

Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of April 13 to April 19, 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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Please send comments or questions to: nora@disability-abuse.com or baladerian@gmail.com

Type:

Abuse and Neglect:

Sexual Assault: 3, 5, 9, 10, 28, 45, 48

Physical Abuse: 2, 7, 11, 12, 13, 16, 18, 22, 23, 24, 26, 44, 46, 60, 62

Emotional/Verbal Abuse: 2, 7, 61, 63

Financial abuse: 2, 6
Institutionalization: 54
Kidnapped: 14, 28
Murder: 1, 8
Neglected: 4, 15, 17, 18, 29, 52
Restraint: 27
Related to special education: 7, 18
Social media abuse: 2, 29
Access/ADA: 56

WINNER of most egregious award: 56: Male wheelchair user denied boarding plane as he did not have an assistant; 64: Trump budget has many cuts in funding for people with disabilities, eliminating many essential services.

WHO DUN IT (listed by article number):

Family: 1, 8, 11, 12, 15, 18, 19, 24, 60, 62
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Stranger: 14, 16, 61
Special education employee: 7 (bus driver, aide)
Skilled Nursing Home: 17, 26, 29, 44, 45, 63
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Law Enforcement: 13
Mental Health Clinic: 5
Pediatrician: 3
Priest: 9
Teacher's Aides: 18

Teen Center: 27

Foster home: 52

Men: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10 12, 13, 14, 16, 26, 28, 44, 45, 48, 60, 61, 62

Women: 4, 8, 11, 15, 19, 24, 46, 63

Good News: 30: New bill proposes classification of social media abuse as emotional abuse; 31: Bill proposed in Senate to increase funding for special education; 32: Federal funding to be withheld in schools that allow corporal punishment; 40: Police training to counter repeat of death of boy in a theater; 47: Trial of audio-visual monitoring in nursing homes to reduce abuse.

Bad News: 55: Children are placed in adult psychiatric hospitals; 57: Report on restraint and bullying (??) mental health program; 64: Trump budget has many cuts in funding for people with disabilities, eliminating many essential services.

ABUSE & NEGLECT

1. "Son Allegedly Assaulted Mother Who Died at Hospital Two Months Later" - The husband of Twila Rash, who died Monday at Kern Medical Center, said Rash's adult son assaulted her in February. Sheriff's officials sent a release Thursday saying the son, Joseph Taylor, 35, was arrested in February in the 200 block of Pierce Street in Taft on charges of assault with a deadly weapon and elder abuse. He's in custody and has a court hearing scheduled Friday. – KGET – April 18, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/GsguNO>
2. "Ex-Mayor's Son, 18, Arrested in Violent Attack On Autistic Man: Reports" - Declan Bell-Wilson, of Rolling Hills, the son of former Rolling Hills Mayor Patrick Wilson, was taken into custody on suspicion of assault, robbery and conspiracy, KABC-TV of Los Angeles reported. – FOX News – April 13, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/THBlyG>
3. "South Bay Pediatrician Faces New Complaint of Sex Abuse from Juvenile Patient" - A Bay Area pediatrician and former foster parent who has been accused of sexual

molestation by more than a dozen children and teens since 2001 is under investigation for a third time, after a new allegation of abuse in Santa Cruz County. The investigation of Dr. Patrick Clyne, 57, who practices in the small community of Freedom, is a joint effort by the Medical Board of California and the Watsonville Police Department, police officials said. – San Francisco Chronicle – April 14, 2019 – (California)-

<https://is.gd/RdFgL9>

4. “City Attorney Charges Group Home Operators in Crackdown On ‘Dangerous’ Housing” - In the news release, City Attorney Mara W. Elliott said independent living facilities “are an important source of housing for elderly and vulnerable adults, and we expect them to protect their clients.” – The San Diego Union – Tribune – April 17, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/OOFphV>

