

Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of April 20 to April 26, 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

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:

Abuse and Neglect:

Sexual Assault: 5, 6, 7, 12, 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 25, 28, 33, 52, 53, 58

Physical Abuse: 1, 4, 8, 11, 13, 15, 16, 19, 34

Emotional/Verbal Abuse: 1

Financial abuse: 9, 14, 20, 28

Medical Abuse: 3, 13

Murder: 8, 24, 60

Neglected: 1, 32

Kept Isolated/enclosed: 15, 30

Restraint: 2, 21, 30, 59

Related to special education: 2, 7, 30, 31, 58

Social media abuse: 10

WINNER of most egregious award: 56: Health bosses planned to limit showers and meals for the disabled, create long wait lists for specialist care, and refuse help for autistic children as part of a desperate cost-saving bid.

WINNER of “good job” award: 18: NM Agrees to Settle 32-Year-Old Lawsuit”
The class-action lawsuit, filed in 1987, centers on services for people with developmental disabilities. In 1990, a federal judge ruled that New Mexico was violating the constitutional rights of people housed in state-run institutions, where they endured inhumane treatment.

WHO DUN IT (listed by article number):

Family: 1, 8, 32, 60

Carer: 3, 4, 8, 10, 16, 17, 21, 22, 25

Acquaintance: 12, 28

Stranger: 34

Special education employee: Teacher: 7;

Group home: 13, 17, 19

Assisted Living: 6

Psychiatric Hospital: 15

State Hospital: 18

Hospital: 3, 21

Skilled Nursing Facility: 16, 33

Employer: 52

Law Enforcement officer: 53

Dept. Health Services worker: 24

Emergency Services worker: 5

In-Home Therapist: 23

Physician: 21

Men: 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 19, 20, 22, 25, 28, 33, 34, 52, 53, 58

Women: 1, 3, 10, 14, 29, 60

Good News: 46: County forms new SART: Sexual Assault Response Team; 50: Use of headsets for individuals with autism helps the cope in loud environments; 51: Child center opens new service for forensic medical exams for abused children; 65: Use the word “disability,” says group of rehabilitation psychologists.

Bad News: 27: Medicaid benefits frequently removed from children with disabilities; 29: Corrections Dept. found guilty of “deliberate indifference” of women with disabilities; 31: Students with disabilities excluded from field trips at school; 41: Elders lose approximately \$800 million annually due to fraud; 42: significant increase in abuse of elders per CDC report, number doubled between 2002 to 2016; 54: Individuals with disabilities “trapped in hospitals”; 56: Legislators plan to reduce showers and food for people with disabilities to save money; 61: Serbia fails to protect women from violence

in care institutions; 64: Husband continues to have sex with wife who has dementia in care facility.

ABUSE & NEGLECT

1. “Turpin Case: Parents Get 25-To-Life For Severe Abuse, Neglect Of 12 Children” - David Turpin, 57, and Louise Turpin, 50, will be sentenced to 25 years to life in prison as part of a deal that proceeded their guilty pleas to 14 felony charges back in February, according to the Riverside County District Attorney’s Office. – Fox 5, 2019 – April 19, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/oFM80A>
2. “Policy Vs. Practice: Handcuffing Of Students Under Review In Denver School District” - The chief of safety for Denver’s public schools has vowed to review the use of handcuffs on students, as well as how district safety officers are trained to work with young children, and recommend any possible policy or procedure changes. – Chalk Beat – April 24, 2019 – (Colorado) - <https://is.gd/diO4Ui>
3. “CT Nurses Cited For Stealing Patients’ Painkillers, Alcohol Abuse” - Meeting in Hartford on April 17, the board imposed a four-year probation on the registered nurse license of Kerry Donlon of the Oakville section of Watertown, who stole the opioid painkiller Hydromorphone for her own use while working as a nurse at Yale New Haven Hospital in 2016, a consent order she agreed to said. – New Haven Register – April 26, 2019 – (Connecticut) - <https://is.gd/I1kJEP>
4. “Pinellas County Caretaker Arrested for Attacking Disabled Man with Frying Pan, Records Show” - Darnika Martin, 29, was caught on video yelling at the victim and running at him while holding the pan over her head, according to the records. – ABC Action News – April 22, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/ms4YT5>

