Health Impact News

Medical Kidnapping Children in the United States: Connecticut

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Connecticut



17 Month Old Baby Taken from Family for Disagreeing with Doctors



Baby Jaxon Gilmore. Image from <u>Bring Jaxon Gilmore Home</u> <u>Facebook Page</u>.

by Terri LaPoint Health Impact News

Jessica Gilmore says, "I just want to love my grandson. That's all I want." However, if Connecticut DCF (their child protective services) has their way, little 17-month-old Jaxon Gilmore, who may not have much longer to live, will be adopted out to strangers, all because a grandmother allegedly questioned authority, seeking the best possible care for her sick grandchild. Here is the family's story as reported to Health Impact News.

A Premature Baby with Health Complications

Jaxon was born very prematurely. His mother Alysia had not reached her third trimester when she developed serious complications in her pregnancy, including pneumonia, DIC, and HELLP syndrome. On June 16, 2013, her baby was born while she was in ICU, at just under 28 weeks. Baby Jaxon suffers from Cerebral Palsy and Infantile Spasm (a type of epilepsy), as well as other medical conditions. He has spent much of his young life in the hospital.



Image from Bring Jaxon Gilmore Home Facebook Page

During the difficult journey of seeing her beloved grandson in the NICU for extended periods of time, Jessica diligently sought the best care and the best information she could find. Though she is not currently practicing, Grandma Jessica has a bachelor's degree in nursing, which has given her an advantage as she researches. It has not been easy to find answers to Jaxon's complex health issues. Since Jaxon's mother Alysia almost died during the birth, Grandma Jessica took on the responsibility of overseeing the care of her young grandson.

Connecticut Children's Medical Center was where Jessica and Alysia first heard the devastating words they will never forget:

[&]quot;Enjoy every second with him," because CCMC did not expect

Seeking out the Best Medical Advice Possible

Over the course of the next several months, Jaxon's family took him to Middlesex Hospital, to Yale, and to Boston Children's Hospital, hoping to find another answer. They wanted to find someone to give them hope that they could help their sweet baby get better. But one after the other gave them the same, horrible response. "Enjoy every second with him." He was very sick.

The family went to different doctors and different hospitals trying to find answers and the correct treatment for this "medically complex child," and to get Jaxon's numerous seizures to stop. Jessica reports that at times he was experiencing 60 to 100 seizures a day. Once, while Jaxon was experiencing a seizure on a doctor's table, it was allegedly dismissed as "reflux." Sometimes the experts they looked to didn't have all the answers.

Another time CCMC reportedly phoned the Gilmores to inform them that they were calling Jaxon a "do not resuscitate," meaning that if something were to happen to Jaxon and he were to stop breathing, the hospital would not step in to save his life. Jessica disputed that label, and demanded that "my grandson is a full resuscitate."

After nine months of seeking the best possible care they could find, Ms. Gilmore found a neurologist at Boston Children's hospital who figured out that Jaxon's correct diagnosis for some of his medical issues is "Infantile Spasm." The doctor prescribed a combination of ACTH and Sabril, a medication that only a few doctors in a few hospitals

are licensed to prescribe. The medications were working, and the seizures were getting better.

Connecticut Child Protective Services Accuses Family of "Doctor Shopping"

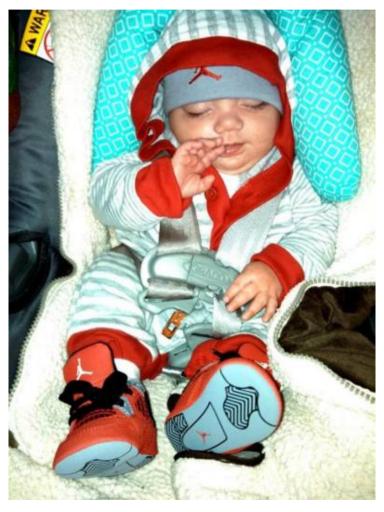


Image from Bring Jaxon Gilmore Home Facebook Page

Instead of applauding the Gilmores for doing everything they can to find help for their most helpless family member, Connecticut DCF (child protective services) stepped in, allegedly accusing them of being "argumentative" and of "doctor shopping." In March, DCF filed an OTC: order of temporary custody.

All of a sudden, it was allegedly no longer OK for Jessica to care for Jaxon, because she "questioned authority," even though admittedly DCF had no concerns about Jessica's care of her adopted seven-year-old granddaughter whom she had taken custody of when her other daughter tragically died a couple years earlier.

American Medical Association Encourages Second Opinions

Another name for doctor shopping might be "asking for a second opinion" or even a third. While conventional wisdom has always held that it is due diligence to seek a second opinion for serious medical conditions, the American Medical Association itself has upheld the right of patients to do so. In their Code of Medical Ethics, the stated opinion of the AMA is that doctors should facilitate their patients asking for second opinions:

"Patients are also free to obtain second opinions on their own initiative, with or without their physician's knowledge." (Source.)

By default, should not this right of patients extend to parents asking for a second opinion for their child?

However, this is a point the family feels DCF and possessive doctors seem to have missed. Though the AMA position has not changed, "doctor shopping" and disputing a doctor are apparently no longer acceptable to do in the pediatrics/child protective services world.

When shopping for a car seat or a refrigerator or flat-screen TV, the public is expected to shop around and ask questions, to find the best possible product to meet their needs. Yet when seeking life or death answers for the person who means more than anything else in the whole world, parents are reporting to us that seeking a second medical opinion is being used as grounds for what they call "legal kidnapping."

Baby Jaxon Taken Away from Family – Family Claims he is Suffering as a Result

The family states that Connecticut DCF took custody of Baby Jaxon in March. Since Jaxon has allegedly been in state custody, his family claims that they have had a hard fight to ensure that Jaxon still receives the medications that are helping him. He has allegedly gone for days without it, during which he reportedly suffered more seizures.

Vaccines Allegedly Given to Sick Baby without Family Approval and Against Vaccine Manufacturer's Advice

Jaxon was fully vaccinated at birth, and the family reports he has been current on all of the recommended vaccines.

Once under the care of DCF, the family says that Jaxon contracted an infection during his stay at the Hospital for Special Care. He was allegedly running a fever at the time the hospital wanted to vaccinate him against RSV (Respiratory syncytial virus.) Despite the fact that Ms. Gilmore allegedly requested they delay the shot until he was better, she states that the hospital gave it to him anyway. She says that he almost died from it. Jessica told us that the manufacturer of Sabril recommends that Jaxon should have not have received any vaccines during his first six months on the medication.

Using a Psychological Diagnosis to Remove Custody

Jessica continues to advocate for the best care possible, but she believes she is being stonewalled. She claims there are a number of facts that would exonerate her, as well as documents and motions filed which have not reached the judge. She says DCF has focused on the "argumentativeness," something that others might see as a mama bear (or grandmama bear) fighting for and advocating for her cub.

After the death of her first daughter and the difficult birth of her grandson Jaxon, Jessica was diagnosed with PTSD (Post-traumatic stress disorder). DCF has also alleged that Jessica's PTSD precludes her from adequately caring for her grandchild.

If this is truly the case, by their logic, few veterans should have care of their children or grandchildren. Adult survivors of sexual or physical abuse would be precluded, as well as many parents in Manhattan who were near Ground Zero on 9/11. Survivors of earthquakes, tornadoes, and car accidents would be called into question as well. In short, basing a person's ability to care for a child on a diagnosis of PTSD, without evidence of harm, would probably warrant the removal of millions of children from the custody of their

families.

For a child, being separated from their family and taken from their home is, itself, quite traumatic, and it is a safe bet that many children in foster care suffer from PTSD simply from the separation. When a child is taken from the home for physical or sexual abuse, the benefits of removal might outweigh the risks. But even so, the separation still causes trauma. When the child is taken from a loving family who loves and nurtures the child, could not the state be accused of becoming the abuser, causing PTSD in some of the very children they purport to save?

Ms. Gilmore told *Health Impact News* that this situation seems to boil down to a couple of people associated with the case not liking her because she was has been such "a fierce advocate for [her] grandson's needs." As crazy as that sounds, a legitimate source involved with the case admits, "It is obvious that they don't like you. It is obvious that this is about 'like.!"

