

# Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of April 27 to May 3, 2019

Articles Compiled by Debra J. Stemmler

Editing and Commentary by Nora J. Baladerian, Ph.D.,

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

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

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**Type:**

**Abuse and Neglect:**

Sexual Assault: 3, 4, 9, 16, 22, 24, 25, 29, 31, 32, 33, 60, 62, 63

Physical Abuse: 7, 10, 11, 14, 19, 26, 27

Emotional/Verbal Abuse: 1, 6, 8

Financial abuse: 13, 15

Kept enclosed: 54

Murder: 5, 17, 20, 30, 58

Neglect: 5, 17, 18, 20, 28

Related to special education: 6, 19, 22

ADA Access: 2

***WINNER of most egregious award:*** 6: Teachers forced children to stand naked in closet; 21: Oregon sends minors with disabilities out of state for care with no oversight at all; 58: Government rules to starve man to death.

**WINNER of “good job” award:** 3: 61-year-old rapist of 13-year-old girl sentenced to life in prison.

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

Family: 5, 30, 62

Carer: 4, 7, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20, 22, 27, 28, 31, 32

Co-resident: 25

Special education employee: 6, 9, 22

Teacher’s assistant: 19

Bus aide: 22

Skilled Nursing Facility: 7, 15, 17, 18, 20, 27, 32

Juvenile Detention: 8, 26

Group home: 33

Residential program 4

Hospital: 11

Law enforcement: 11

Psychiatric Aide: 14

Social worker: 1

Priest: 63

Court: 58

Men:

Women:

**Good News:** 35: Call for Registry of Caregiver abusers (MA); 36: MN Senate approves “marital rape” law repeal, hips sexual assault victims married to rapist; 37: New law to stop scamming elders for money; 38: Sexual assault bill to increase protections for victims; 41: Autism study recommends evaluation at 14 months of age; 65: New book on girls with autism.

**Bad News:** 42: Denver schools study shows 58 students handcuffed by school employees; 43: Less than 60% of nonprofits are ADA accessible; 51: Gap in protections in caregivers for hire as there is no tracking for those who are committing financial crimes.

## **ABUSE & NEGLECT**

1. “Parents Sue After Social Worker Photographs Daughter Nude” - A lawsuit against a social worker who strip-searched and photographed nude a child after an anonymous, unsubstantiated claim of abuse has moved up to the U.S. Supreme Court. The defendants are April Woodard, Christina Newbill, Shirley Rhodus and Richard Bengtsson of social services; the county

commissioners; and Reggie Bicha and Julie Krow of the state and county human services agencies. – WND- April 25, 2019 – (Colorado) - <https://is.gd/rl0S8N>

2. “Biased Landlords Ignore Disability Rights, Uphold Segregation, Activists say” - Disability, race, gender, mental illness, and criminal history are used by landlords against low-income renters to deny access to public housing. That’s according to Lydia Brown, a fellow with Washington’s Judge David L. Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law who advocates for people with mental disabilities. – Afro – April 27, 2019 – (D.C.) - <https://is.gd/prjex6>
3. “Man, 61, Who Raped and Impregnated a Non-Verbal Disabled 13-Year-Old Girl Is Jailed for Life” - Carlos Carrizales, 61, was jailed on Monday, having been convicted last month of rape and sexual battery of a child. The girl, who has cerebral palsy, became pregnant in 2016, and subsequent DNA testing of men in her life led officers from Polk County Sheriff's office to depraved Carrizales. – Daily Mail – April 30, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/ttGFz2>
4. “Blind Client Raped By Representative For Lake Mary Home Care Service, Seminole Deputies Say” - Gregory Lee Porras, a 42-year-old [Deltona](#) resident who worked for BrightStar Care in [Lake Mary](#), faces four felonies: two counts of sexual battery and one count each of abuse of a disabled adult and sexual offense by an employee on a disabled client. – Orlando Sentinel – May 6, 2019 – (Florida) - <https://is.gd/UF9mA8>
5. “Jury: Kan. Woman Guilty Of Murder In Husband’s Death From Neglect” - A Coffey County jury Thursday found Carol Sue Burris, 69, of New Strawn, guilty of one count of reckless second degree murder and one count of mistreatment of a dependent adult, according to Kansas Attorney General Derek Schmidt. – Hays Post – April 26, 2019 – (Kansas) - <https://is.gd/Thk2Vr>