5. “FCSO: Franklin County EMS Employee Inappropriately Touched Patients in Ambulance” - Robert E. Lee Major, 44, has been charged with Sexual Assault and Lewd Lascivious Molestation of Elderly Disabled Person according to the Franklin County Sheriff’s Office. Major works for Weems Memorial Hospital. – News Herald – April 23, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/mSO9Y3>

6. “Man Is Accused of Sexual Abuse” - A Sandpoint man was arrested for sexually abusing developmentally disabled man at an assisted-living facility on Tuesday. Kerry Scott Stewart is charged with sexual abuse of a vulnerable adult, a felony that punishable by up to 15 years. – Bonner County Daily Bee – April 20, 2019 – (Idaho) - <https://is.gd/EkMB3O>

7. “Alleged Sexual Misconduct Investigation at Illinois School for The Deaf” - A teacher at the Illinois School for the Deaf is currently under investigation by the Illinois State Police (ISP). Charles Hicks Jr., 52, is at the center of that investigation over alleged sexual contact with students, according to a spokesperson with ISP – Fox Illinois – April 22, 2019 – (Illinois) - <https://is.gd/7PS1fo>

8. “A.J. Freund’s Parents Accused of Killing and Burying 5-Year-Old Three Days Before Reporting Him Missing” – At a bond hearing on murder charges Thursday morning, prosecutors said A.J. Freund’s parents killed and buried the 5-year-old boy three days before they reported him missing. According to prosecutors, Andrew Freund Sr. and JoAnn Cunningham forced their son to stand in a cold shower for an extended period of time, and repeatedly beat him. - CBS 2 Chicago - April 25, 2019 – (Illinois) - <https://is.gd/HvufRw>

9. “Ex-Lawmaker and Securities Agent Gets 10-Year Jail Sentence in Elder Financial Exploitation Case” - Robert Kenneth Lindell of Cloverdale, Calif.,

was convicted by a jury on Nov. 7, 2018. He served in the Maine House of Representatives as a Republican from 2004 to 2006. Maine Securities Administrator Judith Shaw said in a news release that the state alleged during Lindell's trial that he had defrauded two elderly widows out of more than \$3 million and failed to pay taxes on the income he earned as a result of the fraud, instead receiving tax refunds he was not entitled to. – Maine Biz – April 24, 2019 – (Maine)- <https://is.gd/sb7TAL>

10. "Woman Convicted After Sharing Video Of Maine Nursing Home Resident In Bathroom" - Jessica Bunker, 25, of Cranberry Isles, was working at Sonogee Rehabilitation and Living Center last summer when she recorded the video of an 84-year-old woman who suffers from advanced dementia and then sent it to a friend, according to a statement released by Hancock County District Attorney Matthew Foster. Foster did not identify the "now closed" facility where Bunker was working at the time, but court records show the incident happened at Sonogee, which closed down this spring. – WGME – 13- April 25, 2019 – (Maine) - <https://is.gd/T2Nycp>
11. "Silver Spring Man Charged with Elder Abuse of His Father" - George McGrath IV, 55, is his father's primary caretaker. He now is out on \$5,000 bond after being charged with vulnerable adult abuse of a family member, reckless endangerment and second-degree assault. – WTOP – April 17, 2019 – (Maryland) - <https://is.gd/T1GGQA>
12. "Willmar Man Accused of Raping Woman in A Wheelchair" - Anthony Parnell Jones, 27, made his first appearance Thursday in Kandiyohi County District Court. Bail was set at \$40,000 for unconditional release and \$5,000 for conditional release. Jones' next court date is scheduled for April 29. Jones is accused of raping a woman while he had reason to know she was physically helpless and mentally impaired. -West Central Tribune – April 19, 2019 – (Minnesota) - <https://is.gd/rAOUsz>