A Baby's Life is in Danger



Image from <u>Bring Jaxon Gilmore Home Facebook Page</u>

No one involved with this case knows how long baby Jaxon will survive. His medical condition is very serious. A friend of the family, Jacqueline Lilly, has <u>written a petition</u> for the family which they plan to send to Governor Dannel Malloy. In it she writes this heartbreaking statement:

"A prolonged seizure can take the life of this precious child – and if this sweet boy is going to die, he deserves to be surrounded by the love of his family." (Source.)

There is a custody hearing scheduled for Tuesday, November 25. Jessica Gilmore has allegedly been told there is a possibility that, within the next six months, Jaxon may actually be adopted by someone else outside the family, even though he has a grandmother who loves him with all her heart and wants him home. He is, in her words, "a precious baby whose life matters" whom she loves "heart and soul."

"I see my grandson, not his complex medical needs, which of course I know well, and I am trained to care for him competently. I see a precious life, not a number or a file on someone's desk."

Supporters are urged to <u>sign the petition</u> to request that Jaxon Gilmore be allowed to return home. A <u>Facebook page</u> has been set up to help support the family and contribute ideas to help.



Connecticut Teen Taken Away from Mother and Physically Forced to have Chemotherapy



17 year old Cassandra with mother Jackie Forton. Image courtesy <u>NBC Connecticut</u>.

UPDATE:

1/8/2015 - Connecticut State Supreme court sided with the

Department of Children and Families and determined Cassandra must remain in state custody to continue forced chemotherapy. <u>More</u>.

Health Impact News Editor Comments

Several local news media in Connecticut are reporting that a 17 year old girl who is refusing chemo therapy and seeking a second opinion has been taken into custody by the Connecticut Department of Children and Families and been physically forced to have chemo therapy against her desire. Cassandra's mother, Jackie Forton, supported her daughter's decision, and as a result of disagreeing with the doctors, lost custody of her daughter.

"It's her constitutional right – she doesn't want poison and toxins put in her body. It's her choice and I support her decision," Fortin said. (Source.)

According to the Hartford Courant, Cassandra is being home-schooled and is considered a senior, and has been diagnosed with "stage 3/4" Hodgkin's lymphoma.

After Cassandra had a portion of her lymph node surgically removed at the hospital, mom and daughter left the hospital against medical advice. Fortin said they were going to seek a second opinion in another state – but the CCMC doctors, who are mandated reporters, called DCF and raised an issue of parental medical neglect. DCF went to Superior Court and won custody and permission to proceed with treatment. (Source.)

NBC Connecticut interviewed the mother:

Video no longer available.

"When you think about what freedom means," said Taylor (family attorney), "a big part of it means being able to say to the government, 'You can't tell me what to do with my own body.'" (Source.)

The case will reportedly go before the Connecticut Supreme Court this coming week. The Supreme Court said that it would rule whether "DCF (is) properly authorized to make medical decisions on (the) child's behalf, and whether (a) 17-year-old must receive medical treatment against her wishes."

According to the <u>Hartford Courant</u>, Cassandra was forced physically to comply with doctor's orders:

Cassandra and her mother initially complied with the court order and the teenager received her first two chemotherapy treatments in November. But Cassandra "subsequently ran away from home to avoid further treatment" the summary states.

When she returned, she continued to refuse the treatment, the summary says.

Fortin said that Cassandra "put up a fight" and had to be strapped down on the hospital bed to have preparatory surgery before the chemotherapy began, and that she has not been permitted to leave the hospital room in about four weeks.

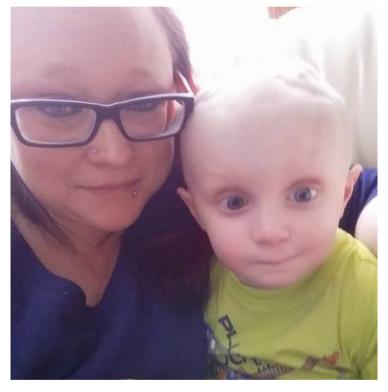
Connecticut Governor Malloy's telephone number is (860) 566-4840 and his website says your opinion matters to him and that you can <a href="mailto:ema

References

The Hartford Courant

NBC Connecticut

No Charges Filed, But 3-year Old Cancer Child Taken from Mother over "Diaper Rash"



Wendy and Weston (Source: Pray for Weston Facebook page)

by Terri LaPoint Health Impact News

A little boy recovering from a brain tumor has been has been

taken from his mother, in what some are calling a medical kidnapping in Connecticut. After surviving a year of intensive chemotherapy and radiation treatments, 3 year old Weston Lamarre was declared to be in remission and cancerfree. But just two months later Child Protective Services stepped in and took him away from the mother who has stayed by his side every step of the way of their heartrending journey.

Now Wendy Lamarre is fighting to get her son back, after an unexplained bruise discovered at daycare resulted in Connecticut's DCF being called in and Weston being taken from her. Even though the investigation allegedly concluded that she did nothing wrong, she still does not have him back. This child trying to heal from cancer reportedly only gets to see his mommy for two hours a week.

According to Wendy:

Cancer is a disease where you need to feel loved and supported to beat it, and by taking him out of my home and making him feel abandoned, it is a recipe for disaster in his fight against cancer. I fought to get him where he is today in terms of his health, and I refuse to stop fighting now. ... I am desperate. ... I need him to be home where he is comfortable and where he is loved and belongs.

Cancer Diagnosed and Followed with 51 Weeks of Chemotherapy

When Weston was 22 months old, doctors discovered that he had a brain tumor on the back of his head that was the size of a baseball. It was a rare, but aggressive, form of cancer

known as ATRT, which attacks the brain, spine, and organs. According to <u>St. Jude</u>, the survival rate for children under 3 is less than 10%. But thus far, Weston has beaten the odds.



Weston after surgery

Most of the tumor was removed in a 14-hour surgery, which was followed by a grueling schedule of 51 weeks of aggressive chemo at Connecticut Children's Medical Center, and then 6 weeks of radiation. He had surgeries to insert a shunt and ports, and a g-tube for feeding. All of the treatments affected his hearing and vision, as well as his ability to walk

and talk. He had numerous blood and platelet transfusions, and sometimes had bleeding issues from all the chemo.

His mother is a medical assistant by trade, and she went right to work learning everything that she needed to know in order to help take care of him. Weston's oncologist reports that Wendy stayed right by his side all through his numerous and lengthy hospital stays, saying that sometimes they had to insist that she go home and get some rest away from the hospital. Wendy loves her son and was determined to fight with everything within her for Weston's life.



Wendy reads Weston's favorite book in the hospital

Remission and Getting Back to Normal

Just after his 3rd birthday, Weston received his final dose of chemo on September 28, 2014. The doctors declared the good news that he was in remission. The cancer and treatments had taken a toll on his little body, and he was still unable to walk or talk, but he could crawl.

Life began to fall into a more normal routine for Wendy and Weston. Wendy was rehired at her old job as a medical assistant. Weston began a half-day program for children with special needs on October 16, and attended his old daycare. He also had a pretty intensive schedule of physical and occupational therapy.

He still had to go to the hospital once a week for blood work and sometimes transfusions.

A Simple Diaper Rash Leads to Trip to Hospital

According to Wendy, November 5 was "a typical day." She went to work, and Weston went to daycare. She picked him up at 4:30 and took him home. They ate dinner, watched tv, and she put him to bed.

The next morning while they were getting ready, Wendy noticed what appeared to be a diaper rash. She applied Boudreaux's Butt Paste, a thick, zinc oxide-based diaper rash cream. She mentioned the rash to the daycare staff when she dropped him off, and all appeared fine.

About a half hour after she arrived from work, Wendy reports that she got a call from the daycare that Weston had some bruising in his diaper area. Because of Weston's medical history, the doctors had told her to bring in her son whenever there was anything out of the ordinary. So Wendy took Weston to Connecticut Children's Medical Center.

Removal of Child by the State of Connecticut

Weston's normal oncologist was not there, so he was examined by Dr. Donna Boruchov, a doctor who was not

ordinarily involved in his care. Without considering numerous possibilities of a medical explanation for the bruising, she allegedly said that she could not determine what caused it and told Wendy to go to the SCAN clinic to get a second opinion. What Wendy didn't realize at the time was that SCAN stands for <u>Child Abuse and Neglect</u>.

<u>Health Impact News</u> has reported previously on the role of SCAN clinics in the story of <u>Jaxon Adams</u> in Kansas City. Children's Mercy Hospitals SCAN clinic presents itself as "Safety Caring and Nurturing Clinic" while its real purpose is to watch parents for signs of child abuse. A number of parents have reported to us that sometimes the child abuse doctors appear to be so eager to find abuse that they allege abuse when none exists.

