

## **Health Impact News**

# **Medical Kidnapping Children in the United States: Florida**

# Contents

1. Florida
2. Woman Arrested for Filing 28 False Child Abuse Reports in Florida
3. Breastfeeding 2-day Old Newborn Seized From Parents Because Mother Has Disability
4. Florida Refuses to Return 7 Children to Loving Parents who are Not Accused of Any Crime
5. Mom Falsely Accused of Shaken Baby Syndrome for Brain Damage Caused by Vaccines
6. Mother Blamed for Baby's Vaccine Injuries - Baby Adopted Out as Parents Face Jail
7. Teen Girls Abused in State Care in Michigan Seized Again in Florida After Insurance Refuses to Cover Treatment
8. Florida Dad Wrongfully Convicted for Shaking Baby and Served 20+ Years of a 70 Year Sentence Featured on CNN
9. Florida Mom Seeks 2nd Opinion on Dying Newborn After Car Accident - Loses Custody of All Three Children and Baby Dies in State Care
10. Florida Illegally Separating Children of U.S. Citizens from their Parents - Where's the Outcry?
11. Arizona DCS Arrests Melissa Diegel as "Fugitive from Justice" While Living in Florida
12. Tampa Bay ABC Investigation Uncovers Medical Kidnapping of Seniors Throughout Florida with State

## Guardianships

13. USA Today Exposes Florida Doctor Medically Kidnapping Children and Destroying Lives
14. Florida ABC News Covers Widespread Medical Kidnappings Due to Child Abuse Pediatricians
15. Florida's Top Child Abuse Doctor Exposed – Second Opinions by Other Doctors Not Allowed When Examining Child Injuries
16. USA Today Reports How Florida Takes Children Away from their Parents and Puts Them with Pedophiles in Foster Care
17. Families Sue Governor DeSantis and State of Florida for Medically Kidnapping Their Children
18. Has Florida Become the Top State in the U.S. for Medical Kidnapping and Child Trafficking?
19. Florida Group Homes in Foster Care are Pimping and Sexually Trafficking Children
20. Florida Parents Beware! Your Children are NOT Safe! Pastors and Foster Parents in Florida are Sexually Trafficking Children
21. Florida Parents Continue to Expose Child Trafficking as Pleas to Abolish the Nation's "Child Welfare" System Pick up Momentum
22. New Documentary on Medically Kidnapped Girl Whose Mother Committed Suicide is the Most Powerful Film Ever Produced Exposing Medical Kidnapping

# Florida



# Woman Arrested for Filing 28 False Child Abuse Reports in Florida



## Health Impact News

A Florida woman was recently arrested for making too many false charges of child abuse to the Florida Department of Children and Families, which were reportedly directed against two families. When asked why she made the multiple false child abuse charges, her reply reportedly was “to create havoc.”

According to [ChipleyPaper.com](http://ChipleyPaper.com), Jessica Elizabeth Combee, 28, of Westville, Florida is charged with 28 felony counts of false child abuse reports, and is currently being held in the Holmes County Jail with a \$28,000.00 bond.

*“This is just one example of how people use the ‘system’ to carry out their agenda against whomever they felt has done them wrong,” said Bonifay Police Chief Chris Wells. ([Source.](#))*

While we frequently report abuses from within State run Child Welfare programs such as CPS, which can lead to innocent families being torn apart, we do want to acknowledge when a child welfare agency does the right thing and takes the time to prosecute someone who is falsely accusing families of child abuse.

As the testimony from the Bonifay Police Chief reveals, this is a common practice of how people abuse the child welfare system for their own agenda. We hope that more people will be prosecuted for abusing the system, including not just nosy neighbors or jealous family members, but medical personnel as well who take out their anger against parents who choose not to follow their medical advice, or want to seek a second medical opinion. Those doctors also deserve to be arrested and prosecuted for false charges.

# Breastfeeding 2-day Old Newborn Seized From Parents Because Mother Has Disability



Tracey Verzosa just learned that DCF was going to take her newborn. Source: Verzosa family.

**UPDATE 9/9/2015**

A Philippine News organization has picked up the Verzosa

Family story. This has now become an International Human rights issue:

<https://youtu.be/emT10QghKoc>

**UPDATE 8/31/2015**

The Verzosa Family still does not have their children back, even though reportedly the children are begging to go home. Russian TV has picked up their story and broadcast it on RT.com.

Video no longer available.

**UPDATE 7/14/2015**

From the [7 Angels story Facebook Page](#):

*I wanna thank the Lord Jesus for the blessing we just received, we have just got our home study yesterday, and it was a success, we are on the way for reunification of the 7 Angeles, this beautiful children of ours are about to come home. Thank you everyone for your faithful to pray and the love and support through the year will never be forgotten. We as the Verzosa Family send you our love and gratitude of appreciation. Many blessing to each and everyone, love you all.....*

*Imagining this beautiful children will soon be coming home, as we visited them today, hopefully that there won't be much left of the supervise visit, hopefully the next time will be a non supervise visit, and on the way home, Praise your name Jesus hallelujah.*



Comment from someone posting to their [Facebook Page](#):

*They do the return in stages, little steps. You know, so they don't get traumatized by their own parents, to whom they are bonded since birth. But when they take them, they barge in homes, threaten children and parents, scare the daylights out of everyone and snatch children, sometimes right out of their parents' arms—like THAT is NOT traumatic. Crazy, screwed up system.*

UPDATE 7/6/2015

## **Florida Refuses to Return 7 Children to Loving Parents who are Not Accused of Any Crime**

UPDATE 4/3/2015

New video:

<https://youtu.be/9iBwLDWW-o>

UPDATE 3/17/2015

From [The Verzosa Family Story Facebook Page](#):

*So today was so suppose to be a visit with selena and freddie jr., just to find out that my son (freddie jr ) has been move into another home. And of course nobody inform me. So we just visited our daughter selena and make the best of it. I had ask her where is jr? She said that they moved him into a different home two weeks ago, and no one informed me, and we don't even know where he is at.  
So where is my rights? As least inform me, they are still my*

*child.*

*So now they're starten to separate the two, my daughter was in tears when I ask about her brother, this is going to end soon.*

*Where ever you are son I will not give up on you nor the other's. I love you son, you all will be coming back soon. Missing you.*

**by Terri LaPoint**  
**Health Impact News**

A Florida couple is devastated. Child Protective Services just took their breastfeeding newborn from her mother's arms at the hospital. She was is not even two days old, but parents Tracey and Freddie Verzosa of Kissimmee, Florida will now only be able to visit their baby for feedings, under supervision. The accusations against them, according to the parents' story, boil down to the facts that Tracey is a slow learner, they are poor, and the baby was born too quickly for them to make it to the hospital.

On his personal Facebook page, Freddie posted this:

*"Today is announced to be a very sad day for my family. Our newest family [member] 'Taylor Lynn Verzosa' has just been removed from our care. Just like the rest of the children's. They are saying that its because it's an open case. I am asking for you to support my wife as she is devastated in this event."*

The Verzosas have 6 other children, and they have been fighting since last summer to get them back from DCF (Florida’s Department of Children and Families.) They say that their other children were taken unjustly, and the children, who are divided between 3 different foster homes, cry and plead to come home whenever they see them.



The Verzosa children. Source: Verzosa family.

## **Mom’s Learning Disability A Problem For DCF**

Though Tracey has a “mild intellectual disability,” she dearly

loves each of her children, who range in age from newborn to 9 years old. She and Freddie have struggled financially, but their children have always had the basics of food, clothing, and shelter, along with generous doses of love and nurturing. Her disability never stopped her from being able to cook and care for her children. While her husband worked or looked for work, she took care of the home, teaching the little ones about colors and shapes, potty-training them, and proudly displaying their numerous certificates of achievement when they did well in school.

There were allegedly concerns that there was a lack of supervision of the children, because of Tracey's disability, a charge which the couple denies. The state wanted Freddie, a Filipino immigrant who is in the states legally, to be home to watch the kids, but he says that Tracey was doing fine watching them, and he needed to work to provide for the family. He says that the state seems to be worried that she cannot handle six kids, but she has been doing so just fine.

*“My wife never let her disability stop her from loving and caring, and raising these children, so why would DCF do it?”*

## **Late on Appointments for Required Vaccines**

DCF became unhappy with the family when the children were late a couple of times on their scheduled vaccinations. Because of their financial status, sometimes it was difficult to get to routine medical appointments. Freddie reports that they once walked for 2 hours in the hot Florida sun to get to an appointment for shots. He cites lack of transportation as the reason they fell behind, but says they were not very far behind on the schedule.

## Government Commands Daycare

At one point DCF told the family that they needed to put the children into daycare, a request that the couple were not happy with. Freddie says that he agreed to allow them to go to daycare as long as they would do background checks on the people who would be watching the children. Ironically, no one on staff at the daycare that DCF eventually put the children in was watching when their 2 year old climbed on a table and fell off, landing on his face. He is scheduled for a CAT scan soon, based on that fall.



The Verzosa family – happy together. Source: Verzosa family.

## Missed A Doctor's Appointment For Non-Serious Condition

One of the Verzosa children reportedly had a heart murmur. The parents were supposed to take the child for a re-check to follow up, but they were not able to make the appointment.

Though the doctor told them that it really was not a big deal, someone at DCF apparently thought that it was. Even though the physician wrote a letter saying that the child was fine, DCF showed up on the Verzosa's doorstep nine days after the missed appointment.

