

Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of January 12 to January 18, 2019

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Articles are listed in alphabetical order by state within each category, so you can easily scan through the articles for those within your state or other states in which you have an interest. *International* articles are near the end. The categories are: *Abuse and Neglect, Guardianship, Laws & Legislation, Studies & Statistics, Improved Supports, International*, and sometimes, *Miscellaneous*.

Check the categories below for a guide to types of abuse. The categories are indicated by type, and the number of the article.

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Type:

Abuse and Neglect:

Sexual Assault: 1, 5, 6, 11, 12, 15, 17, 20, 27, 53, 58

Physical Abuse: 2, 4, 8, 10, 13, 14, 15, 18, 21, 48, 55

Emotional Abuse: 8, 9, 10

Financial abuse: 22

Multiple types of abuse: 3

Murder: 19, 26, 38, 50

Neglect: 7, 25

Enclosed/restraint: 24, 48

Related to special education: 3, 4, 8, 10, 24

Social media: 9

WINNER of most egregious award: 3: State Health Chief “whacked” by Feds for multiple failures to prevent/respond to patient abuses; 22: Autism caregiver steals \$9 million; 56: Woman kills mother due to mother’s Munchausen by proxy history of abuses; 59: Governor shut down threatens abuse prevention program.

WINNER of “good job” award: 46: Cuomo calls for end of statute of limitations to report sexual assault.

WHO DUN IT (listed by article number):

Family: 15, 19, 26, 50

Acquaintance: 14

Carer: 1, 2, 9, 13, 18, 20, 38, 48, 53, 55

Skilled nursing facility: 1, 5, 13, 15, 48, 55

Group home: 7, 18

Stranger: 11, 12, 58

Special education employee: 4, 10

Day program: 17

Men: 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 21, 50, 53, 58

Women: 2, 4, 8, 9, 15, 18, 19, 20, 22, 24, 26, 55

Good News: 28: Guardianship system audits for fraud, waste or mismanagement; 29: State amends guardianship laws to improve clarity; 51: New comic book for children with disabilities to reduce abuse; 52: carer reveals frustration and powerlessness in face of abuse of patients.

Bad News: 23: UPDATE: couple who neglected/caged their daughter given probation. Child remains in state care; 33: New regulations intended to increase patient safety rolled back under new federal regulations; 37: people diagnosed with autism don't have access to effective mental health support, putting them at risk of self-harm and suicide; 42: New rules on restraint in schools; 45: New federal initiatives to address inappropriate use of seclusion/restraints; 49: sexual assault of women with mental illness is ignored due to prejudice against them; 54: study shows most families with children with I/DD do not have access to professional services.

ABUSE & NEGLECT

1. Anger at Phoenix facility where incapacitated woman gave birth- Nora Baladerian, a psychologist and director of the [Disability and Abuse Project](#) of Spectrum Institute in Palm Springs, California, says she wishes the Hacienda incident was isolated. – The Guardian – January 20, 2019 – (Arizona) - <https://is.gd/Z2gbBN>
2. “San Bernardino Caretaker Arrested After Allegedly Using Stun Gun to Abuse Mentally Disabled Adult” - A caretaker accused of using a stun gun to abuse a mentally disabled adult was arrested in San Bernardino Wednesday. The caretaker, identified as 52-year-old Dewaina Cunningham, was taken into custody following an investigation into a report of physical and mental abuse at an adult board and care home located in the 6100 block of Blythe Avenue, the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department stated in a news release. – KTLA 5 – January 17, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/Y22wMi>
3. “Feds Whacked New Florida Health Chief for Failing to Probe Hundreds of Disabled Deaths, Sexual Assaults” - Most notable, the federal government in 2017 issued a scathing audit that critics say should have driven Mayhew out of public life for good. In August of that year, the feds found that, under Mayhew's control, Maine failed to follow federal and state requirements for reporting and monitoring sexual assaults, suicides, and injuries of residents with

disabilities. – Miami New Times – January 14, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/Xpsuoa>