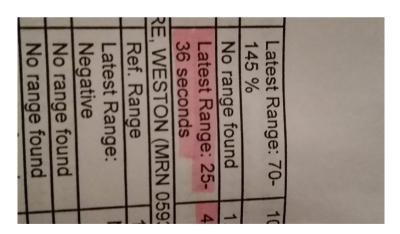


Connecticut Children's Medical Center (Source: <u>UConn</u> <u>Health Center</u>)

Dr. Boruchov reportedly called DCF. At the SCAN clinic, Weston was examined and photographed, and the police were called. Wendy was interrogated, and two days later, DCF showed up to seize temporary custody of Weston, alleging neglect and child abuse.

Abnormal Labwork Ignored

It was only after the police were called in that Weston's labwork was done. One of the things that was measured was his PTT level. According to Healthline, Partial thromboplastin time (PTT) is a blood test that measures how long blood takes to clot. Weston's PTT level was elevated. When this happens, excessive bleeding, persistent nosebleeds, and easy bruising may occur. According to his oncologist, Weston's levels show that he was a bleeding risk, and his blood was not clotting correctly. However, DCF allegedly reported that his PTT level was not high.



Weston's PTT levels elevated above normal range

Police Investigations Come Up Empty, But Weston Still in DCF Custody

After the police investigation, there were no charges filed against Wendy. They allegedly said that Wendy did not hurt her son. On January 13, Wendy was questioned again at the police station, with the same result. They told her that they would not charge her with anything.

According to a post on the <u>Facebook page Pray for Weston</u>:

"The prosecutor said i didn't do anything and the cops said i didn't do anything so they aren't criminally charging me but dcf said it's my responsibility to know what happen to him and since I don't they are taking me to trial."

The cancer doctor who first examined Weston allegedly admitted she didn't know what happened, yet apparently it is now the legal responsibility of parents to know what happened even when the doctor cannot figure it out. It is allegedly on such tenuous grounds that a sick child is taken away from his own mother.

Possible Explanations for Bruise

Like any good mother, Wendy has racked her brain to try to figure out what could have happened to her son. She reports that she "had done research on every possible thing it could be." One possibility is that Weston could have been kicked by another child at daycare or had an accident with a toy. He was in a room with toddlers who were walking and running around, while he was crawling. The day care was apparently not investigated, and he is still attending the same facility

while in DCF custody.

Weston had been involved in a great deal of physical and occupational therapy at the time, and could have developed a muscle tear or hip flexor strain. This would have been detectable with an MRI. The elevated PTT levels would have led to a higher likelihood of bruising. The prosecutor allegedly told DCF that an MRI was needed as part of the investigation, but it never happened.

Another possibility that Wendy found relates to a medication that Weston had received in his port about a week before the incident, called pentamidine. According to her research, this medication can cause a rash, accounting for the diaper rash, as well as thrombopenia, or decreased platelets, accounting for the high PTT levels. She learned that the medication counteracts zinc oxide, which is the primary ingredient in the butt paste she used. The interaction can cause dark discoloration. Even rubbing the thick ointment on could conceivably have cause bruising with Weston's clotting issue going on.

Wendy reports that the next time that Weston received a dose of pentamidine, three weeks after being taken into custody, the medicine had to be stopped because he developed a severe allergic reaction, including hives.

There are a number of valid possible medical explanations for the bruising, and no one is being charged with any abuse of Weston. But still Wendy goes home every night, without her son, based on DCF's allegation that it was her responsibility to know what happened to her medically fragile child.

"One of the best mothers" Ordered to Take Parenting Classes

When Wendy went to court in November, she agreed to go to parenting classes and counseling classes. When I asked her why she agreed to those if she did nothing wrong, she said that they told her if she did those things, they would not take her to trial. She also said that they have never signed her up for the parenting classes they told her to attend.



Ironically, the mother they want to force to take parenting classes is a mother who faithfully nursed a child through a year of cancer treatments and got him better. One of her Facebook friends says,

"I'm praying that God will open their eyes and hearts and let them see that what they are doing to you and that precious baby is just so wrong. You are one of the best mothers I have seen in a long time."

DCF has allegedly offered her a plea deal to avoid trial. If she will agree to substantiation going on her record, which puts her on a registry of child abusers, then they say they will begin the reunification process. That kind of record could jeopardize her career, and she doesn't want to admit to something she didn't do.

"Weston Belongs Home"

Wendy says that Weston is "a different kid" when she sees him for the brief visitation of 2 hours per week. "He doesn't smile or laugh anymore." He has been through so much in his short life, and now he is separated from the person he loves most in the world. Weston is forced to try to recover from the disease that took him to death's door without his mother by his side. Wendy writes:

"Both Weston's oncologist and neurologist have told DCF that Weston needs to be home with me and they have no concerns about me harming my son."



Weston and his mommy Wendy (Source: <u>Pray for Weston</u> <u>Facebook page</u>)

The emotional impact of the separation is devastating to this little boy. They meet for visitation at the library. She says that he responds when she asks for a kiss or hug, until they put his coat on and take him to the car. Then he knows he is leaving. At that point if she asks for a kiss, and "he looks right through me."

How to Help

The next hearing is expected to be in March, but no date has been set. Wendy reports that she has never seen the judge, prosecutor, or social worker associated with her case. She has a private attorney who has been in all the hearings, but she has not been allowed to go into the room.

There is a Facebook page set up to support the family and get updates called <u>Pray for Weston</u>.

The governor of Connecticut is Dannel Malloy. His office may be reached at (860) 566-4840, and contacted via email here.

Senator Henri Martin represents the Lamarres district, and may be reached at (800) 842-1421 and contacted <u>here</u>.

The Representative for the district is Frank Nicastro, Sr., and he may be reached at (800) 842-8267 and contacted <u>here</u>.

Teen Forced to Undergo Chemotherapy Denied Visitation with Mom, Must Stay in Hospital



Photo courtesy **People.com**.

By <u>K.C. Baker</u> <u>People Magazine</u>

Excerpts:

Cassandra C., the Connecticut teen forced to undergo

chemotherapy for Hodgkin's lymphoma, says she "hoped beyond hope" that a judge would let her leave the hospital where she has been legally required to stay since December.

But on Wednesday, a Connecticut Superior Court judge ruled that the 17-year-old must remain at the Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford under the temporary custody of the state's Department of Children and Families until she completes her court-ordered chemotherapy.

The judge also denied visitation to her mother, Jackie Fortin.

"I cried when I found out," Cassandra tells PEOPLE. "I'm just heartbroken right now. Why are they keeping me from my mom? It is really unnecessary. I want to be with my mom. I'm devastated."

Cassandra has not seen or spoken to her mother since New Year's Day after DCF prohibited the teen from having any contact with her, she says.

Read the Full Story here.

The Medical Kidnapping of Cassandra in Connecticut - First Interview Since Forced Chemo



Cassandra Callender. Image source YouTube.

Health Impact News Editor Comments

The story of Connecticut teen Cassandra and her medical kidnapping and forced chemotherapy treatment received nation-wide mainstream media exposure earlier this year. See:

<u>Connecticut Teen Taken Away from Mother and</u> Physically Forced to have Chemotherapy

In her first interview after being released from custody, Ty Bollinger of <u>The Truth About Cancer</u> sits down and discusses her terrible ordeal with the State of Connecticut.

The Medical Kidnapping of Cassandra C (Finally The Truth Revealed) – The Truth About Cancer Exclusive Interview

by <u>Ty Bollinger</u> The Truth About Cancer

Imagine your 17 year old daughter gets the diagnosis of cancer. You both do research on treatment options and see that chemotherapy is toxic with potentially long standing, irreversible consequences: damage to the reproductive organs, bladder, heart, lungs, nervous system, kidneys, and more. You and your daughter decide not to do it and choose to take a different route; one that is safer and is non-toxic.

Much to your shock, while you are out shopping, your daughter is home and the <u>Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF)</u> shows up at your door (with 12 police cars no less, to kidnap your daughter and force her to do chemotherapy against her will and your wishes.)

What would you do?

Finally, revealed in *The Truth About Cancer's* exclusive interview is the true story about Cassandra Callender (aka "Cassandra C.") and her real life medical kidnapping and how she was forced to do chemotherapy against her will.