13. "Woman Says Nephew Was Beaten by Employee of Mental Health Group Home" - Michelle Lyle said her nephew, Daymond Logan, battles schizophrenia and has stayed overnight at Hopewell Center's group home on Chamberlain Avenue for two months. On April 11, she said she received a call that Logan was badly beaten and in the hospital. "He was in a neck brace, two black eyes, broken nose, he was covered in bruises," said Lyle. Logan said it started around 7:30 p.m., when he got home from the mall an hour late for curfew. Following a verbal argument with an employee, Logan said he packed a bag and walked out. – KMOV 4 – April 23, 2019 – (Missouri) - <https://is.gd/IPWdTr>

14. "Woman Must Pay \$310,000 Restitution in Exploitation Case" - Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt said in a news release that Mary McDonald, of Bismark, paid the restitution and was also placed on five years' probation Monday as part of a plea deal. She previously pleaded guilty to financial exploitation of a disabled person and a Medicaid recipient. – The Kansas City Star- April 24, 2019 – (Missouri)- <https://is.gd/RdgcNB>

15. "Montana Rules Unclear In 'Chemical Restraint' Of Children" - When Annette Smith found out a 9-year-old Oregon girl she represents was being injected with Benadryl and other antihistamines to chemically restrain her for misbehavior and was also frequently being placed in locked seclusion while being treated at Acadia Montana in Butte, she was "horrified and scared for my client's safety," Smith told members of the Oregon Senate Human Services Committee on April 11. – San Francisco Chronicle- April 22, 2019 – (Montana)- <https://is.gd/NqaoOM>

16. "Police: Man Assaulted Patient At Rye Nursing Home" - Arrested April 2 at 11:45 p.m. was Hugh McIntyre, 69, of 106 Post Road, Greenland, for charges alleging simple assault; physical contact BI (bodily injury) sexual assault - sexual contact and "Abuse Fac (sic) Patient 1st offense," according

to Rye's public police log released last week. – Sea Coast Online – April 24, 2019 – (New Hampshire) - <https://is.gd/6MjYnO>

17. “Worker at Children’s Group Home Allegedly Assaulted EHT Boy” - Salome Bey, 42, is coordinator of residential services for YCS Cedar Brook, a nonprofit group home housing 10 boys and girls ages 5-10, according to its website. He is charged with aggravated assault after leaving the boy — identified in court papers at B.M. — with several abrasions, including one that appears deep and several inches long across his neck, according to photos BreakingAC was provided by his mother. – Breaking AC – April 19, 2019 – (New Jersey) - <https://is.gd/yPuCyr>

18. “NM Agrees to Settle 32-Year-Old Lawsuit” - The class-action lawsuit, filed in 1987, centers on services for people with developmental disabilities. In 1990, a federal judge ruled that New Mexico was violating the constitutional rights of people housed in state-run institutions, where they endured inhumane treatment. The decision resulted in court oversight of services to people with developmental disabilities. – Albuquerque Journal – April 18, 2019 – (New Mexico) - <https://is.gd/AHBwrl>

19. “Family: Man With Autism Forced to Run Treadmill, Beaten by Group Home Worker” - According to court documents, 31-year-old Richard Garnett, of Middle Island, forced the victim to run on a treadmill to "tire him out" and refused to let him off. Joseph Barouch, 23, eventually fell. At that point, Garnett allegedly did not report the injury or seek medical attention for Barouch, out of fear of being fired. – Long Island News 12- April 24, 2019 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/yQqPIr>

20. “Police: Man Stole \$150,000 From Mother for Porn, Fetish Materials” - Shaun M. Joseph took more than \$150,000 from bank accounts of his 91-year-old mother between April 1 and Dec. 1, 2018, according to an affidavit

and statement of facts filed in Dayton Municipal Court. – Dayton Daily News – April 18, 2019 – (Ohio) - <https://is.gd/jBy8HX>