5. “Staffer Accused of Sexually Assaulting Patients at Mental Health Clinic” - According to Pinellas Park police, they received a tip Thursday that there had been “multiple sexual battery incidents” at Personal Enrichment Through Mental Health Services, which is on 58th Street N. They determined that staffer Nicholai Anthony Brief grabbed the breasts of two women and sexually assaulted a third. – Fox 13 News – March 18, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/bFCwY4>

6. “Finances of South Bend Group Home Portage Manor Being Investigated After Concerns Raised” - Accounting discrepancies at Portage Manor, a St. Joseph County-owned residential care facility, have spurred an investigation by the Indiana State Board of Accounts and the St. Joseph County Prosecutor’s Office. According to Portage Manor administrator Robyn Challinor, questions were raised about three weeks ago when she began looking into poor performance of an employee at the facility who handled accounting for the Portage Manor Resident Trust Fund, which holds money for residents of the facility and periodically disburses it to them. – South Bend Tribune – April 17, 2019 – (Indiana) - <https://is.gd/FnQ7I9>

7. “Elburn Family Sues School District, Bus Company for Alleged Mistreatment of Autistic Child” - When Mitchal Padavana was 9 years old, his parents Paul and Amy put a listening device into his backpack. Mitchal was diagnosed with autism as an infant. His parents wanted to make sure his rides to and from school were safe. When they listened back to the tape, they couldn’t believe what they heard. – ABC 7 News – April 17, 2019 – (Illinois) - <https://is.gd/NwP8G6>

8. "Police Investigating Her Husband's Death Found Fire. Lexington Woman Faces New Arson Charge" - A woman whose house was filled with smoke when detectives arrived to search for evidence in her husband's 2017 death was indicted this week on an additional charge. Carol Ann Hignite, 70, was indicted Tuesday on a charge of third-degree arson, which was added to [her previous charges](#) of murder and abuse or neglect of an adult, according to court records. – Lexington Herald Leader – April 17, 2019 – (Kentucky) - <https://is.gd/avjuhV>

9. "Louisiana Diocese Releases List of Priests Accused of Sex Abuse" - The U.S. Catholic diocese where the first widely reported case of clergy sex abuse became public in the 1980s released a list Friday of 33 priests and four deacons credibly accused of sexually abusing a minor or vulnerable adult. – Insurance Journal – April 15, 2019 – (Louisiana) - <https://is.gd/RkZE07>

10. "Louisiana Man Arrested On 100 Counts of First-Degree Rape" - Harvey Joseph Fountain was accused of sexually abusing numerous juvenile victims in Pineville, La., in the 1970s and '80s, and was arrested last week in connection with 50 counts of first-degree rape. As the investigation continued, he was booked on an additional 50 counts. First-degree rape, Louisiana's most severe charge for sexual crimes, carries no statute of limitations, [according to BuzzFeed News](#). The charge refers to crimes in which victims are younger than 13 years old, elderly, disabled, overcome by force, or facing severe injury or death. – The Hill – April 16, 2019 – (Louisiana) - <https://is.gd/MSLitl>

11. "Louisiana Woman Beat Boyfriend With His Prosthetic Leg After He Tried To Break Up: Police" - A New Orleans-area woman, who beat up her ex-boyfriend with his own prosthetic leg earlier this year because he tried to break up with her, [was arrested last Wednesday](#), police said. On Feb. 11, Michelle Jackson, 58, was drinking with her now ex-boyfriend when he told her he wanted to see someone else, Capt. Jason Rivarde said. – Fox 26 Houston – April 16, 2019 – (Louisiana) - <https://is.gd/dVhYND>

12. "Silver Spring Man Charged with Abusing 85-Year-Old Father" - Detectives have determined that George McGrath IV, 55, is the primary caretaker for his father, according to police. Police say a local hospital contacted Montgomery County Adult Protective Services about the possibility that elder abuse had occurred the previous week. Investigators met McGrath's father at the hospital, where police say he was

receiving treatment for injuries. – My MC Media – April 19, 2019 – (Maryland) - <https://is.gd/IJjCw>