4. “Gov. Ron DeSantis Suspends Okaloosa School Superintendent Over Child Abuse Probes” - Okaloosa grand jurors issued reports in February and June 2018 showing that children with special needs were “kicked, tripped and grabbed” and that one teacher punished students by withholding food from them and spraying them with a vinegar solution. Many of the children were on the autism spectrum, including a non-verbal 4-year-old boy who received much of the abuse. – Tallahassee Democrat – January 11, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/TS2Och>

5. “Lawsuit: Disabled Woman Sexually Assaulted, Impregnated at Florida Health Care Facility” - The lawsuit states the 23-year-old woman is non-verbal, immobile, and lacks dexterity in her hands and arms, required a tube for feeding, along with multiple other physical limitations. The woman lived there from September 28, 2010, until February 7, 2018, and was totally and completely dependent on the staff at National Mentor's Pensacola Cluster facility, the lawsuit states. – WBTW – January 17, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/DFWHPI>

6. “Man Gets Probation After Sex Abuse Charge Reduced” - A Lewiston man was sentenced to three years’ probation Tuesday on an aggravated assault charge reduced from sexual abuse of a

vulnerable adult. Simon Dewater, 58, pleaded guilty to aggravated assault reduced from sexual abuse, pursuant to a plea agreement.

– The Lewiston Tribune – January 16, 2019 – (Idaho) -

<https://is.gd/xYSY2X>

7. Group home closures, other chaos for Peoria’s disabled adults -

While the Department of Human Services did not give a reason why the homes were closed, saying “Community Alternatives Illinois made the decision to withdraw from providing services in the Peoria area,” they did provide documentation of many violations found in recent months. The problems ranged from facility issues, such as a lack of bedding, soap and towels, and water heater temperatures set too high, to concerns about resident rights being restricted without written clinical justification, most concerning issues regarding the administration of medications. – Journal Star- January 12, 2019 – (Illinois) -

<https://is.gd/0fcr9l>

8. “Teachers Removed After Charges. Kentucky Autistic Student Shoved, Taunted in Class” - Assistants Janie Hasty and Teresa Sparkman have been fired, effective immediately, and teacher Rebecca Spurlock has been reassigned to a position at the school district’s student support center, essentially the main district office, for the rest of the year, Rowe said. – Lexington Herald Leader – January 11, 2019 – (Kentucky) - <https://is.gd/HM3vmT>

9. “2 Craneville Place Staff Found Not Guilty in Charges Related to Video Mocking Alzheimer's Patient” - Kayla Gaetani, 28, was accused of making a video recording of Stacy Wilds, 29, assaulting and mocking a 93-year-old patient at the Craneville Place nursing center in Dalton sometime in the latter half of 2013. The video was apparently posted to Facebook in January 2015. – The Berkshire Eagle – January 19, 2019 – (Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/QtUncA>

10. “Alumni of A Northampton School for The Deaf Recount Emotional, Physical Abuse” - The allegations that we spoke to alumni about date back to the '50s, '60s and '70s. The abuse that those alumni say they faced spans a wide range of abuse, from emotional abuse, to physical abuse — having their hands hit with hairbrushes if they signed, or even gestured, when speaking. – New England Public Radio – January 14, 2019 – (Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/QrSr1r>

11. “Bail Set at \$25K in Falmouth Rape Case” - An East Falmouth man accused of raping a disabled woman had his bail set at \$25,000 Thursday in Barnstable Superior Court. Mark Rosenfield, 60, pleaded not guilty to two counts of rape and three counts of indecent assault and battery on a person with intellectual disabilities. – Cape Cod Times – January 17, 2019 – (Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/vn1xf1>

12. “Mankato man sentenced to six months for sex assault” - Keithan Daniel Terrell, 31, pleaded guilty to felony criminal sexual conduct on a mentally impaired victim in September and was sentenced Monday. Terrell met a 19-year-old woman with developmental delays at Washington Park in Mankato in October 2017. – The Free Press – January 14, 2019 – (Minnesota) - <https://is.gd/m6SFKJ>

13. “Health Aide Charged with Assaulting 90-Year-Old Stroke Victim in New Jersey” - Now, 50-year-old Mitsou Gottheim, of Nanuet, is charged with endangering the welfare of an incompetent person and simple assault. – ABC 7 NY – January 16, 2019 – (New Jersey)- <https://is.gd/es6S7A>