21. “Officials Survey Finds Problems with Patients in Restraints, More at Mt. Carmel St. Ann's” - New documents released to ABC6/FOX28 Tuesday reveal problems uncovered at Mount Carmel St. Ann's. It's all in response to the investigation into the deaths of 35 patients under the care of former Mount Carmel doctor William Husel. – ABC ^ On Your Side – April 23, 2019 – (Ohio)- <https://is.gd/UqUW6I>

22. “Skiatook Man Accused of Raping Juvenile Girl During Walk Home” - A Skiatook man was arrested on an accusation of first-degree rape after police say he sexually assaulted an intellectually disabled girl while she was walking home. The girl, who is a juvenile, told her mother that Tylon Walsh, 18, assaulted her while he was escorting her home. – KJRH 2- April 23, 2019 – (Oklahoma) - <https://is.gd/a5o2Y2>

23. “Female Therapy Worker, 29, Sentenced To 8 Years for Raping Autistic Boy, 13, In His Gresham Bedroom” - Abigail Kim was found guilty of sexually abusing a 13-year-old boy who had autism. She was a behavioral therapist and the boy was her client. – The Oregonian – April 23, 2019 – (Oregon) - <https://is.gd/Gf60hh>

24. “Pennsylvania Government Watchdog To Probe Grace Packer’s Death” - Kauffman and state Rep. Karen Boback, R-Luzerne, chairwoman of the Children and Youth Committee, noted in a [letter](#) to Inspector General Bruce Beemer that DHS has oversight responsibility for county child welfare agencies. DHS is also supposed to investigate abuse allegations itself when the suspected perpetrator works for a county agency. Sara Packer was a former adoptions supervisor with Northampton County’s children and

youth agency. – The Morning Call – April 17, 2019 – (Pennsylvania)-
<https://is.gd/px2ubd>

25. Police: Caregiver charged with rape after assaulting client - Confidence Boms was arrested April 24th and charged with rape, sexual assault and access device fraud after assaulting a client in her Wormleysburg home. The victim reported the sexual assault involving her caregiver on Feb. 26, and identified Boms as her caregiver, according to an affidavit. – CBS 21 News – April 25, 2019 – (Pennsylvania)- <https://is.gd/Ev3lzO>

26. “FDA Must End the Legal Torture of Autistic People | Opinion” - For several years, disability rights advocates have raised concerns over practices that take place at the Judge Rotenberg Center in Massachusetts – specifically their use of an electric shock device called a gradual electronic decelerator. They are the only center in the United States that uses this device as an aversive, punishing residents for things such as standing up without permission, not taking off their coat, flapping their hands and even simply crying out in pain from a previous shock. – Tennessean – April 23, 2019 – (Tennessee) - <https://is.gd/DRTqyZ>

27. “Texas Removes Thousands of Children from Medicaid Each Month Due to Red Tape, Records Show” - Most states check once a year whether children on Medicaid still qualify for the program. Texas checks more often, using an automated system that critics say leads to kids losing coverage even though they're still eligible. – The Texas Tribune – April 22, 2019 – (Texas)-
<https://is.gd/DfD3W0>

28. “Sex Offender Arrested in Abuse of Disabled Woman” - Garrett Otto, 23, was booked into the Salt Lake County Jail on Tuesday for investigation of burglary, sexual battery and intentional abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult. The incident allegedly happened in January. Otto was staying with a

couple that included a 62-year-old woman who "had several disabilities which required her to use a wheelchair, cane and is completely disabled on the left side of her body," a jail report states.- KSL- April 25, 2019 – Utah- <https://is.gd/CiRJgZ>

29. "Human Rights Panel Accuses Corrections Department Of Bias Over Delayed Care" - A VHRC investigation found DOC and Centurion Health Care had shown "deliberate indifference" when they denied requests by Latonia Congress for new batteries, a new hearing exam and failed to return her hearing aids for nine months when they were sent out for repair. – VT Digger – April 22, 2019 – (Vermont) - <https://is.gd/XC0i6D>