This is the first video interview that Cassandra has given, and *The Truth About Cancer* is honored to be able to share this exclusive interview with you.

Video no longer available.

Finally The Truth Revealed: The Medical Kidnapping of

Cassandra C - The Truth About Cancer Exclusive Interview

You may remember the news coverage that back in September 2014, after having a portion of her lymph node removed for a biopsy to diagnose stage 3-4 Hodgkin's lymphoma, Cassandra and her mother (Jackie Fortin) wanted a second opinion. This seemed like a reasonable request, especially in light of the fact that the prescribed treatment was going to be toxic chemotherapy, which, according to the Mayo Clinic, has long-term side effects including heart damage, lung damage, and fertility issues. But for that simple request, Cassandra soon became a target of "gunpoint medicine."

Medical personnel told Cassandra and her mother that chemotherapy was her "only option" and without it, there was a 100 percent chance that she would die. Apparently, the oncologists at Connecticut Children's Medical Center (CCMC) had never heard of a man named Billy Best, who was diagnosed with Hodgkin's lymphoma in 1995 and ran away from his Massachusetts home after a couple of chemo treatments. His runaway from chemo made national TV news at the time. Eventually, Billy used Essiac Tea and 714X to treat his cancer, and is alive 20 years later, completely cancer free. He even published a book, The Billy Best Story: Beating Cancer with Alternative Medicine.

So, I guess maybe the 100 percent chance of death without chemo was an exaggeration (also known as a lie) intended to coerce Cassandra into submitting to chemo. But I digress. Back to our story...

Not wanting to undergo the horrific side effects of chemotherapy, in November of 2014, Cassandra ran away from home. However, after learning that her mother might be thrown in jail if she didn't return, she came home. Then, in December of 2014, when she was alone in the house, Cassandra's home was surrounded by a dozen of "Hartford's finest" (police cars) and workers from the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF). They banged on the doors and windows and terrorized the 17-year-old while she hid in a closet and cried.

Later that day, Cassandra was kidnapped by DCF workers and the police and was taken back to the hospital to begin chemotherapy. Amazingly, it took a dozen police cars surrounding her home to capture this "hardened criminal" named Cassandra (yes, sarcasm intended). I assume that there were no robberies or rapes that day in Hartford, as they had so many police cars available to surround the house. Or maybe there was a donut shop down the street...

Within a few days, Cassandra was back in the hospital and scheduled to begin forced chemotherapy. But even then she wasn't ready to submit to this gunpoint medicine. It took no less than 12 workers to strap her wrists and ankles to the bed and control her while the nurse stuck a needle in her neck to sedate her. She woke up in the recovery room with a port in her chest. Had this horrific abuse taken place on the streets of Hartford, the assailants would have been guilty of assault and battery. However, since these human rights violations occurred in the hospital, the assailants will never be charged with the crimes that they committed against Cassandra. In her own words, "At that point, I didn't feel like a human anymore... I feel like I've been violated... My ankles and wrists were bruised when I woke up."

Over the course of the next 5 months, Cassandra received round after round of toxic chemotherapy; always letting the violators know that "I don't consent to this treatment" before they forced deadly poison into her body. She was told that if she fought them, that they would starve her. Eventually she

quit fighting. Oh yeah, I forgot to mention that she couldn't leave her room (there was an armed guard at the door), she couldn't make phone calls, and she couldn't have guests in her room unless they were "approved." Cassandra wasn't even allowed to go outside! In her own words, "even prisoners are allowed to go outside for an hour a day. I didn't even get that."

Whatever happened to the Hippocratic Oath: "First do no harm"? Ignorance and arrogance go hand-in-hand. Government officials on the payroll of Big Pharma. Oncologists prescribing toxic treatments that they themselves won't take. Sadly, in the US, we aren't just a police state and a fascist oligarchy, we are actually a medical tyranny, as is evidence by this horrific story of gunpoint medicine and "medical rape" being forced on an innocent 17-year-old whose only "crime" was asking for a second opinion.

It's legal for a 12-year-old to get birth control and have an abortion without the consent or knowledge of her parents in most states. But a 17-year-old isn't allowed to reject poison (chemotherapy) and is held as a prisoner, strapped to her hospital bed, injected with poison (medically raped), isolated from her family and friends, confined to her room, with an armed guard at the door. Did I miss anything? Oh yes, this treatment is "legal" and "approved"!!! If the US military did that to Guantanamo captives, what would folks think of that?

Bottom line... this won't end with cancer treatments and we all know it.

We're just getting started on this slippery slope to complete medical tyranny. Can you imagine what they'll use these court decisions to justify making compulsory in the future? We are already seeing "forced vaccination" in California with the recent passage of SB 277, despite the fact that vaccines have been linked to autism and cancer.

America has already had the most aggressive vaccine schedule of any nation on the planet and has the <u>highest rate</u> of infant death. States are already in the process of making it harder for parents to opt out of vaccinations, as the number of "required" vaccines continues to grow. Where will this madness end?

Founding father Benjamin Rush warned over 200 years ago that medical freedom should have been added to the Constitution:

"Unless we put medical freedom into the Constitution, the time will come when medicine will organize into an undercover dictatorship to restrict the art of healing to one class of men and deny equal privileges to others; the Constitution of the Republic should make a special privilege for medical freedoms as well as religious freedom." – Benjamin Rush (1746-1813)

But they didn't... and now here we are.

You'll never see a news report stating that a conventional treatment (such as chemo) killed a cancer patient. It's always "the cancer won after a valiant fight." But somehow, after all the years and trillions of dollars spent on the war on cancer, cancer keeps winning out while the cancer industry keeps profiting with treatments that don't really work.

That's why *The Truth About Cancer* is vigilant in our fight to **educate** about real cancer treatments, to **expose** the lies, and to **eradicate** this disease once and for all. We all need to

stand up and fight for our medical freedom just like Cassandra did. In her own words, "I made it through it. I wouldn't let them break me. They locked me away but I'm still here."

Read the Full Interview at The Truth About Cancer.

Pregnant Mom Traveling Through Connecticut with Husband Stops at Hospital Where They Forcibly Drug her and Perform Cesarean Surgery to Kidnap Baby



Suzy and husband Peter Saad in Middlesex Hospital, Connecticut. Image from Facebook.

UPDATE 6/14/2019

<u>Parents of Baby Kidnapped after Forced</u> <u>Cesarean in Connecticut Hospital Call on Public</u> <u>to Attend Hearing to Remove Parental Rights</u>

UPDATE 5/31/2019

Tennessee Couple Has Baby Ripped from Womb and Kidnapped Because They are an Interracial Couple

UPDATE 5/6/2019

Connecticut DCF Punishing Tennessee Parents for Taking Their Story Public? Refuse to Let Parents Visit Baby

by Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com staff

In a story so horrendous that it reads like a Hollywood script to a movie that could only be fiction, Tennessee parents Suzy and Peter Saad have decided to go public with their story of alleged medical abuse and medical kidnapping in Connecticut.



Peter and Suzy met in medical school. Image from Facebook.

Peter and Suzy both have master's degrees and were former medical school students, which is where they met. However, they put their plans for medical school on hold to start their family.



Peter and Suzy with their two boys while Suzy is pregnant with Sofia. <u>Image from Facebook</u>.

After delivering two boys by cesarean birth, mom's dreams were finally realized when she became pregnant for the third time, and this time it was a baby girl in answer to her prayers.

Suzy wanted the best for the new daughter growing in her womb, so she sought medical help to try and have a natural birth, uncommon but not impossible when the first pregnancies end in cesarean births.

The family was living in Tennessee, and Suzy was not happy with the prenatal care she was receiving. Peter's family is from New Jersey, and after one of his family members died and they traveled to New Jersey to attend the funeral, they found a birthing center there that Suzy felt comfortable with in terms of trying a natural birth.

At 38 weeks of pregnancy with her daughter, Suzy was experiencing some anxiety and suffering from bad nights of sleep. Family and friends suggested she take a few days off with her husband, while family members watched the two boys.

They knew about a lovely place in Maine they had been wanting to visit, and decided that the 6-hour trip would do them some good.

As they drove from New Jersey to Maine, Suzy experienced some pain, and to be on the safe side, they decided to stop at a hospital in Connecticut.