6. “Teachers Charged After Ordering Preschool Children To Stand Naked In Closet” - Teacher 27-year-old Mary Agbehia, of Edwardsville, Illinois, and teacher's aide 41-year-old Shavonda Willis, of Fairview Heights, Illinois, are both charged with aggravated battery and unlawful restraint. – KMOV 4 – May 2, 2019 – (Illinois) - <https://is.gd/sDJwtz>
  
7. “Three Former Edmonson Center Employees Face Trial On Charges Of Patient Abuse” - Jerry Matthew Snyder, 34, of Leitchfield, is charged with 11 counts of knowingly abusing/neglecting an adult. Kayla Kinser, 26, of Leitchfield, is facing eight counts of the same charge and Kelly Dalane Duvall, 54, of Sweeden, has been charged with four counts of the same offense. – Bowling Green Daily News – May 1, 2019 – (Kentucky) - <https://is.gd/YqtF4y>
  
8. “State Agrees to Hand Over Records of Suicide Attempts at Long Creek” - Disability Rights Maine sued last year to get the records during an investigation into the state's only juvenile detention facility, where 5 suicide attempts were reported in a 3-month span. – Press Herald – April 30, 2019 – (Maine) - <https://is.gd/gMEioQ>
  
9. “Taunton Man Convicted for Indecently Assaulting an Autistic Woman” - Clifford Martin, 58, was sentenced to serve six to eight years in state prison, according to Bristol County District Attorney Thomas Quinn. Prosecutors said the 58-year-old man was charged after a five-day trial of indictments with three counts of indecent assault and battery on a person with an intellectual disability and one count of indecent assault and battery on a person over 14 years of age. – Turn To 10 – April 27, 2019 – (Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/dkoM2X>
  
10. “Police & Fire: Deaf Man Assaulted” - 65-year-old man who is deaf is being treated at Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo for head injuries after

he was assaulted in his home. Battle Creek police said Friday they are still searching for suspects in the case after spending much of the night and early morning hours Friday processing the crime scene and searching for evidence. – Battle Creek Enquirer – April 27, 2019 – (Michigan) - <https://is.gd/RtLLCF>

11. “Activists: DPD Officer Who Beat Mentally Ill Woman Shouldn't Be Cop” - An assault captured on video Detroit police Cpl. Dewayne Jones of a hospital patient last summer has activists saying he should lose his badge. Jones was found guilty of misdemeanor assault and battery last month for throwing more than a dozen punches at a naked, mentally ill woman at Detroit Receiving Hospital, by a jury. – Fox 2 Detroit – April 30, 2019 – (Michigan)- <https://is.gd/dkflfe>
  
12. “Commissioners Learn About Abuse of Vulnerable Adults” - In 2018, 218 cases of potential abuse of the elderly or other vulnerable adults in Morrison County were reported. – Morrison County Record – April 27, 2019 – (Minnesota) - <https://is.gd/nVy5Fd>
  
13. “Attorney General Schmitt Secures \$310,000 In Restitution for Financial Exploitation of Disabled Citizen and Medicaid Recipient” - Missouri Attorney General Eric Schmitt announced today that Mary McDonald of Bismark, Missouri, was ordered by the St. Francois County Circuit Court to pay \$310,000 in restitution for financially exploiting a disabled resident who was under McDonald’s care. This is one of the largest restitution amounts secured by Attorney General Schmitt since he took office. – The Caldwell County News – May 1, 2019 – (Missouri) - <https://is.gd/ZcpEro>
  