13. “Autistic Missouri Man Loses Lawsuit Over Police Arrest” - The lawsuit alleged that Kramer was walking home from school when he stopped on the edge of Missouri State Highway Patrol trooper Jim David Farmer’s yard to tie his shoelace. -KTAR News – April 12, 2019 – (Missouri) - <https://is.gd/2Lj526>

14. “Missing Person Complaint Leads To 2 Arrests” - On Thursday, officers initiated a traffic stop on Sorensen’s 2015 Dodge Caravan in the city of Hillsdale and found two men — who were not Sorensen — inside the vehicle. Those men were identified as 30-year-old Derrick Christopher McCants of Hillsdale and 23-year-old Erik Matthew Wist of Jackson. Brady also said that Sorensen is possibly mentally impaired and that McCants and Wist may have taken advantage of his mental status. – Hillsdale Daily News – April 13, 2019 – (New Hampshire)- <https://is.gd/5bb1UM>

15. “Woman Serving Years in Prison for Letting Mother Die in Filth Loses Appeal” - The state's highest court unanimously upheld the conviction of Katherine Saintil-Brown, sentenced to up to four years in state prison for failing to call for help sooner after firefighters had found an elderly mother on the floor in her own feces and urine. – New Hampshire Union Leader – April 17, 2019 – (New Hampshire) - <https://is.gd/dRa7Bf>

16. “USMC Officer Defends Disabled, Is Slapped with Assault Charge” - No good deed goes unpunished. Just ask 2010 Grangeville High School graduate Kurt Aiken. In 2018, 2nd Lieutenant Aiken, Marine Corps infantry officer, defended an individual with disabilities who was being attacked. That Good Samaritan action got him charged with simple assault. – Idaho County Free Press – April 17, 2019 – (North Carolina) - <https://is.gd/iLm4pp>

17. “Family Says Mother Sat in Her Own Filth at Fayetteville Nursing Home” - Tracey Ervin said almost every day for nearly a week, she walked into Whispering Pines Nursing Home and found her mother sitting in her own urine. "I'm angry. I'm frustrated," she said. "All the above, and then more." – CBS 17 – April 17, 2019 – (North Carolina)- <https://is.gd/8KIP4l>

18. "Special-Needs Boy Injured by Aides at Springfield School, Parents Say" - Springfield parents say teachers' aides hit their son so hard that he was left with bruises. The family said that school employees injured their autistic son while they tried to restrain him. The parents are even more upset because they said the school didn't tell them what happened. New Center 7's Molly Koweek spoke to 10-year-old Wyatt Adam's parents today. – WHIO TV 7 – April 18, 2019 – (Ohio) - <https://is.gd/QssYCg>

19. "Police Investigate 23-Year-Old Disabled Man Hospitalized Weighing 30 Pounds" - Lab tests reveal the patient's "sodium levels were extremely elevated indicating he had not had adequate amounts of water" and that he "had sores on his body which is consistent with lack of mobility." – KFOR 4 News – April 12, 2019 – (Oklahoma)- <https://is.gd/NaJNON>

20. "School District Sued For 2-Hour Interrogation Of Middle Schooler" - In February 2018, as schools around the country faced fears of another school shooting in the wake of the attack at a high school in Parkland, Florida, a High Desert Middle School student was detained and interrogated for two hours in response to rumors he planned to bring guns to school. The boy, Brock Wicher, was not convicted of a crime but he was transferred to a school for children with behavioral problems, where he has suffered, according to his attorney. – The Bulletin – April 14, 2019 – (Oregon) - <https://is.gd/DbT25p>

21. "Class-Action Lawsuit Targets Foster Care System" - Disability Rights Oregon and New York-based A Better Childhood filed a lawsuit against the Oregon Department of Human Services and Gov. Kate Brown on Tuesday alleging that the foster care system has failed to shield children from abuse and further neglect. – KOIN 6 – April 16, 2019 – (Oregon)- <https://is.gd/OjFYuv>