This is when the real nightmares began. Her husband's family is originally from Egypt, although Peter grew up in the United States and has been a U.S. citizen since he was a child. His family in Egypt are Coptic Christians, a minority group in a country that is predominately Muslim.

Before they fully understood what was happening, Peter was allegedly being accused of being a Muslim terrorist and fleeing the law, and Suzy was being accused of being a drug addict, simply because she had some prescription medications with her to treat her high blood pressure and diabetes.

She was allegedly drugged and forced to have cesarean surgery, and hospital staff then allegedly worked together with social service workers to take custody of her baby.

After 6 months of trying to comply with everything the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) was requiring of the parents in order to get their baby daughter back, they have now decided to go public with their story.

Parents Falsely Accused and Never Arrested

Since going public, the parents have published over 38,000 words describing their ordeal, on <u>Facebook</u> and a <u>GoFundMe page</u>, and they claim that they have multiple recordings as well to back up everything they say.

Suzy writes:

Please help us!! My husband is African-Egyptian- American, we have two beautiful healthy children together and live in Davidson county, Nashville TN.

We were driving through Middletown Connecticut while I was pregnant with my 3rd child after visiting family in New Jersey when I felt some pain in my back so we decided to stop at a nearby hospital (Middlesex).

Once inside they started making all of these accusations against us saying that because we are a mixed race couple, that we "look like criminals."

They started accusing my husband of being a "muslim terrorist" and me of being a "drug addict." None of it is true! My tox screens were all negative and my husband and I are both Christian!!

They told us it is just "too suspicious" that we were driving through their state while pregnant and accused us of having "no prenatal care, of being from crummy low-life families, being criminals running from the law, of being Muslim terrorists, drug addicts, drug lords or both, gypsies living out of our car, and international baby sellers" among other things.

Each and every time we would disprove one accusation, they

would accuse us of something else and say "ok, now prove us wrong."

Charges were never filed against the parents.

Allegedly Drugged and Forced Surgery to Get Access to the Baby



Baby Sofia. Image from Facebook.

Suzy writes that after medical staff examined her, it was determined that she was not in labor yet. She was allegedly forced to undress in front of male interns, and then she was allegedly drugged and forced to have a cesarean surgery, after informing them that she was leaving the hospital because she did not like the way they were treating her.

Two nurses then pulled off my pants and underwear right in front of a whole room of nursing staff whom I have never met, including male staff. Before they had even given me anything to cover up with, they ordered me to further remove the rest of my clothes.

I asked them to ask the male nurses to please leave while I was undressing, they refused. As I was taking off my bra, one of the male nurses turned his head and smirked.

After I was forced to take off my clothes and was sitting there for at least a few minutes completely naked, a nurse tossed a fabric gown at me, giggled and said "here honey, cover those things up."

It was completely dehumanizing and humiliating.

I was then forced to urinate in a cup in front of 2 hospital staff who called me a "drug addict." (My toxicology screen was negative, as was the baby's!)

After that I went to get my clothes to put them back on to leave. Another nurse asked me what I was doing. I told her that I didn't like the way I was being treated and that I was leaving.

She apologized for what the other staff had done and said that they just get a lot of "junkies" in there and that I should at least stay long enough to get an IV and let them check my cervix to make sure the baby was ok.

I agreed to stay only to get my cervix checked and get an IV in case anything was wrong.

After they put the IV in, the nurse injected clear fluid into my

IV but wouldn't say what it was and I started to get really dizzy. The doctor came in and checked my cervix and said that I was barely 1 cm dilated, if that.

She asked me if I had any medical records (but never once asked for a release for anything).

I told her I thought I had my ultrasound report in my email and started looking through my phone.

She finally said its fine we'll just get it after the c-section.

I told her no, I wanted to be allowed to leave to go back to New Jersey to have the baby where we were staying with family. She told me that they had me scheduled for a repeat c-section.

I told her no, that I did not want to have another c-section and that I wanted to birth my daughter naturally this time and that I wanted to leave.

I told her if they didn't let me leave, we were going to call the police and report them for holding us as hostages in the hospital against our will.

She said "go ahead, the law is on OUR SIDE IN CONNECTICUT and if you don't stop resisting we are going to call the police and have you arrested for child endangerment and they will come in and chain you to the bed and force you to have the surgery anyway."

[The nurse] even wrote in her report to the DCF that the C-section was to be done on "short order" meaning that it was to be "done very quickly."

She also admitted that we asked to leave the hospital before the c-section was performed and that they refused to let us leave and held us there against our will, saying we were a "flight risk."

What excuse did they have to have done the c-section so quickly, and against my will, even though there was no medical need to do so?

I was not in any distress, I never even felt a single contraction, the baby was not in any distress and her heart rate was fine.

There was absolutely NO MEDICAL NEED for them to have forced this C-section on me.

The reason was because they wanted to take my daughter out of my body as quickly as possible JUST SO THEY COULD STEAL HER FROM US!

We had been at the hospital no more than an hour and they were already wheeling me back to have the c-section. I was NEVER given the opportunity to labor and birth my child naturally and I NEVER ever gave them permission to do the c-section or signed anything giving them permission to do so.

It was as if my body was not my own. I was not allowed to make any of the decisions regarding the birth of my daughter.

What they did to me at that hospital completely violated my rights as a person, as a parent and as a human.

They wanted the baby inside me and drugged me to cut her

out against my will, just to get her away from us so they could keep her.

They never, ever intended to allow us to leave the hospital with our child.

Baby Sofia Suffers in Hospital as Mother is Allegedly Harassed



Suzy with her newborn baby. Image from Facebook.

Once the baby was born, the parents were allegedly continued to be treated as criminals, preventing the mother from properly nursing and bonding with her newborn daughter.

The following heart-wrenching video was captured where you can hear the frantic cries of the baby, and how the baby stops crying as soon as she is held in her mother's arms, in spite of the fact that the mother is very stressed and crying herself.

https://youtu.be/Yodk-zLyHgc

Suzy writes:

That first day I cried all day as I held my newborn daughter in my arms. I kept falling in and out of sleep but I made sure to hold her close to me to keep her warm.

I also made sure to hold her in a specific way so as not smother her if I fell asleep and I continued to feed her and try to nurse her even though I knew my milk had not come it yet.

As I was holding my daughter and crying from all the emotional and physical stress I was going through, my evening nurse kept coming in and asking me about Peter my husband.

He was asleep at this point and she kept asking me what he was running and hiding from and who was he really?

I told her that he really was my husband and that we were not "running from anything or anyone."

She continued to harass me saying that if she had a daughter who came home with some "Saudi Arabian muslim guy" who was "running from the law," that she would disown that daughter and never let her in the house again."

She told me that as far as she was concerned, an "A-RAB" was no better than a "Mexican behind a wall" and that in her opinion and the "opinion of the other hospital staff," that I needed to just "turn him in" for whatever he is "running from the law for."

Then she asked if he was really the father of my other children and if we really did have custody of them.

I told her yes and then asked her to please leave my room.

She eventually left but continued to come back in and kept taking my infant from me while I was trying to nurse her, making up different excuses each time, but mainly kept telling me that she was "too tired to nurse."

I asked her to please stop harassing me and leave me to bond with my child but she refused.

Mom Denied Medical Care and Baby Taken Away From Parents – No Charges Ever Filed Against Parents



Image from Facebook.

While in the hospital, Suzy was allegedly denied permission to leave her hospital room to get the prescription medications she needed for her blood pressure and diabetes.

As the hours went by I could feel my blood pressure getting higher and higher. I asked my husband to go get my blood pressure medicine out of the car.

The nurse came in and said he was not "allowed" to give me any outside medicine. I told them I needed to take my blood pressure medicine.

The nurse told me that the doctor had "discontinued" all of my medications.

I told them they could not discontinue a medicine they did not prescribe.

She told me I could "take it up with the doctor in the morning." I told her "no you don't understand, I have to have the medicine to control my heart rate and my blood pressure."

She told me she didn't care and that I could take it up with the doctor in the morning. I begged and pleaded for them to let me have my blood pressure and diabetes medicine, they all told me they didn't care.

I was crying about how we had been treated and that my heart rate by then was nearly 200 and my blood pressure was 180/120.

After I continued to complain about it and as it continued to climb, they finally gave me my beta blocker but still refused to give me my diabetes medicine.

After that Peter and I were exhausted and both slept for around 8 hours straight.

The next morning when we awoke, my blood sugar was also very high and they finally gave me the Metformin I was prescribed by my general practitioner.