14. “Bancroft Psych Aides Abused Disabled Man: Authorities” - Now, 25-year-old Martha Ruiz and 24-year-old Kendall Crouch, of Clementon, are charged with physically abusing the man who was under their care at the facility for developmentally disabled adults and children on June 1, 2018, authorities announced. – Patch – April 29, 2019 – (New Jersey)- <https://is.gd/mAydoz>

15. “Caldwell Woman Accused of Stealing \$20K from Nursing Home Resident” - Karissa-Anne Frannicola, 29 was charged with theft by failure to make disposition of property received and misapplication of entrusted property for thefts that allegedly occurred between April and August of 2017. – Daily Voice – April 29, 2019 – (New Jersey) - <https://is.gd/KXbdey>
  
16. “County Court”- Clyde Self Jr. admitted to a violation of his probationary terms and was re-sentenced to four years in state prison with post-release supervision. He was on probation for one count of second-degree rape: disabled victim, stemming from a July 16, 2016 offense. Self is represented by the St. Lawrence County Public Defender’s Office. – North Country Now – April 27, 2019 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/y1EImm>
  
17. “Nursing Home Countersues Although Liability Accepted for Man’s Choking Death” - In 2013, an 82-year-old man died from a preventable choking incident at Woodhaven Care Center in New York. The nursing home accepted liability for the man’s death, and a jury awarded \$1 million to the man’s family highlighting the issues with understaffing. Today, Woodhaven has outrageously presented a countersuit against the family of the deceased for alleged money yet owed for his stay. – Levin & Perconti – April 28, 2019 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/d4s6so>
  
18. “Investigations, Fines, Lawsuits Reveal Troubles at Local Nursing Homes” - An \$85,925 fine against Safire Rehabilitation of Southtowns was the fifth-largest federal fine imposed on a nursing home in New York State in the last three years. State Department of Health inspectors in May 2016 found that a licensed practical nurse at the Buffalo nursing home failed to disinfect a shared blood glucose meter when testing up to 20 residents, including two who had known communicable bloodborne diseases. – The Buffalo News – April 29, 2019 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/zxlrTa>

19. “McDougle Middle School TA Resigns, Charged with Assaulting Disabled Student” - Danielle Denisha Bradsher – 27, of Roxboro – was charged on Monday with a misdemeanor count of assault on a handicap person. Carrboro Police Captain Chris Attack said via email on Wednesday that the charge “did stem from an investigation of an assault against a student at McDougle Middle School.” The alleged assault occurred on April 22, according to Attack. – Chapel Boro – May 1, 2019 – (North Carolina) - <https://is.gd/Q1nCeK>
  
20. “Report: LPN Ignored Man’s Deteriorating Condition” - Dana Jones, of Akron, was fired from the nursing home on Fairchild Avenue after the incident and was indicted earlier this month for allegedly neglecting the patient and causing his death while he was a resident of the facility, according to prosecutors. – Record–Courier – April 26, 2019 – (Ohio)- <https://is.gd/mqfomL>
  
21. “Oregon Sends Foster Kids with Disabilities to Other States” - In a heated legislative hearing this week, Sen. Sara Gelser, D-Corvallis, the chair of the Senate Human Services Committee, grilled Child Welfare officials. “How do you protect an intellectually disabled 9-year-old child sent thousands of miles away in a locked facility with no one assigned to that child to have safe eyes on them?” Gelser asked. It was also revealed there are seven Oregon children with intellectual or developmental disabilities in locked institutions out of state. – The Columbian – April 27, 2019 – (Oregon) - <https://is.gd/LFN3vP>
  
22. “Lorain Classroom Aide Allegedly Mistreats Paraplegic Student” - “Northwest Area, Former Aide Sued for Injuries to Autistic Boy” - The suit was filed this week by James and April Bohnam by and through their attorney, Scranton-based Joseph Price, on behalf of their minor son. According to the suit, the Bonhams’ son was injured by Susan Bobersky, 70, of Shickshinny, who was assigned as an aide on the van the boy rode to school. The injuries occurred in April 2017. The van was chartered by Barchik Bus Service and driven by Abraham Monroe, both of whom are also

