

Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of March 24-31, 2017

**Articles Compiled by Jennifer Palmer
Commentary by Nora J. Baladerian, Ph.D.,
Editing and Posting by Thomas F. Coleman**

Articles are listed in alphabetical order by state, so you can easily scan through the articles for those within your state or other states in which you have an interest.

This week's collection of articles follows a similar pattern to the recent collections, a majority of articles involve sexual abuse. Following are categories of maltreatment by type, and the number of the article. Of the offenses, one was by a teacher, two by parents, six by caregivers and three by strangers.

Sexual Assault: 8, 10, 31, 83, 90, 105

Physical Abuse: 1,5,17

Neglect: 25

Murder 1, 6, 54

There are also a couple of articles of particular interest, including several on the impact of state budget cuts on housing and vocational services to people with disabilities: 68, 71, 81, 84, 86, 90, 97.

Abuse and Neglect

1. **Bellwether Behavioral Health Is Controversial Group Home Operator AdvoServ — With a New Name.** After two deaths of teenage residents in less than four years, AdvoServ has quietly taken a new name that makes it harder to follow the trail of media coverage, including ours. propublica.org, March 28 <https://is.gd/lhHWmh>
2. **Handicapped oyster lover settles casino, restaurant lawsuits.** Hope Elly, an Alabama resident who says she loves to visit the Mississippi Coast, has settled federal lawsuits filed against Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Biloxi and Half Shell Oyster House Biloxi over claims that handicapped access is limited. sunherald.com, March 29 (Alabama) <https://is.gd/5km0Wm>
3. **Wheelchair-bound man robbed during home invasion near UCCS.** A 60-year-old wheelchair-bound man said two strangers broke into his house late Monday and stole property, including some jewelry he was wearing. gazette.com, March 28 (Colorado) <https://is.gd/iflc1o>
4. **Disabled adult, 56, still missing.** On March 17, Decatur Police issued a Mattie's Call for Elmer Lynnard Savage, 56, who was last seen on March 6 at his former Decatur residence on East Hill Street. decaturish.com, March 25 (Illinois) <https://is.gd/hHFp1f>
5. **Suspect accused of punching man at group home.** A man was arrested Thursday for reportedly assaulting a disabled man over possibly stolen sodas. timesrecordnews.com, March 24 (Kansas) <https://is.gd/JpBpPt>
6. **Louisiana cop cries as he's found guilty of shooting 6-year-old autistic boy to death.** Louisiana cop cries as he's found guilty of shooting 6-year-old autistic boy to death. nydailynews.com, March 25 (Louisiana) <https://is.gd/Ue7gXZ>
7. **Louisiana officer convicted of manslaughter in boy's death.** Louisiana law enforcement officer was convicted Friday on a lesser charge of manslaughter in a shooting that killed a 6-year-old autistic boy, a gruesome encounter captured on tape by another officer's body camera. nbc-2.com, March 24 (Louisiana) <https://is.gd/JfR1pS>
8. **Charges under review for abuse of vulnerable adults.** An investigation by the Minnesota Department of Human Services found an employee of the Adult Training and Habilitation Center allegedly mistreated clients while working at the McLeod County Recycling Facility in Hutchinson. crowrivermedia.com, March 28 (Minnesota) <https://is.gd/0GE2Pe>