22. "‘This Shouldn't Happen to Any Kid, Especially Kids This Vulnerable': Woods Services Faces New Lawsuits" - Nicholas Diaz acted out last summer when staffers at the group home for the intellectually disabled in Langhorne where he was staying denied him a snack. Diaz, a 21-year-old who has autism and suffers seizures, was beaten up by the caretakers, who left him with a black eye and other injuries to his face, neck, and arms. – The Inquirer Daily News – April 16, 2019 – (Pennsylvania)- <https://is.gd/g01O7Z>

23. "Christian Teen Home Relocating To SC Mountains Punishes Students On 'The Woodpile'" - A financially hobbled Christian home for teenagers that punishes students

by having them carry firewood for hours on end plans to move to South Carolina from New York, seeking a new campus in this remote corner of the Blue Ridge Mountains. – The Post and Courier – April 16, 2019 – (South Carolina)- <https://is.gd/W9YTNH>

24. “Report: Abilene Couple Arrested After Mom Used Cord to Choke Autistic Son Until He Turned Blue” - An Abilene couple has been arrested after a bungee cord was used to choke an autistic child until he turned blue. Danielle Tankersley, 38, and Jimmy Tankersley, 41, were taken into custody Sunday and charged with Injury to a Child. Jimmy is also charged with Assault. – Big Country Home Page – April 15, 2019 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/mNI98x>

25. “Woman Slaps 70-Year-Old Volunteer After Receiving Parking Ticket, Deputies Say” - A woman was arrested and is accused of assaulting a parking enforcement volunteer after she received a citation for parking in a handicapped spot in west Houston, according to Constable Ted Heap's office. Deputies said 18-year-old Jade Williams was cited for parking in the designated spot at the Five Guys restaurant in the 11700 block of Westheimer Road on Tuesday around 2:30 p.m. – Click2Houston – April 18, 2019 – Texas - <https://is.gd/UEqaMD>

26. “Jail, probation ordered for nursing home employee who struck 2 patients” - Jason Harold Knox, 30, pleaded guilty last month to two counts of aggravated abuse of a vulnerable adult, second-degree felonies. "This conduct is depraved and inexcusable and must never be repeated," 2nd District Judge Michael Edwards told Knox shortly before reading his sentence. – KSL.COM – April 15, 2019 – (Utah) - <https://is.gd/BhipOp>

27. “Defender General Alleges ‘Dangerous’ Restraints at Woodside Juvenile Center” - Vermont’s defender general is suing the Department for Children and Families and the Woodside Juvenile Rehabilitation Center, alleging staffers have used “dangerous” physical restraints on minors that aren’t consistent with nationally recognized techniques. – VTDIGGER – April 12, 2019 – (Vermont) - <https://is.gd/NWE8Gp>

28. “Man Arrested After Allegedly Kidnapping, Raping A 28-Year-Old Developmentally Disabled Woman”- Diego Martinez managed to dodge police for 10 months after he allegedly kidnapped and raped a 28-year-old developmentally disabled woman near church in east Tacoma. – KIRO 7 – April 17, 2019 – (Washington) - <https://is.gd/Fx7Sev>

29. “Digital Abuse Happening in Milwaukee Nursing Homes” - Caregivers are snapping pictures of elderly patients alongside a degrading caption and uploading them online without their permission. It’s an act classified as abuse, and it’s becoming common in our tech-savvy world. – WTMJ – April 18, 2019 – (Wisconsin)- <https://is.gd/oju3oO>

LAWS & LEGISLATION

30. “Lawmakers Advance Legislation on Sexual Assault, Wolf Hunting, Sports Betting and Elder Abuse, Medicaid Expansion Continuation Stalls” - Jacobson is sponsoring [Senate Bill 324](#), which would classify sharing a humiliating photo or video of a senior citizen who has an expectation of privacy as elder abuse. – The Sun Times – April 14, 2019 – (Montana) - <https://is.gd/hvd4n0>