Then a neonatologist came in our room and started telling us that he "knew" we did not care about our baby because if we did, we would have been in the nursery for EVERY FEEDING and that if he wanted to, he could have us prosecuted for neglecting her just because we didn't show up for 2 of her feedings!!

We explained to him everything that had happened and that I was made to go the entire previous day without any of my medications, that I had been in excruciating pain and that we were both exhausted and just needed some sleep.

He said he didn't care and that we "should have been there."

We asked him isn't the nursery there to give the parents some rest?

He said no, that this was a "baby friendly hospital" and that we, as the parents were supposed to do all the feedings.

We told him that we didn't send our daughter there willingly.

He changed the subject and started saying that he "knew" we did not even have custody of our other children and that we would not be allowed to keep Sofia anyway so there was no need for us to see her anymore.

I started crying as Peter was telling him it wasn't true, that

we do have custody of our other children. He accused us of "kidnapping" our other two children (that he said he "knew" we did not actually have custody of) and trying to make a break for the Canadian border and refused to tell us who told him that we didn't actually "have custody of our other children." (not true in any way)

We asked him how could we be trying to "run for the border" if we didn't even have our children with us at the time? He didn't have an answer.

We begged and pleaded with him to please let us see our baby.

He told us that we would be allowed to see her only for feedings and that if we missed even one more single feeding, that we would not be allowed to see her anymore.

He told us that the DCF would be there to take custody of her on Tuesday and that he was going to testify against us about how we "neglected" her by sleeping during her scheduled feeding times and about how I "refused" to sign a medical release for my prenatal records.

I told him that wasn't true and that I never refused to sign anything. I asked him if I signed the medical releases and we make her an appointment with a pediatrician in CT, would we be allowed to keep our daughter and take her home?

He laughed and said no, that if we thought we would be going home with our daughter, we were dead wrong and that we would not be going home with her "for a very long time, if EVER."

Suzy writes that they already have the court date set to terminate their parental rights in November of 2019, allowing them to adopt out the baby.

Even though they do not even have a guilty judgement against us yet, they are so confident they will win that they have another court date set for us for November of this year to have our parental rights terminated! And for what???? What was our crime???

Our only crime was to drive through CT, walk into the hospital to make sure everything was ok with my pregnancy and the baby and that was it!

By the time we realized how hateful they were being attacking us and we asked to leave, it was too late. They held us captive inside the hospital until they had illegally cut my daughter out of my body and never had any intention of letting us go home with her.

What they are doing is not only WRONG, it is ILLEGAL in so many ways!! Please is there anyone out there who can help us???!!! Please don't let these people steal our daughter's life from her!

Parents Forced to Travel Between Tennessee and Connecticut – Lose Home and Treated Like Criminals



Father and daughter during supervised visits. <u>Image from Facebook</u>.

The parents eventually left the hospital and the baby was placed into foster care. For a while, they stayed with Peter's family in New Jersey, only 3 hours away.

But eventually Peter had to return to work, and they were forced to go back to Tennessee, 20 hours away. So it was a 40-hour round trip dive to see their baby daughter for a 2-hour supervised visit.

Their problems were just getting started, unfortunately, as they faced persecution in Tennessee also based on the events in Connecticut.

Then a couple days after Thanksgiving, 3 Nashville detectives came to our door yelling and screaming through the door that they were "the police," and to "let them in."

It was really scary at first. We opened the door and let them in. They came in and looked around. They looked at both of our children and asked us what happened.

We told them what happened and how the hospital told us if we signed over our medical records to prove we had prenatal care, they would give us our child back (because initially that is what they told us, now 6 months later and we still don't have our baby back, we realized it was never true.)

After hearing what we had to say, they were really very nice to us and we really appreciated their kindness.

Apparently while we were gone, the CT DCF had called the police in TN (both in Brentwood at my parent's home and at our home in Nashville) and told them that we were being "investigated" for some terrible crimes and that our children were in "danger."

They had the police go to all of our neighbors at both homes and tell them that we were being investigated for terrible crimes and that if we were spotted at either of these places, that they should call the police "immediately."

One of our neighbors at our home in Nashville told us that he had been told that we were being investigated for "beating our children and terrorism."

Now none of the rest of them will even speak to us.

People that we used to go to neighborhood bar-b-que's with, and attend Christmas events and 4th of July gatherings together, now jeer at us as we walk our dogs and children down the street.

It was humiliating, completely unnecessary and we never did anything to deserve it.

Then the CT DCF told us we had to prove that we were not "gypsies living out of our car," by giving them a copy of the lease to our house, so we sent them a copy of the lease at the house we were renting.

Then they called up, lobbied and harassed our landlord and got them to kick us out.

They asked us to "vacate" by the end of that month and then we had to spend tons of time and thousands of dollars moving our family and all of our furniture from the 2000 square foot house into another home.

The hospital allegedly then did the unthinkable, and sent them a huge bill for the time they were confined there:

Now this Middlesex Hospital and the practice where the doctors work who forced the c-section on me (Crescent street OB-gyn) are saying that I owe them nearly \$50,000 (it is out-of network for my insurance) for holding us hostage at their hospital, performing a major surgery on me against my will, abusing and torturing us, refusing to give me my diabetes and blood pressure medicine until I got very sick having to go without it and then stealing our child from us

and kicking us out.

My stitches got very infected and started collecting puss while we were staying at a nearby hotel in Connecticut, waiting for them to release our daughter, and then started popping out of my skin.

Baby Sofia Allegedly Suffers in Foster Care



Baby Sofia with mom. **Image from Facebook**.

Suzy writes how the foster care family taking care of their baby girl is allegedly receiving \$1000 a month, but also using public assistance to receive subsidized food, and preventing them from providing better resources for their daughter. They also put her into day care at only 8 weeks old, where she developed a very severe life-threatening infection.

These days every time we get to see her she is sick with respiratory illnesses, diarrhea, and terrible diaper rashes.

After being in daycare for two weeks, our poor little Sofia ended up in the hospital with RSV fighting for her life. She had a 104 fever and she would scream in pain as her airway passages had to be periodically suctioned.

Her chest was rattling so loud, I have never heard such a rasping noise come from such a small infant. It sounded like a vacuum cleaner or a lawn mower just listening to her breathe.

The hospital staff at the Connecticut children's hospital were so extremely hateful to us because we did not "have custody of our baby," they acted like we had tried to kill our child and that's why she was in the hospital in the first place! (When in fact the reason she was there was because the FOSTER PARENTS AND THE DCF insisted on sending her to daycare at 8 weeks old!!!)

This foster family they have her with is poor and is essentially using our daughter as an extra income. They live in a tiny little house in Waterford, CT and have cheap used baby supplies they get for free from the state for the precious little girl we worked so hard to have.

Several of the car seats they have been using for her are

expired (and we have pictures to prove it.)

In addition to the free healthcare, free childcare, free diapers, free wipes, free formula and free baby supplies they get from the state, this "foster family" is also getting paid \$1000/month to hold our daughter as their legal hostage.

If they did care about our child, they wouldn't keep insisting on sending her back to daycare after [she] nearly [died from] RSV.

They are uneducated, middle-aged and do shift work. One of them works during the day and the other one works at night. What kind of life could these people possibly give to our little girl?! When she is 10 years old, they will be in their 60's!

What kind of life could she ever have, never getting to know her real family, never getting to know who she really is?!

These are the people they are trying to say she is better off growing up with?! These are the people they are trying have adopt her against our will!!! What kind of life can they possibly give her??!!! Our daughter deserves so much more! She deserves to be with her family! We love her so very much and just want to bring her home!!!

Plea For Help



Parents want their baby girl back home. Photo from Facebook.

DCF in Connecticut has reportedly tried to get the parents to bring their other two children into Connecticut to "visit their sister."

But the parents are not listening, fearing that they will kidnap those two children also.

They have already spent a great deal of money on legal fees with no results, and it seems that attorneys in Connecticut are afraid to go up against the powerful child welfare system.

My husband and I both have terrible nightmares about them torturing us and stealing our baby. Our life will never be the same. Every night after I tuck my children, I cry myself to sleep, wondering where my little Sofie is and if she is ok.

I wake up everyday in my own home and open my eyes. I hug and kiss my husband as he leaves for work. I sit my little boys down at the table to feed them breakfast but as I look out the kitchen window, I realize I am still their prisoner.