30. "It's Not A Prison!': Children Physically Restrained and Isolated in Virginia Schools" - Children in Virginia schools are being physically restrained and isolated and it's legal. Some parents tell 8News their children have been hurt. The mother of Carson Luke of Chesapeake shared photos with 8News of her son's bloody and broken hands. They are injuries she says he suffered in the door of a seclusion room. – WRIC 8- April 18, 2019 – (Virginia) - <https://is.gd/GqyrOK>

31. "Special Ed Students Excluded from Field Trip Until Stuarts Draft Mom Speaks Up" - After Campbell had several conversations with school officials, the Exceptional Learners were invited on the field trip, a decision the division says is reflective of their inclusive education practices. Still, Campbell says the division hasn't addressed her concerns about discrimination against special education students, and one lawyer says the case could be a violation of federal law. – News Leader -USA Today Network – April 23, 2019 – (Virginia) - <https://is.gd/UPFBO7>

32. "Lafayette County Couple Charged with Child Abuse and Neglect" - Jamie Lee Weigel and Dalton Hopper each face four felony charges of child abuse,

neglect and intentionally causing harm. The Lafayette County Sheriff's Office began investigating after Weigel and Hopper brought their 4-month-old daughter to the Upland Hills Health Center in Dodgeville, where a physician assistant with UW Children's Hospital diagnosed her with "child neglect, non-organic failure to thrive and medical neglect." – WKOW 27 – April 18, 2019 – (Wisconsin) - <https://is.gd/oSIDKh>

33. "CNA Pleads 'Not Guilty' To Sexual Assault" - Jacob Schlosser of Arbor Vitae is charged with three counts of 2nd-degree sexual assault. At his arraignment hearing in Oneida County on Monday afternoon, Schlosser pleaded "not guilty" to all three counts. The charges stem from multiple incidents where Schlosser sexually assaulted two patients at the nursing home where he worked as a CNA. – WSAU – April 22, 2019 – (Wisconsin)- <https://is.gd/amZo2M>

34. "Man Booked on Aggravated Assault Charge After Allegedly Attacking Man in Wheelchair" - Cory Campbell was arrested during the nighttime hours of April 21, 2019. He faces recommended charges of Aggravated Assault and Battery and Breach of Peace. – Oil City News – April 22, 2019 – (Wyoming) - <https://is.gd/HJj3iY>

LAWS & LEGISLATION

35. "Trio of Frazier Bills Advance in Legislature" - Three bills authored by Assemblyman Jim Frazier have advanced after winning committee approvals, Frazier's office announced Thursday in a press release. – Daily Republic – April 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/FFh7Nu>

36. "Bill Creates Elder/Disabled Adult Abuse Offender Database" - State Senator James Maroney (D-Milford), said this legislation will provide peace of mind to the elderly and their families. – Patch – April 25, 2019 – (Connecticut) - <https://is.gd/hnAHuc>

37. “Grassley Keeps Heat On Nursing Homes, Announcing New Abuse Hearing After Investigations End” – Senr67 Charles Grassley (R-IA) revealed the next steps for his ongoing investigation in a statement [released on Monday](#). He noted that two government watchdog agencies will deliver reports on SNF care this summer, and he wants to wait until receiving those findings from the Office of the Inspector General and Government Accountability Office before calculating next steps. – McKinght’s Long-Term Care News – April 24, 2019 – (Iowa)- <https://is.gd/DD4aGZ>
38. “Michigan’s New Mental Health Bills” - As of 2017, there are an [estimated](#) 300,000 people living with mental illness in the state of Michigan alone. Many Michigan representatives, including Representative Hank Vaupel, of Livingston county, who toured the state to inspect its current mental health facilities, feel that the Michigan legislature has failed them in the treatment offered. Rep. Vaupel sponsored House Bill 5810, after the tour, which allowed for better and more extensive outpatient treatment in Michigan. – The Albion Pleiad -April 19, 2019 – (Michigan) - <https://is.gd/Q6UeUM>
39. “Advocates For People With Disabilities Promote MiABLE Savings Campaign”- Great Lakes Bay Region disability advocates recently announced they would join forces in Michigan's first-ever campaign to raise public awareness of the state's MiABLE savings program, created to help people with disabilities save for current and future expenses without jeopardizing eligibility for government benefits.- Midland Daily News – April 20, 2019 – (Michigan) - <https://is.gd/CzBLP2>