*There are several bills discussed in this article pertaining to abuse

31. “Smith, Klobuchar Help Introduce Bill To Increase Special Education Funding” - Last week, U.S. Sens. Amy Klobuchar and Tina Smith, D-Minn., advocated for stronger investments in schools across the country by helping introduce the Keep Our Promise to America’s Children and Teachers Act, which look to increase funding special education and making sure every child has access to quality education. – Brainerd Dispatch – April 15, 2019 – (Minnesota) - <https://is.gd/Snv98R>

32. “NFL Players: Corporal Punishment In Schools Is Unacceptable” - Just recently, Rep. [Alcee Hastings](#) (D-Fla.) [introduced a bill](#) that prevents federal funding from going to education institutions, both public and private, that still allow corporal punishment. For students of color and students with disabilities — who are already dealing with unfair discipline practices that we know exist (excessive and unjust suspensions and expulsions, for example) — we’re also subjecting them to the harmful effects of corporal punishment. – The Hill – April 13, 2019 – (National) - <https://is.gd/ZVkxi0>

33. “Aid-in-Dying Bill Receiving More Support” - Governor Andrew Cuomo is backing legislation that would allow the terminally ill to end their own lives -- setting up a potentially controversial close to the legislative session.” I had confidence the governor

would be in the right place on this issue when the time came,” said Compassion & Choices Director Corrine Carey. “I think he recognizes dying people deserve to have a full range of options at the end of life.” The bill is aimed at giving terminally ill patients end of life options under the supervision of a doctor. – Spectrum News – April 21, 2019 – (New York)- <https://is.gd/bNJeup>

34. “Lawmaker Won’t Cut Hair Until Deaf Community Bill Passes” - Jonathan Brostoff isn't cutting his hair until Wisconsin passes this bill that supports the Deaf community. It protects deaf rights in the legal and medical services communities. – Now This – April 14, 2019 – (Wisconsin) - <https://is.gd/INtVoR>

STUDIES & STATISTICS

35. “Fecal Transplants Reduce Symptoms of Autism Long Term” - Back in 2017, Arizona State University conducted a study on children with ASD of varying severity. Now, [research published Tuesday](#) in the journal Scientific Reports shows that the reduction in ASD symptoms persisted for two years after the fact, [further demonstrating the link](#) between the gut microbiome and the brain. – Futurism – April 12, 2019 – (Arizona) - <https://is.gd/4RqYnz>
36. “Latest Studies Show 1 In 59 Children Live with Autism” - New numbers show 1 in 59 children live with autism. Now, the largest study of its kind is in search of breakthrough treatments, to help families thrive. -NTV ABC- April 12, 2019 – (Nebraska)- <https://is.gd/8bNNFY>
37. “CMS Needs to Address Gaps in Federal Oversight of Nursing Home Abuse Investigations That Persisted in Oregon for at Least 15 Years” - The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services contracts with state agencies—known as survey agencies—to investigate abuse allegations in nursing homes. CMS uses information from these investigations for oversight. It's also available on CMS's site [Nursing Home Compare](#) for the public to check homes' ratings.- Government Accountability Office – April 15, 2019 – (Oregon) - <https://is.gd/sGy73k>

38. “Study Identifies Predictors of Early Death Among Autistic People” - The new study is the first to identify the specific factors that forecast mortality in autism. The researchers followed 406 autistic people in the United States over a 20-year period. They found that the 26 people who died during the study tended to have poor scores on measures of social ability or daily-living skills at the start of the study irrespective of age or health. – Spectrum – April 17, 2019 – (Wisconsin)- <https://is.gd/CC9eRI>

