



SLANG VS SLANDER

SLANG: WHAT IS A KAREN?

The term "Karen" was made popular by social media and is used to refer to a person (without using their real name) who uses their privilege to "report" on situations they deem "suspicious". There are tales that the name was a reference to a girl named Karen in the 2004, movie Mean Girls. An infamous real life example is the story of Amy Cooper, a white woman who called the police on a Black man, a bird watcher, who asked her to leash her dog as they walked in Central Park, NYC. Amy refused to do so and after an back argument called 911 reporting that she was being harrassed and threatened by a Black man and falsely accusing the him of assaulting her. The story went viral on social media and Amy Cooper was dubbed "Central Park Amy or Central Park Karen".

<https://slangit.com/meaning/karen>

Slang/Slender – According to Merriam-Webster Dictionary: <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/slender>

1: the utterance of false charges or misrepresentations which defame and damage another's reputation

2: a false and defamatory oral statement about a person

SLANDER

Slender According to the Urban Dictionary -

<https://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=Slender>

Slender is a type of defamation, a false statement communicated to another person that damages another's reputation by exposing them to disrespect or ridicule from other people.

Spreading rumors about a person you hardly or dont know or heard gossip then made your own assumption and carried on the accusations to other people.

Slender means gossiping about a person, and making them feel un-worthy, anxious, inability to function, depressed and embarrassed. by Karmaisreal February 25, 2019

Slang/slender used as a racial attack: Taken from The Michigan Journal of Race & Law

<https://repository.law.umich.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1293&context=mjrl>

The following are real life cases as examples of how this type of racial attack uses law enforcement as a weapon. One of most heartbreaking examples of the dangers of **slander** when used as a weapon or racial attack is the 1955 story of [Emmit Till](#) a 14-year old African American from Money, Mississippi, who was accused of offending a white woman in her family's grocery store. As was common for Black people during the Jim Crow era, Emmitt Till was taken to court and charged with assault never once having the chance to share his side of the story. Days after the "incident", the woman's husband and brother abducted Emmitt, brutally beat him up, shot and killed him dumping his body in the Tallahatchie River. Decades later the woman, Carolyn Bryant, admitted to Author Timothy Tyson, that she had falsely accused Emmitt Till of assault. All he did was talk to her. Sadly, Carolyn Bryant slanderous attack cost Emmitt Till his young life. Sadly there are countless stories like this even today.

WHITE CALLER CRIME: RACIALIZED POLICE COMMUNICATION AND EXISTING WHILE BLACK

By Chan Tov McNamarah

October 14, 2018 — North Carolina anti-violence marchers have the police called when they stop at a gas station. As the group stops at the station to get drinks, the store manager calls the police, telling dispatchers "it's like a riot out here." She further claims the group is "destroying the outside of the store." Based on video footage the group was simply waiting outside the station. They leave before police arrive. The caller is dubbed 'Gas Station Gail' on social media.³

May 4, 2018 — New York attorney Nancy Bedford and her daughter are falsely accused of shoplifting in a Brooklyn vintage consignment store. When the women protest the accusation, an employee calls the police declaring she "feared for her safety."