnered near instant national and international attention and became an economic windfall for a family who was openly concerned via social media of their fight with an unidentified insurance company and their financial struggles with paying for Victoria's medical bills. There was no mention of what insurance carrier the family had.

Before the story went viral, the family had collected \$595; after the story, the family collected nearly \$135,000, including \$30,000 from KFC.

However, the source said surveillance videos show that at no time on the 15th were any people or children in the store who match the description of Victoria Wilcher or Mullins. The tapes were viewed in both the Meadowbrook and Woodrow Wilson KFC locations in Jackson, the source said. In hours of tape, the source said one small boy with his parents is seen, but they order food and leave the store.

The source said no orders were recorded to include mashed potatoes and sweet tea on the same transaction, or even the two items as part of a larger order on May 15. Attempts to reach the family Monday were unsuccessful.