

# Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of February 9 to February 15, 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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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*.

## **Type of Abuse and Neglect:**

Sexual Assault: 1, 6, 9, 10, 14, 16, 17, 24, 31, 53, 54, 55, 56, 60, 61

Physical Abuse: 3, 7, 11, 45, 49, 57, 59

Emotional/Verbal Abuse: 29

Human Trafficking: 31

Kidnapping: 17

Financial abuse: 18, 21

Murder: 1, 20, 22, 23, 30, 52

Neglected: 4, 5, 8, 20 (to death), 29, 51

Restrained: 13

Social Media Abuse: 61

Related to special education: 7, 11, 13, 14, 29, 45

***WINNER of most egregious award:*** 47: People with disabilities are jailed “for life” in Australian district.

**WINNER of “good job” award:** 62: 20 neighbors learn sign language after birth of Deaf baby.

**WHO DUN IT** (listed by article number):

Family: 3, 23, 30, 52, 53

Carer: 1, 8, 9, 16, 22, 23, 24

Hospital: 4, 5, 49

Group home: 9, 16, 24, 55

Special education employee: Teacher/Aide: 1, 3, 29

School bus driver: 11, Monitor: 51

Co-student: 11, 45

Law enforcement: 10

Security guard: 54

Priests: 56

Stranger: 57, 59, 60

Men: 3, 9, 10, 14, 17, 24, 52, 53, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60, 61

Women: 8, 11, 16, 18, 21, 23, 29, 30, 31, 59

**Good News:** 31: Human trafficking ring charged with crimes; 34: Arizona joins 10 other states in authorizing surveillance equipment in nursing homes; 35: Bill introduced in AZ for improved training for skilled nursing facility staff; 45: School district seeks monitors on busses due to physical abuse of one child by another.

**Bad News:** 15: Special education assistant shot by student's family member; 25: Insurance plans lost coverage of treatment for autistics; 39: Survey reveals increase in abuse reports of adults, but inadequate staff to investigate, along with lack of training.

**UPDATE:** Arizona skilled nursing facility to close down following publicity of sexual assault and pregnancy of one of their patients.

## **ABUSE & NEGLECT**

1. "Group Home Connected to Autistic Man's Death Shuts Its Doors" - The Alabama Department of Mental Health says it "administratively" shut down the group homes run by New Way Out. 21-year-old Matthew Cox was staying at one of the corporation's homes in Mobile when he was killed. A lawsuit against the group by Cox's mother says he was killed as a direct result of blunt force trauma sustained at the facility. -WKRK- 5 – February 8, 2019 – (Alabama) - <https://is.gd/XbxNLg>

2. "Arizona Healthcare Facility to Shut Down After Disabled Woman's Rape" - Officials from Hacienda HealthCare said in a statement on Thursday that its board of directors had voted to close its 60-bed skilled nursing facility in Phoenix because it was "simply not sustainable to continue." – AOL.Com – February 8, 2019 – (Arizona) - <https://is.gd/y9sw8P>
  
3. "Tucson man convicted of abusing 82-year-old father" - Aaron Gallego Rodriguez whipped his 82-year-old father with a cord, which cut and bruised his face, arms, back, chest and legs, according to the [Pima County Attorney's Office](#). – Tucson.com – February 11, 2019 – (Arizona) - <https://is.gd/4o4O5W>
  
4. "Arizona Investigating Case of Man Found at Bus Stop with Amputated Foot" - The Arizona Department of Health Services, along with the state medical and nursing boards, have opened investigations into what may have gone wrong in a hospital "patient dumping" case revealed by The Arizona Republic. Martin, a mentally impaired man who had been missing for months, [was found at a bus stop with an amputated foot](#), The Republic reported in January. – AZ Central – February 11, 2019 – (Arizona) - <https://is.gd/VJPcvZ>
  