9. **Lee County woman indicted for felony abuse of a vulnerable person.** A Lee County woman has been arrested for felony abuse of a vulnerable person. 42-year-old Bridgett Copeland was arrested after being indicted by an Itawamba County grand jury, according to Attorney General Jim Hood. wjtv.com, March 28 (Mississippi) <https://is.gd/geQekp>
10. **Worker pleads to assault of elderly.** A former Brookhaven nursing home volunteer who turned himself in to authorities after he was accused of fondling a resident pleaded guilty to simple assault Tuesday in Lincoln County Circuit Court. dailyleader.com, March 28 (Mississippi) <https://is.gd/lokRTL>
11. **Teen who threw her baby out a window is sent to a group home.** 16-year-old Antonia Lopez is sentenced to live in a group home after throwing her newborn baby out a window, killing it. kcci.com, March 24 (Nebraska) <https://is.gd/KiwoSN>
12. **Assault at Buffalo Psychiatric Center raises new concerns.** The assault on a nurse at Buffalo Psychiatric Center Saturday afternoon has added new fuel to the debate over plans to close the Western New York Children's Psychiatric Center in West Seneca. wbfo.org, March 27 (New York) <https://is.gd/IEWVi6>
13. **Mother of mentally ill man shot by cops gets ear of federal prosecutor.** The mother of a mentally ill man who was shot dead by cops after she called 911 seeking medical help for him said she has gained a powerful ally in her push for a federal probe: acting Manhattan US Attorney Joon Kim. nypost.com, March 27 (New York) <https://is.gd/HaJh09>
14. **Police search for suspect who attacked man with developmental disabilities.** Columbus Police are now searching for a suspected crook who is accused of beating and robbing a man with developmental disabilities last week in the Hilltop. abc6onyourside.com, March 27 (Ohio) <https://is.gd/I28lm8>
15. **Judge: Case alleging Ohio 'segregates' disabled can proceed.** A federal judge has rejected requests by Ohio Gov. John Kasich and several state officials to dismiss a lawsuit that alleges the state has effectively segregated people with intellectual and developmental disabilities in institutions by failing to provide accessible community- or home-based services. therepublic.com, March 24 (Ohio) <https://is.gd/sHYxQe>
16. **Landmark Disability Rights Settlement.** ODOT to make street crossings safer across state highway system. bendsource.com, March 29 (Oregon) <https://is.gd/EVPFIId>
17. **Special needs teacher resigns after being accused of spanking 7-year-old boy.** A Lancaster County teacher of special needs students at Harrisburg Elementary

School has resigned. The 26-year-old woman was accused of spanking a 7-year-old boy with special needs in class. wsoctv.com, March 24 (South Carolina) <https://is.gd/2RudPk>

18. **County drops legal challenge against state hospital.** Attorneys for a Minnehaha County criminal defendant have dropped a legal challenge against South Dakota's state-run mental health hospital after agreeing to place him in a different facility. argusleader.com, March 23 (South Dakota) <https://is.gd/xmsMib>
19. **HISD special ed director resigns amid denial of services.** The director of special education for Houston public schools has resigned amid reports that the school district systematically denied services to thousands of students with disabilities. click2houston.com, March 2 (Texas) <https://is.gd/PYRUm6>
20. **HISD To Hold Parent Forums On Special Education.** As they gather that feedback, a separate HISD committee will select an auditor to review special ed. houstonpublicmedia.org, March 29 (Texas) <https://is.gd/Oa9VqE>
21. **MOTHER 'LIVID' OVER TSA PAT DOWN OF SPECIAL NEEDS SON.** A mother in Texas is 'livid' over the way her son was treated by the TSA at the Dallas Fort Worth airport. http://6abc.com, March 29 (Texas) <https://is.gd/fZWTOv>
22. **Woman charged with locking up special needs children indicted.** Paula Sinclair charged with aggravated assault with deadly weapon. click2houston.com, March 28 (Texas) <https://is.gd/DflDGw>
23. **Special-needs son was in home when parents died, SAPD says.** Couple possibly stabbed in townhome on Budding Boulevard, police say. ksat.com, March 23 (Texas) <https://is.gd/9e66rr>
24. **Intellectually disabled Texan gets court reprieve over his death sentence.** The U.S. Supreme Court did the right thing Tuesday when it rejected Texas' absurd approach to determining whether a convicted murderer is too intellectually disabled to be executed. latimes.com, March 28 (Texas) <https://is.gd/flWdib>
25. **New complaint filed on group home.** A new complaint has been filed against a Mount Pleasant group home after a second homeowner came forward to reveal that she, too, had been victimized by a 20-year-old resident with a mental disability living next door. journaltimes.com, March 28 (Wisconsin) <https://is.gd/aUBgzi>
26. **Group home under fire says sleeping worker fired, laments state cuts.** A group home under investigation after a severely autistic man entered a neighbor's home unannounced is offering new details amid a probe by the state, Racine County and Mount Pleasant Police department. journaltimes.com, March 29 (Wisconsin) <https://is.gd/g7xzWB>