IMPROVED SUPPORTS

39. “12-Week Program Helps Young Autistic Adults Through Life Transitions” - According to the centers for disease control and prevention, one in 59 American children is diagnosed with autism every year. The rate has steadily risen with greater awareness over the years. While this spectrum disorder is diagnosed in early childhood, it doesn't go away. – Local 10 News – April 16, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/vkZJxO>
40. “How One Mother's Battle Is Changing Police Training On Disabilities”- Her son Ethan, who had Down syndrome, died after an encounter with law enforcement when he was 26. It's a tragedy she believes could have been prevented. – NPR- April 13, 2019 – (Maryland) - <https://is.gd/TLuyET>
41. “Faculty And Students Unite In Disability Rights Protest On Stony Brook Campus” - The Peer Mental Health Alliance held a Disability Rights protest and march on campus, Wednesday April 10th during campus lifetime, to ensure that many of the swept-under-the-rug issues related to disability services provided by Stony Brook University, is finally heard loud and clear. The protest march started from the SAC Plaza with chants of “disability rights are humans rights,” and ended with demands to the university administration, to follow the Americans with Disabilities Act without cutting corners and sliding by. – Stoney Brook Independent – April 14, 2019 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/7O5kGO>
42. SU hosts 6th annual disability-devoted comic con - Participants from across the country and of all abilities attended panels, participated in workshops and took photos at a fully-accessible photo booth on Saturday as part of Syracuse University’s sixth-annual “‘Crippling’ the Comic Con,” a symposium on disability rights and culture. – The Daily Orange – April 14, 2019 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/ZhaVKg>

43. “A Suburbia for The Homeless Exists and They Can Live There Forever” - The world looks a little brighter from the front porch of your own home. It's a sight more than 200 formerly homeless people are waking up to each morning at the [Community First! Village](https://is.gd/I7aMye) in Austin, Texas. – CNN- March 28, 2019 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/I7aMye>

INTERNATIONAL

44. “Man Jailed Over Nursing Home Attack Bailed” - A former Adelaide aged care worker jailed for bashing a nursing home resident has been granted home detention bail while he appeals his conviction. Michael Mullen, 55, was jailed this week for at least nine months for the assault on 72-year-old dementia patient Elizabeth Hannaford. – Australian Associated Press – April 17, 2019 – (Australia) - <https://is.gd/ULTotH>
45. “Aged Care Home Carried On 'Business as Usual' And Ignored Sexual Assault of Resident, Family Says” - On the night of the attack, November 6, 2017, Mrs. Major was not in a hospital — she was in her nursing home, Bayside Aged Care in NSW's Lake Macquarie region. It was a male agency nurse, rather than her usual carer, who carried out the assault. – ABC News- April 14, 2019 – (Australia) - <https://is.gd/ITadv3>
46. “Woman Strangles Wheelchair-Bound Elderly Neighbor” - Sarah Shona Barbara King spent a year and a day behind bars after her attack on a defenceless woman before she was sentenced in Townsville Magistrate Court on Thursday. King pleaded guilty to assault occasioning bodily harm while armed. – Gold Coast Bulletin – April 14, 2019 – (Australia) - <https://is.gd/8XMMQr>
47. “Surveillance Cameras Will Target Abuse of Elderly in Nursing Homes” - The government has committed \$500,000 to a 12-month trial which will start in the second half of this year. It will deliver the program in partnership with Care Protect, a company which specializes in audio-visual monitoring systems in health and social care settings. – Katherine Times – April 15, 2019 – (Australia)- <https://is.gd/5fnM5x>