- named as defendants. – Times Leader – April 27, 2019 – (Pennsylvania) - <https://is.gd/FITkIj>
23. “As Special Education Costs Soar, State Fails to Keep Up” - Special education costs in Northeast Pennsylvania school districts increased by \$110 million over nine years — straining budgets as districts try to deliver the education they are legally required to provide. – Citizens Voice – April 28, 2019 – (Pennsylvania) - <https://is.gd/xQIiZZ>
24. “Sewickley Township Man Rejects Plea Deal for Rape Charges” - Wayne Smith, 74, told Westmoreland County Common Pleas Court Judge Christopher Feliciani he would not plead guilty and asked that his case be decided at a nonjury trial in a courtroom closed to the public. – Trib Live – April 30, 2019 – (Pennsylvania) - <https://is.gd/6WTftG>
25. “West Reading Nursing Home Resident Charged in Sexual Assault” - Police say Ruben Velez-Ortiz went into the victim's room while she was sleeping and assaulted her. Velez-Ortiz was arraigned Friday night before District Judge Nicholas M. Bentz Jr. in Reading Central Court and committed to Berks County Prison in lieu of \$10,000 bail. – Reading Eagle – May 2, 2019 – (Pennsylvania) - <https://is.gd/1J9lrZ>
26. “Pa.’S Youth Development Center Staff Are Mistreating Mentally Disabled Kids, Advocacy Group Claims in Federal Lawsuit” - The Disability Rights case, filed in U.S. Middle District Court in Harrisburg, targets that state agency and the Loysville Youth Development Center in Perry County, the North Central Secure Treatment Unit in Danville, and the South Mountain Secure Treatment Unit in Franklin County. -Penn Live – May 1, 2019 – (Pennsylvania)- <https://is.gd/NwnfTH>
27. “Man Sentenced for 2018 Assault of Nursing Home Patient in Spartanburg Co.” - Christopher Pilgrim pleaded guilty last week to first-degree assault and was sentenced to 10 years with credit for 226 days he has already served. Pilgrim will also be required to register as a sex offender, according

to court records. – WSPA – April 30, 2019 – (South Carolina) - <https://is.gd/upLWDr>

28. “HCPD: Man Charged with Neglect After Elderly Woman Home Alone, Immobile” - The complainant said William Thomas Neville, 55, was leaving the woman home alone, and that hospice staff had "discontinued services due to the erratic behavior of the arrestee towards the hospice and visiting nurses staff," according to the incident report. – WPDE – April 30, 2019 – (South Carolina)- <https://is.gd/DYZQS6>
  
29. “3 Men Arrested for Heinous Sex Crimes in Shelby County, Some Against Disabled Child” - Montrell Hillard, 24, was arrested in the 1000 block of Oakmont Place. Hillard has been charged with two counts of rape where the victim was a 14-year-old disabled child. Hillard was taken to the Shelby County Jail without incident. No bond has been listed at this time for Hillard. – Fox 13 – April 27, 2019 – (Tennessee) - <https://is.gd/EqFkVA>
  
30. “HPD: Man Fatally Shot Cancer-Stricken Wife Before Killing Himself” - The wife had stage four cancer, according to police, who found two pistol casings with the bodies inside the couple's bathroom. – KHOU 11- April 26, 2019 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/FGG5Qq>
  
31. “Trial Begins for Adult Daycare Worker Accused of Impregnating Deaf, Disabled Woman” - Edgar Lane Sharp Jr., 34, is accused of aggravated sexual assault of a disabled person, a first-degree felony. The alleged victim, an MHMR client, was 24 at the time of the alleged assault but had the mental capacity of a 10-year-old child, according to a police affidavit. – Fort Worth Star-Telegram – April 29, 2019 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/tqmUE1>
  
32. Terrified dementia patient ‘frantically pushed help button as carer sexually assaulted her’ - A terrified dementia sufferer frantically pushed a help button in a bid to stop one of her carers sexually assaulting her, a lawsuit claims.