27. **Police probe Mount Pleasant group home.** A group home in Mount Pleasant is under investigation after a 20-year-old resident with a mental disability entered a neighbor's home, uninvited, at least twice. journaltimes.com, March 25 (Wisconsin) <https://is.gd/bJY5hl>

Improved Supports

28. **These Women are Bringing Disabilities Education to YouTube.** YouTube continues to grown overtime as a platform where millions of creators upload thousands of videos each day. huffingtonpost.com, March 28 <https://is.gd/Lu24nD>
29. **Study Looks At How Autism Impacts Parents.** Moms and dads of kids with autism spend less time together than couples with typically-developing children, new research suggests, but that doesn't mean they don't support one another. disabilityscoop.com, March 28 <https://is.gd/q45MO6>
30. **Commentary: Special education funding vital for many students.** There's a question, residing within the bigger question of "Why should we fully fund education in Washington state?" heraldnet.com, March 27 <https://is.gd/GMe8fa>
31. **Autism advocates use billboards to push for insurance reform.** Autism advocates are trying a new way to raising awareness about the need for insurance reform. al.com, March 24 (Alabama) <https://is.gd/sxbgsg>
32. **AARP: Increase funding for adult protective services.** The number of vulnerable adults getting services from the state Department of Social Services ballooned 63 percent between 2011 and 2015 while funding for the program remained stagnant, a new report reveals. Greenvilleonline, March 24 (Alabama) <https://is.gd/rS2JQi>
33. **Handicapped space violation in Irwindale leads to arrest of wanted ex-con, seizure of drugs and gun.** Police arrested an ex-con with drugs, a loaded handgun and an active arrest warrant after approaching him for illegally parking in a handicapped stall outside an Irwindale convenience store early Saturday, authorities said. sgvtribune.com, March 26 (California) <https://is.gd/F6NbAy>
34. **Butte College cadets learn to engage with volatility of mentally ill.** Former Chico Police Chief Mike Maloney said that peace officers are best prepared to handle volatile situations like the one Friday night in Chico in which Desmond Phillips, 25, was shot and killed by police. krctv.com, March 23 (California) <https://is.gd/TvlgxJ>
35. **Oakland Students With Disabilities Use New Sensory Room.** Students at Oakland-Craig Public School with sensory impairments and other disabilities have been

using the school's new sensory room to relax. usnews.com, March 23 (California) <https://is.gd/wLBWPt>

