

Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of November 3 to November 9, 2018

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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.

Sexual Assault: 5, 7, 15, 17, 23, 30

Physical Abuse: 3, 4, 8, 10, 12, 13, 16, 23, 28, 29

Emotional/Verbal Abuse: 12

Financial Abuse: 2, 11

Murder: 1, 10, 32

Neglect: 14, 28

Kept Enclosed: 2 (kidnapped, + physical abuse + financial abuse x 23 years); 24.

Related to special education: 4, 9(inadequate education), 12, 13, 14, 29

WINNERS of most egregious award: 1: Murder by caregiver at group home with history of arrests for assault and domestic violence (who hired

him?); 31: In the UK, medical, social services and counselling records scoured through by the police and CPS, handed over to their abusers' defence teams, and used to undermine them in court; 36: after disasters, people with disabilities not helped to recover home life but sent to nursing homes.

WHO DUN IT (listed by article number):

Family: 7

Carer: 1, 2, 3, 8, 10, 11, 23, 24, 28

Stranger: 16, 17

Special education staff: 4, 12, 14

Special education transporter: 14

Law Enforcement: 13, 16, 32

Co-resident: 23

Co-worker: 5

Co-students: 29

Men: 1, 3, 5, 11, 17, 23, 30

Women: 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, 15

Good News: 7: Mother pleads guilty to exploiting her daughter for money; 21: School to install cameras; 37: people with disabilities join effort for civil rights.

Bad News: 6: Candidate decries a man's ability to vote due to his disability; 31: victims must submit personal information to defense teams; 36: after disasters, people with disabilities not helped to recover home life but sent to nursing homes.

PLEASE NOTE: Visit our website at www.disabilityandabuse.org While on the homepage, we invite you to "like" us at the bottom of the page, making it easier to keep up with our activities! Prior weekly newsfeeds are archived at: <http://disabilityandabuse.org/newsfeed/contents.htm>

ABUSE & NEGLECT

1. "Funeral Service Saturday for Special Needs Man Killed in Group Home Incident"- Prosecutors say the 21-year-old was beaten to death last weekend by an employee of the group home where he lived. Cox was autistic. His family plans legal action in this case. – WKRG 5 – November 3, 2018 – (Alabama) - <https://is.gd/Lflu46>
2. "Caregiver Accused of Kidnapping Disabled Woman, Collecting Benefits" - Prosecutors say 59-year-old Josefina was found beaten and starved in Shirley Montano's City Heights Apartment. Court documents say that Montano held Josefina captive for 11 years, but it's possible she could have been in captivity for as many as 23 years. – NBC San Diego – November 7, 2018 – (California) - <https://is.gd/DvVdpy>
3. "Nursing Assistant Denies Physically, Verbally Abusing Patient" -A certified nursing assistant with Windsor Woods Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center was arrested Sunday for allegedly abusing a 76-year-old dementia patient who can't speak. – Spectrum News 9 – November 5, 2018 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/EdSPml>
4. "'I Lost My Temper': Deltona Teacher's Assistant Accused of Slapping Disabled Student" - A teacher's assistant at a Deltona school was arrested on a child abuse charge after she was accused of slapping a disabled student, according to the Volusia County Sheriff's Office. – WFTV – November 7, 2018 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/gtXZJ6>
5. "Publix Employee Arrested After Allegedly Molesting Mentally Disabled Woman" -. John Utterback, 62, of Apopka, faces two counts of lewd and lascivious molestation upon a disabled person. – Orlando Sentinel – November 8, 2018 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/Khs3t0>

6. “Disabled Man’s Lawyer Calls Madison County Candidate’s Campaign Video a ‘Cruel Violation’ ” - A video alleging Littleton, who is disabled and lives at facility for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, was featured in a video for [Steve Adler](#), the Republican candidate for County Clerk, who alleged his opponent Democrat [Debbie Ming Mendoza](#) was committing vote fraud by allowing Littleton to cast a ballot. – Belleville News – Democrat – (Illinois) - <https://is.gd/z1NiWg>

7. “Mother Pleads Guilty to Allowing Rape of her Mentally Disabled Daughter” - A local mother pleaded guilty Tuesday morning to rape and indecent assault charges for forcing her mentally disabled daughter to have sex with her boyfriend in exchange for cash and bill payments. – Eagle Tribune – November 6, 2018 – (Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/D1XRxH>

8. “Women Face New Charges, Accused of Forcing Boy with Down Syndrome to Smoke Marijuana” - Originally, the pair was charged with one count of child abuse. However, according to court documents filed Monday, both women are facing three counts of child abuse, two counts of battery and one count contributing to the delinquency of a minor. – KOB 4 – November 6, 2018 (New Mexico) - <https://is.gd/E2rUwa>