48. “I Can't Change What Happened to Matty': Family of Disabled Man Sues State Over Rape” - Ms. Thomas collapsed when she learnt Matthew, who was then 20, had allegedly been raped on April 21, 2015 by another resident of his group home in Westmeadows, which was run by the state-funded disability services provider Autism Plus. – The Age – April 17, 2019 – (Australia) - <https://is.gd/38FVAs>
49. “Yukon Government Was Wrong in Evicting Youth from A Group Home, Commissioner Finds” - Health and social services staff did not have the authority to evict one youth from a group home, according to a special investigation report by the Yukon Public Interest Disclosure Commissioner (PIDC). Among six allegations from Yukon government employees that concerned six youth and one child, one case violated the Yukon’s Child and Family Services Act (CSFA). – Yukon News – April 18, 2019 – (Canada)- <https://is.gd/nmbvr0>
50. “Tait: Somewhat Surprised By Silence On Disability Issues” - A few of the issues that really jumped off the page for me were how many Canadians with disabilities are living in poverty, the issues between the disabled community and the justice system, and the rising number of Canadians with disabilities living in institutions rather than in their chosen communities. The link to the report is at the end of this column. – Edmonton Sun – April 13, 2019 – (Canada)- <https://is.gd/WkOkTI>
51. “Law Changed To Protect Vulnerable Women Had Opposite Effect, B.C. Judge Finds” - But according to a B.C. Supreme Court judge, in practice, part of the [Zero Tolerance for Barbaric Cultural Practices Act](#) would have had the opposite effect. In a [precedent-setting decision](#), Justice Douglas Thompson has undone an amendment to the Criminal Code written — essentially — to prevent men from arguing they were provoked into killing by an attack on their honour, such as adultery. – CBC News – April 17, 2019 – (Canada)- <https://is.gd/kV9sTs>
52. “They Failed to Protect Amy’: Child Welfare Agency, Foster Home Sued for \$5.5M Over Teen’s Suicide” - While Amy was in the defendants care the defendants repeatedly ignored diagnosis events, obvious signs, and expert recommendations, which indicated that Amy was at serious risk of self-harm. Their actions and inactions led to the pain and suffering by Amy, and ultimately to her preventable death,” the lawsuit alleges. – APTN News – (April 16, 2019) – (Canada) - <https://is.gd/S8aGFI>

53. “Funding Shortfalls for Special Needs Schools Causing ‘Untold Misery’” - The government failed to grant funding to local authorities that matches demand, the National Education Union said. – The Big Issue – April 15, 2019 – (England)- <https://is.gd/TWSUhg>
54. “People with Learning Disabilities 'Trapped' In Hospitals as Target Missed” - An NHS target to reduce the number of people with learning disabilities being treated in long-stay hospitals has been missed, resulting in more than 2,200 remaining in-patients in England. – BBC News – April 18, 2019 – (England) - <https://is.gd/VjodV7>
55. “Children Still Being Placed in Adult Psych Unit” - The controversial placing of children in an adult psychiatric unit at University Hospital Limerick (UHL) is continuing despite the practice being condemned by the Mental Health Commission. The commission noted five children had been admitted to the Acute Psychiatric Unit 5B at UHL since a previous inspection in 2017 when it had criticised the practice. – Irish Examiner – April 13, 2019 – (Ireland)- <https://is.gd/ew10Xm>
56. “Dear Handicapped, You Are Not Allowed On Board!”- I FELT shame when I watched the video clip published by Dr. Wajdi Wazzan, undersecretary for the affairs of students with special needs and a member of the faculty of engineering at King Abdulaziz University, in which he apologized for not being able to participate in the higher education conference, which concluded in Riyadh on Saturday. The reason he stated for his absence was that he was not allowed to board the airplane because he was wheelchair-bound and was not accompanied by an assistant. – Saudi Gazette – April 16, 2019 – (Saudi Arabia) - <https://is.gd/Lyv1g8>
57. “Carseview Centre Mental Health Unit Restraint 'Shocking’” - The internal inquiry into the Carseview Centre was commissioned in response to a BBC Scotland documentary last year. It exposed bullying and potentially life-threatening restraint on patients. Prof Peter Tyrer, who chaired the group that wrote the NICE guidelines on restraint in mental health, said the report was "shocking". – BBC – April 18, 2019 – (Scotland) - <https://is.gd/lzA77P>

