

Who Dropped the Dime on Cain?

In a case of an untimely death, the first thing the cops do when they arrive at the home of the deceased is to try to determine whether the death was the result of a self-inflicted wound and, if it wasn't, whether a member of the family did it. Statistics show that these are good places to start looking. If the recent events surrounding sexual-harassment allegations against Herman Cain sink his campaign, the same postmortem may be appropriate.

First, Cain's self-inflicted wounds. When the allegations became public, he started defending himself with an unloaded gun. Even an admirably unconventional campaign cannot defy certain principles. One would be never to eat at a place with an "Eats" sign in the window. Another is that when it hits the fan, you should get your recollection and your facts as straight as you can before you start talking. You can't outwit the media at their own game if you don't know the game they're playing. Now it's not just about whether he was overly friendly with Miss Molly at the Fourth of July picnic – it's also about catching him in inconsistencies.

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