14. “New York Man Charged with Kidnapping, Assaulting Woman in Ellsworth” - Ellsworth police Detective Andrew Weatherbee, Officer Joshua Steward and Sgt. Shawn Willey responded. They saw physical signs that the woman, who was using a wheelchair due to a recent surgery, had been physically assaulted. They said Palmatier is an acquaintance of the woman, Bires said. – WGME – January 10, 2019 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/Oujvb7>

15. “Family of Special Needs Woman Sexually Assaulted Last Summer is Suing Tulsa Police, City in Pursuit of Records Related to Incident” - Damaris Solomon-Simmons, acting on behalf of the

woman's family, claimed during a news conference Thursday that state law was violated by failing to provide public records that should have been available under the Oklahoma Open Records Act. – Tulsa World – January 11, 2019 – (Oklahoma) - <https://is.gd/SOLKhM>

16. “Police: Mother Strangled, Abused 6-Year-Old Son with Autism After He Defecated in Pants” - An Arnold woman is accused of strangling and abusing her 6-year-old son, who has autism, after he defecated in his pants. According to the woman, the child's mother, identified as 27-year-old Elena Lovorn, took the boy into the bathroom to change him and allegedly abused him, causing the injuries. – KDKA 2 News – January 14, 2019 – (Pennsylvania) - <https://is.gd/NXsrpU>

17. “Family Says Man with Intellectual Disabilities Was Sexually Assaulted at Nonprofit” - A man with autism, who can't speak for himself, was injured after an alleged sexual assault at a facility for people with disabilities. His family is now suing the Arc of Fayette County after they say they have some unsettling evidence on surveillance video. – WPXI- 11- January 17, 2019 – (Pennsylvania)- <https://is.gd/1oE9kX>

18. “Caretaker Charged with Assaulting Intellectually Disabled Victim at Freemansburg Group Home” – A caretaker at a Freemansburg group home for intellectually disabled adults was

charged Wednesday with assaulting one of the residents, according to court records. Morgan W. Marvine, 27, of Easton, faces charges of neglect of care of a dependent person, reckless endangerment, harassment and two counts of simple assault. She has not been arraigned. – The Morning Call – January 17, 2019 – (Pennsylvania)- <https://is.gd/CN4F6z>

19. “Handicapped 9-Year-Old Dies in Filthy Home, Mother Jailed” - A Warwick mother is being held on \$25,000 surety bail after being charged with cruelty to or neglect of a child, which resulted in the death of a 9-year-old. Michele Rothgeb, 55, claimed she had been "hands-off" with her eight adopted special needs children for the past two weeks because she had the flu, a report says. – Patch – January 15, 2019 – (Rhode Island) - <https://is.gd/VEEVlh>

20. “Pawtucket CNA Accused of Sexually Assaulting Paralyzed Patient” - According to a police report obtained by Eyewitness News, Debra Good sexually assaulted her 62-year-old female patient multiple times between July-October 2018. Police said the victim is paralyzed from the chest down and relies on her CNA to bathe her and take her to the restroom. The victim accused Good of inappropriately touching her on several occasions. – WPRI- January 15, 2019- (Rhode Island) - <https://is.gd/ydwQC4>

21. “Settlement Reached for Autistic Teenager Shot by Retired Deputy” - The teen was seen tapping on the porch window repeating the word “Hello,” and then the neighbor exited his home with a loaded firearm and shot him, the attorney’s press release states. – Live 5 News – January 14, 2019 – (South Carolina) - <https://is.gd/LFMpDj>

22. “SC Woman Charged in Alleged \$9 Million Fraud Involving Autism Care” - Susan A. Butler, the “founder” of the S.C. Early Autism Project, is charged with overbilling Tricare and Medicaid, two federal health insurers, and making false claims about patient services. Money the insurers paid for patient care instead went for administrative costs, according to a federal grand jury indictment made public Wednesday. Butler “paid or caused to be paid kickbacks and bribes to clients by illegally offering free child care services for siblings,” and billed Medicaid and Tricare “at higher rates than allowable for the services rendered,” according to the indictment. – The State – January 16, 2019 – (South Carolina)- <https://is.gd/L9IBAR>

