

Talking about **Gotti**...I've found this at *his homepage*,

**Gotti wrote: "This page was formerly part of HBO's website ! They took it down ! I put it back up !"
I found it the 22nd of May 1997 (New Archive (Tribune) August 1996)**

There is an interesting interview with Armand here made by HBO

Armand says: This film raises some serious questions ...!"

Is everything in that movie true ?

Armand replies: "I don't think you can assume that everything in the film is true because I don't know if the truth has finally been told in terms of the story of John Gotti's life !"

...it seems like the script somehow was constructed partly from the surveillance tapes, isn't that an unusual approach to a script ?

"It's rare when you actually get surveillance tapes...But the film raises a question of: What is the truth of surveillance tapes ? Just because a man says something out of anger or a reaction, as we all do in life, doesn't necessarily mean that he's guilty of the crime" says Armand and proceeds "I think that the film ultimately raises the question....What is the trade-off here ? You trade testimony of Sammy Gravano, who is a self-confessed killer of nineteen people, for virtually, the life of John Gotti...My question is: **What kind of example has the criminal justice system set in allowing this kind of trade-off ?**

If I'm a hard-core convict and...you're telling me that Sammy Gravano can whack nineteen people, (and) walk away with the millions of dollars that he did...(does) that mean that it's permissible in the eyes of this society that I can...get in trouble ? I can tattle-tale, rat out the so-called people I work for ? And the government and the criminal justice system could allow me to go free ?? You mean I can get away with the same thing Sammy Gravano did ? I'll do it ! I firmly believe having talked to convicts...that it's very strange example that the criminal justice system has set."

They wanna know how the story appealed to Armand as an actor ?

"I think that what makes the film so interesting (is) we're asking some serious questions..., to the justice system about, 'Have you really investigated what the final truth really is ?'

I believe personally that John Gotti ...was used as a mega-symbol for the criminal justice system to bring down the so-called Cosa Nostra...Because I think the media hype on him personally got so extravagant, and was so much in the face of so many government officials...that they finally went after him with an extraordinary ruthlessness."

Armand wonders if the government was, in effect, helping more disorganized criminals. "I think the film asks the question: did that (The Cosa Nostra) not serve a purpose ? In other words, did it not in a way, discipline so many other elements, infractions in society ?...it makes you wonder, did not those people serve a purpose in terms of literary disciplining the other criminal elements in society ?

Yeah...I'm not sitting here condoning evil. But it is a valid question...How do you control all the other evil ?

First Gotti was all over in the media and then suddenly, they got busy bringing him down ...?

Armand says: "I think the media wants to exploit you, whether you want it or not, you're gonna get exploited...I think they (the media) really created a legend. I mean, they literally made him into a MOBstar."

Finally Armand says: "I would only say,no film could be the gospel truth...This film..asks questions. It asks questions about the man's life . It asks questions of the criminal justice system about 'Is this fair, what has happened ? So I only hope that his particular story is not..turned to some kind of...gangster-ish, Capone-ish type story, cause it's not. It's much more complex situation here !"