5. "Westlake Nursing Home to Settle Claims It Dumped Mentally Impaired, Homeless Patients for \$600K" - A Los Angeles nursing home has agreed to pay \$600,000 to settle allegations that it improperly discharged homeless and mentally-impaired clients. – KTLA 5 – February 8, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/ChikPG>
  
6. "Sex Assault Reported at Nursing Home" - A sexual assault between two nursing home residents — which prosecutors say can be one of the more

difficult kinds of sex crimes to charge — has been reported at Sunrise Senior Living. Sunrise is an international nursing home chain with a location at 2701 El Camino Real, near Page Mill Road-Oregon Expressway. – Daily Post – February 10, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/BpT0n1>

7. “Family Sues, Claiming Teacher’s Negligence Caused Daughter’s Injury” - The lawsuit, filed on behalf of Alexandra Varela and her parents, Guillermina and Hugo Varela, alleges the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools Ted Alejandre and teacher Paul McCluskey, through the county’s special needs program, were negligent in Alexandra’s education and care [following a series of unexplained injuries that continued to escalate despite numerous complaints](#). – Daily Press – February 10, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/7il3jW>
  
8. “Caregiver Of Woman Whose Legs Have 'Severe Gangrene' And Need To Be Amputated Charged With Elder Abuse” - Her legs were "rotted to the bones" by the time Desert Hot Springs police made contact with her about two weeks ago at Desert Regional Medical Center, after the hospital alerted authorities, officials wrote in a declaration in support of increased bail for the defendant, Beverly Ann Foster, 58. Foster identified herself as a retired nurse and the victim's caretaker of 10 years. – Desert Sun – February 12, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/NMPubI>
  
9. “Caregiver Arrested After Mentally Disabled Woman Gives Birth in Florida Group Home” - Willie Shorter Sr., 58, was arrested Wednesday, the same day police received DNA results showing he was the father of the woman’s child, the affidavit from the Rockledge Police Department said. – WQAD 8 – February 8, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/a4DHv5>

10. “Miami Gardens Cop Accused of Sexual Assault Says He Was Just Being a Nice Guy” - The plaintiff says Romaguera forcibly fondled her breasts though she screamed for him to stop. Her lawyers have previously suggested the then-sergeant targeted the woman because she was mentally ill and an immigrant. – Miami New Times – February 13, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/18wf78>
  
11. “Former School Bus Monitor Accused of Abusing Duval County Special Needs Student” - 66-year-old Rosa Kennerly, faces child abuse charges after police say she kicked and hit a special needs child on a school bus. She has since resigned, and her certification was rescinded by the district. – CBS 47 – February 11, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/lkclTd>
  
12. “Grandparents Getting Ripped Off Is A \$3 Billion Problem” - Many seniors suffering from dementia are getting fleeced out of their money, often by someone they know. –Chicago CBS – February 8, 2019 – (Illinois) - <https://is.gd/dEXHjL>
  
13. “Mother Claims 8-Year-Old with Autism Was Mistreated, Hurt by School Staff” - The mother of a central Indiana boy with autism questioned restraint policies and special needs accommodations at Frankton Elementary School after he said he was picked up and carried to a seclusion room by three staff members. Dylan Kelley, 8, is verbal and academically motivated but struggles to sit still, remain focused and read social cues, his mother Amber Kanzler said, citing pediatric and psychological evaluations. – WISH TV – February 11, 2019 – (Indiana)- <https://is.gd/vPYWVO>

14. "Mom: Unsupervised Girl with Special Needs Raped at School" - A mother of a Kentucky girl with special needs says her daughter was left unsupervised at the school and was raped by a male student. The mother sued officials at Ballard High School, saying they left her 16-year-old daughter, who has "significant intellectual impairment," unattended. – WHAS 11 – February 12, 2019 – (Kentucky) - <https://is.gd/0V8Ohp>
  
15. "Special Ed Assistant Shot By A Student's Family Member In Baltimore School, Suspect In Custody, Officials Say" - A special education assistant at a Baltimore school was hospitalized in serious condition Friday after being [shot](#) by a family member of one of his students during an argument in the school lobby, authorities said. – Fox News – February 8, 2019 – (Maryland) - <https://is.gd/UeLBEI>
  