STUDIES & STATISTICS

40. “5 Myths About Girls with Asperger’s And Social Groups” - Here are five myths you may have heard about that need to be reconsidered when we

think about girls who have been diagnosed with Asperger's syndrome (AS), "mild autism," or autism spectrum disorder (ASD) level 1. This information comes from original research done as part of my Master's in Autism Studies (De Silva, 2016). – Autism Parenting Magazine – Date Not Given – (Australian) - <https://is.gd/yGlceb>

41. "Missouri Seniors Lose An Estimated \$800 Million Annually Due To Fraud, According To New Study" - Missouri senior adults lose an estimated \$800 million annually due to varying types of elder fraud, according to a new study published by [Comparitech](#), which claims the vast majority of elder fraud cases in the U.S. go unreported. The Comparitech research team analyzed data from government reports and registries, concluding that 5 million cases of elder fraud occur in the US annually resulting in \$27.4 billion in losses. – Lake Expo – April 22, 2019 – (Minnesota) - <https://is.gd/h0J5jF>

42. "Assaults Against Elderly Americans Are On The Rise, And No One's Sure Why" - The number of senior citizens in America is growing rapidly, and the largely vulnerable population is experiencing an alarming increase in violence and potential abuse, according to a [report](#) by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Assaults against the older generation of America nearly doubled between 2002 and 2016, and could double again by 2030 if population and violence rates continue on their current trend, the CDC said. – The Globe Post – April 23, 2019 – (National) - <https://is.gd/zHkmev>

43. "Oregon Nursing Home Abuse Not Properly Reported to Oversight Agency, Report Says" For at least 15 years, the Oregon Department of Human Services has failed to properly collect and report data about nursing home abuse to the federal government. This shortcoming directly affects the public and hinders the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, which has oversight authority for nursing home safety, according to a U.S.

Government Accountability Office report released this month. – Statesman Journal – April 23, 2019 – (Oregon) - <https://is.gd/kccYyH>

IMPROVED SUPPORTS

44. “Delaware Online Reservations for Substance Abuse Treatment Finds Success” - To make that process easier, Delaware has launched an online program similar to the restaurant reservation app OpenTable. Using the Delaware Treatment and Referral Network social workers, health care providers and others use the digital system to pinpoint where state treatment resources are available and reserve a space for a specific patient. – WHYY -April 19, 2019 – (Delaware)- <https://is.gd/jPwYcq>

45. “AG Derek Schmidt Creates Council to Prevent Elder Abuse” - Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt announced that he is establishing a council to assist in efforts to combat abuse of elder and dependent adults in the state. – KFDI – April 20, 2019 – (Kansas) - <https://is.gd/MN2HOH>

46. “Becker County Agencies Form New Team To Address Sexual Assault, Abuse” - In Becker County, a group of social services and law enforcement agencies have banded together to form a Sexual Assault Response Team (BCSART), dedicated to serving the victims of sexual assault and bringing the perpetrators to justice.- DL- Online – April 20, 2019 – (Minnesota) - <https://is.gd/49CZLF>

47. “How Tech Is Improving Lives in The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community” - Here's how new devices enhance accessibility and also improve the employment rate for the deaf and hard of hearing community. – Market Watch – April 18, 2019 – (National) - <https://is.gd/tBnikN>

