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Holdout juror spurs kid-slay mistrial

The trial of a teen accused in the stabbing death of a 12-year-old ended in a mistrial yesterday when a Brooklyn jury could not agree after four days of deliberations. All but one of the 12 jurors were convinced of Rickley Gregoire's guilt, said one panelist.

Gregoire is charged with manslaughter for allegedly beating Anthony Haynes while another man stabbed him.

Assistant District Attorney Kirby Clements Jr. based his case on testimony from three eyewitnesses, all between the ages of 9 and 12.

They say they saw four bigger kids surround Haynes, ask if he was a Crip and — when he answered, "Yeah" — attack him.

With the boys' help, cops picked up Gregoire and accused stabber Edwardo Hall minutes after the crime.

Defense lawyer Joseph Stello claims Gregoire, who could face up to 25 years in prison, was misidentified. But the juror said, "How reasonable is it you would find someone dressed the same way, five blocks away, identified by two witnesses?"

Kati Cornell Smith

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