The 65 year-old, who has not been named, claims she was attacked by Norman Eugene Lee at the Willowbrook Residence and Rehabilitation Center in Houston, Texas, in March 2018. – Metro – May 1, 2019 – (Texas) - <https://is.gd/2734yq>

33. “Utah Group Home Employee Charged with Sexually Abusing Vulnerable Adult” - Samuel Robert Huntington, 20, of West Jordan, has been charged in 3rd District Court with two counts of forcible sexual abuse, a second-degree felony. The alleged victim, according to charging documents, is a "vulnerable adult who lives in a group home" and at the time of the alleged assaults, Huntington "worked in that group home." - <https://is.gd/gFIK0O>

## **GUARDIANSHIP**

34. “Guardian Partners Expands Programing to Offer Abuse-Prevention in Columbia County” - Guardian Partners held a launch party in St. Helens on March 20, 2019 to announce the expansion of their programs into Columbia County. Founded in 2013, Guardian Partners offers Guardianship, Conservator and Personal Representative classes with the goal of reducing mistreatment of Protected People. – The Chronicle Online- April 30, 2019 – (Pennsylvania)- <https://is.gd/n4f9Ij>

## **LAWS & LEGISLATION**

35. “Advocates Push for Registry of Caretakers Who Abuse the Disabled” - The legislation (H 101 / S 71), often referred to as “Nicky’s Law,” would require the Disabled Persons Protection Commission to create a confidential registry naming any caregiver who was credibly found to have abused an individual. Providers would be legally required not to hire anyone named in the list. – Telegram – April 30, 2019 – (Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/WgFMQ2>

36. “Senate Approves 'Marital Rape' Repeal, Prodded by Determined Survivor” - Jenny Teeson has told Minnesota lawmakers many times, often in explicit detail, the story of being sexually assaulted by her former husband — and

how he all but escaped justice. On Monday, the 39-year-old Andover woman saw her persistence pay off as the Minnesota Senate voted unanimously to repeal a decades-old law that sometimes shields spouses and domestic partners from prosecution for marital rape. – Star Tribune – April 30, 2019 – (Minnesota) - <https://is.gd/UrXfoF>

37. “Gottheimer Fights Back Against Scammers with Bipartisan Senior Security Act” - Today, Monday, April 29, 2019, U.S. Congressman Josh Gottheimer (NJ-5) spoke alongside seniors targeted by financial scams announcing the bipartisan Senior Security Act, which will help stop financial predators from scamming seniors out of their savings by creating the Senior Investor Taskforce within the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). – Insider NJ – April 29, 2019 – (New Jersey) - <https://is.gd/e0KTDo>

38. “Sexual Assault Bill Gets Unanimous Support in House” - House Bill 393 will now move to the state Senate. The bill would modify language in three areas of state law. One makes it illegal to have sex with incapacitated people even if they were responsible for causing their own condition through use of drugs or alcohol. Another change makes it a crime to tamper with someone’s drink, even if a later crime does not take place. A third change modifies the definition of a child’s caretaker. – The State – April 29, 2019 – (North Carolina) - <https://is.gd/qzlvBg>

39. “Fate of State Centers for People with Intellectual Disabilities Debated in Harrisburg” - A bill previously before the General Assembly would have required Pennsylvania’s Department of Human Services to prepare a plan to close the remaining state centers for people with intellectual disabilities by 2023, though the legislation did not get a vote and has not been reintroduced for the current legislative session. – Post Gazette – April 30, 2019 – (Pennsylvania)- <https://is.gd/IPvDkt>