48. “How We Can Make the World A Better Place for Immigrants with Disabilities” - Heavily weighted negative factors would include: perceived lack of employability, the current or past receipt of public benefits, and whether or not the applicant has the financial means to pay for medical costs. – Quartz – April 19, 2019 – (National) - <https://is.gd/hviE4T>
49. “Annual Take Back The Night Rally To Honor Voices Of Disabled Survivors”- The 41st annual [Take Back the Night Rally, March and Speak Out Against Sexual and Domestic Violence](#) will be held on Thursday. This year, the rally centers around disability justice and will feature keynote speaker Lydia X. Z. Brown, a disability rights activist. – Daily Emerald – April 23, 2019 – (Oregon)- <https://is.gd/ZHeCIS>
50. “How Quiet Headphones and Visual Guides Help Autistic Patients Get Better Health Care” - Autism causes greater sensitivity to one's surroundings, so an unfamiliar or busy environment like a doctor's office or hospital can be overwhelming. People with autism can have difficulties communicating, making it a challenge to answer questions or describe their symptoms to medical staff -- so problems can be harder to diagnose. – CNN – April 26, 2019 – (Pennsylvania)- <https://is.gd/ZnVQYm>
51. “Child Center Expands Effort; Exams Available for Abuse, Neglect Victims” - The Edisto Children's Center has opened a new satellite clinic which will provide forensic medical exams for children who have experienced any form of maltreatment, including abuse and neglect. The clinic will be open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on the first and third Thursday of every month. Pictured are staff from the ECC/Prisma Health Satellite Clinic located at 172428 Village Park Drive in Orangeburg. – The T & D – April 21, 2019 – (South Carolina)- <https://is.gd/et6nB3>

INTERNATIONAL

52. “I Did Not Rape Her’: Hong Kong Food Stall Owner Denies Sexual Assault Of Mentally Impaired Employee, Telling Police The Act Was ‘Consensual” - Prosecutors accused Pang Siu-kwok, 60, of groping his new employee, identified only as X in court, before forcing her into a toilet to attack her in the early hours of January 22, 2017. – South China Morning Post – April 24, 2019 – (China) - <https://is.gd/UMKbmn>
53. “Security Guard Who Repeatedly Raped Mentally Ill Teenager Given Life Sentence” - A building security guard who used his spare key to let himself into a tenant's apartment in order to rape her mentally ill teenage daughter has been handed a life sentence. The Pakistani worker, 21, carried out three sex attacks on the vulnerable victim, 18, while her mother was away from their apartment in Al Rafea, Dubai. – The National – April 21, 2019 – (Dubai) - <https://is.gd/iJkvec>
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 – April 18, 2019 – (England) - <https://is.gd/VjodV7>
55. “Dutch Report Shows Euthanasia Deaths Down Slightly In 2018 But on The Rise Again This Year” -In 2018, severe suffering linked to painful illnesses such as cancer and neurological, pulmonary and cardiac diseases accounted for 78.66 percent of the total number of euthanasia acts. Extreme physical suffering was the pretext used when euthanasia first became legal in the Netherlands in 2001. -Life Site News – April 17, 2019 – (Netherlands)- <https://is.gd/miojlt>

56. “Limited Showers, No Meal Prep: 'Ruthless' Plans to Cut Disabled Care Revealed” - Health bosses planned to limit showers and meals for the disabled, create long wait lists for specialist care, and refuse help for autistic children as part of a desperate cost-saving bid. Documents obtained by the Herald on Sunday reveal the "ruthless" cuts disability funding agencies offered to make after a \$100m sector overspend this year - suggestions so appalling a national rollout was eventually stopped. – NZ Herald – April 21, 2019 – (New Zealand)- <https://is.gd/OWNjXo>
57. “Rights Violations: NGO Wants Disability Laws Implemented” - The bill which was signed into law by President Muhammadu Buhari in January 2019, makes a provision of a five-year transitional period for public buildings and transportation facilities to make modifications to accommodate persons with disabilities. – Punch NG – April 19, 2019 – (Nigeria) - <https://is.gd/6PyZHQ>
58. “Nigeria: Special Report - The Real Story Of The Sexual Abuse Incident At Abuja School For The Deaf” - The report, first by the Abuja-based Human Rights Radio, that a child with a disability was sexually abused at a school his family hoped will help him with care, terrified parents and angered rights advocates, not less because it happened in the nation's capital. -All Africa – April 22, 2019 – (Nigeria) - <https://is.gd/XB3g9v>
59. “Investigation: Use Of Dangerous Restraint On Mentally Ill Patients Tripled In Scots Psychiatric Wards” - THE USE of dangerous techniques such as chemical sedation and physical restraint to control mentally ill patients has tripled in some parts of [Scotland](#) despite moves to clamp down on the practice, shocking new figures show. – The Herald – April 21, 2019 – (Scotland)- <https://is.gd/fF8Izq>

