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# Court Wanders Far in Crime Rulings

THE Supreme Court of the United States, once the most respected official body in our government, has outdone itself with another ridiculous interpretation of the Constitution in favor of criminals.

While citizens still were seething over acquittal of would-be presidential assassin John Hinckley on grounds of temporary insanity, the court has compounded the potential travesties that may result from its weird philosophies of justice and equal rights.

The justices have legislated their joint opinions that states cannot impose the death penalty on people who were involved in robberies resulting in death but who say they never intended to kill anyone and who did not actually do the killing, even though armed.

From this it appears to be only a short step to pleas of innocence of any major crime because "I didn't mean to do it."

Since such claims would have to be based upon introspective statements, it might be impossible for prosecutors to establish just what momentary intentions of defendants

might have been.

Convicted criminals in the Oklahoma State Penitentiary already are talking to lawyers about new appeals that may gain freedom for them to rob and kill again on grounds of this inane technicality.

Rulings of the Supreme Court have the obvious effect of declaring that even those who are guilty and admit it are innocent if they choose to plead temporary insanity or lack of intent.

There is no doubt that the court has wandered far in this and other rulings on a wide variety of issues that have had profound and devastating effects on our society.

The court has stretched the principle of freedom of speech and freedom of the press to the point that citizens who have scruples about exposure to obscenities, profanity, literary filth and pornography have no protection whatever for themselves and children.

The court has wrecked many school systems, including the Oklahoma City system, by enforcing crosstown busing for presumed racial balance. In the process, neigh-

borhood relationships have been destroyed and parental support for public schools undermined.

The court has handed down rulings that have the effect of laws prohibiting free exercise of religion in overt violation of the Constitution.

The patent effect is to help establish humanism and atheism as official religions of the United States, while restricting public prayer and discouraging worship of the Deity in traditional and customary manners.

Public contempt for federal courts is growing, but that is unlikely to alter the radical rulings being handed down.

Federal justices and judges are beyond recall by voting citizens or the president who appoints them. They are untouchable political entities.

If and when the day comes that the honorable justices are called to account for their extreme interpretations of the Constitution, will they plead that their rulings in favor of criminals were due to "temporary insanity" or that "we didn't mean to do it?"