## Terrorized Children Taken from Their Parents at Gunpoint

On [The Verzosa Family Story](#) Facebook page, Freddie describes what happened on the day that DCF came and took their children. On July 9, 2014, he and their 9 year-old daughter were returning home from the store, when they saw a sheriff's car and another vehicle parked by their home. They got out, and authorities told them that they were going to take the children away "because I didn't want to cooperate with there [sic] programs." Freddie said that was not the truth, that they had told them they were bringing in services, but that never happened.

When Mr. Verzosa became upset, they handcuffed him while he was on his knees begging for mercy. His daughter ran inside in tears, "devastated," and locked herself in the bathroom. An officer followed her and threatened to break down the door. Officers with guns came into the house with DCF social workers to take the children. One "caseworker then snatch[ed] the baby away from my wife," while the baby was trying to hang on for dear life. When their daughter was convinced to open the door, she begged her mother,

*"Please mommy don't let them take me away."*

The Verzosas were helpless and weeping, as all of their

children were taken away. Freddie says they turned their house “upside down looking for guns, drugs, and dead body.” They found nothing.

*“I was then lost, trying to understand what did we do to deserve this.”*

## **Children Beg to Leave Foster Care and Go Home**

Since that time they have learned that one of their children in foster care has been found digging around in the garbage for food, and their 9 year old daughter has been wearing makeup and lipstick. The kids who were mostly healthy before have been sick many times, and one of their children has not received the gifts that his parents sent for them – the toys are put up in a closet. The gifts are allegedly thrown away one by one as punishment. The Verzosas buy clothes for their children, but they reportedly aren’t wearing those. “The kids used to be healthy.” The children report being yelled at, and they cry to come home, even writing letters pleading to come home.



Letters from children pleading for help. Source: Verzosa family.

They report that they have tried to cooperate with the various hoops that DCF wants them to jump through, but that it took DCF eight months to schedule a parenting class that they wanted them to take. There have never been any charges filed against the couple, yet their children remain in custody. And now their newborn has been taken as well.

## **“Crime” of Accidental Homebirth**

A DCF allegedly accused Tracey of avoiding the hospital so that they wouldn't find out that they had the baby. This is because the baby was born at home on March 11. (In Florida, homebirth is not illegal). However, this was not at all a planned homebirth – the baby simply came too quickly for them to get to the hospital! They were getting ready to go when Tracey suddenly felt something different. When her husband checked, he saw the baby's head. He was able to experience the joy of catching his own baby, a healthy 7 lb 6 oz baby girl. The couple then went to the hospital with their



precious little one.

To assure the investigator that this was simply a quick birth, he reminded her that they have been back and forth to the hospital, 4 times in the past month. She thought her water broke last week and went in, but the hospital sent her home. They were not trying to avoid the hospital, but they were hoping that DCF would leave this baby alone.



Tracey adoring her new baby girl. Source: Verzosa family.

## **Incredible Attitude from Hurting Parents**

Incredibly, despite their immense pain, Freddie tells *Health Impact News* that he chooses to love even those case workers

who take their children. They are strong in their Christian faith, and they pray for God to show these people the pain that they are causing to families. Mr. Verzosa says that he would “hate for anyone to go through what we are going through – even our worst enemies.” He told us that he wants to work the rest of his life to help other hurting families. He says there are many others who are facing this kind of injustice, and he speaks out, not only for his own family, but for so many others, who are scared to speak up out of fear of DCF.

Tracey simply says, through her tears:

*“It hurts. I want my kids back.”*

## **Video – Collection of Photos of the Family When They Were Together**

The following video showing family photos was created by the parents.

<https://youtu.be/5PAkhF1FKVc>

## **Disabled Parents Should Not Have their Children Taken Away due to Parent’s Disability**



Image from [Facebook Page](#)

In a similar story [reported earlier this year in Massachusetts](#), child welfare officials took custody of a newborn child 2 days after birth, simply because the mother was disabled. Massachusetts child welfare officials stated that the young mother couldn't properly care for a newborn and insisted that they acted in the child's best interests. But the federal government disagreed, saying that the state violated her civil rights by discriminating against her because of her disability.

The [National Council on Disability](#), an independent federal agency advising the White House and Congress, says the case

points up a growing problem: states needlessly taking custody of the children of disabled parents.

*“Parents with disabilities are suffering significant discrimination,” said Robyn Powell, an attorney for the council. “What happened to this mother is very common ... States are removing these children for the sole reason of their parents having a disability.” ([Story here.](#))*

## How to Help

There is a Facebook page set up to support the Verzosas – [The Verzosa Family Story](#).



They need a good attorney, but cannot afford one. Freddie says that their court-appointed attorney has not been helpful and has cursed at him. He has been searching for an attorney that will fight for the rights of Americans with Disabilities, but hasn't found one in his area. His wife Tracey is an American citizen.

Supporters are asked to contact legislators on behalf of the family.

**Florida Governor Rick Scott** may be reached at 850 717 9337, or contacted [here](#). His [Facebook Page is here](#).

**Florida First Lady Ann Scott** has a [Facebook Page here](#).

The Representative for the Verzasas district is **Rep. John Cortes**. He may be reached at 407 856 5009 or 850 717 5043, or contacted [here](#). His [Facebook Page is here](#).

**Senator Darren Soto** may be reached at 407 846 5187 or 850 487 5043, or contacted [here](#). His [Facebook Page is here](#).

## **Guardian Ad Litem Responds to Our Story**

### **Health Impact News Editor Comments:**

Desiree Robles, the Guardian Ad Litem for two of the children in this story, emailed in her comments to MedicalKidnap.com shortly after we published this story:

*I am the Guardian Ad Litem for two of the children and wanted to express that I am also a current professional in the disability field. I just wanted to share that as I respect and value the advocacy that is being done on behalf of this family I would also like to share that there is a substantial amount of information the led to the children's removal that is mentioned briefly in your article but underemphasized. As I am not in liberty to discuss the details of the case please know that as a advocate for individuals with disabilities I am observing the treatment of the children and the information presented to DCF that led to their removal. It is my belief that love alone is not sufficient to raise a family and one effective way to gain unification is for the mother is to receive concrete, supports that assist her in home or other to help her raise the children.*

*Every individual with a disability that i have had the privilege to serve has a talent and is most successful with Supports. Those supports that influence her ability to provide safety, education, a stable household and income , access to medical needs and responsibility to follow through on those needs was not present which led to the removal. My suggestions are to provide recommendations on how this family can move forward by gaining those supports for the future without providing a picture that appears to show an injustice was done to the parents.*

*Thank you again as I highly respect the media.*

Desiree Robles is listed as the Employment Programs Manager at the Diocese of Orlando, Bishop Grady Villas. [Her phone number and email are available to the public here.](#)

## **Video - Collection of Photos of the Family When They Were Together**

<https://youtu.be/5PAkhF1FKVc>

# Florida Refuses to Return 7 Children to Loving Parents who are Not Accused of Any Crime



*Verzosa Awareness Month*

*July marks 1yr. since the Verzosa Children were taken!*



*Let's make July their month and bring awareness to what is happening.*

*#7AngelsStory*

Source: [7 Angels story Facebook page](#).

by Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com Staff

While the nation celebrates Independence Day with barbecues, fireworks, and family get-togethers, Freddie and Tracey Verzosa are struggling to maintain hope. Freddie's



voice broke as he told Health Impact News that this week, July 9, marks 1 year to the day since their beloved children were ripped away from them by Florida CPS because Tracey has a “mild intellectual disability.”

Later, their newborn baby was literally taken from her mother’s arms just one day after she was born on March 11, 2015, simply because the state already had custody of the other 6 children.

To date, the parents have never been charged with abuse or neglect, yet the state still has their children. The children are still in various foster homes, separated not only from their parents, but also from each other.

Since Health Impact News broke their heart-wrenching story on the day that baby Taylor Lynn was taken in March, the Verzosas have received a huge outpouring of love and support, but their children remain separated from them.

Original story here:

**[Breastfeeding 2-day Old Newborn Seized From Parents Because Mother Has Disability](#)**



Tracey crying as DCF prepares to take baby Taylor from her arms. Source: Verzosa family.

## 8 Year Old Son Circumcised Against His Parents' Wishes

A few disturbing events have come to light since the Verzosa children were taken into state custody. While anti-circumcision activists (“intactivists”) have been fighting in Florida to save 4 year old [Chase](#) Hironimus from being forcibly circumcised, the foster parents of 8 year old Freddy Versoza, Jr. quietly took him to be circumcised. His father reports that he and Tracey refused to give consent for the unnecessary procedure.

They were told that there was a medical reason, but the Verzosas were not permitted to talk to the doctor themselves to verify any legitimate medical reason or to ask questions. So the foster parents got a court order to override the parents' choice for their son.

More than a month after the procedure, Freddie reports that his son tells him that it still hurts.

## **Children's Health Suffering Under State Care**

Freddie reports that their children were in good health before the state took them, but now there always seems to be something wrong with them. He says that they often look drugged up, and that all the kids except the baby are on some type of medication. The children have all been “caught up” on their vaccines once entering state care. Previously, they had most of their shots, but were a little bit behind schedule.

One of their children now has breathing issues, and has had to go to the hospital. However, he reportedly never had any such problems before going into foster care.



Source: [7 Angels story Facebook page](#).

At a visit, their 9 year old daughter told her parents that there is sometimes blood when she urinates, and that she is scared.

Their 8 year old son, the one who was recently circumcised, has now been diagnosed with a heart murmur, even though no doctor before he was taken ever diagnosed such, or even mentioned it to his parents. Now, Freddie says that he has to have some kind of shot or he will have seizures. His father wonders how that happened, since he has never had a seizure when he was with his family.