16. "Care Home Owner, 72, 'Forced Woman, 67, With Dementia To Give Her Oral Sex'" - Dorothy Brown, 72, allegedly took the unnamed victim, who 'suffers from a diminished mental capacity,' to the basement of the Parkville, Maryland care home and forced her into the sexual activity against her will, it is claimed.- Metro – February 12, 2019 – (Maryland) - <https://is.gd/Ofmxoh>
  
17. "Boonville Man Charged with Kidnapping, Sex Abuse" - A Boonville man was charged with seven felonies, including sodomy, kidnapping and domestic assault of a woman who is unable to walk after Cooper County Sheriff's Department deputies responded to a medical call Tuesday morning. Deputies arrested Robert Warren Roberts, 58, at his RV in the Brady Campgrounds at the Interstate 70-Highway 179 interchange. – Columbia Daily Tribune – February 8, 2019 – (Missouri) - <https://is.gd/UpwvC2>

18. "Great Falls Woman Allegedly Stole More Than \$20K from 82-Year-Old" - A local woman faces a second set of charges for elder exploitation after authorities claimed she stole more than \$20,000 from an 82-year-old woman over the past two years. In September 2018, Adult Protective Services received a referral regarding financial exploitation by Karen Mills Thomas. – Great Falls Tribune – February 8, 2019 (Montana) - <https://is.gd/OJFBdu>
  
19. "States Skirting Obligation to Cover ABA Therapy" - Despite a federal mandate nearly five years ago, several state Medicaid programs are still failing to cover treatment like applied behavior analysis for children with autism, advocates say. – Disability Scoop – February 14, 2019 – (National) - <https://is.gd/fErt9z>
  
20. "4-Year-Old Autistic Girl Dies After Falling Out Bronx Apartment Window" - A four-year-old girl with autism has died after falling out of an apartment window in the Bronx. According to police, Helena Flores was playing in the fourth-floor apartment on East 140th Street around 5 p.m. Saturday when she somehow managed to get up into the window and then fell out. – CBS New York – February 9, 2019 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/EH31Dz>
  
21. "North Carolina News: Durham Woman, Teresa Denise Schneider Who Defrauded Elderly Victim Pleads Guilty" - Teresa Denise Schneider, 52, of Durham, North Carolina, pleaded guilty to one count of bank fraud and one count of wire fraud, in front of the Honorable Loretta C. Biggs, United States District Judge for the Middle District of North Carolina. – States Top Leading News – February 11, 2019 – (North Carolina) - <https://is.gd/J6KWYK>

22. "Disabled Oklahoma Veteran Allegedly Killed by Live-In Caretaker" - The live-in caretaker of an Oklahoma veteran is [charged with murder](#) and desecration of a corpse after cops found his charred body in the backyard, according to reports. Denise Lynn Grass, 43, stands accused of killing Elvis Dry, a 61-year-old amputee who uses a wheelchair, [the Tahlequah Daily Pressreports](#). – Daily Beast – January 25, 2019 - (Oklahoma) - <https://is.gd/gfj37F>
23. "Cleveland County Woman Charged with Murder, Abuse of Mother" - Murder and abuse charges have been filed against 45-year-old Shauna Brown, who was the primary caretaker of her elderly mother, 73-year-old Sharon Ingram. – KFOR – February 8, 2019 – (Oklahoma) - <https://is.gd/5RB8ER>
24. "Caseworker's Sex-Abuse Trial Marked by Combat Between Lawyer, Witness" The third full day of testimony in the case of Andrew Dula III was again marked by tension between a witness and the defense attorney. It also included multiple motions for a mistrial. – Times Leader – February 8, 2019 – (Pennsylvania) - <https://is.gd/fojclq>
25. "South Dakota Parents Look for Autism Treatment Coverage" - This month, some insurance plans through Sanford Health and Avera Health lost coverage of effective, evidence-based autism treatments. And the families who lost therapy for their loved ones asked state lawmakers to intervene. – KOIN 6 – February 8, 2019 – (South Dakota) - <https://is.gd/OESIQu>
26. "Larry Nassar Victim Reacts to Investigation into Southern Baptist Sex Abuse" - The worst part is that we have known for years," In 2016, Racheal Denhollander became the first person to publicly accuse Larry Nassar of

