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'Voices' plagued killer mom: Pal

Court hears about paranoid delusions

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BRAMPTON — A woman who admits killing her two young sons thought workers were building a sound-proof room in her building so she could be taken there and harmed, a jury has heard.

Charlene Colley, of Etobicoke, testified that Ingrid Mathison, 37, believed her jailed husband, Robert, was plotting against her during the months before she put plastic bags over the heads of her boys and asphyxiated them on Aug. 22, 1994.

At one point, Mathison "appeared to be positive" she was going to die, said Colley, a friend of Mathison's.

Mathison, of Etobicoke, has pleaded not guilty to two counts of second-degree murder in the deaths of her children — William, 4 and Robert, 2.

She admits killing them in a Brampton motel room and then trying to commit suicide.

In outlining his client's case, defence lawyer Joseph Neuberger has told jurors

that Mathison was so distressed at the time that she did not have the ability to form the intent necessary to commit murder.

Colley said that Mathison, whose husband was jailed for a drug offence in the fall of 1993, moved into a Lake Shore Blvd. apartment after attempting suicide in December 1993.

She testified that Mathison was hearing voices and thought that the people above her were drilling holes in the ceiling and videotaping her.

Mathison also thought workers were building a soundproof room in the basement so people could take her there to be tortured and killed — or to "drive her crazy," Colley said.

She testified Mathison also believed that a man she had fallen in love with was murdered in the fall of 1993 in the attic of the home she lived in at the time in Udora, about 50 km northwest of Whitby.

Colley went to Udora, but found no evidence to support Mathison's claim.

The trial continues.



INGRID MATHISON
Smothered 2 kids