36. **Eatsa says it's surprised by a lawsuit that accused it of violating blind customers' rights.** A nonprofit sued the restaurant chain for allegedly being inaccessible to visually impaired customers. recode.net, March 24 (California) <https://is.gd/jx2l3t>
37. **New site helps Progress Ranch fulfill its mission.** The road to Progress Ranch is paved with few good intentions. Boys as young as 7 years old arrive at the Davis residential group home having already lived through years of abuse and neglect, often very severe. davisenterprise.com, March 24 (California) <https://is.gd/lumcrJ>
38. **ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER RESPONDS TO R-WORD COMMENT Over Special Olympics.** Arnold Schwarzenegger just schooled an Internet troll for mocking the Special Olympics, calling the participants the r-word. TMZ.com, March 24 (California) <https://is.gd/x7uqmy>
39. **Colorado DHS pushes background checks for those working with at-risk adults.** The Colorado Department of Human Services is pushing for background checks on those who work directly with at-risk adults. gazette.com, March 27 (Colorado) <https://is.gd/h3yoAe>
40. **Time for autism awareness to grow up.** This April 2, once again we will light it up blue and spend several days discussing autism awareness. But for those of us who have children in the spectrum, every day is autism awareness day. floridatoday.com, March 26 (Florida) <https://is.gd/fd8T7V>
41. **NSU center offers cheaper tests for children with developmental delays.** If you're a parent, you know how important milestones are in your child's development, so what should you do if your little one isn't crawling, playing or talking like they should? local10.com, March 23 (Florida) <https://is.gd/ZJmLf0>
42. **MotoMart failed to provide handicapped parking and other accommodations, class action suit alleges.** St. Louis disabled man and a civil rights organization have filed a class action lawsuit against FKG Oil Company d/b/a MotoMart, citing alleged discrimination for lack of accommodations for patrons with disabilities. madisonrecord.com, March 26 (Illinois) <https://is.gd/zktQ74>
43. **PARCC test a double whammy for CPS special education students.** The month-long window for giving Illinois' standardized PARCC test always throws off school schedules. Regular lessons are disrupted. chicago.suntimes.com, March 24 (Illinois) <https://is.gd/VTLN1b>

44. **New special education director hired for Iowa City schools.** The Iowa City Community School District filled its special education director position Tuesday following several months of uncertainty regarding the role. press-citizen.com, March 2 (Iowa) <https://is.gd/GoFtn>
45. **Iowa Legislature backs insurance coverage for autism.** The Iowa Senate voted 48-0 Thursday to require many employer-provided health insurance policies to provide coverage for treatment of autism spectrum disorder for young people. desmoinesregister.com, March 24 (Iowa) <https://is.gd/UqnYsG>
46. **Raise rates for care of Kansans with developmental disabilities.** It is good that state lawmakers are considering increased funding for home- and community-based services for Kansans with intellectual and developmental disabilities – though that will be difficult due to the state’s severe financial problems. kansas.com, March 25 (Kansas) <https://is.gd/CvmUbO>
47. **Pushing summer camp for children with special needs.** In many situations nothing really fixes the challenges children with special needs face...especially when it comes to social activities but, Anupama Atre created a summer camp fair. fox47news.com, March 26 (Michigan) <https://is.gd/o4HZX7>
48. **Missouri Foster Care Proposed Legislation.** Here is another piece of proposed legislation for protecting foster care children from being needlessly poisoned by psychiatric drugs. cchrstl.org, March 25 (Missouri) <https://is.gd/FV8TtQ>
49. **Missouri bill is step in right direction for special needs students.** I thank the Missouri House for passing HB634. As a parent of a special needs child, I feel this is a strong step in the right direction for charter school choice and inclusion for all children. stltoday.com, March 27 (Missouri) <https://is.gd/4D9qHY>
50. **Guardianship For Children – Know Your Rights.** The decision to be someone’s guardian is similar to deciding to adopt. In both instances, there are responsibilities and specific legal procedures that must be accounted for. thisisreno.com, March 28 (Nevada) <https://is.gd/5DCt36>
51. **A Wheelchair on Broadway Isn’t Exploitation. It’s Progress.** There’s a wheelchair onstage at the Belasco Theater, and it’s drawing an abundance of attention. There’s also a wheelchair onstage at a small theater not far away, and it’s drawing practically no attention at all. The gulf between the two says quite a lot. nytimes.com, March 24 (New York) <https://is.gd/nDI2b4>
52. **Audrey Koontz: Combating elder abuse.** An elderly individual recently said that whenever they requested their children to help them because they lived alone they

were yelled at and therefore they eventually stopped asking. the-dispatch.com, March 24 (North Carolina) <https://is.gd/uBasiZ>