We are in constant fear that we will never get our daughter back and that we will lose our other children as well. They made all of these claims about us that we "must be criminals" and we "must be terrorists," but in reality, they are the criminals who unjustly stole our child and they are the ones terrorizing us.

They have told us that we have "no chance" of winning against them and that when they get their judgement against us, after they get their corrupt officials to find us guilty of whatever it is that they are saying we are guilty of (I am still not even sure), that they will send a referral to the DCF in Tennessee to take our other children from us based on this Connecticut judgement alone.

Then we will have to pay out another \$10,000-15,000 to pay for ANOTHER attorney to try to fight to get our other children back!!!

Everyone who initially told us they would help us, has eventually abandoned us. They are threatening, lobbying and bribing everyone in our path to not help us!!!

We paid nearly \$5000 to an attorney in CT who did nothing for our case and is now [wants] another \$10000.

He was initially on our side but after he said he wrote some emails and that took up "a lot of his time" and then started saying he wanted thousands of dollars more, and we didn't have it to give him, he started turning on us!!!

He won't even speak to us anymore until we pay him the money and has basically told us we can't win anyway!!!

Every other lawyer we have contacted in Connecticut that acts like they MIGHT be willing to take our case has told us they want \$10000-\$15000 UP FRONT!!!

We have spent all of our savings on lawyer fees and driving back and forth to CT to see our baby nearly 30 times so far!! They keep trying to con us to take our other 2 children into their state so they can kidnap them too!

PLEASE HELP US GET OUR POOR DAUGHTER AWAY FROM THESE TERRIBLE PEOPLE!!!!!

PLEASE HELP US FIND A GOOD LAWYER (in Tennessee or Connecticut) TO GET OUR CASE TRANSFERRED TO TENNESSEE WHERE WE LIVE!

PLEASE HELP US RAISE MONEY FOR A NEW ATTORNEY SO THAT WE CAN GET OUR DAUGHTER BACK!

IF THERE IS ANYONE OUT THERE LISTENING, PLEASE HELP US!!!!

Sources

Mother's Facebook Page

Father's Facebook Page

GoFundMe Page

Disclaimer

Everything published here is based on public information. *Health Impact News* has had no contact with the family, and has not been asked to publish this story by any of the family members.

The information was obtained legally, and is protected under the Free Speech doctrine of the 1st Amendment of the Constitution of the United States.

Health Impact News has not received any communication so far from hospital in question, nor the social services agencies, to get their comments. They are free to send us a response. In our previous experience with these stories, they almost never respond due to alleged privacy laws.

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Connecticut DCF Punishing Tennessee Parents for Taking Their Story Public? Refuse to Let Parents Visit Baby



Peter and Suzy with baby Sofia on a previous visit. <u>Image</u> from Facebook.

Health Impact News

We recently published the story of a Tennessee couple who was traveling through Connecticut on their way to a vacation destination in Maine, when the wife, who was pregnant, starting experiencing back pains and decided to check into a hospital in Connecticut for a check up.

Her Egyptian Christian husband was allegedly accused of being a Muslim terrorist, and before they knew it, she was being drugged against her will and forced to have cesarean surgery to remove her daughter from her womb, when she had been planning on having a natural birth.

Connecticut Department of Children and Families (DCF) then proceeded to take custody of the baby, with no formal charges ever filed against the parents. The parents eventually had to return to their home in Tennessee with their other two children, making the 20-hour one-way trip back to Connecticut each week to have a supervised 2-hour visit with their daughter as they tried to comply with DCF to get their daughter back.

After six months, the parents decided to take their story public.

See the original story:

Pregnant Mom Traveling Through Connecticut with Husband Stops at Hospital Where They Forcibly Drug her and Perform Cesarean Surgery to Kidnap Baby

Suzy, the mother, has now reported that Connecticut DCF is refusing to allow them to see their baby since they went public with their story.

We have just driven all day yesterday and all night for the past nearly 20 hours straight to get to Connecticut to see our baby and now our case worker David Friend is telling us that he cannot accommodate our visit and we cannot see our child!

He has kept us from seeing her for over a month now by

doing this very same crap to us and then told the judge it was OUR FAULT! I am starting to think they do not EVER intend to let us see her again!!! These people are such bullies and no one will make them treat us fairly! What are we supposed to do?!?!? We have the right to see our baby!!!! (Source.)

Using "Mental Diagnosis" to Terminate Parental Rights?

Suzy wrote that as a retaliation for going public with their story, that Connecticut DCF is apparently going to try and use a psychological analysis to justify terminating the parental rights.

Our no-count attorney told us that the corrupt Connecticut courts told him that because we have gone public with our story, the DCF got the judge to "order" us to submit ourselves to a 6-hour "mental health" interrogation EACH where they are going to try to say that one or both of us is somehow mentally insane and (I am guessing) use this as the basis to terminate our rights to our baby at the November court date.

Others Come Forward with Similar Stories in Connecticut – Are "Predictive Analytics" Being Used in CT to Kidnap Children?

Since going public with their story recently, others have apparently come forward to share similar stories based out of Connecticut.

WOW! I am hearing some extremely disturbing things about

Middlesex hospital in Middletown, CT where our daughter was stolen from us!

They are stealing peoples children like crazy claiming "predictive neglect" about perfectly normal parents (we are not even sure what we are on trial for because no one will tell us!) and then later using corrupt whitecoats to claim they are medically insane and therefore cannot have their children back.

I want to thank everyone so much for all of your stories (even though some of them have been extremely horrifying, it really helps us to know what we are in for since we have never dealt with this kind of thing before), your messages of support and prayers, kind words and advice!

Words can not convey how much my husband and I appreciate each and every one of you. Before we came out in the public, we felt so completely and utterly alone during these horrific times!

We owe you all so much for your support and for believing in us! Having to live without our Sofia has been so devastatingly painful. Some days it takes everything in me to not just sit around the house crying all day! (Source.)

We have reported on the practice of "predictive analytics" previously here at *Health Impact News*, and how these analytics are being used to justify taking children away from parents before the parents have even done anything to warrant a removal. See:

CPS Using "Predictive Analytics" Software to Label Parents as Unfit, Even Before Baby is Born

Richard Wexler, from the <u>National Coalition for Child Protection Reform</u>, has exposed how "Predictive Analysis" is nothing more than racial profiling.

It is the latest fad in child welfare: Use a computer algorithm that supposedly can predict who will abuse a child. The term commonly used in the field is "predictive analytics." A more accurate term would be "computerized racial profiling."

The dangers of computerized racial profiling

- ProPublica reports that predictive analytics already
 has gone terribly wrong in criminal justice, falsely
 flagging Black defendants as future criminals and
 underestimating risk if the defendant is white. A new
 analysis of ProPublica's data confirmed their
 findings.
- In child welfare, a New Zealand experiment in predictive analytics touted as a great success wrongly predicted child abuse more than half the time.
- In Los Angeles County, another experiment was hailed as a huge success in spite of a "false positive" rate of more than 95 percent. And that experiment was conducted by the private, for-profit software company that wanted to sell its wares to the county.
- The same company is developing a new approach in

Florida. This one targets poor people. It compares birth records to three other databases: child welfare system involvement, public assistance and "mothers who had been involved in the state's home visiting program."

So listen-up "at-risk" new mothers: In the world of predictive analytics, the fact that you reached out for help when you needed it and accepted assistance on how to be better parents isn't a sign of strength – it's a reason to consider you suspect, and make it more likely that your children will be taken away. (Source.)

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If this story upsets you, please let Governor Ned Lamont of Connecticut know. He is in the best position to put pressure on the right people to let Baby Sofia return to Tennessee where her parents live.

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Sources

Mother's Facebook Page

Father's Facebook Page

<u>GoFundMe Page</u>

Tennessee Couple Has Baby Ripped from Womb and Kidnapped Because They are an Interracial Couple



Suzy and Peter on a supervised visit with their daughter, baby Sofie. <u>Image from Facebook</u>. **Health Impact News**

The nightmare of a Tennessee couple who was forced to have a cesarean birth and then had their newborn baby daughter medically kidnapped while traveling through Connecticut on their way to a vacation destination in Maine continues.

See our previous articles for the background information.