sexually abusing his patients under the guise of medical treatment. Now Denhollander is speaking out again after a [Houston Chronicle](#) and [San Antonio Express-News exclusive](#) investigation revealed 700 victims of sex abuse in the Southern Baptist church. – My San Antonio – February 10, 2019. – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/IQRH5u>

27. “School District Suing Family Over Special Education Placement” - Now, after an administrative judge and a federal judge ruled that the public school system had failed Marisa — and ordered the district to pay for her tuition at the private academy — the Virginia Beach school district is suing to have Marisa go back to public school. The district is arguing that the time frame of the rulings has passed and insisting that despite past failures, it can offer her an appropriate education. – Disability Scoop – February 15, 2019 – (Virginia) - <https://is.gd/89aXAt>

28. “Man Charged with Counterfeiting, Financial Exploitation” – Joshua Lee Gibson, 26, was jailed at 4:25 p.m. Thursday. Authorities in Cabell County charged him with counterfeiting and financial exploitation of an elderly person. Bond was \$11,000. According to the criminal complaint, the victim reported to the Milton Police Department with a claim that Gibson had asked for change for a \$100 bill. The victim exchanged the large bill for four \$20 bills and two \$10 bills. – Herald Dispatch – February 9, 2019 – (Virginia) - <https://is.gd/rqzVoR>

29. “ ‘I’ll Punch You in The Face’: Special Ed Teachers Caught Verbally Abusing Children in Graphic Recordings” - A mother says she was sick to her stomach after hearing secret audio recordings that caught three special education instructors in West Virginia casually threatening children with violence, insulting them and even withholding food. – WWSB 7 – February 9, 2019 – (West Virginia) – <https://is.gd/hvHrW3>

30. “Appleton Mother Convicted in Death of Daughter with Disabilities” An Appleton mother has been convicted in the death of her daughter who had cognitive disabilities. On Feb. 14, Nicole L. Gussert, 38, pleaded no contest to charges of Neglecting a Child (Consequence is Death) and Possession with Intent to Deliver Amphetamine. The court found her guilty. – WBAY – 2 News – February 15, 2019 – (Wisconsin) - <https://is.gd/IntUP9>
31. “Woman Sentenced for Role in Sexually Assaulting Mentally Impaired Teen” - Court documents said Sherene Kraft drove a mentally impaired 15-year-old girl to several locations from December 2017 until March 2018 so a 51-year-old man could sexually assault her. Patrick Alan Leiphon, of Devils Lake, is also facing charges. Both Kraft and Leiphon were charged with five counts of gross sexual imposition—each charge holds a maximum sentence of 20 years in prison. – Grand Forks Herald – February 8, 2019 – (Wisconsin)- <https://is.gd/nZn3e4>

## **GUARDIANSHIP**

32. “Cities Across US Are Stripping Homeless People of Their Autonomy” - The city’s latest weapon against the homeless is a law that recalls the era of insane asylums. In San Francisco and other major metro areas across the country, governments are pressing pause on disabled and homeless peoples’ ability to make the most basic of decisions, through a scheme called “conservatorship.” - Truth Out – February 10, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/dj8pyk>
33. “Management Trust Safeguards Incapacitated Person’s Assets” - The court will appoint a financial institution as the trustee, unless the court finds it is in the best interest of the incapacitated person and, if the trust principal is

more than \$150,000.00, that the applicant has not been able to find a financial institution in the geographic area willing to serve as trustee. In that case, the court can appoint: (1) an individual, which might include a private professional guardian; (2) a nonprofit corporation to serve as guardian; or (3) a guardianship program. – Glen Rose Reporter – February 11, 2019 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/HvO96X>