60. “Social Workers Could Have Prevented Abuse of Troon Murder Victim Sharon Greenop” - SOCIAL workers could have prevented abuse suffered by a disabled woman before she was murdered by her sister, a review has found. Sharon Greenop's body was found in her house in Troon, South Ayrshire, during 2016. The 46-year-old suffered a series of injuries including multiple rib fractures. – The Herald – April 24, 2019 – (Scotland) - <https://is.gd/FJAiEc>
61. “Time for Serbia to Uphold Rights of Women with Disabilities” - A recent review of Serbia [finds that the government is failing to protect](#) women with disabilities in institutions from violence. In its report, the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW Committee) also [criticized Serbian laws](#) that deprive women with disabilities of their legal capacity, the right to make decisions for themselves, and prevent them from accessing justice. – Human Rights Watch – April 23, 2019 – (Serbia) - <https://is.gd/8bKMrn>
62. “Un: Landmark Security Council Disability Rights Briefing” - The [Syrian](#) disability rights activist Nujeen Mustafa will brief the [United Nations Security Council](#) on April 24, 2019, on the situation for people with disabilities in Syria, Human Rights Watch said today. It will be the Security Council’s first formal consideration of the rights of people with disabilities who are caught up in armed conflict. – Human Rights Watch – April 24, 2019 – (Syria) - <https://is.gd/RFG8nn>
63. “‘We Were Treated Like Slaves’: Sisters Fleeing Oppressive Male ‘Guardianship’ Rules in Saudi Arabia Have Been Given Shelter in Georgia” - Wafa al-Subaie, 25, and Maha al-Subaie, 28, and fled the ultra-conservative country for the former Soviet republic of Georgia, claiming they could be killed if they are dragged back to their homeland. – Daily Mail – April 19, 2019 – (Saudi Arabia)- <https://is.gd/9MBYkH>

MISCELLANEOUS

64. Dementia, sex and the law -n 2007 a story evolved involving a husband and wife, Donna Lou Young, a dementia patient living in a nursing home, and her husband Henry V. Rayhons, in Duncan, Iowa, US. Henry was assumed to have continued to have sex with his wife Donna while she was in the nursing home. A week after Donna's death at the age of nearly 79, Henry was charged with raping her. As with rape charges, there are tests and public exposure of behaviours that were intended to remain behind closed doors in the bedroom. Henry was eventually found not guilty, but the emotional damage diminished his dignity and his humanity as a husband. This case raises questions about who you are when you are diagnosed with dementia and, more importantly, what the law allows you to do, or allow others to do with you. – Health and Fitness – April 21, 2019 – (Malta) - <https://is.gd/pcSSTN>

65. “Rehabilitation Psychologists: #Saytheword Disability” - A group of female rehabilitation psychologists with disabilities highlight the need for clinicians, educators and disability allies to normalize the word “disability.” – M Health Lab – April 22, 2019 – (Michigan) - <https://is.gd/SGik3L>

66. “Special Needs Drum Corps To Make History By Competing At World Championships” - A special needs drum corps from Long Island has been invited to perform and compete and the world championships in Williamsport, Penn. – WLNY 2 – April 19, 2019 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/H8flrt>