40. “Tony Evers' First Bill-Signing Removes 'R-Word' From Administrative Code” - Evers in March signed an executive order directing state agencies to

replace the terms “mentally retarded” and “mental retardation” with “intellectual disability,” and replacing “handicapped” with “disabled.” – The Chippewa Herald – May 2, 2019 – (Wisconsin) - <https://is.gd/JRnk7a>

## **STUDIES & STATISTICS**

41. “When to Screen for Autism? New Study Suggests As Young As 14 Months” - "This opens up really unprecedented opportunity to get them into early treatment -- potentially early intensive treatment -- and then check to see what kind of impact this is having by the time they reach school age," said Karen Pierce, a professor of neuroscience and co-director of the Autism Center of Excellence at the [University of California, San Diego](https://is.gd/BI2MfY), who was first author of the new study. – WFSB- April 29, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/BI2MfY>
  
42. “Denver Public Schools Outlines Student Handcuff Policies”- report given to the Denver School Board shows 58 students have been handcuffed by Denver Public School (DPS) safety employees from 2017 to 2019. Wants to Know obtained part of the report through a records request. A full report to the board is still pending, according to Will Jones, director of media relations for Denver Public Schools. – 9 News – April 26, 2019 – (Colorado) - <https://is.gd/NOcC9e>
  
43. “Nonprofits Struggle to Be Inclusive to Workers with Disabilities” - Among other damning statistics: Fewer than 60% of groups typically ensure that the spaces for their events are physically accessible. That disparity, first reported by [The Chronicle of Philanthropy](https://is.gd/NOcC9e), has led to some obvious mistakes in how services get provided. – Fast Company -April 29, 2019 – (National)
  
44. “Disabled Students Say BYU Lacks Accessibility, May Break Federal Law” - Kendra Muller, a disabled student who just graduated from the university, is leading a group of seven which calls itself the Equal Access and Disability Rights Commission. It has compiled lengthy statements from others,

explaining challenges at BYU through temporary and permanent disabilities. The accounts are in a 100-page report, which the group gave to the Y's Accessibility Center. – 2 KUTV – April 26, 2019 – (Utah)- <https://is.gd/YeRKPH>

## **IMPROVED SUPPORTS**

45. “Families with Autistic Children Can Practice Getting On a Plane” - That's Why Autism Double-Checked and JetSuiteX are partnering up, not just to train crew members on how to help those with autism have a comfortable flight, but to also let families with autistic children practice boarding a plane. – NBC Los Angeles – April 27, 2019 – (California) - <https://is.gd/VS6kjh>
  
46. “Denverconnect Delivers an Innovative Satellite Community Center to Older Adults” - Agency on Aging today launched DenverConnect, an innovative mobile resource center that will bring state and city services and resources to neighborhoods and places where older adults live and gather. The DenverConnect van was officially launched at the Montbello Recreation Center in Denver. – Prime Time News – April 27, 2019 – (Colorado)- <https://is.gd/XZH8OX>
  
47. “Abuse Victim in Gary: Treat Child Abuse, Neglect Like a Deadly Disease” - A woman who survived severe child abuse says our country should take a similar public-health approach to the mistreatment of kids, which kills about five of them a day. So Poland, of Denver, recently started the [National Foundation to End Child Abuse and Neglect](#), or EndCAN. – NewsBug Info – April 29, 2019 – (Colorado) - <https://is.gd/HulcCW>
  
48. “State Leaders Fight for Rights of Older Georgians” - “Basically, middle class senior adults who aren’t wealthy enough to afford luxury senior living, but they aren’t poor enough to qualify for the government programs that are available,” said LaHood. Georgia Council on Aging and CO-AGE

representatives met with legislators, like LaHood, every day during the past legislative session, in hopes of giving voices to the seniors who may not be able to make it to the Capitol to do so themselves. – WALB- May 1, 2019 – (Georgia) - <https://is.gd/5UfeZR>