## **LAWS & LEGISLATION**

34. “Incapacitated Woman's Rape Spurs Push to Catch Up on Cameras” - Arizona would join Illinois, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, Utah, Virginia and Washington with laws or regulations allowing surveillance equipment inside nursing homes, assisted living centers and other group residential settings. – Loop – February 17, 2019 – (Arizona) - <https://is.gd/bjSmsB>
  
35. “Two More Bills Related To Hacienda Healthcare Rape Introduced In Arizona Legislature” - State Rep. Jennifer Longdon, D-Phoenix, introduced two bills that would improve training for people who work with vulnerable adults, and would also strengthen Arizona's 'duty to report' law for mandatory reporters of abuse by making the failure to report sexual abuse of a vulnerable adult a felony. – AZ Central – February 12, 2019 – (Arizona) - <https://is.gd/ElJeC>
  
36. “Educators Split on Bill That Would Allow Physical Restraint Against Violent, Disruptive Students” - School administrators, disability rights advocates and advocates for children all lined up against Legislative Bill 147 at a hearing Monday before the Education Committee. – Omaha World Herald – February 12, 2019 – (Nebraska) - <https://is.gd/uAzgn9>

37. “Autism Law Introduced in House of Representatives” - U.S. Rep. Chris Smith, R-4th District, of New Jersey and Rep. Mike Doyle, D-18th District, of Pennsylvania, introduced the bipartisan Autism CARES Act of 2019 in the House of Representatives to reauthorize federal programs and activities that assist children, adults and families with Autism. – NJ Biz – January 11, 2019 – (New Jersey and Pennsylvania) - <https://is.gd/td8JUe>

## STUDIES & STATISTICS

38. “The Royal Commission into Aged Care Quality and Safety explained” - Before the 2018 election in South Australia, [the state's Independent Commissioner Against Corruption released a report](#) into the nursing home which named five individuals involved in maladministration and severely criticised former mental health minister Leesa Vlahos. – ABC – February 10, 2019 – (Australia) - <https://is.gd/F3JMq3>

39. “Survey: Maine DHHS Deluged by Reports of Abuse Against Elderly, Adults with Disabilities” - Some state caseworkers say they’re being overwhelmed by a significant increase in reports of abuse and neglect of adults with disabilities and the elderly. The issue was identified in a recent survey conducted by the unions that represent state employees. The survey results also point to a lack of training and adequate staffing as just some of the problems affecting a variety of departments. -Maine Public – February 12, 2019 – (Maine) - <https://is.gd/GFGhYB>

40. “Bullying Differs Based on Type of Disability, Study Finds” - “The type of disability, diagnosis or special service among youths may be associated with unique vulnerabilities in terms of peer harassment experiences,” researchers from the University of New Hampshire wrote in their findings. – Disability Scoop – February 15, 2019 – (New Hampshire) - <https://is.gd/8KxIAF>

41. “Victims of Child Sex Abuse Vulnerable to Being Exploited in Sex Trade” - A tragic, but consistent, finding in research on prostitution is the frequent correlation between childhood sexual assault and exploitation in the commercial sex trade. Marian Hatcher, policy analyst and victim advocate in the Cook County Sherriff’s Office in Illinois, shared data from the county’s 2017 program for prostituted people seeking to exit “the life.” Of all those who received support, 94 percent had experienced violence in the sex trade. Sixty-nine percent also had suffered as child victims of sexual assault. – Crux – February 9, 2019 – Washington - <https://is.gd/y0TDvg>

## **IMPROVED SUPPORTS**

42. “Cushman Street Was Lined with Community Members, Rallying for Those with Disabilities” - The 'Key campaign rally' took to the streets of Downtown Fairbanks, and around the state, to encourage advocacy for those with disabilities. – WebCenter 11 – February 8, 2019 – (Alaska) - <https://is.gd/HbmkQ9>