One set of foster parents has reportedly told the judge that they are uncomfortable with the Verzosas attending their own children's medical appointments. Freddie asks:

*“Is it because they are hiding something?”*

## **Psychiatrist Recommends Psych Drugs for Grieving Mother**



“This is the expression [Taylor] gave us as she was leaving the visitation.” Source: [7 Angels story Facebook page](#).

DCF has required Tracey to see a psychiatrist, whose recommendation was offensive to her. He questioned the mother who has had all 7 of her children, including the newborn baby, seized by the state over her disability. Tracey

reports that he asked her if she misses her kids:

*“Do you cry at night?”*

What kind of mother wouldn't cry at night in her shoes? When she gave the obvious answer of “yes,” she says that he offered her drugs:

*“I'm going to give you a prescription; it will make you happy.” Freddie recalls him saying that the pills “will take you to ‘happy land.’”*

She was also supposed to be provided with a breastpump by DCF, so that she could pump her milk for baby Taylor, but DCF never came through with one.

## **DCF Accusing Husband of Being Too Old to Marry His Wife**



The Verzosa Family. [Image from Facebook](#).

While the Supreme Court Justices in Washington, DC, are ruling that marriage equality is a fundamental right, DCF workers in the state of Florida appear to be passing judgment on the marriage between Freddie and Tracey Verzosa, because there is an age gap between the two. They are allegedly requesting testing to determine whether or not Freddie is some kind of pervert, simply because he is older than his wife.

The recent [Supreme Court decision](#) states in part:

*“[T]he right to ‘marry, establish a home and bring up children’ is a central part of the liberty protected by the Due Process Clause.” (p. 14)*



Despite this assertion, it appears that social workers in Florida are challenging this central liberty of the Verzosas. Legally, the age difference between two consenting adults is a non-issue.

It is readily apparent to people who know the couple that Freddie and Tracey are genuinely in love with each other. Their mutual admiration and respect for each other is abundantly clear, and can be heard in their voices and seen in their faces. Tracey doesn't talk much verbally, but she manages to communicate more through her eyes and facial expressions than most people do with many words. What she communicates is a vibrant love for her family including her husband, and deep sorrow over the loss of her babies. Freddie's deeply genuine love for his wife is also plain to see. They are parents who value their children above anything else.



Happier times at the Verzosa home. Source: Verzosa family.

They admit that there is an age gap, but they only have eyes for each other. When Freddie met Tracey, he quickly fell in love. She was in a situation where few people believed in her, but he says that he saw her beautiful soul. With their romance and his faith in her, Tracey has blossomed. They married, and started their family. They have loved having a large family, and their children are their world.

## “We Just Want Our Children Home”

On Tuesday, there is another meeting with social workers. The Verzosas don't know what else they can do to show the world that they are good, loving parents, and their children need to be home with them.

Their children are now reported to have “anger issues,” but Freddie says that is because they want to come home. Every time they see their kids, they beg to come home.

As if things were not difficult enough for the grieving couple, Freddie recently fell off a ladder at work and fractured vertebrae in his back. He is facing surgery soon to repair the damage, and is unable to do the work he usually does. Meanwhile, they are still struggling to find competent (and affordable) legal representation.

He says that he and Tracey are trying to stay strong and keep the faith. They keep hoping and praying for justice.

*“It's so unfair. I know there is a victory at the end of this, but right now, it is so hard.”*

Supporters may follow their story on their Facebook page – [7 Angels story](#).



They are hopeful that the public will speak up for them, calling and writing legislators on their behalf, imploring them to help bring their children home. Since it has been one year since their family was torn apart by DCF, the Verzosas are calling for “Verzosa Awareness Month,” and asking for supporters to share their story everywhere. They also ask for continued prayer.

**Florida Governor Rick Scott** may be reached at 850 717 9337, or contacted [here](#). His [Facebook Page is here](#).

**Florida First Lady Ann Scott** has a [Facebook Page here](#).

The Representative for the Verzosas district is **Rep. John Cortes**. He may be reached at 407 856 5009 or 850 717 5043, or contacted [here](#). His [Facebook Page is here](#).

**Senator Darren Soto** may be reached at 407 846 5187 or 850 487 5043, or contacted [here](#). His [Facebook Page is here](#).

In addition to contacting Florida officials, those who want to see change in the Child Protective System for the Verzosas and others are encouraged to call and write to the presidential candidates and make their stories part of the discussion. Many of the candidates may be unaware that children are being medically kidnapped by state agencies,

but this is an issue that they need to know about and address. It is public action that is making a difference for many families. When our voices become loud enough, we can make a difference. [Here](#) is a website where all of the presidential candidates may be found, with links to their campaign websites, Facebook, and Twitter pages.

# Mom Falsely Accused of Shaken Baby Syndrome for Brain Damage Caused by Vaccines



## Health Impact News

The [VAXXED team](#) recently interviewed a mother from New Jersey, now living in Florida, about her vaccine-damaged son. Her son has brain injuries, and initially she was accused of Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS). They removed her other child from her home, and tried to get her to confess to a crime she never committed.

Her son almost died, and at one point they encouraged her and her husband to just donate his organs.

But he pulled through, and with the use of alternative therapies such as [hyperbaric oxygen therapy](#) and medical cannabis ([CBD oil](#)), he has seen significant improvement.

Here is their story:

## Normal Birth and Baby Prior to Vaccines

A New Jersey mother relates how her son was born normal, and healthy. Like almost all babies born in hospitals in the U.S., he received the Hepatitis B vaccine on the day he was born.

He received a second Hepatitis B vaccination at 1 month old. After that, she relates how her son began arching his back and rolling on his side with his “eyes going back into his head.”

When she took him to the doctor, she expressed her concern about the apparent side effects from the 1-month vaccines, but her doctor allegedly dismissed her concerns, and he received another full round of vaccines at age 2 months. This included the [oral polio vaccine](#), a vaccine no longer used in the U.S. due to serious side effects.

After the 2 month vaccines, her son began projectile vomiting. Her babysitter called her at work one day but she was unable to get to the call. When she picked him up, she relates that he was very lethargic and dehydrated. She got him to drink about 4 oz. through the night, and called her pediatrician in the morning.

The doctor said it was probably the flu, and that there was no need to bring him in.

About 15 minutes after hanging up the phone with their doctor, she relates how her son had something like a “grand mal seizure.”

She called her husband and asked him to come home from work, because she also had an active 4 year old in the house. She also called the doctor's office back, but they said they could not fit him in until later in the day.

When her husband arrived and saw the condition of their son, they went to a kind of urgent care center nearby.

Having another apparent seizure at the emergency center, a doctor suspected meningitis and treated him for that. The doctor and two nurses then called an ambulance to take him to a hospital that had a trauma center, New Brunswick, New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital.

## **Severe Brain Damage – Mother Blamed**

Driving with her husband to Robert Wood Johnson Hospital, they lost sight of the ambulance. Once they arrived and went to the emergency room, they learned that the ambulance never made it there. It went to a different hospital, Saint Peter's University Hospital, which was closer, because their son had reportedly "coded" and stopped breathing in the ambulance.

After they stabilized him at Saint Peter's Hospital, the pediatrician she had talked to earlier in the morning, who had told her it was not necessary to bring him in to his office, showed up at the emergency room and allegedly asked the mother: "What happened?"

She replied that the only thing she knew "happened," was that he had just received a round of vaccines in his office 10 days earlier.

He replied: "Vaccines wouldn't do this."



He was later transferred to Robert Wood Johnson hospital, where they did a CT Scan. The scan showed massive bleeding on the brain.

The doctor in the pediatric ICU then told her that she needed to call her husband back, because they need to “have a talk.”

They explained to her and her husband that “someone did this to him,” like someone hitting him in the head with a baseball bat.

The mom explained that this clearly did not happen.

Her son was put on life support and child social services were called in, along with local police and the “prosecutor’s office.”

The next day two detectives and two social workers escorted her out of the hospital, where she had been staying all night watching her son on life support. She had not eaten all day yet, and it was in the cold of January, as they walked down the snowy streets from the hospital to a place where they questioned her for 5 hours, trying to get her to confess to injuring her son. They claimed she must have “shook him” to cause such injuries.

## **Criminal Charges and First Child Taken Away**

The family had to hire a criminal defense attorney, and their 4 year old child was removed from their home by social services (DCF).

The mother was not comfortable with the doctors’ diagnosis of “Shaken Baby Syndrome.” She knew that she had never shaken him, and she did not believe anyone else had either.

There were never any external signs of abuse (think of what would be visible on the head if someone had actually hit him with a baseball bat, for example, as one doctor suggested).

As they cooperated with the investigation, after about two weeks doctors told her they wanted to send a sample of his blood out for testing, as they allegedly wanted to check for something “very rare” that they had “never seen before.” It appeared that the doctors had no idea what was causing his condition at this point.

## **Mom Turns to Other Doctors for Help**

Meanwhile, mom began doing her own research, and contacted a few neurosurgeons for advice.

A neurosurgeon in Dallas apparently took interest in the case, and asked the mother to send him the CT scans. In the absence of any external evidence, such as broken bones, swelling, etc., the doctor reportedly wanted to further investigate.

After viewing the CT scans, the doctor reportedly called the mother and her attorney up, and reported that there was no evidence at all of abuse or Shaken Baby Syndrome. He advised the family to transfer their son out of Robert Wood Johnson Hospital where he could get better care.