9. “Parents raise concerns over Watkins Glen CSD special education department” - "Inside the school district it was brought to my attention many issues mainly with the special education department that the school seems to not even be meeting minimums on," said Turner. -WENY News – November 7, 2018 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/B82Mh4>

10. “Former Webster Group Home Workers Sentenced Over Resident's Death in 2017 - Two former group home workers responsible for the death of a resident were sentenced Wednesday in state Supreme Court. -Democrat & Chronicle – November 7, 2018 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/17YKOD>

11. "Man Admits Fleecing 82-year-Old Woman Out of Her Life Savings of \$180,000" - An elderly Ridley Township woman took Lloyd Griscom in when he said could help provide care for the senior citizen. He thanked her by looting her life savings, fleecing her out of more than \$180,000 he used for jewelry, gifts and trips with his girlfriend. – Daily Times – November 3, 2018 – (Pennsylvania) - <https://is.gd/gKSrzF>

12. "Special Education Teacher Accused of Spitting on Student Resigns" - "Due to the nature of that interaction, the teacher was immediately placed on administrative leave and will not be returning to the classroom. The safety and dignity of our students is paramount to providing a nurturing environment where students can learn and be successful."- DFW 21 – November 2, 2018 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/fqE7L6>

13. "Autistic Child Handcuffed at North Texas School" - The mother of an 8-year-old special needs child with autism in North Texas filed a federal lawsuit against Felty Elementary School and police after he was handcuffed and held down by teachers and police two years ago. – Star- Telegram – November 4, 2018 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/FHMcEg>
(UPDATED OF CHARGES)

14. "Fort Worth Student with Special Needs Left Unattended for 5 Hours on Bus, District Says"- A school bus attendant and driver have resigned from Fort Worth ISD after they accidentally left a kindergartner with special needs unattended on a bus for several hours, the district said. – Dallas News – November 2, 2018 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/KP8qPi>

15. "SA Woman Accused of Sexually Assaulting Autistic Teen" - Jacqueline Alonzo, 28, facing sexual assault charge. San Antonio police arrested a 28-year-old woman whom they accused of sexually assaulting a teen

diagnosed with high-functioning autism. – KSAT 12- November 6, 2018 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/sMbgRO>

16. “Police Criticized After Failing to Treat Park Bench Flour Attack as Hate Crime” - A police force has been criticized for failing to treat an attack on a disabled woman – who was spat at and left covered with flour by a group of teenagers as she sat on a park bench – as a disability hate crime. – Disability News Service – November 8, 2018 – (Virginia) - <https://is.gd/NFsHR3>

17. “Door County Man Sentenced for Sexual Assault of Woman with Disabilities” - A Door County man was sentenced to five years in prison after a jury found he was guilty of sexually assaulting a woman with disabilities. – Green Bay Press Gazette – November 6, 2018 – (Wisconsin) - <https://is.gd/jGBDMI>

GUARDIANSHIP

18. “The Guardian is Guilty: April Parks, Others Plead Guilty in Guardianship Abuse Case” - Four people collectively facing over 250 felony charges for crimes against the elderly are taking plea deals. Their convictions bring to an end what KTNV started nearly four years ago -- the most significant guardianship exploitation case in Nevada history. – KTNV – November 5, 2018 – (Nevada) - <https://is.gd/F45xXT>

LAWS & LEGISLATION

19. “Lawmaker Taking Steps to Protect the Elderly from Abuse and Neglect” - Some lawmakers at the State House want to take steps to protect vulnerable adults, however. State Representative Gary Smith says he plans to file a proposal in January that would create a vulnerable adult abuse

registry. – WACH 57 – November 2, 2018 – (South Carolina) - <https://is.gd/2l2DMd>

IMPROVED SUPPORTS

20. “Yukon Human Rights Commission Offers Free Training on Disability Rights” - The Commission hopes its symposium gets Yukoners looking at disability through a human rights lens -Yukon News – November 8, 2018 – (Canada) - <https://is.gd/47fUPR>

21. “Classroom Cameras, More Staff Part of Plan to Address Needs of Fayette Autistic Students” - Following at least two recent incidents of educators dragging students with autism — including one caught on video that drew attention from national television networks — Fayette County Public Schools officials are taking several steps- Lexington Herald Leader – November 7, 2018 – (Kentucky) - <https://is.gd/N7mbys>

INTERNATIONAL

22. “Bringing Special Education Expertise to Afghanistan” - “I was amazed,” he says of the realization that the disabilities of his neighbors were unrelated to the deeds of their parents or other ancestors. “It was really interesting for me. I was reading about it a little bit, but we didn’t have a lot of education about special education [in Afghanistan].” – Lehigh University – November 6, 2018- (Afghanistan) - <https://is.gd/SJKQPW>

23. “Claims of Rape, Beatings Rock Church-Run Centre for the Disabled” - Police are investigating the alleged rape of a mentally disabled woman by another mentally disabled resident, while the centre’s board of directors is investigating allegations that a caregiver beat patients. – Times Live – November 5, 2018 – (Brazil) - <https://is.gd/0hGQwr>