53. **Double amputee, Marine veteran sworn-in as N.Y. police officer.** A U.S. Marine veteran who lost his legs during a tour of duty in Afghanistan is believed to be the first-ever double amputee to become a full active duty police officer in the U.S. usatoday.com, March 25 (New York) <https://is.gd/s2NvCl>
54. **Couple accused of killing deaf son, lighting house on fire to destroy evidence.** A couple has been indicted on accusations that they murdered their deaf teenage son and then burned down their house to cover up the crime, the Associated Press reported. wftv.com, March 25 (New York) <https://is.gd/QdYRub>
55. **ODOT settlement that replaces thousands of curb ramps wins court approval.** The Oregon Department of Transportation will have to replace up to 90 percent of the curb ramps along highways as part of a legal settlement with disability rights advocates. oregonlive.com, March 28 (Oregon) <https://is.gd/au6glQ>
56. **State finds success with social services mobile app.** A mobile phone app rolled out late last year by the state's Department of Human Services has had more than 37,000 users download it since it was introduced several months ago, and officials say they plan to introduce an updated version in August. post-gazette.com, March 27 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/a1YWYR>
57. **GFPD takes on special needs awareness training.** The Great Falls Police Department this week began training that will help officers during incidents involving residents with special needs. greatfalls Tribune.com, March 24 (New York) <https://is.gd/cwZhMb>
58. **State savings plan opens for people with disabilities.** People with disabilities and parents of children with disabilities now have a place where they can invest and save their money. nbc12.com, March 29 (Virginia) <https://is.gd/FFCeBa>
59. **Accomplished: 170-mile wheelchair journey to Lambeau.** For Dennis Schulze, Saturday marked the end of a 170-mile journey by wheelchair from Janesville to Lambeau Field. greenbaypressgazette.com, March 25 (Wisconsin) <https://is.gd/KfSw3I>

Laws and Legislation

60. **How Would Betsy DeVos Change Special Education Courses? Parents Are Already Concerned.** When Betsy DeVos was confirmed to head up the Education department last month, many educators and parents were concerned about some of

the changes she would bring to the public education system. romper.com, March 28
<https://is.gd/kZfJxM>

61. **Alabama bill highlights latest battle in deaf culture wars.** Advocates for the deaf are at odds with each other over an Alabama bill that seeks to prepare deaf and hard of hearing children for kindergarten. al.com, March 28 (Alabama)
<https://is.gd/trBefv>
62. **Developmental disabilities bill moves forward.** The Senate Human Services Committee unanimously passed Senator Scott Wilk's bill aimed to help young adults who have developmental disabilities. signalscv.com, March 28 (California)
<https://is.gd/VdJfwv>
63. **Proposed outsourcing special education services discussed at heated school board meeting.** A discussion on outsourcing special needs services in Muscogee County, gets heated during a school board meeting. wrbl.com, March 27 (Georgia) <https://is.gd/aXHeyd>
64. **Special education funding an increasing concern for local schools.** A million dollars, that's how much the state of Illinois will owe the Macomb School District by July 1st. wgem.com, March 27 (Illinois) <https://is.gd/PdHVLN>
65. **Bill Would Track When Officers Restrain, Seclude Kids At School.** Indiana lawmakers may require schools to provide more information about a controversial practice: secluding and restraining children. wfyi.org, March 28 (Indiana)
<https://is.gd/5SPqtJ>
66. **A supreme disappointment for students with disabilities.** The Supreme Court held unanimously last week — in its most momentous ruling on special education in over three decades — that the standard for services owed to students with disabilities under federal law is higher than "merely more than de minimis." baltimoresun.com, March 27 (Maryland) <https://is.gd/3SMTSz>
67. **State legislators advance pursuit of insurance for those with developmental disabilities.** Robyn Schelp and Jacquelyn Sample hugged the moment they stepped out of the hearing room Tuesday in the basement of the state Capitol. columbiainmissourian.com, March 28 (Missouri) <https://is.gd/MNoOXT>
68. **New Mexico AG praises court ruling on special education.** New Mexico Attorney General Hector Balderas is praising a ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court that bolsters the rights of millions of learning-disabled students. lcsun-news.com, March 23 (New Mexico) <https://is.gd/l3flrf>