43. “Autism R.I.S.E. Respite Program” - Austin Morrison, Aquatics Director of the YMCA of the Pikes Peak Region, stopped by FOX21 News to talk about [Autism R.I.S.E. Respite Program](#). The program is a partnership with Children's Hospital Colorado, Colorado Springs, for children ages 6 to 12 that fall on the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and children with sensory/processing disorders. – Fox 21 News – February 10, 2019 – (Colorado)- <https://is.gd/dlinfh>

44. “CT Train Stations Pose Difficulties to Riders” - The issue of accessibility at train stations in the region has come under more intense light following the death late last month of Stamford resident Malaysia Goodson, 22, who was

found unconscious in a New York City subway station after falling down stairs. – LMT Online – February 10, 2019 – (Connecticut)-

<https://is.gd/uoAbyi>

45. “District Looking to Hire School Bus Monitors After Autistic Child Badly Assaulted on Bus” - The Chesterfield County School District is looking at options to obtain monitors on special needs buses after a 4-year-old, non-verbal, autistic child was badly assaulted by a fellow student while on the bus, according to Chesterfield County School District Public Information Officer Ken Buck. – News 4 – February 8, 2019 – (South Carolina) -

<https://is.gd/BQraVx>

46. “New Project Honors Disabled Tri-Cities Woman Killed By Her Father” - The development will be called Carmina’s Place, named for the young woman who inspired it — and whose life [tragically was cut short a little more than three years ago](#). Carmina Brown, who had a chromosomal abnormality and was intellectually disabled, died in a murder-suicide in December 2015 at the hands of her father, Doug. – Tri- City Herald – February 9, 2019 –

(Washington) - <https://is.gd/SHkJg5>

## INTERNATIONAL

47. “Mentally Ill and Disabled People Held in Territory Prisons for Years Without A Sentence” - The Territory Government's handling of indefinite detention for people with a cognitive, psychiatric or physical impairment often leaves individuals locked up for years with no conviction. – ABC News – February 10, 2019 – (Australia) -

<https://is.gd/aQKqvJ>

48. Is Life Getting Better for People with Disabilities? - New study suggests we’ve made only mixed progress in improving the lives of people with

disabilities, underscoring the need for better data and monitoring – Pursuit  
– (No Date Given) – (Australia) - <https://is.gd/01uGfy>

49. Widow recalls husband's horror death after mistreatment at nursing home  
- The woman who blew the whistle on abuse of dementia patients at  
Adelaide's infamous Oakden nursing home has spoken out about her  
husband's appalling treatment. – The Advertiser – February 11, 2019 –  
(Australia) - <https://is.gd/QowlkM>

50. "Uber Driver Who Allegedly Refused Ride to Woman with Service Dog  
Charged"- An Uber driver was charged with a bylaw offence after he  
allegedly refused to pick up a passenger with a service dog. – CTV News –  
February 10, 2019 – (Canada) - <https://is.gd/4Q4WuG>

51. "Musquodoboit Harbour Mom Wants Answers After Son with Autism Left  
Stranded by School Bus" - The boy was assigned a special needs bus  
monitor by Stock who's required to be with him when he rides the bus.  
Both times the boy was denied access because his monitor didn't show up.  
Stock didn't notify Postlethwaite or the boy's babysitter before or  
afterwards. They found out only after Aiden arrived home visibly upset and  
thinking he was in trouble. – The Chronicle Herald – February 11, 2019 –  
(Canada) - <https://is.gd/oKIYSI>

52. "Man accused of killing ailing wife wasn't suffering from major depression:  
expert"- Testifying for the Crown, Chamberland told jurors Monday that  
Cadotte, 57, showed no evidence of major depression at the time of the  
killing. – CTV News – February 11, 2019 – (Canada) - <https://is.gd/3Ideez>