Pregnant Mom Traveling Through Connecticut with Husband Stops at Hospital Where They Forcibly Drug her and Perform Cesarean Surgery to Kidnap Baby

Connecticut DCF Punishing Tennessee Parents for Taking Their Story Public? Refuse to Let Parents Visit Baby

While fighting for the custody of their daughter and while attempting to get their case transferred to their home state of Tennessee, Connecticut DCF is reportedly making them drive 20 hours one way from Tennessee to Connecticut each week for a 2-hour visitation with their baby daughter.

The Connecticut judge in their case has reportedly scheduled a hearing in June to terminate parental rights, allegedly ruling that they are guilty of something called "predictive neglect."

Suzy claims that the sole reason they have been found guilty is because they are an interracial couple.

My marriage to my husband is NOT an abomination just because we are of different races! We just loved each other so we got married and made a life together!

We should have that right to live our lives as we so choose and we don't need anyone's permission! All we ever wanted to do was to grow old together and raise our children and live a happy, peaceful life with our family!

We both worked very hard in school to have nice careers so that we could give our children all the things we never had.

We strongly believe that God loves us ALL EQUALLY and our life together is a beautiful thing!

At least it was before the staff at Middlesex hospital started attacking us and illegally cut my daughter right out of my own body to kidnap her!

We strongly believe that we are being targeted and our rights are being violated just because we are a bi-racial family. It is really sad what this nation is coming to that we cannot even have a peaceful life together with our children without being persecuted due to the hatred and racism of these few people in Connecticut, a state that we have never even lived in and their corrupt legislators who would protect such terrible people!!!

At the very least we should have the right to have our case transferred to our home state and our daughter should have the right to live with her family members who love her for who she is, not some strangers who are just using her for money! (Source.)

Peter Saad, Suzy's husband and the father of baby Sofie, is Egyptian. He was raised in the U.S., and is reportedly a U.S. citizen. He was allegedly accused of being a Muslim terrorist fleeing from the law when they traveled through Connecticut and decided to stop at a local hospital because Suzy was pregnant, and was experiencing some back pains.

Peter is not even Muslim. He is a Coptic Christian.

Instead of examining and treating Suzy so they could be on their way, they allegedly drugged her against her will and forced a cesarean birth and then took custody of the baby.

Predictive Analysis = Racial Profiling

Using something called "predictive analysis" to predict who will become a good parent and who will not is a tool that has received much criticism for being inaccurate, and nothing more than a form of racial profiling.

Richard Wexler, writing for the <u>National Coalition for Child</u> <u>Protection Reform</u> has documented some of the many failures of "predictive analysis" software.

- ProPublica reports that predictive analytics already
 has gone terribly wrong in criminal justice, falsely
 flagging Black defendants as future criminals and
 underestimating risk if the defendant is white. A new
 analysis of ProPublica's data confirmed their
 findings.
- In child welfare, a New Zealand experiment in predictive analytics touted as a great success wrongly predicted child abuse more than half the time.
- In Los Angeles County, another experiment was hailed as a huge success in spite of a "false positive" rate of more than 95 percent. And that experiment was conducted by the private, for-profit software company that wanted to sell its wares to the county.
- The same company is developing a new approach in <u>Florida</u>. This one targets poor people. It compares birth records to three other databases: child welfare system involvement, public assistance and "mothers who had been involved in the state's home visiting

So listen-up "at-risk" new mothers: In the world of predictive analytics, the fact that you reached out for help when you needed it and accepted assistance on how to be better parents isn't a sign of strength – it's a reason to consider you suspect, and make it more likely that your children will be taken away.

None of this has curbed the enthusiasm of predictive analytics fans. Indeed, Hansell has brought in as a consultant a key backer of the L.A. experiment, the head of the Los Angeles County child welfare agency at the time, Philip Browning.

The campaign for predictive analytics is led largely, though not exclusively, by the field's worst extremists – those who have been most fanatical about advocating a massive increase in the number of children torn from everyone they know and love and consigned to the chaos of foster care – and also by those most deeply "in denial" when it comes to the problem of racial bias in child welfare.

Some predictive analytics boosters have even argued that "prenatal risk assessments could be used to identify children at risk of maltreatment while still in the womb." Though these researchers argue that such targeting should be used in order to provide help to the mothers, that's not how child welfare works in the real world.

<u>"Yes, it's Big Brother,"</u> said another predictive analytics enthusiast. "But we have to have our eyes open to the potential of this model."

The real potential of this model was aptly summed up by

Yung-Mi Lee, a supervising attorney in the Criminal Defense Practice at Brooklyn Defender Services at the hearing on the New York City bill. Said Lee:

At worst, such tools provide a veneer of color- and classblind objectivity while exacerbating the racial and economic discrimination and other inequalities in law enforcement practices and criminal and civil penalties.

If anything, the problem is worse in child welfare, where the rest of the process – the records and, in most states, even the court hearings, also are secret. (Source.)

Foster Parents to Take Custody of Baby Sofie?

Suzy reports that their former attorney told them the foster parents will soon take custody of their baby.

Our ex-attorney told us that the DCF in CT are now, instead of trying to place our child with our family members, because our daughter is 6 months now, they are trying to give guardianship to the foster family and therefore completely eradicate her whole family from her life!

(This is) the same foster family who insisted that she go to daycare at 8 weeks old because it was free for them, leading her to contract RSV.

Then they waited an entire week watching her suffer, not being able to breathe before they took her to be treated at Connecticut Children's Hospital and that's where she stayed for nearly a week fighting for her life suffering in terrible pain, while we were only allowed a 2 hour visit to see her during that time!

Now every time we see her she is sick with some kind of respiratory tract infection! (Source.)

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Parents of Baby Kidnapped after Forced Cesarean in Connecticut Hospital Call on Public to Attend Hearing to Remove Parental Rights



Suzy was allegedly drugged against her will and forced to have a cesarean birth during a routine stop at a hospital while on a trip. <u>Image from Facebook</u>.

Health Impact News

Suzy and her husband Peter Saad will face a judge next week who will reportedly terminate their parental rights to their newborn baby, Sofia.

The parents reportedly have no criminal record, and have not been charged with child abuse or neglect. They stopped in a hospital in Connecticut while on a trip to Maine because Suzy was experiencing back pain, and the staff there allegedly accused her husband of being a "Muslim terrorist," even though he is a U.S. citizen of Egyptian heritage, and a Coptic Christian.

Suzy reports that they drugged her against her will and performed a cesarean birth to remove her baby, and then seized custody of the child.

See our original coverage:

Pregnant Mom Traveling Through Connecticut with Husband Stops at Hospital Where They Forcibly Drug her and Perform Cesarean Surgery to Kidnap Baby

The basis the Judge is allegedly going to use to justify removing their parental rights is something called "predictive analysis" which supposed to predict who will become a good parent and who will not. This tool has received much criticism for being inaccurate, and nothing more than a form of racial profiling. See:

Tennessee Couple Has Baby Ripped from Womb and Kidnapped Because They are an Interracial Couple

Suzy writes:

So here is the situation, we are on trial for something called "predictive neglect." Because the standard of proof for predictive neglect is basically nothing and the judge only needs to be convinced that there is a 10% chance we will neglect our daughter in the future.

When we are found "guilty" the documents will not say we are guilty of "predictive neglect" but rather actual "neglect" itself as if we had already committed an act of neglect that we haven't!

The DCF are saying there is no way we can win and that we should just take their plea "deal."

They say IF we take their plea deal, they will transfer the case to our home state and they will have no further involvement.

But the "deal" comes at a very high price. We would have to plead guilty to neglect of our newborn and face the consequences in TN which could include jail time and also losing our other two children.

If we refuse the plea deal, they say will not transfer our case and when we are fond guilty, they will move to give the foster family guardianship of our daughter and begin their process of terminating our rights.

Then later on after they have terminated our rights, they will

transfer that information down to TN, and TN will use that TPR to have our rights terminated to our other children because if you have had your rights terminated to ANY of your children, any state you live in can then use that information to terminate your parental rights of any other children you may have without any evidence or proof that you are an "unfit" parent.



Baby Sofia. Image from Facebook.

Parents Call for Rally at Courthouse June 18, 2019

In protest of the very obvious violation of our human and civil rights, we would like to announce that we will be holding a rally on the day of our trial coming up on June 18, 2019 in front of the superior court in Middletown, CT (from

8am-5pm.)

We are asking that any and everyone who is willing and able, please come out and support us in our cause to save our daughter Sofia and please invite the press!!!

Sources

Mother's Facebook Page

Father's Facebook Page

GoFundMe Page