69. **Proposed registry would protect Ohioans with autism and other disabilities, lawmaker says.** A pair of Ohio lawmakers are proposing a voluntary registry for individuals with autism, speech impairments or other disabilities hampering communication, as a way to better inform law enforcement officials. cleveland.com, March 28 (Ohio) <https://is.gd/3TI9Zg>
70. **Judge Approves ODOT Disability Rights Settlement.** A federal judge has approved a settlement Monday that will make it easier for Oregonians with disabilities to get around. opb.org, March 28 (Oregon) <https://is.gd/4ojXLp>
71. **Supreme Court Rejects Texas Standard For Mental Disability In Capital Cases.** The U.S. Supreme Court ruled on Tuesday that the state of Texas has been using an unconstitutional and obsolete medical standard for determining whether those convicted of murder are exempt from the death penalty because of mental deficiency. npr.org, March 28 (Texas) <https://is.gd/uQJyx9>
72. **Supreme Court sets higher bar for education of students with disabilities.** The Supreme Court on Wednesday unanimously raised the bar for the educational benefits owed to millions of children with disabilities in one of the most significant special-education cases to reach the high court in decades. twincities.com, March 22 (Washington DC) <https://is.gd/CTpIof>
73. **This Week In Education: Supreme Court Rules On Special Ed; Senator Slams Vouchers.** No rest for the weary in our weekly roundup of national education news. npr.org, March 25 (Washington DC) <https://is.gd/L7Io62>
74. **Capitol Cops Order Arrested Disability Rights Activists To Return To Washington To Pay Fines.** Most of those arrested have serious disabilities and are scattered across the country. huffingtonpost.com, March 24 (Washington DC) <https://is.gd/R2qrCF>
75. **Decision In Colorado Disability Rights Case Adds Twist To Gorsuch Hearings.** During the third day of Judge Neil Gorsuch's Senate confirmation hearing, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a ruling on a Colorado case involving an autistic teenager and the quality of education he received in the Douglas County School District. kunc.org, March 24 (Washington DC) <https://is.gd/toDrV6>
76. **How a New Supreme Court Ruling Could Affect Special Education.** Advocates for students with disabilities argue the decision could help millions of children. theatlantic.com, March 23 (Washington DC) <https://is.gd/E75Qrt>

77. **LETTER: Special education is a right, not privilege.** The U.S. Supreme Court recently ruled that a child's "educational program must be appropriately ambitious in light of his circumstances" and that "every child should have the chance to meet challenging objectives even if the child is not fully integrated into regular classrooms." courierpostonline.com, March 25 (Washington DC) <https://is.gd/4EE6uO>

International

78. **Disability service investigated over negligence claims.** An Australian disability support service is being investigated over claims of neglect, abuse and a string of deaths involving vulnerable people in its care. 9news.com.au, March 27 (Australia) <https://is.gd/vaDg9N>

79. **People with intellectual disabilities locked away under cloak of suburbia.** This is a story I'm trying to write without being able to give you specific details. It includes allegations of sexual abuse, physical assault and degradation, so people have asked for identities to be protected. abc.net.au, March 27 (Australia) <https://is.gd/flb8FD>

80. **Murdered deaf man was defenceless: court.** Murdered deaf man Robert Wright's father and sister are haunted by the terror he must have felt while clinging to a Melbourne balcony as three people pushed him to his death. au.news.yahoo.com, March 24 (Australia) <https://is.gd/CxsgHA>

81. **Man gets life for raping handicapped teen girl.** Judge Md Mosleh Uddin of the district's Women Children Repression Prevention Tribunal on Tuesday pronounced the verdict. dhakatribune.com, March 29 (Bangladesh) <https://is.gd/rYRiRZ>