23. “UPDATE: Couple accused of keeping autistic child in cage given probation” - Mickey Sparks, 64, and Patricia Laws, 44, pleaded guilty to a lesser charge of child neglect but their girl, who was discovered by investigators laying on a mattress in filthy conditions, remains in state care. – KLEW TV – January 10, 2019 – (Tennessee) - <https://is.gd/EyCjLP>

24. “Special Education Teacher Arrested 5 Times Since June” - News4 obtained the arrest affidavits for Mary Wade who faces charges for order of protection/restraining order violations, harassment and aggravated stalking. – WSMV – January 10, 2019 – (Tennessee) - <https://is.gd/iqXTfq>

25. “Rights group suing ranch: Advocates want to freely question patients” - Disability Rights Texas filed the lawsuit against Inspired Behavioral Health, the parent company of Inspired at La Jarra Ranch, and its President and Chief Executive Officer Brandy K. Leonhardt, on Jan. 8, alleging the private healthcare company is resisting its efforts to investigate a complaint of possible abuse or neglect of a resident. – The Brownsville Herald – January 13, 2019 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/Qww9ZF>

26. “State Police: Woman Arrested on Neglect Charges in Connection with Father's Death” - MINGO COUNTY, W.Va. (WCHS/WVAH) — West Virginia State Police arrested a woman on neglect charges in connection with the death of her father in Mingo County.” - Jessica Blair, 35, was arrested in Huntington on a felony charge for neglect of an incapacitated adult resulting in death and two misdemeanor charges for neglect of incapacitated adult, State Police said. In September 2018, State Police found George Blair, 60, dead in the living room in the home in Varney. Two other adults were found bedridden in the home and in need

of serious medical attention. – Fox 11 News – January 15, 2019 – (West Virginia)- <https://is.gd/MJ611b>

27. “Child Sex Assault Case Dismissed During Trial” - The trial for Daniel L. Brunner, 47, 2844 Starr Ave., began Monday morning. Newell told the jury Brunner lived in Cornell at the time and that the accuser told a teacher Brunner would sexually touch her in his bedroom. At the time of the incident, Brunner lived in rural Colfax, in Chippewa County. – Leader-Telegram – January 15, 2019 – (Wisconsin) - <https://is.gd/saX9Jc>

GUARDIANSHIP

28. “Lee Clerk of Court: Help us Uncover Guardianship Fraud” - Our Probate office audits more than 1,500 guardianship cases annually. If we suspect or detect fraud, waste or financial mismanagement, our Inspector General Department conducts enhanced guardianship audits and refers alleged criminal activities to the State Attorney’s Office for further investigation and possible prosecution. – News- Press – January 15, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/WsalGw>
29. New laws protect aging Kentuckians also reduce confusion- The first updated law amends KRS 210.290 and KRS Chapter 387 which detail guardianship proceedings. The objective of guardianship proceedings is to preserve individual dignity, respect, and independence of the aging and disabled Kentuckians

who can no longer make certain decisions. – Insider Louisville – January 13, 2019 – (Kentucky) - <https://is.gd/csz0cz>

30. “Guardianship Reform After Investigation Hits 4 Year Mark” - Driving change is our mission at KTNV because we want to elevate Las Vegas making it a safer place to live for everyone. We launched a years-long investigation into massive abuses against the elderly and disabled. Now we're ready to tell you about the results – KTNV – January 11, 2019 – (Nevada) - <https://is.gd/9bG0V5>

LAWS & LEGISLATION

31. “DRC Sponsors New Bill, AB 216, Further Limiting the Use of Restraint and Seclusion in Schools” - Following the death of a student last month, Assembly Member Shirley Weber has introduced AB 216 which intends to provide further protections for students who are restrained and secluded in schools. This is a follow-up to the bill we sponsored last year. AB 2657, also authored by Assembly Member Weber (San Diego), became law January 1, 2019. Both bills seek to prevent further tragic incidents like the one that occurred at Guiding Hands School in December 2018. A thirteen-year-old boy with disabilities died after reportedly being held in a prone restraint position by personnel at the school. – Disability Rights California – (Date Not Given) – (California) - <https://is.gd/KOPpe2>

32. “Commission Eyes New Model for Protecting Vulnerable Adults” - The House Health and Welfare Committee on Tuesday unanimously approved moving forward with the legislation brought forward by the Idaho Commission on Aging. – News 8 – January 15, 2018 – (Idaho) - <https://is.gd/Arlaug>