They chose a hospital in Newark, NJ, but the doctors at Robert Wood Johnson were opposed to it, holding firm to a diagnosis of SBS. They had scheduled her son for surgery the next morning.

The mom refused, and when the staff asked her what she was going to do about it, she said she was going to come and

take her son to the new hospital herself. They ended up granting the transfer. Apparently, because she was not taking him across state lines, the laws in New Jersey allowed her to make this transfer.

## **Vaccine Injuries and SBS Accusation**

Her son was eventually put into rehab therapy, due to the significance of his brain injury. There was still no diagnosis other than SBS. The link to vaccines did not come until some years later.

The mother became very involved with the SBS issue, and soon found evidence of vaccine injuries causing symptoms that appear as SBS.

*Health Impact News* has reported on some of this evidence. See:

### **Are Parents Going to Jail for Vaccine Injuries?**

### **Vaccine Induced Scurvy and Shaken Baby Syndrome**

### **Is Shaken Baby Syndrome Often Misdiagnosed and Caused by Vaccine-Induced Rickets?**

### **Are Vaccines Altering Our Genes Causing Brittle Bones in Infants?**

Watch the entire interview, including how medical professionals tried to convince the parents that their son was “brain dead” and that they should just donate his organs. Using alternative therapies, such as [hyperbaric oxygen therapy](#) and medical cannabis ([CBD oil](#)), they are

seeing huge improvements in their son.

Video no longer available.

# Mother Blamed for Baby's Vaccine Injuries - Baby Adopted Out as Parents Face Jail



Rebecca and her son Javoni. Photo provided by the family.

by **Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com Staff**

In December 2013, in the State of Florida, Ms. Rebecca Wood gave birth to Javoni, a seven-pound baby boy with mild [infant jaundice](#). Doctors assured her that jaundice was

relatively common in newborns and told her that he would recover from the condition in a few days.

Although his health initially improved, his health deteriorated significantly within hours of receiving a series of routine vaccinations just eight weeks later. Rebecca explained:

*Immediately after his two-month routine vaccinations, my son became very ill. He had constant diarrhea. Diarrhea after vaccinations is not uncommon; however, his diarrhea continued for days.*

*We took him to the emergency room, concerned since his diarrhea had not stopped. They transferred him to the Tallahassee Memorial Hospital due to elevated temperature and ultimately he was admitted. They did various blood tests and gave him antibiotics. The diarrhea continued.*

*He was released from the hospital after three nights with antibiotics. We followed up with his pediatrician's office because we were still concerned that the diarrhea had not stopped. He also was not gaining any weight. The doctors did not appear to be very concerned.*

*One evening, Javoni was coughing non-stop. I called the after-hours nurse and they advised that he sleep in his bouncer. He started spitting up more than normal. Once again, [we took] a trip to the pediatrician and their solution was to provide him with Zantac for possible acid reflux.*

The vaccinations that Javoni received were the following:

- DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis)

- IPV (inactivated polio)
- HIB (haemophilus influenzae type B)
- PVC 13 (pneumococcal conjugate vaccine)
- Rota (rotavirus)
- Hep B (hepatitis B)

Despite his mother following all of the pediatrician's advice, instead of improving as one would expect, Javoni's health continued to deteriorate. A few days later, Rebecca was devastated to discover that her son's arm appeared to be hanging limp.

## **Child Diagnosed with Metabolic Bone Disease; Family Accused of Harming Him**



Javoni. Photo provided by the family.

Due to the urgency of the situation and the fact that her doctor could not fit her son into his schedule for an immediate appointment, Rebecca rushed Javoni to the nearest E.R., where doctors diagnosed him with various medical conditions, including metabolic bone disease.

However, instead of providing this devastated young mother with as much information and advice as possible on her son's conditions, the doctors simply Ace-bandaged his broken arm to his fragile little body and sent the family on their way.

Rebecca told *Health Impact News* that at no time did the hospital offer them any appropriate information about their son's disease or fragile infant handling, but instead gave them a follow-up appointment for the next day.

Rebecca explained to us the events that followed:

*The only advice we received was to double his vitamin D from 400 IU/daily (regular dosage given to a newborn) to 800 IU/daily. No further diagnosis or home-care instructions were given.*

*At this time, we were NOT informed of any other breaks other than his arm. We only found out about the other broken bones much later when we asked for the x-rays taken.*

*NO instructions concerning fragile bones as a result of MBD were given to us. We were investigated by DCF (Department of Children's Families); but due to and confirmation of the medical MBD/ brittle bone diagnosis, the case was closed.*

According to Rebecca, this was only the beginning of their



problems. She explained that:

*Just days later, I was on my way to school when I received a call from Javoni's father saying that his leg was limp. I immediately called 911 and requested an ambulance be sent to our home. I explained to the 911 dispatcher that my son was diagnosed with a metabolic bone disease.*

*They transferred him via ambulance to the emergency room. In the emergency room, they put an IV in his other (left) arm. Immediately after they placed the needle in his arm, that arm stopped functioning. They gave him **morphine** (which is hardly ever used for a child of this young age).*

*They then took x-rays and found that both arms and his leg were fractured. His pediatrician came into the emergency room and I sadly asked him what was going on with my son.*

*His pediatrician said, "**Rickets**, didn't the endocrinologist tell you?"*

*I said, "No, he never explained it to us; he never provided us with patient education or home care instructions. He only requested that we double the dosage of vitamin D."*

*They kept him overnight at the hospital and did additional testing including blood tests, x-rays, etc.*

## **Doctor More Concerned about His Job than His Patient?**

However, far from showing concern about his fragile patient's sudden deterioration in health, as one would

expect, the doctor in charge appeared to be more worried about the effect that his [Javoni's] condition would have on his career.

According to Rebecca, after he transferred her son to a Shands teaching hospital in Gainesville for a suspected liver disease, he was apparently overheard saying that he “*could lose his job over this.*”

She explained:

*When we arrived at the second hospital, we were informed that my son also had rib fractures.*

*I said to the nurse, ‘That cannot be correct, as we were never informed of these fractures.’ She said it came in the paperwork from the previous hospital. They never gathered the complete set of paperwork from the first hospital.*

*The following day, a doctor came into the hospital room and informed us that they found a skull fracture. In his earlier records, there is a mention of wormian bones in his skull. These appear to be fractures but are not.*

*They re-opened the case again and investigators interviewed us. They also made us take a drug test and go to a separate interview with social services. Later that night they made us parents leave the hospital.*

Rebecca continued:

*My mom flew down to Gainesville to stay with Javoni but was requested by DCF to leave the following night and informed*

*that Javoni would be given to a foster family, who “understands” the medical care.*

*That foster mom works for the same hospital in Tallahassee, which did not provide us with proper care instructions and caused Javoni to break his left arm, when placing the IV (x-ray shows this) – nor did they treat him appropriately.*

*During the hearing, I was told that the parents always get the children back and that I would have daily visitation for one hour including weekends. We had to find a criminal attorney.*

## **Child Adopted; Parental Rights Terminated**

It appears that they lied because a few years later little Javoni was put up for adoption by Child Protective Services to be adopted by strangers. According to Rebecca, Child Protective Services totally ignored the family’s requests to have Javoni adopted by a family member, even though three members of her own family had been fully approved to adopt her son.

If this was not heartbreaking enough for Rebecca and her family, subsequent testing has since proven that not only did their son suffer from metabolic bone disease, but in fact, there was a **family history of metabolic bone disease, rickets, scoliosis, kyphosis, and Ehlers–Danlos syndrome.**

Disgusted by events, Rebecca’s father stated in an interview that:

*When I was quite young, I was diagnosed with rickets and I wore full leg braces on both legs until my bones were straightened out.*

*I didn't think much of it at the time but I have come to realize in the past year that this is also part of being vitamin D deficient and I have come to realize this is part of our family's medical history.*

This information was further supported in a report written by Michael F. Holick, Ph.D., M.D., from the Boston University of Medicine, after reading a complete family history, he wrote:

*The grandfather has a history of bowed legs, rickets and Scheumann's Kyphosis.*



Javoni, being held by his grandfather, during happier times. Photo provided by the family.

After giving Rebecca a full medical examination, he wrote:

*I explained to Rebecca that she likely has Ehlers–Danlos syndrome type 3 and possibly also marfanoid features.*

*I have recommended that she be cautious about clicking her joints and to maintain her joints, especially so she does not develop osteoarthritis later in life.*

*Many of her GERD symptoms may be due to gastroparesis, and feeling lightheaded when she stands up is due to orthostatic hypotension. She notes she does bruise easily. Again, this is consistent with EDS.*

Throughout his report he made it perfectly clear that there was a family history of serious medical conditions that were likely to affect the joints and muscles and he reiterated that it was in his medical opinion that Javoni's broken bones could just as easily have been caused through an inherited condition as neglect or abuse. He wrote:

*Regarding her son Javoni, it sounds based on the family medical history that mom and grandparents give that he also has the same genetic disorder. This is an autosomaldominant disorder.*

*In addition, there is no question that he had infantile rickets during his first 3 months of life, as documented by his vitamin–D–deficient 25–hydroxyvitamin D level, markedly elevated alkaline phosphatase, and elevated serum PTH.*

*The combination of EDS, severe vitamin D deficiency, and infantile rickets markedly increases risk of fracture, and it is*

*likely that the fractures that were observed could have been caused by one or both of these metabolic bone disorders.*

Dr. Holick was not alone in his opinion.