49. “Transition Fair Helps Special Ed Grads Enter Next Phase of Their Lives” - To shed light on that dilemma, the Orange-Ulster BOCES Special Education Division organized a Transition and Resource Fair. It brought together regional specialists and service providers, armed with information on options such as independent living possibilities (ARC), modified college education programs (Successful Learning Center of Monroe), vocational programs, community resources, and even legal and financial advice. – Record Online – April 26, 2019 – (Indiana)- <https://is.gd/LAaC5m>
  
50. “Organization Helping Flint's Most Vulnerable Children in Their Time of Need” - According to the Flint Advocacy Center ‘Voices for Children,’ in 2017, there were more than 2,800 cases of child abuse in Genesee County alone. It’s because of that alarming statistic that those at the center strive to provide resources for kids dealing with child abuse. – NBC 25 News – April 30, 2019 – (Michigan)- <https://is.gd/D7o9w5>
  
51. “Unprotected: Inmate Who Stole from Elderly Warns Families About Dangers of Hiring a Caregiver” - Even more alarming, home health care workers who have committed financial crimes are not tracked in any statewide registry. The [National Adult Protective Services Association](#) released findings in a [March 2018 report](#) into the availability of abuser registries in states across the country. It identified 26 states with Adult Protective registries but found Ohio's registry is maintained by the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities -- not APS employees and applies only in cases where victims are persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities. – News 5 Cleveland – April 30, 2019 – (Ohio) - <https://is.gd/sem6Rr>

52. “Sheltered Workshops For People With Disabilities: A Reliable Opportunity Or An Outdated System?”-But now a federal regulation is scrutinizing sheltered workshops like those in [Utah](#) and around the country, pressuring them to change by 2022, or risk losing federal Medicaid funding. For some sheltered workshops, coming into compliance could upend their business model with higher costs from increased support plans for employees, higher support staff ratios and more turnover as participants transition out. – KUER 90.1 – April 8, 2019 – (Utah) - <https://is.gd/gyUnXj>
53. A Workable Alternative to Nursing Homes in Vermont — Adult Family Care - About a dozen states have similar programs. Many are called "Adult Foster Home Care." They differ greatly in terms of eligibility and licensing requirements, number of residents and compensation. Many programs allow up to five residents. – NPR- April 27, 2019 – (Vermont) - <https://is.gd/P0Bj66>

## **INTERNATIONAL**

54. “Derryn Hinch Slams Sentencing of Pair Who Kept Disabled Warrnambool Pair Prisoners” - VICTORIAN Senator Derryn Hinch has slammed Australia's justice system for failing to send two people who kept two disabled Warrnambool women against their will to prison. Kimberley Cramp, 28, and her partner-carer Alexander Trewin, 27, befriended the women before conning them into going to the couple's Wodonga home, where the victims were held between August 15 and October 12, 2016. – The Standard- April 29, 2019 – (Australia)- <https://is.gd/KkpJs2>
55. “Son ‘Kills’ Mother, Grandmother” - The deceased are Marjina Khatun, 55 and her mother Shamsunnahar, 70 of the village. Imran Hossain, 22, a mentally retarded son of Marjina used to hit Marjina and Shamsunnahar over giving him medicine, said Maheshpur police station officer-in-charge Rashedul Alam. – Prothom Alo – April 26, 2019 – (Bangladesh) - <https://is.gd/hEYPZG>