33. “Federal Oversight of Nursing Homes Rolled Back by Trump Administration” - The new rules included an increase in infection control, added training for staff and protections against abuse, neglect and exploitation. But those regulations, some of which were due to be implemented in November 2017, were halted by the Trump administration. – The Berkshire Eagle – January 21, 2019 – (Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/uv9tEL>

34. “Bill Would Allow for Marijuana in Treatment of Autism Spectrum Disorder” - A new bill would add Autism Spectrum Disorder to the list of conditions that can be treated with medical marijuana in New York. – WRGB 6 – January 13, 2019 – (New York) - <https://cbs6albany.com/news/local/bill-would-allow-for-marijuana-in-treatment-of-autism-spectrum-disorder> * Shortened URL not available for this article

35. Rep. Dailey-Provost Introduces Latest “Death with Dignity” Legislation” - Freshman Representative Jen Dailey-Provost introduced the “End of Life Options Act” earlier this week, marking the fifth year in a row this kind of legislation has been

proposed. – State of Reform – January 11, 2019 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/I6RFly>

36. “Domestic Abusers Can Trap Their Victims with Financial Debt. This Texas Bill Seeks to Provide a Way Out” - A bill authored by state Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, would make it a felony to threaten a romantic partner into taking on debt or financing expensive items like cars. – The Texas Tribune - January 14, 2019 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/LJgaPO>

STUDIES & STATISTICS

37. “Autistic People Urgently Need Access to Tailored Mental Health Support” - New research has revealed that people diagnosed with autism don't have access to effective mental health support, putting them at risk of self-harm and suicide. – Medical Xpress – January 11, 2019 – (England) - <https://is.gd/vrmK4A>
38. “Death of 58-Pound Disabled Woman Draws Concern from State's Office of Public Guardian” - “There’s a lot of questions. Unfortunately, I don’t think Angel is an isolated incident,” said Michelle Chaffee, who directs the Nebraska Office of Public Guardian, which was assigned to oversee the woman’s care after she was removed from her home. The office’s 50-page annual report, released recently, told several stories, like the story of Angel, in which the assignment of a public guardian helped, or

was unable to help, a vulnerable adult. – Star Herald – January 13, 2019 – (Nebraska) - <https://is.gd/Ud08sU>

39. “Child Abuse Ups Suicide Risk in Later Life” - The analysis of 68 studies by psychologists at the University of Manchester and University of South Wales in the UK showed that suicide attempts were three times more likely for people who experienced sexual abuse as a child. – Outlook – January 12, 2019 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/zKqfo9>

IMPROVED SUPPORTS

40. “Phoenix Children’s Earns \$1 Million in Grants for Autism Research” - Patients of Barrow Neurological Institute (BNI) at Phoenix Children’s Hospital will soon benefit from two new research grants supporting clinical trials for children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The grant recipient and principal investigator on these studies, Richard E. Frye, MD, PhD, Professor of Neurology at Phoenix Children’s, continues to earn major grants as he conducts his decades-long research in autism and other neurodevelopmental abnormalities. - AZBigMedia- January 12, 2019 – (Arizona) - <https://is.gd/pq2beN>

41. “ACLU: Prison Discriminated Against Mentally Disabled Inmate” – A civil liberties group is alleging that Baldwin State Prison unjustly denied a mentally disabled inmate’s complaint

over the quality of his medical care. Union- Recorder -January 16, 2019 – (Georgia) - <https://is.gd/gkHZ4V>

42. “Kentucky's Rules on When – and How – Schools Can Restrain Students” - The regulations around school staff physically restraining students has come back into focus in Kentucky in the last few years, in large part after the Courier Journal began publishing stories about students being injured during restraints. – Courier Journal – January 11, 2019 – (Kentucky) - <https://is.gd/vVDYbj>

43. “For People with Disabilities, Chicago Police Consent Decree Takes First Steps Toward Reform” – The proposed police consent decree, which a federal judge is now considering whether to approve, may help address these concerns. According to Access Living, more than 292,000 people in Chicago have a disability of some sort. – The Chicago Reporter – January 15, 2019 – (Illinois) - <https://is.gd/RqYo9O>