82. **Woman with spina bifida files human rights complaint against Danforth bar over washroom access.** Haily Butler-Henderson, who uses crutches as a mobility aid, says staff at Pentagon Bar and Grill stopped her from using their washroom out of fear she may sue if she'd fallen down the stairs. thestar.com, March 26 (Canada) <https://is.gd/Ax7m7E>

83. **Brandon man on trial for alleged abuse at group home.** A mentally challenged woman says she was repeatedly raped 20 years ago by a man who ran a Brandon support home. winnipegfreepress.com, March 30 (Canada) <https://is.gd/LgCrIF>

84. **Vulnerable Persons Registry officially launches.** Monday saw the official launch of the partnership between South Simcoe Police and CHATS (Community & Home Assistance to Seniors), to bring the new online Vulnerable Persons Registry to residents of South Simcoe. bradfordtimes.ca, March 30 (Canada) <https://is.gd/79sdws>

85. **Worker beaten at Alberta youth home says every bone in her face was broken.** A staff member who was severely beaten at the Elk Island Youth Ranch last month is trying to recover from the traumatic attack. Every bone in Heather Vanderzee's face was broken, she was stabbed in the cheek and she said there was an attempt to cut her throat. globalnews.ca, March 27 (Canada) <https://is.gd/bACXSm>
86. **Cyprus preparing new national action plan for people with disabilities.** A new national Action Plan for Disability, covering the period 2017-2020, is being drafted, Labour Minister Zeta Emilianidou has said. cyprus-mail.com, March 26 (Cyprus) <https://is.gd/UEGORT>
87. **Mentally-ill man attacks attendant in Thane.** A mentally-ill man brutally attacked an attendant of Thane Mental Hospital with a pair of scissors while he was being admitted to the psychiatric facility on Wednesday. hindustantimes.com, March 24 (India) <https://is.gd/uSsZnF>
88. **New hope for autistic kids with fecal transplant.** New Delhi: As per a new study, fecal transplants are poised to help and fight a number of conditions like obesity and autism in children. zeenews.india.com, March 26 (India) <https://is.gd/pTFsUh>
89. **'Grace' case: Two health board staff involved are still with Tusla.** South Eastern Health Board staff involved in 1996 decision to leave girl in foster home. irishtimes.com, March 23 (Ireland) <https://is.gd/Apz1nZ>
90. **Woman with intellectual disabilities left in foster home for two years after claims of sexual abuse.** A WOMAN WAS left in the care of a foster family for two years after allegations of sexual abuse were made against the foster father. thejournal.ie, March 31 (Ireland) <https://is.gd/aiCwKm>
91. **A decade on and UN convention on disability rights still not ratified.** First to sign up in 2007 in a show of caring, now Ireland only EU state not to ratify. irishtimes.com, March 29 (Ireland) <https://is.gd/KrEZRd>
92. **Down Syndrome parents call for funding.** PARENTS of children with Down Syndrome have called on the Government to increase funding for services including speech, language and occupational therapy. dublinpeople.com, March 27 (Ireland) <https://is.gd/0Z7hOZ>
93. **AKIM REPORT SHOWS ISRAELIS ACCEPTING BUT NOT INCLUSIVE OF INTELLECTUALLY DISABLED.** According to the survey, there has been an improvement over the years in most components of Israeli attitudes toward this population group. .jpost.com, March 28 (Israel) <https://is.gd/AvbwgL>