56. “Disabled Hong Kong Workers Hit Back Against ‘Bullying’, Marginalization and ‘Unfair’ Retirement Age” - Workers at the Factory for the Blind in to Kwa Wan say they are treated as ‘cheap labour’ and are unhappy with the factory’s planned relocation. Disabled workers are forced to retire at 55, which they say leaves them vulnerable to isolation. – South China Morning Post – April 27, 2019 – (China) - <https://is.gd/AS1NU3>
57. “Claudia's Law Could Be in Place by July” - The results of consultation by the Ministry of Justice into changes to the Guardianship (Missing Persons) Act were published today, showing cross-party support for the legislation - which will help families deal with the financial and property affairs of missing loved ones. – Yorkshire Post – April 29, 2019 – (England) - <https://is.gd/Q1nI79>
58. Govt Ruling Deprives France’s Terri Schiavo of Food and Water Until He Dies” - Vincent Lambert, known as France’s Terri Schiavo, has lost his last possible legal recourse in his home country against a medical decision ordering slow euthanasia. The efforts to save the life of the minimally conscious, tetraplegic 42-year-old man by his parents and two siblings will go no further in French jurisdictions after the Conseil d’Etat (Council of State) decided Tuesday that Lambert must in his own “interests” be deprived of food and fluids and placed under deep sedation until he dies. – Life Site News – April 26, 2019 – (France)- <https://is.gd/I473y5>
59. “Speed Up Persons with Disabilities Bill, Players Say” - At the moment, only two per cent of Persons with Disabilities are employed in Kenya. The latest government data on men and women indicate 3.5 per cent of Kenya’s population is living with a disability. Persons with disabilities want government to speed up enactment of the Persons with Disabilities Bill 2018, to improve their employment and service access. – The Star – April 27, 2019 – (Kenya) - <https://is.gd/KtljYD>

60. “Arunachal Women Welfare Society Demands a Rapid Investigation into The Kamba Rape Case” - Responding to assistances sought by the family members to take up the case, the APWWS members went to Kamba and interacted with the victim and her family members. The apex women wing of the district expressed their anguish over the way a mentally retarded minor girl has been treated. In a strongly worded letter to the district administration and police, APPWS has termed the incident as “a heinous crime” and demanded “exemplary punishment to the perpetrator of such crime against girl child”. – The Sentinel – April 29, 2019 – (Kenya)- <https://is.gd/2qGsgL>
61. “R. Kelly Claims Learning Disability Prevented Him from Reading Court Papers” - And now, his lawyers Zaid Abdallah and Raed Shalabi have claimed that Kelly had no idea what the serving papers were about and therefore didn't take the appropriate steps to defend himself, because of a learning disability that prevents him from being able to read. According to TMZ, documents filed by Abdallah and Shalabi read: “[Kelly] suffers from a learning disability that adversely affects his ability to read. In essence he cannot.” – New Zealand News – April 27, 2019 - <https://is.gd/CRVSwo>
62. “Uncle Is in Custody for Allegedly Raping His 14-Year-Old Disabled Niece” - His arrest came after a teacher of the victim noticed a change in her behavior and body. Upon investigation, the family discovered that the girl is seven months pregnant. – Ridge Times – April 27, 2019 - (South Africa) - <https://is.gd/CSkO1K>
63. “Timor-Leste Police Arrest US Former Priest For Sex Abuse” - [Richard Dasbach](#), 82, who has reportedly admitted abusing children at Topu Honis orphanage he founded in Kutet in Oecusse district was arrested on April 26, according to according to [Portuguese-language Agência Lusa](#) and confirmed by a local source. He established Topu Honis in 1993 to provide care for homeless children, as well as disabled adults, and women fleeing domestic abuse. -UCA News – April 29, 2019 – (Timor-Leste) - <https://is.gd/wXwuuC>

64. “Guidance On Strengthening Disability Inclusion in Humanitarian Response Plans” -Reaching the people who are most in need of assistance is central to the humanitarian mandate and is reflected in the humanitarian principles of humanity and impartiality. In a humanitarian emergency, people with disabilities are often among those most in need of assistance as they are at heightened risk of violence, exploitation or abuse. – Relief Web – April 29, 2019 – (United Kingdom)- <https://is.gd/yoL0Fr>

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

65. “Different For Girls: Understanding Autism” - Girls with autism are often misdiagnosed, but a new graphic novel aims to put them in the picture- The Guardian- April 28, 2019 – (National)- <https://is.gd/NqUo1d>