44. “U.S. Substance Abuse Helpline Largely Unknown” - The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) helpline, 800-662-HELP, is the only federally managed and endorsed addiction treatment referral service. "It's a place where people can get social support," Ayers said. "And it helps the public navigate around what are sometimes dubious addiction

resources. – KFGO- January 14, 2019 – (National) - <https://is.gd/EjiHVi>

45. “U.S. Department of Education Announces Initiative to Address the Inappropriate Use of Restraint and Seclusion to Protect Children with Disabilities, Ensure Compliance with Federal Laws” - U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos announced today that the U.S. Department of Education will launch an initiative to address the possible inappropriate use of restraint and seclusion in our nation’s schools. The Office for Civil Rights (OCR), in partnership with the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS), will oversee this proactive approach which will protect students with disabilities by providing technical assistance and support to schools, districts, and state education agencies, and strengthen enforcement activities. – US Department of Education – January 17, 2019 – (National) - <https://is.gd/7HQDKd>

46. “Gov. Cuomo Calls for Eliminating Statute of Limitations for More Rape Cases” - Prosecutors and advocates are applauding Governor Andrew Cuomo's calls to eliminate the statute of limitations for rape in the 2nd and 3rd degrees. Second degree rape occurs when someone age 18 or older has sexual intercourse with someone under age 15, or with someone who is mentally disabled or mentally incapacitated. – Rochester First – January 16, 2019 – (New York)- <https://is.gd/YXER4I>

47. “Milwaukee’s Sojourner Inspires Rockford Family Justice Center Effort”- A contingent of 30 advocates from Rockford and Winnebago County — eager to improve services for victims of domestic violence and their families — this week visited Sojourner. The nearly 72,000-square-foot center could become a model for Rockford to co-locate law enforcement, domestic violence advocates, sex assault services, social services, child abuse investigation, health care, mental health and others under a single roof inside a family justice center in Rockford. – rrstar- January 12, 2019 – (Wisconsin) - <https://is.gd/crdEYf>

INTERNATIONAL

48. “Aged Care Home Resident Strapped to Chair for Total of 14 Hours in One Day” - Michelle McCulla contacted the [ABC's aged care investigation](#) after her 72-year-old father Terry Reeves was regularly strapped to his chair at Garden View Nursing Home in Merrylands, in Sydney's west. Records show on one day he spent a total of 14 hours over one day in restraints. – ABC- January 16, 2019 – (Australia) - <https://is.gd/UStu7n>
49. “The Silent Suffering of Mentally Ill Women” - Crimes like rape and sexual abuse of mentally ill women are almost always hidden in plain sight as the perpetrators have power and control over their victims; mentally ill women rarely report such incidents or come forward to seek help because of legal barriers and fear of

the perpetrators; and the majority of the people in our society do not think that rape and sexual abuse of these women deserve any attention. – The Daily Star – January 13, 2019 – (Bangladesh) -

<https://is.gd/NtloOb>

50. “Crown Outlines Case Against Quebec Man Charged with Suffocating Ailing Wife” - Michel Cadotte, 57, has pleaded not guilty to one count of second-degree murder in the death of Jocelyne Lizotte, his wife of 19 years who was found dead in a Montreal long-term care facility in 2017. "On that day, Michel Cadotte chose to take her life," prosecutor Antonio Parapuf said as he delivered a summary of the Crown case. – CTV News – January 15, 2019 – (Canada) - <https://is.gd/zQRyoL>

51. “MoCD to Enhance Protection of Children with Disabilities from Abuse” - The Ministry of Community Development, MoCD, has issued comic books that target children with disabilities to broaden their knowledge and enhance their empowerment and self-confidence to deal with situations of abuse they may encounter in their daily lives. The comics include a collection of photos which reflect real situations that can happen to disabled children, such situations may also threaten them physically, sexually or emotionally. These stories are designed to educate children through simple ways of locating threats, how to deal with and report them. – The Gulf Today – January 21, 2019 – (Dubai) - <https://is.gd/ciVxtj>