94. **Women with disabilities urge Nigerian govt to pass Disability Right Bill.** Women with disabilities, under the aegis of Cedar Seeds Foundation, have asked the Nigerian government to support the empowerment of women especially those with disabilities by passing and assenting to the Nigeria Disability Right Bill which is currently at the Senate. premiumtimesng.com, March 27 (Nigeria) <https://is.gd/zFU2PP>
95. **Special education approaching 'crisis point' across New Zealand.** Three people are dead and two others injured after their car rolled off the road in Canterbury. Police say all occupants appear to be young people, and only one person was wearing a seat belt. newshub.co.nz, March 29 (New Zealand) <https://is.gd/cjZA2i>
96. **Teen left out of university course due to wheelchair.** A wheelchair user has been left bitterly disappointed after signing up for a university course only to learn a week before it began that it wouldn't be accessible to her. newshub.co.nz, March 26 (New Zealand) <https://is.gd/Ec3fkU>
97. **One in ten prisoners are mentally retarded.** Around one in ten inmates in Norwegian prisons are mentally retarded, a new study shows. They may end up being regulars, says the researcher behind the study. norwaytoday.info, March 29 (Norway) <https://is.gd/ONjoOt>
98. **Minister ensures initiatives for handicapped.** KARACHI: Sindh Social Welfare Minister Shamim Mumtaz said that people with disabilities could be a valuable workforce for the society if enough resources were provided to them. pakistantoday.com.pk, March 29 (Pakistan) <https://is.gd/wwqloS>
99. **State health hits back at 'vulture' attorneys on lookout for handicapped kids.** Representatives of six provincial health departments yesterday appeared before a joint sitting of parliament's standing committee on appropriations and the portfolio committee on health to discuss the delivery of health services. timeslive.co.za, March 24 (South Africa) <https://is.gd/MGgMcl>
100. **Stylish stair-climbing wheelchair merges the Segway with a tank.** For several years designers have been playing around with lots of different engineering tricks to give wheelchairs the ability to move up and down stairs. newatlas.com, March 28 (Switzerland) <https://is.gd/ju8NSd>
101. **Ramp for improvement: Travel writer on wheelchair rates Dubai's accessibility.** Dubai: A British travel-writer who rates cities on wheelchair-accessibility on Tuesday said Dubai is "a work in progress-leaning to positivity." gulfnews.com, March 28 (UAB) <https://is.gd/Hik7Ju>

102. **Deprivation of Liberty Law is Failing Vulnerable People, Says Law Commission.** Article 5 (1) of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) states that everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. ibblaw.co.uk, March 23 (UK) <https://is.gd/apcupn>
103. **Autism was key to human evolution, new study claims.** When you think of someone with autism, what do you think of? It might be someone with a special set of talents or unique skills – such as natural artistic ability or a remarkable memory. dailymail.co.uk, March 27 (UK) <https://is.gd/MfaGhe>
104. **This amputee's wife says her husband been waiting four months for a suitable home.** Paul Worswick is currently staying in a hospital flat while a property becomes available. walesonline.co.uk, March 29 (UK) <https://is.gd/vH8Pas>
105. **Former manager of care home struck off for not addressing sex claims.** Janis Cunningham was told that residents of Wallace View may have been involved in sexual activity. dailyrecord.co.uk, March 24 (UK) <https://is.gd/LtYQOv>
106. **'Disturbance' at Bristol group home triggers large police presence.** A disturbance at a local group home triggered a large police presence Friday afternoon. centralctcommunications.com, March 24 (UK) <https://is.gd/aMv2CW>
107. **Deprivation of Liberty Law is Failing Vulnerable People, Says Law Commission.** Article 5 (1) of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) states that everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. ibblaw.co.uk, March 23 (UK) <https://is.gd/apcupn>
108. **Autistic Man Totally Schools Gym Staff Who Called Him 'Stupid'.** An Autistic man who was called “stupid” by a spin class instructor has successfully sued the gym for disability discrimination. elitedaily.com, March 26 (UK) <https://is.gd/c3KGCF>
109. **All autistic people have equal value.** Students with autism eating what they have created in cookery class at Birmingham City University. Dr Nikki de Taranto writes that her son ‘has an excellent quality of life and contributes positively to the lives and mental well-being of all who know him’. theguardian.com, March 28 (UK) <https://is.gd/SLxQiC>