In a report written by world renowned radiologist and expert on the subject of infantile rickets, Dr. David Ayoub wrote:

*Javoni presented to TMH ED on 3/3/14 with a non-traumatic right arm injury. Initial evaluation indicated rickets. He was discharged home but returned to TMH ED on 3/3/14 with a non-traumatic right arm injury.*

*Initial evaluation indicated rickets. He was discharged home but returned on 3/6/14 with an acute, symptomatic right femur fracture. The skeletal survey showed an unexpected fracture through the left humerus as well. These fractures had transverse orientation and not spiral.*

*Further workup continued to detail laboratory and radiographic changes of rickets. A family history of rickets was also noted. His growth charts showed dramatic delay in length and consistent with failure to thrive, a known feature of rickets.*

He continued:

*Javoni's labs were classical and unequivocally indicative of a diagnosis of severe metabolic bone disease. His illness was precipitated by **post vaccination**diarrhea.*

*His elevated alkaline phosphatase predated the presence of*

*acute fractures and thus cannot be dismissed as a coincidental finding to fractures. Liver disease and metabolic acidosis could further contribute to bone disease including rickets. Diarrhea can result in other deficiencies that weaken bone.*

Interestingly, Dr. David Ayoub mentioned that Javoni received his vaccinations shortly before his problems began and indicated that these vaccinations may have played a part in him developing bone disease.

This is of particular interest because Dr. Ayoub is well-known in his belief that it is not only a poor diet and the lack of sunshine that is responsible for the growing number of children suffering from rickets, but also the growing number of vaccinations containing the [adjuvant aluminium](#).

### **See: [Is Shaken Baby Syndrome Often Misdiagnosed and Caused by Vaccine-Induced Rickets?](#)**

He could be correct, because during Javoni's first eight weeks of life, this fragile infant received a total of nine doses of vaccinations. These vaccines included two doses of Hep B, DTaP, Hib and PCV, which according to [Dr. Suzanne Humphries](#), can contain the equivalent of 1,500 mcg of aluminum.

Sadly, aside from the vaccinations, Javoni also received the antacid medication [Zantac](#), also known to contain aluminum, together with a large cocktail of other drugs which included the antibiotics Amoxicillin and Rocephin and/or Ceftriaxone, which although were written up separately in his reports, appear to be the [same drug](#), as well

as morphine, vitamin D, calcium and Acyclovir, a drug used to treat herpes.

Could this lethal cocktail have contributed to Javoni's condition?

<https://youtu.be/xIt1jOxXKOU>

## **Expert Reports Banned from Court – Parents Face Jail**

There has been clear evidence throughout this case to support Javoni's parents. His parents have obtained written reports from at least four separate experts, stating that Javoni not only suffered from rickets but also from a metabolic bone disease and had a family history of these conditions.

Despite this evidence, it appears that Child Protective Services have chosen to ignore the evidence and are adopting out this young baby to strangers.





‘There has been clear evidence throughout this case to support Javoni’s parents. His parents have obtained written reports from at least four separate experts, stating that Javoni not only suffered from rickets but also from a metabolic bone disease and had a family history of these conditions. Despite this evidence, it appears that Child Protective Services have once again chosen to ignore the evidence and have chosen to adopt out this young baby to strangers.’ Photo above provided by the family.

If this is not bad enough, his parents have since been charged with neglect and abuse and are now facing the very real possibility of going to jail as a result.

In an email to *Health Impact News*, Rebecca stated:

*My old lawyer did not want to “go the medical route” and wanted me to blame my son’s father. She also said that whether or not I present my evidence, I would lose – which meant losing all rights to my child.*

*I was forced to give up my rights. I had no choice. The judge terminates so many parental rights because she had bad press in the past.*

*The prosecutor is using witnesses that are not even experts in the field of what my son’s disease(s) is/are. One specializes in Anglemann’s syndrome. He was untruthful about his results when doing my EDS test which he also did incorrectly compared to the other experts (4) who have tested me for EDS and confirmed me having it.*

In other words, this mother was allegedly coerced into giving

up her parental rights under false pretenses to enable Child Protective Services to legally kidnap her child. To make matters worse, this family has been denied the right to present their own medical evidence, as to-date it has allegedly been ignored by Child Protective Services, lawyers, and judges.

There appears to be countless errors throughout this case and by having their evidence ignored, this family is unlikely to receive a fair trial and as a result could face going to jail for a crime they did not commit.

<https://youtu.be/6cUXHF8tkUQ>

## How You Can Help

The Governor of Florida is Rick Scott. Write to Governor Rick Scott and ask him to remove all charges of child abuse against these parents and to open an inquiry to discover how they were accused of abuse in the first place.

Office of Governor Rick Scott  
State of Florida  
The Capitol  
400 S. Monroe St.  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

(850) 717-9337

# Teen Girls Abused in State Care in Michigan Seized Again in Florida After Insurance Refuses to Cover Treatment



Odonnell twins. Photo supplied by family.

by **Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com Staff**

A battle to get insurance to cover necessary medical care for teenage sisters with bulimia nervosa has ended up with those teens being taken by Child Protective Services in Florida. Their mother is asking how it can be that an insurance company is able to direct CPS to remove children from their homes.

The Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) has accused Laura Dalton of “medical neglect,” but the evidence provided to *Health Impact News* demonstrates that she is a dedicated mother who has been working tirelessly to secure the proper treatment for her daughters. In fact, one of the twins was seized from the hospital, where her mother had taken her the week before due to her dangerously low blood pressure and pulse.

The twins have suffered eating disorders after they were put into foster care in Michigan, where they were allegedly abused. They were healthy girls prior to that time, but as a penalty for allegedly smoking marijuana one time, they were removed from their home, and that is when their real problems began.

Bulimia is a very serious eating disorder that can be life threatening. Permanent organ damage and even cardiac arrest can be a result of the bingeing and purging that characterize bulimia.

Laura Dalton is well aware of that fact and has been trying to get coverage for an eating disorder specialist team that many have referred them to, including doctors the girls have seen and NEDA, the [National Eating Disorders Association](#).

Up to the day that DCF seized custody of the twins, both Laura and the director of the [Body Image Counseling Center](#) believed that the treatment was going to be approved by the insurance company CMS – [Children’s Medical Services](#) of Florida, a Medicaid program that is both state and federally funded to provide, per their website, “special services for children with special needs.”

However, it is now apparent that CMS was working behind the scenes with DCF, even attaching a medical foster care supervisor to emails between Laura and CMS.

Laura fears for her daughters’ safety. Not only is she concerned about the effect that the separation will have on her twins, but she is worried that they will not get the care that they truly need. DCF has already missed one scheduled appointment with a nutritionist since the state seized custody. She fears that they are not taking the bulimia seriously, which could have devastating consequences.

## **“The Twins Were Healthy” Before Being Seized by CPS**

Just a few years ago, Abbie and Alexis, now 16, were thriving. The Michigan natives were on a national level competitive cheer team and cheered in front of thousands. They did well in school.



Abbie and Alexis – happy and healthy at home. Photo provided by family.

When they were 13, the family moved to a new home and a new school district. There, they got into trouble, a kind of trouble which is not uncommon among teenagers, which should never have carried with it the devastating price tag that it has cost them. They listened to some poor advice and allegedly smoked a joint. Word reached the school principle and CPS was called.

As a result, the girls were seized from their home and placed into a foster home that had a reputation of being abusive. The foster parents reportedly locked up food, and the foster children in the home sometimes went without food. While their mother fought the system to try to get her children back, the twins ran away, escaping the abuse of the foster home.

By the time they were located, one had developed anorexia; the other, bulimia. The state of Michigan punished their escape from abuse by adding further abuse. They were placed into juvenile detention. It was a nightmare for the family, and a huge battle for their mother to get them back home. Both girls almost died in state care.

*Health Impact News* followed their story, and we rejoiced when they were finally returned to their family in August of 2016, battered and beaten down, but alive.

See:

**[Once Thriving Michigan Teenager Now Facing Death in CPS Custody](#)**

**[Michigan Teen Girl in CPS Custody Near Death – Twin Sister Pleads for Her Life](#)**

**[Kidnapped Twins in Michigan Physically Abused: Being Shipped out of State to Destroy Family Ties](#)**

To this day, the girls have not disclosed all of the horrors that happened to them while they were in state care. After they were returned home, both have been diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. Like the anorexia and bulimia, PTSD is not something that they had before the Child “Protective” System took over.

The twins were healthy when CPS took them, but they were in very poor condition when they were returned to their family. In fact, our coverage of their homecoming was delayed because of their poor health and numerous hospital and doctor visits once they came home.



See:

## **CPS Kidnapped Michigan Twins Return Home – In Worse Shape Than When the State Took Them**

Because their condition was so serious, they were immediately approved for Social Security disability benefits after they returned home. Both girls were diagnosed with PTSD. Alexis was diagnosed with bulimia. Abbie has been diagnosed with both anorexia and bulimia.

## **Foster Children 7 Times More Likely to Develop Eating Disorders But State Will Not Cover Expenses to Treat Them**

Once the girls were free, Laura Dalton had a new battle to fight – getting help for her girls who had suffered so much while they were held captive.

As many other families who got their children back from foster care have reported, Abbie and Alexis experience nightmares and night terrors. They would often wake up screaming, battling unseen monsters who were holding them down. Eventually in their mother's care, this ceased.

The once-confident teens struggled with feelings that no one cared and that they were worthless. But all that paled in comparison to the battle with the eating disorders.

Statistics show that children who have been in foster care are 7 times more likely to develop bulimia and other eating disorders. Foster children are more likely to develop PTSD than veterans of war.