52. Whistleblower Nurse Who Lifted Lid on Autism Abuse Scandal Reveals How She Felt Powerless for 12 Years - Until She Saw One Victim Being So Violently Restrained by NHS Staff They Broke His NECK” - Last week, two other nurses and a senior carer blew the lid on what they called ‘shameful institutionalised abuse’ taking place behind the locked doors of a different institution, Meadow Lodge, a privately run unit in Devon funded by the NHS. – Daily Mail – January 12, 2019 – (England) - <https://is.gd/h6Vqhz>
53. “Mentally Ill Girl Sexually Abused in Chhattisgarh” - After reports of sexual exploitation of a mentally challenged girl in an NGO in Kopalvani, the Chhattisgarh government has ordered a probe into the incident. The social welfare department has directed the Raipur district collector to conduct a magisterial probe into the incident and has asked him to submit the report within seven days. – Deccan Herald – January 16, 2019 – (India) - <https://is.gd/po9XXr>
54. Raising Children with Mental Disabilities” - In Nigeria, investigation has shown that the majority of families who have children with intellectual and developmental disabilities do not have access to professional services. Acute shortage of special educators, coupled with social, economic and cultural problems, negatively impact the development of specialised services. – Leadership – January 13 ,2019 – (Nigeria) - <https://is.gd/kjGMJV>

55. “Carlisle Care Worker Found Guilty of Abusing Vulnerable Dementia Patient in Care Home” - Former nurse Dimitrinka Yonova, 54, whose career has included stints working in Bulgaria and Libya before she landed her senior carer job at the Lanercost House Nursing Home in Belle Vue, Carlisle, denied willfully ill-treating 62-year-old Royston Abbott on June 17 last year. – News & Star – January 11, 2019 – (United Kingdom) -

<https://is.gd/MwyVOD>

56. “Daughter Who was Forced to be Ill Escapes Life of Abuse by Killing Her Mum” - Experts believe Dee Dee had Munchausen by proxy – a mental disorder where someone fabricates or exaggerates the illness of the subject of their care in order to get sympathy or attention. This was an extreme case. Gypsy had been taking medicine she didn’t need. She’d been subjected to unnecessary medical procedures and surgeries, including the removal of her saliva glands to control her non-existent drooling. – Mirror- January 13, 2019 – (United Kingdom) -

<https://is.gd/QKnIhV>

57. “More Than 17,000 Sick and Disabled People Have Died While Waiting for Welfare Benefits, Figures Show - Linda Burnip, co-founder of Disabled People Against Cuts, said: “It is shocking that so many disabled people have died waiting for their social security claims to be processed at a time when they need and should be able to get support. – Independent – January 14, 2019 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/P0yabT>

58. “Gas Mask Wearing Pervert Exposed Himself in Front of Nursing Home” - Michael Smith, 42, also a punched a police community support officer (PCSO) who attempted to restrain him after he was seen pleasuring himself outside the Ty Gwyn Nursing Home in Cwmbran. – Wales Online – January 14, 2019 – (Wales) - <https://is.gd/4xJzgL>

MISCELLANEOUS

59. “Federal Shutdown Threatens Center for Prevention of Abuse funding” - Add the Center for Prevention of Abuse and its clients to the list of local people and organizations affected by the partial shutdown of the U.S. government. The center had been set to receive some \$1.8 million in the current fiscal year, representing about one-third of the agency’s funding. Now it’s in limbo. – Journal Star – January 11, 2019 – (Illinois) - <https://is.gd/lBmBC2> -
60. “Where Disability Justice and LGBTQ Rights Intersect” - “Disability justice was created by disabled black and brown and queer and trans people because of how single issue, white, male, and straight the disability rights movement has historically been,” Piepzna-Samarasinha says. The movement has an intersectional platform that seeks essential changes to systems that oppress or endanger those who aren’t part of the cisgender, able-bodied,

neurological-normative, white supremacist hetero-patriarchy. –
Advocate – January 11, 2019 – (National) - <https://is.gd/8Xx9eJ>

61. Deaf And Unemployed: Taking Matters Into Their Own Hands” - [Faced with widespread, chronic unemployment](#) but also improvements in technology that enable better communication, deaf people are creating their own businesses and pushing employers to become more deaf and sign language friendly. –
NPR – January 13, 2019 – (National) - <https://is.gd/ZRZ8VK>