24. “Couple Confined to Trois-Rivières Basement by Caretakers, Police Say” - Local police say the alleged victims, a couple in their 60s who are mentally impaired, were intermittently locked in the home while they lived with the suspects — in the case of the male alleged victim, from September 2014 until June 2018. – CBC – November 2, 2018 – (Canada) - <https://is.gd/v1D2Ro>
25. “Giving Disability a Voice in Europe” - By 2020 there will be an estimated 120 million people with disabilities in the EU. We must ensure that these citizens are able to live as full and independent lives as possible while maximising their capacities and potential, argues Marek Plura. -The Parliament – November 6, 2018 – (Europe) - <https://is.gd/twYv7K>
26. “Can the Heinous Acts of Rape be Stopped?” - The need is to empathize with the victims like the above mentioned minor and mentally impaired girl, Uri girl and many others who have suffered one way or the other and to give them loads of encouragement so that they may live their lives happily after being predated upon. – Kashmir Reader – November 3, 2018 – (India) - <https://is.gd/ouwAEk>
27. “Autism Spike Not Met by Resources: MLA -The health authority has revealed that at the end of August the longest wait for an assessment within its Children’s Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) service was 54 weeks. The target is 13 weeks. – Derry Journal – November 7, 2018 – (Ireland) - <https://is.gd/oJMo52>
28. “Disabled Residence Probed for Alleged Abuse” - Police launched an investigation on Tuesday into a “group home” for disabled people in North Chungcheong Province in response to allegations that it has been infringing

the residents' human rights. – The Korea Herald – November 6, 2018 – (Korea) - <https://is.Tgd/bwLzep>

29. “N.S. Teen with Cerebral Palsy Pressured to Lie in Creek, Walked on by Classmate” A Nova Scotia teenager living with cerebral palsy said he was walked on by a classmate while he was lying face down in a stream Wednesday — and no one helped.— Global News – November 9, 2018 – (Nova Scotia) - <https://is.gd/RUhlcl>

30. “Pakistani Man to Serve 8 Years in Jail for Raping Mentally Disabled Taiwanese Woman” –The Taipei District Court has sentenced a Pakistani man to eight years in prison for beating and raping a Taiwanese woman with an intellectual disability in late 2016, reported [Apple Daily](#). – Taiwan News -November 6, 2018 -(Pakistan) - <https://is.gd/f58ozJ>

31. “Demonstrations against making sex abuse victims hand over sensitive data see CPS headquarters 'evacuated'” -The protesters say the new policy has made the situation much worse for survivors, who already faced having their medical, social services and counselling records scoured through by the police and CPS, handed over to their abusers' defence teams, and used to undermine them in court. – Independent – November 2, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/aLSeWo>

32. “Mentally Impaired Man Shot Dead by Dolphin Force” - The eye-witnesses and relatives of the deceased said he was unarmed and the law enforcers could have easily taken hold of him. They questioned firing by the personnel. – The News – November 4, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/JYO9Bd>

MISCELLANEOUS

33. “How History Forgot the Woman Who Defined Autism” - Sukhareva’s characterization came nearly two decades before Austrian doctors Leo Kanner and Hans Asperger published what have long been considered to be the first clinical accounts of autism. – Spectrum – November 7, 2018 – (National) - <https://is.gd/x4FW2M>

34. “How a Mother Got Special Needs Playgrounds Built so her Daughters Could Play Together” - [Shirley Ordônio](#) started a movement for playgrounds to be built that were more inclusive and could be enjoyed by children with special needs too. – Business Insider – November 6, 2018 - (Brazil) - <https://is.gd/i6SIYU>

35. “Deaf-Friendly Starbucks — More Stores Should Follow in Their Steps” - Starbucks has just opened its first “[signing store](#)” in the U.S., where the staff are deaf or hard of hearing, sign language is an option and technology is available that makes the coffee experience accessible. – The Hill – November 3, 2018 – (National) - <https://is.gd/xqSQ3O>

36. “Recent Natural Disasters Trigger Complaints from Disability Groups” - After a spate of recent natural disasters, some advocates are expressing alarm that federal emergency response efforts are failing to protect the well-being and civil rights of people with disabilities, including by sending them unnecessarily to nursing homes. – Disability Scoop- November 6, 2018 – (National) - <https://is.gd/QG4Bi9>

37. “Civil Rights Groups Show Solidarity with Victims of Hate in National Full-Page Ads” - The Leadership Conference Education Fund, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, Communities Against Hate, and 83 other civil rights organizations today launched full-page advertisements in The New York

Times and the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette in solidarity with victims of recent acts of hate and bigotry in our country. – CivilRights.org – November 4, 2018 – (Washington) - <https://is.gd/DmROE3>