Eating disorders have been called the deadliest mental illness, because they have a higher rate of mortality than any other mental disorder. ([Source.](#))

It is vital that those suffering from anorexia or bulimia get appropriate treatment. The disorders are treatable, but many of those who suffer with them require outside help to get better. They don't just "get over it."

---

Abbie before cps.



Abbie with cps



Abbie developed anorexia and bulimia in foster care. Photos supplied by family.

As common as eating disorders are in foster children, it is not common to find effective treatment for those children.

The majority of children coming out of foster care rely on Medicaid for health care, and it appears that Medicaid is reluctant to cover treatment for the injuries suffered by children in state care.

It would seem that the state should be responsible for treating a condition that arose in their care, but that does not appear to be the case.

*This begs the question: how many children suffering from eating disorders acquired in foster care die from those disorders because they cannot get adequate treatment?*

If parents are fortunate enough to get their wounded children home, they are often forced to rely on Medicaid and government assistance. Even if they were financially well-off before CPS, the system seems designed to destroy them. Many parents lose their jobs, homes, and savings fighting for their children, paying for attorneys' fees and required classes and therapies, and jumping through all of the ever-changing hoops imposed on them by the social workers.

## **Heroic Efforts by Mother to Help her Daughters**

Laura is no different. Before her children were taken, she had a stable career and a comfortable income. They were able to travel and have nice vacations. Since the twins have been home, seeing to their health care has been a full-time job.

Laura searched the nation to find treatment for eating disorders and insurance that would cover it. They moved to Wisconsin, hoping to get Abbie into a program there, but due

to rules for Wisconsin Medicaid, SS disability, and HMOs, they were turned down.

Meanwhile, she was able to secure a one-month scholarship at a residential eating disorder clinic in Chicago for Abbie, the sickest of the twins. When the funding ran out for Abbie to be in Chicago, they moved back to Michigan, and Laura continued to search for answers for her daughters.

In April 2017, Laura packed her family up and moved to Florida, a state with programs specializing in eating disorders. Before the insurance kicked in on June 1, she paid out-of-pocket to have labs run on the girls to monitor their condition.

As soon as she got CMS insurance, she began working to get Abbie into another residential treatment center for eating disorders. Abbie spent 30 days at the Renfrew Center near Fort Lauderdale.

Unfortunately, both residential programs failed. Therapists at both centers said that, instead of inpatient, residential treatment, Abbie would likely do better in an out-patient program. When she was separated from her family, she was prone to falling into depression, which hindered her progress in dealing with her eating disorders.

Also, they quickly realized that any time either of the twins was in a situation where they were locked in or restrained, they did not do well. It became obvious that these situations trigger a terror response. Their PTSD comes to the surface, and they feel trapped and afraid.

Alexis once told *Health Impact News* that when they were in state custody in Michigan, they would often be restrained for

hours at a time either to keep them from purging or as punishment for their eating disorder. They were sometimes beaten and abused while they were restrained, and both she and her sister are terrified of being locked up or placed in restraints.

In our earlier coverage of their story, we included photos of bruises that the twins suffered from being restrained in Michigan.



Bruised and battered in state care. Photo provided by family.

Their mother learned that it was important that her daughters' vital signs be monitored. She learned that, while the health impact of anorexia is more readily seen, bulimia can be every bit as deadly. Bulimics may not be terribly underweight, but the constant purging, often by vomiting, can severely damage organs. Electrolytes get out of balance and can lead to cardiac arrest. Bradycardia (low heart rate) and hypotension (low blood pressure) are not uncommon.

For this reason, Laura has been diligent to monitor her daughters' vital signs. An eating disorder specialist told her that she needed to call Emergency Medical Services or take them to the emergency room if their blood pressure fell below 90/50. When that happens, they are in danger of passing out or going into cardiac arrest. Hospital admission is usually called for in order to get them medically stabilized.

Alexis is involved with a therapy program and has steadily improved. She has reached the point where, unless she is restrained, locked in a room, or faces another trigger, she generally does well. She is on a gluten-free diet now, and she rarely purges any more. She has been hospitalized a couple of times. In one facility, she passed out in the shower.

Neither of the twins have ever passed out at home. That only happens when they are in a facility that is not monitoring their vital signs.

Since June 1, Abbie has been hospitalized 18 times, due to her dangerously low blood pressure and low heart rate, which requires medical treatment to get her stable again. Each time either of the twins sees a doctor, Laura has to explain, once again, that they did not get sick in her care, and that she is trying to get them healed from what happened to them in Michigan state care.

Laura has worked continuously with the insurance company

to try to get the help the girls need, as evidenced by numerous email conversations sent to us.

After 2 different month long stays in residential treatment centers, it has become apparent to Laura that a different approach is needed for Abbie. Instead of getting better in the inpatient facilities, she has gotten worse. Doctors have attributed this to the depression from being separated from her family and her trauma-related issues. Inpatient care further traumatizes her.

## **DCF Seizes Custody Based on False Allegations**

While Laura was working day and night to help her daughters and find effective medical help for them, she was shocked to see an email that she says was mistakenly sent to her.

On Wednesday, October 25, 2017, Laura received the following email from Doreen R. Livers, RN, the Behavioral Health Nurse Coordinator for CMS. It was sent to her and to Tina Kapusta, a medical foster care supervisor with DCF.

From: **Doreen R Livers** >



To: **Tina M Kapusta** >

Hide

**Laura Dalton** >

---

**hi**

Today at 1:19 PM

---

**Per CPI, the Odonnell twins will most likely be sheltered tomorrow!**

**Sincerely,**

**Doreen R Livers, RN**

**Behavioral Health Nurse Coordinator**

**CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES –  
North Central Region  
910 NORTH JEFFERSON STREET  
JACKSONVILLE, FL. 32209**

Accidental tipoff from insurance company. Source: Laura Dalton.

The CPI refers to Child Protective Investigator Mindi Padgett.

Almost an hour later, Ms. Livers tried to recall her email:



---

**Livers, Doreen R** 2:09 PM >

Recall: hi

Livers, Doreen R would like to recall th...

---

**Livers, Doreen R** 2:07 PM >

Recall: hi

Livers, Doreen R would like to recall th...

---

**Livers, Doreen R** 2:06 PM >

Recall: hi

Livers, Doreen R would like to recall th...

Source: Laura Dalton.

At the time, Abbie was in Wolfson Children's Hospital due to low blood pressure related to the bulimia. Laura asked the doctor if he knew anything about this, but he assured Laura and Abbie that she would be discharged to go home the next day. That never happened.

While Laura waited for the phone call to pick up Abbie on Thursday, Alexis went to hang out with friends. Just before 7 pm, Mindi Padgett with DCF showed up at their home. She had no warrant and no court order, but she demanded that Laura let her in.

Laura was terrified. She knew that she had done nothing wrong, but she also knew that Child Protective Services sometimes seizes children without legitimate reason.

We were on the phone with Laura as she left her house and

heard the DCF worker ask where Alexis was. She also told Laura that court would be at 10:30 the next morning.

When Laura arrived at court on Friday, she found out that they had moved the shelter care hearing to 9 a.m., so she missed it. Later, she received a copy of the Shelter Care order, and was shocked at all of the inaccuracies contained therein.

Almost every single point made in the order can easily be refuted with emails and texts of conversations between Laura Dalton and the insurance company, the DCS worker, and medical providers, as well as with medical documents.

*It is a sad reality in family courts across the United States that parents can lose their children based on false allegations and outright lies, without any real evidence.*

What evidence is provided to the courts by social workers is often twisted, manipulated, and spun to paint the parents in a bad light, while exonerating evidence is sometimes ignored.

Due process and basic human rights are frequently trampled in these courts, which afford parents far fewer rights than a mass murderer or bank robber would have in criminal court.

In the 2016 case of *Preslie Hardwick v. County of Orange*, judges on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals made the common sense ruling that, no, social workers do NOT have the right to lie in order to take someone's children. The Duval County, Florida, social workers would do well to look into this case and see that the presentation of perjured evidence can result in their losing their immunity.

See the story and watch the exchange with the judges here:

## **Judges Reject Claim That Social Workers Didn't Know Lying In Court to Remove Children Was Wrong**

### **Shelter Care Order Filled with False Allegations**

Even something as simple as who the twins' father is was inaccurately stated in the report, which says that "paternity has not been established." It has been definitively established. Michigan CPS terminated his parental rights to the girls while they were in custody there, even though this was not the wishes of the family.

The petition alleges that "the mother is unable and unwilling to get the children the proper treatment or services to meet their needs, placing the children at risk of harm." Laura has been fighting tooth and nail to get the proper treatment that will help her children. She has an extensive paper trail to back it up.

Several doctors have recommended that Abbie have out-patient treatment with the recognized eating disorder experts at the Body Image Counseling Center with the team of specialist Lori Osachy, "a nationally recognized authority in the treatment and prevention of eating disorders, depression, anxiety, and related mental health issues." ([Source.](#))

On October 14, Orange Park Medical Center stressed the urgency of following up with Body Image:

You should follow up with the following physician Immediately:

Physician Name: The Body Image Counseling Center

Sp

Ph

On October 16, Laura wrote to Flora Santamaria, a care manager with Concordia, which coordinates mental health care for CMS:

*Abbie needs and deserves appropriate baseline medical care [with Lori Osachy and Body Image]. This one approach has not been tried and I think it will benefit Abbie tremendously having her family by her side and being in home receiving appropriate care.*

Abbie met with Lori Osachy on October 18, and they “clicked.” Abbie and her mother had high hopes that this team would be able to help her to overcome her debilitating bulimia.