53. “Hong Kong Man Convinced Judge A Sex Attack Was A ‘One-Off’ – But He Had Raped His Own Daughter Years Earlier, High Court Rules” - A man who managed to convince a judge five years ago that he was remorseful for a sex attack on his mentally disabled daughter-in-law was found guilty on Tuesday of raping his own daughter years earlier. – South China Morning Post – February 13, 2019 – (China) - <https://is.gd/oK7MI6>
54. “Security Guard Admits Molesting Intellectually Disabled Woman on Hong Kong Building Site” - Shah Arshad, 41, pleaded guilty to one count of indecent assault, after prosecutors agreed not to pursue a more serious charge of buggery, which they left on court file. The High Court heard his victim was a 27-year-old woman with the mental age of an eight-year-old, who often sneaked out from her residential home in Kwun Tong. – South China Morning Post – February 12, 2019 – (China) - <https://is.gd/w1WVXd>
55. “American Priest in East Timor Embroiled in Abuse Scandal” - The two shelters cared for orphans and children and youth aged 3 to 18 from impoverished families, disabled people and women who have fled domestic violence. Some of the hundreds of children who lived in the shelters went on to study at universities in Australia, the U.S. and Indonesia. – Herald Whig – February 11, 2019 – (East Timor) - <https://is.gd/4mCahD>
56. “43 Priests Facing Allegations Of Sexual Abuse Named By Norwich Bishop” - NORWICH, Conn. (WTNH) - The Diocese of [Norwich](#) has released a list of 43 names that goes back decades, in some cases, more than 50 years. These are all priests who have had allegations of [sexual abuse](#) brought against them, and their cases have merit, according to the church. – WTNH 8 – February 10, 2019 – (England) - <https://is.gd/TWuLSk>

57. “Man With Asperger's Punched 'At Least 20 Times' By Gang Outside Hostel”  
- A man with Asperger's has been targeted by a gang of three men who repeatedly punched him before reportedly taking his phone. The 21-year-old man was on his way to see a friend at the Ferry Project hostel in [Wisbech](#) where he lives on Saturday, February 9. – Lincolnshire Live – February 16, 2019 – (England) - <https://is.gd/pZAoej>
58. “New Role For Disability Activist Vivian” - Vivian Rath from Kilmuckridge has been appointed to the first statutory advisory committee in Ireland to support monitoring of Ireland's implementation of the UN Convention of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD) – Independent – February 15, 2019 – (Ireland) - <https://is.gd/y9382A>
59. “Two Kenyans Arrested, Charged for Alleged Abuse on Disabled Man in Chelmsford, Massachusetts” - The two; Daniel Maina, 41, of Tyngsboro, and Jennifer Ng’ang’a, 60, of Lowell, are accused of striking a cognitively disabled, non-verbal adult. - mwakilishi.com – February 9, 2019 – (Kenya) - <https://is.gd/CeVHMB>
60. “ANC Councillor Held After Mentally Disabled Teen's Rape” - An ANC ward councillor was arrested on Tuesday on charges of abduction, rape of a minor and attempted rape and is expected to appear in court later this week. This follows allegations that he took two young girls, locked them up in a house, and only released them after a few days. – IOL.COM- February 13, 2019 – (South Africa) - <https://is.gd/7zV8l2>
61. “Revealed: Dozens of Children as Young as EIGHT Have Been Raped or Abused by Paedophiles On Tinder and Grindr Because the Dating Apps Are Failing to Enforce Age Restrictions” - And a 16-year-old girl from

Nottingham with Down's syndrome was manipulated into sending photos of her genitalia. – Daily Mail – February 18, 2019 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/PCaqDT>

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

62. “20 neighbors learn sign language after family welcomes deaf baby” - But the Savitz family weren't the only ones who learned how to sign. Over 20 residents of their neighborhood in the town of Newton are learning sign language too. The residents hired an instructor on their own and regularly gather together in a living room to learn the language. – Yahoo Lifestyle- February 9, 2019-(Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/NmqrGO>