58. “Blind, Disabled Part Of Society” - Praise for policy documents on HIV/Aids in braille
Labour and Small Enterprise Development Minister Jennifer Baptiste-Primus formally handed over copies of the National Workplace Policy on HIV and Aids, and an employee brochure document in braille, to Kenneth Surratt, executive officer of the Blind Welfare Association (TTBWA) and Catherine Romain, executive director of the National Library and Information System Authority (Nalis), at the atrium of the National Library, Port of Spain on Friday. – Newsday – April 13, 2019 – (Trinidad and Tobago) - <https://is.gd/LFlabl>
59. “Man with Asperger's Who Was Banned from Playing Competitive Scrabble Over His 'Unacceptable Behavior' Admits He Doesn't Handle Criticism Well” - David More was devastated when he received a letter from Scrabble Queensland barring him from future competitions. Mr. More, who suffers from Asperger's - a form of autism, said his expressions of anger were misunderstood by other players. – Daily Mail – April 12, 2019 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/NddRer>
60. “Man Who Assaulted Disabled Husband Fined by Court” - A WEST Cumbrian man who assaulted his disabled husband and kicked a police officer 10 times was fined by a court. – Times & Star – April 13, 2019 – (United Kingdom)- <https://is.gd/jp8V8M>
61. “Linwood Yob Who Hurlled Abuse at Bus Full of Disabled Kids Spared Prison” - A ROAD rage thug who terrorised the driver of a disabled kids’ school bus while it was full of children with special needs has been spared jail. Thomas Graham, 34, lost the plot after getting stuck behind the bus, which had collected kids from the Riverbrae School in Linwood. Graham overtook the bus, leaving just inches between it and his car, while sticking his arm out of the window to make rude gestures at the driver. – The Gazette – April 17, 2019 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/66aBgn>
62. “Jailed for Attack On Disabled Motherwell Grandmother” - A man, who attacked a disabled Motherwell woman as she sat helpless in her wheelchair, has been jailed for two years and eight months. Steven Kelly threatened to kill one-legged Ann Hamilton and throttled her until she passed out. – Motherwell Times – April 17, 2019 – (United Kingdom)- <https://is.gd/BKpZgr>
63. “Family ‘Disgusted’ As Renfrew Carer Spared Prison Over Abuse of Pensioner” - THE heartbroken family of a vulnerable dementia sufferer who was abused in a home

stormed out of court in anger as the carer responsible was spared jail. The children of Janet McCaffrey were visibly and audibly upset carer Ruth Monaghan, who taunted and tormented their mother, was given just 75 hours' unpaid work for berating the pensioner with vile abuse. – The Gazette – April 17, 2019 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/Zoxr58>

MISCELLANEOUS

64. “Amy Schumer Let America in On a Secret: It Can Be Great to Love an Autistic Person” - I didn't have my autism diagnosis when we fell in love and it was probably an unexpected turn in our relationship. But now we're grateful for it. – USA Today – April 14, 2019 – (National)- <https://is.gd/8xX7MZ>

65. “Trump’s Budget Is Full of Cuts Aimed at People with Disabilities” - Most Americans do not know that the 2020 budget is still full of cuts that aim directly at many other programs that support people with disabilities. The Trump administration’s fiscal year 2020 budget would make cuts across multiple agencies and offices that serve Americans with disabilities, stripping them of essential resources. – The New York Times – April 17, 2019 – (National) - <https://is.gd/V4gFTZ>

66. “Facebook To Give Staff Extra Training After ‘Disturbing’ Disability Comment” - Facebook has said it will be providing extra training for its staff after a disability rights activist was told “disability was disturbing to some people” by a representative of the social media giant. Simon Sansome, from Leicester, who runs [Ability Access](#), called Facebook’s marketing team after believing that his page had been barred from being shared with new users. – Human Rights News, Views & Info – April 17, 2019 – (National) - <https://is.gd/2lOX2z>