Apparently, CMS insurance doesn’t want to provide that coverage. This would require a “single case agreement” between CMS insurance and the provider, since Body Image Counseling is not a covered provider. If both parties agree, it can be covered, per CMS guidelines.

Regarding this very case, CMS told [First Coast News](#) that:

*we work diligently to ensure all medical services needed are provided. This includes going outside of our regular network of providers and utilizing safety net funds to meet all medical needs.*

Laura wrote to Concordia on October 24 to ask again about the single care agreement with Lori and the Body Image Counseling Center:

**Sent:** Tuesday, October 24, 2017 16:57

**To:** Flora Santamaria <[flora.santamaria@concordiabh.com](mailto:flora.santamaria@concordiabh.com)>

**Subject:** Re: Abbie n Alexis Odonnell

Any update on the SCA with Lori? I do not feel inpatient LOCKED facility is appropriate for my child. I am her mother and know her best. These facilities only traumatize her more.

Lori Osachy has told Laura Dalton that she would agree to provide care under CMS. On the day before the twins were seized by DCF, she texted Laura:

*It looks like they [CMS] are going to approve treatment for Abbie with us but I wanted to make sure before I called you. We should know in a few days.*

The Concordia coordinator, Flora Santamaria, wrote to Laura about the approval for Body Image on October 26, the very day that the girls were seized by DCF:

*Hi, Laura from what I know they should be finalizing it.*

*Flora*



*Flora Santamaria*

*Sr. Intergrated Care Manager*

*10685 N. Kendall Dr. Miami, FL 33176*

However, the shelter care order states that Body Image “declined” to work with them.

That is not true. They were waiting on CMS insurance to approve the agreement.

CMS assigned Dr. Sherry Shenoda to be the primary care doctor. According to the petition, Dr. Shenoda “stated that she is concerned for the children’s health, due to severe medical neglect, and that the child, Abbie, is at risk of death, due to her disorder.”



**Sherry Shenoda, M.D.**

**Assistant Professor**

Department of Pediatrics

Division of Community and Societal Pediatrics

Specializes in Community and Societal Pediatrics

Speaks English, Arabic and Spanish

Dr. Sherry Shenoda. [Photo source.](#)

However, it was Laura, not the doctor, who has continually expressed concern for Abbie. Laura contacted Kena at Dr. Shenoda’s office on October 2 to ask when Dr. Shenoda wanted to do follow up care with Abbie after her last appointment. Per her text:

*When does she want to see Abbie? She didn’t request any follow up care.*

Doreen Livers sent an email to Laura on October 24, just 2 days before custody of the girls was seized, that Dr. Shenoda is leaving Florida. “She has to move to California due to family crisis.”

Laura reports that, from the very beginning, Dr. Shenoda wanted the twins to go to [Daniels Kids Memorial](#) facility for care. They are a non-profit organization that specializes in working with foster children and at-risk children. It is also a contract agency for the Department of Children and Families. The twins were not in state care, so it didn’t make sense to Laura that they would be sent there. More than that, Laura’s research into Daniels showed that they do not have any specialists in eating disorders. It didn’t make sense that they go there.

The CMS coordinator, Doreen Livers, and Dr. Shenoda continued to push for Daniels.

Laura consulted a number of professionals and gave it a great deal of consideration. The shelter care petition accuses Laura of denying the referrals to Daniels, but she didn’t. She did, however, continue to advocate for Abbie to receive care with the specialists at Body Image Counseling.

When Dr. Shenoda’s office assistant scheduled a psychological evaluation for Abbie at Daniels on September 26, Laura drove her there, only to find out that they had scheduled the wrong appointment. An intake appointment had to occur first. She rescheduled for 2 days later, but Abbie’s blood pressure plummeted and Laura had to take her to the hospital for medical care.

According to messages from Daniels, the referral for Alexis didn’t even go through to Daniels until October 31, which

was 5 days after DCF seized custody. Meanwhile, Alexis was participating in therapy at Youth Crisis Services and was doing well. She had also begun attending a school that her mother fought to get her into that also provided therapy.

Alexis was doing better in her mother's care, and her vital signs were back to normal.

Another allegation in the petition is that Laura "is not willing to engage in services."

*After CMS provided the referrals for the children to receive services, and has come up with a plan for the children, the mother requests for other service providers to work with the children that are not covered under their medical insurance. ... The mother continues to believe that whatever CMS offers the children need something different.*

In actuality, other doctors and hospitals have recommended that the girls receive out-patient care with Body Image Counseling. Besides recognizing that Lori Osachy's team can provide the most appropriate care, they have recognized that being locked up and separated from their family only serves to traumatize them more. That kind of "medical help" doesn't help; it hurts them.

The plan that CMS "has come up with" was not presented to Laura until October 17, just 3 days before Abbie's most recent hospitalization for her low blood pressure and heart rate. She didn't leave the hospital until she was taken into custody and placed into a foster home. There was no opportunity for Laura to reject it.

However, the plan included Dr. Shenoda, who was leaving



the state, as well as 2 psychiatrists and 2 therapists at Daniels who “have experience in eating disorders.” CMS wrote to Laura previously that:

*the best that there is under CMS is a Psychiatrist that has previously dealt with eating disorders.*

Laura says that “experience is not the same as a specialty.” Eating disorders are very complex. The girls have been around plenty of people with experience who were not specialists who have caused more harm than good. Many of those with experience have failed to monitor their eating habits or vital signs, and the girls have passed out in various facilities (but never at home.) Because Abbie’s health especially is so precarious, her life is literally at risk.



The twins’ health was so poor when they were released from Michigan custody that the court ordered them to be taken right to Children’s Hospital upon their release home. This is Abbie that day. Photo provided by family.

Another suggestion made by CMS was a residential mental health facility more than 600 miles away. When Laura looked into information about the facility, she was horrified by the reviews which showed that kids were traumatized there, and others have died. There is little wonder that Laura rejected that recommendation.

It looks like CMS insurance wants to “try this” and “try that” and see if something works. Laura has tried just about every approach available to them. Residential care has only served to further traumatize them. She moved her family cross-country in search of care that would work. The only approach left that has not been tried is out-patient care, so the girls can stay together in their home, with specialists who truly understand the complex nature of eating disorders.

The petition says that:

*The Department was able to shelter Abbie, as she was in the hospital. However, the mother took the child, Alexis, inside her home, and has refused to produce the child for the Department.*

The DCF worker knows that this is false. Alexis was not home when she came to the home without a court order or warrant. When Laura went to her car and left, our reporter heard the social worker ask Laura where Alexis was.

She was clearly not with her. There was no refusal involved. Alexis simply wasn't home. A few minutes later, Mindi Padgett texted Laura to ask where she was, demonstrating that she was aware that Alexis was not home.

According to the petition:

*The home is not calm and consistent enough to implement an in-home safety plan, and there is nothing short of removal that will ensure the children's safety.*

This is puzzling to Laura and to her friend who spoke with us, because the social worker has never been inside the home. Their home is as calm as it can be with teens trying to recover from eating disorders and PTSD.

Our reporters have spoken to the twins numerous times since they came home from Michigan state custody, before they were taken by Florida DCF. Both Abbie and Alexis have expressed their deep gratitude to be home with their family again.

All of their issues with the eating disorders, depression, and Post Traumatic Stress arose from their time being held captive in state care. They were deeply traumatized by the abuse and events that happened to them IN CARE.

They were broken. They expressed to us that they knew their mother loves them and has been fighting for them. They asked for us to pray for them because they want to get better. Certain situations, such as being held in restraints or being locked up, are triggering for them.

Their mother didn't do that to them.

Because Laura Dalton has continued to fight for the proper care for Abbie and Alexis and their eating disorders, the insurance company got Child Protective Services involved. Is this to be the new normal?

If the insurance company doesn't want to cover a provider or a procedure, but the parent persists, they can call Child Protective Services and remove the child, thus avoiding responsibility?

Is it to be considered medical neglect when a parent cannot afford to pay out-of-pocket for any care that their insurance provider, including Medicaid, doesn't cover?

## How You Can Help

Laura Dalton has court on November 20 at the Duval County Courthouse in Jacksonville, Florida. She has a court-appointed attorney who has told her that it wouldn't do any good to file for a dismissal of the case, despite all the errors and falsehoods in the petition. It would be great if a good attorney would step up to help the family pro-bono.

The girls, especially Abbie, need real help for their eating disorders. Being held prisoner will only serve to further traumatize them. Besides appropriate help for their eating disorders, they greatly need prayer for protection, healing, and hope.

Governor Rick Scott is the governor of Florida. He may be reached at (850) 717-9337, or contacted [here](#).

Representative Jay Fant represents the district where the family resides. He may be reached at (904) 381-6011, or contacted [here](#).

Audrey Gibson is the Senator representing their district. She may be reached at Phone: (904) 359-2553.

# Florida Dad Wrongfully Convicted for Shaking Baby and Served 20+ Years of a 70 Year Sentence Featured on CNN



James Duncan pictured on the left with his two sons before being incarcerated, and pictured on the right in a CNN interview more than 20 years later while serving a 70 year sentence. His case will be retried, since there was no medical evidence provided at his original trial showing other potential medical causes of broken bones besides “shaking.”  
[Photos courtesy of CNN.com.](https://www.cnn.com)

by **Brian Shilhavy**  
**Editor, Health Impact News**

On February 17, 2018, CNN aired a [Special Report](#) titled “*Broken Bones, Shattered Lives*” which featured the story of James Duncan, who was convicted of child abuse for shaking his son who was an infant at the time. He has served over 20

years of a 70 year conviction for a crime he claims never happened.

A Florida appeals court has agreed to re-try the case.

CNN's Jean Casarez interviewed James' ex-wife and two sons (now adults) for the report, and they all maintain that James is innocent.

From [CNN](#):

*Jim Duncan has always insisted he never broke the bones of his infant son, and now a Florida appeals court has agreed that Duncan deserves a hearing for a new trial.*

*The central Florida man is more than two decades into a 70-year sentence for aggravated child abuse. He was convicted of the crime after he and his wife brought their infant son Kody to the emergency room in 1993 when they noticed he was in pain and not using the left side of his body.*

*The doctor found 13 broken bones and a skull fracture in his X-rays but no bruises. The hospital called police.*

*"I am innocent," Duncan, now 51, told CNN. "I did not harm my son."*

*Prosecutors are standing by the conviction, but Duncan said he hopes a new lawyer, and new medical science, will end his nightmare and bring him home.*

*Duncan and several family members, including his ex-wife and Kody Duncan, who as an infant was at the heart of the case, sat down to tell their story in the CNN Special Reports'*

*“Broken Bones, Shattered Lives.”*

*“All I could think about was, ‘Oh, my God, he’s gonna die in there and never see his kids,’” said Jim Duncan’s mother, Celeste Bonnell.*

*So far, she has been right. His two boys, Kevin and Kody, are now men in their 20s. Kody’s bones healed, and he said he believes his father was wrongly convicted.*

*“I never once had a doubt that he hurt me. I don’t believe it,” Kody said.*

*Prosecutors leaned heavily on medical testimony — from Florida pediatrician Mark Morris, who still stands by his findings — and the X-rays.*

## **Courts Today Now Demand Medical Testimony on Behalf of Defendants – Parents and Caregivers Convicted Solely on Testimony of Medical Doctors**

As we have previously reported here at *Health Impact News*, U.S. courts across the country are re-trying Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) cases where no medical testimony was presented on behalf of the defense, that could give other explanations of injuries to infants that show up mostly only in x-rays, particularly if there was no external evidence of trauma.

See:

**Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts Opens  
the Legal Door to Retry All Shaken Baby  
Syndrome Convictions**

**Attorneys Being Trained to Fight Bogus Child  
Abuse Charges used in Medical Kidnappings**

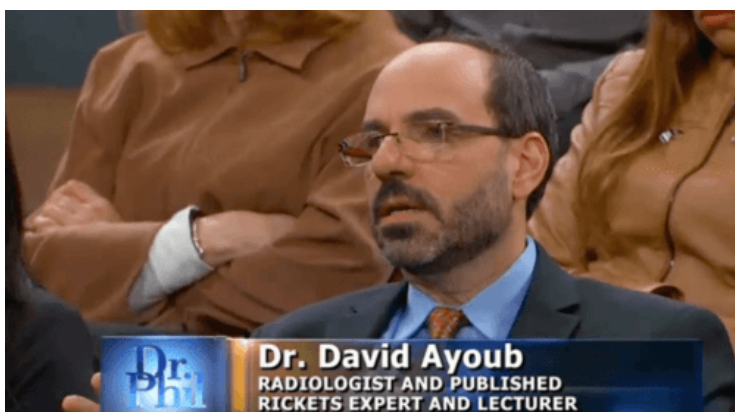
**University of Michigan Law School Awarded  
\$250K to Learn How to Defend Shaken Baby  
Syndrome Cases**

and:

**Swedish Health Agency Rejects “Science” of  
Shaken Baby Syndrome**

**Medical Doctor and Radiologist: “Tens of  
Thousands” of Wrongful Convictions  
Regarding Shaken Baby Syndrome**





Dr. David Ayoub, radiologist and published rickets expert and lecturer, is a frequent guest in the media and an expert witness in court cases regarding child abuse. [Image Source.](#)

The [CNN report by Jean Casarez](#) also interviewed Dr. David Ayoub, a radiologist and expert on infantile rickets.

*“It’s a bad diagnosis,” Illinois radiologist David Ayoub contends 20 years later.*

*He said he believes Kody had infantile rickets, a disease of early life in which bones do not mineralize properly. Ayoub said it led Kody to develop metabolic bone disease, causing his bones to be very fragile.*

*Ayoub said babies with the disease have bones so fragile that even regular handling can cause breakage. And those fractures, he said, are often misdiagnosed as abuse.*

When Jean Casarez asked Dr. Ayoub how many parents he thought might be incarcerated today wrongfully on charges

of Child Abuse for shaking their child, he replied “In the tens of thousands.”

*Health Impact News* contacted Dr. Ayoub and asked him how he came to these numbers of “tens of thousands” innocently convicted for child abuse.

Was it just a guess, pulling some numbers out of thin air?

Dr. Ayoub replied by stating to *Health Impact News*:

*I get about 1 case per day request, and they are nearly 100% rickets cases. It is RARE that I get a normal bone referral, less than 1%.*

*I am sure I am consulted in less than 1% of all ongoing cases (regarding SBS charges of child abuse).*

*There are easily 2,000 cases per year of fractures in infants since the 1980s.*

*50,000 cases is a reasonable estimate.*

If you or someone you know believes that they have been wrongly convicted of Child Abuse, [The Innocence Project is reportedly taking on SBS cases](#) in all 50 states.

They supply information on [how to submit a case here](#). Note that they only take cases where there is already a conviction in place, and a sentence is being served.

# Florida Mom Seeks 2nd Opinion on Dying Newborn After Car Accident - Loses Custody of All Three Children and Baby Dies in State Care



Baby Gabriel. Photo from Facebook.

by Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com Staff

When an 8 month pregnant mother arrived at the hospital after a car accident, her baby was clearly in trouble. Doctors allegedly seemed to be more concerned about Johnna Furman's broken wrist than the emergency facing her unborn baby. Her baby needed to be born quickly, but the delay of a necessary c-section resulted in life threatening lack of oxygen to the baby in the womb.

Baby Gabriel was born with brain damage and other serious medical conditions allegedly arising from this lack of oxygen.

Throughout his first week and a half of life, doctors at the University of Florida Shands Hospital told Johnna that her baby would not survive.

She refused to accept that answer.

When she tried to transfer care of her baby to a local children's hospital for a second opinion, doctors from Shands Hospital reported her to Child Protective Services.

While doctors blamed the mother, Johnna says that it was their medical malpractice that resulted in brain damage to her baby, ultimately leading to his death, and that the hospital is covering up what they did by blaming her.

Child Protective Services seized her baby and her other 2 children 11 days after the car accident.

Due to some legal gymnastics, evidence that would have proven her innocence was not heard by the judge and her parental rights were terminated less than a year later. She had another baby the following year, but Florida seized custody of that baby, too, because of a law that was changed

a month after the baby was born and applied to her retroactively.

In a video that Johnna recorded to talk about her case, she said:

*My family's gone. I can never have another child.*

*I don't understand how this is supposed to be the American dream, that justice doesn't matter. The truth doesn't matter.*

<https://youtu.be/df5Kao1abHg>

## **Delayed C-section Results in Brain Damage**

Johnna Furman's nightmare began when she was almost 38 weeks along in her pregnancy. She was involved in a severe car accident on November 5, 2012.

She was in a great deal of pain when she was taken to the hospital emergency room at Shands Hospital. It was apparent that she had some broken bones, but she was stable.

However, her unborn baby was not doing well. There were signs that he was in trouble but those signs were apparently missed.

Medical records show that the trauma team couldn't find the baby's heart rate when Johnna first got to the ER at the hospital, which is a Trauma One center. The medical records state:

*While in the trauma bay, fetal heart tones were attempted to be obtained by the trauma team; however, they were unable to obtain.*

Someone from the obstetrical unit was called.

Meanwhile, doctors ordered x-rays on her wrist, forearm, hand, knee, and chest, as well as CT scans on her head and spine. Her wrist was broken in two places, and it was soft set in a cast.

When the emergency department finally found the baby's heart rate, it was charted as being only in the 90s. The normal heart rate for a baby in the womb is between 130 to 160 beats per minute.

That was a huge red flag that the baby was in trouble, yet for almost an entire hour after Johnna's arrival at the hospital, the focus did not appear to be on the unborn baby.

After all of this focus on her broken bones, an ultrasound machine was brought into the trauma unit, and the baby's heart rate was checked via ultrasound.

*Fetal heart tones [were] noted to be visually 70s. At this point a placental abruption was suspected.*

The baby's condition, which was not good when they arrived at the hospital, had apparently become worse.

A placental abruption means that part of the placenta has detached from the wall of the uterus. This is a serious

emergency that will result in fetal death or brain damage if the baby is not born quickly, because the baby receives oxygen through the placenta and umbilical cord.

If the placenta is not attached, there is no way for the baby to receive oxygen until he is born.

In fact, there was a 70% placental abruption, possibly caused by the seat belt during the car crash. His heart rate was dangerously low, showing that he was not getting enough oxygen.

The only thing that can be done in this kind of situation is to get the baby born as quickly as possible if there is to be any hope for survival.



Baby Gabriel was born with serious complications. Photo provided by family.

In a video interview ([link here](#)) with Medical Expert Jean Lamblin, RN, Professor of Nursing and a Licensed Health

Risk Manager, Lamblin said:

*Red flags were flying everywhere.*

*The baby should have probably been delivered right there in the emergency room.*

*They were more concerned about her wrist than they were about the baby. This is just not acceptable care.*

*You can look in any journal of American medicine, obstetrics, emergency trauma, and you will find that the standard of care is – “You get the baby out.”*

The mother gave verbal consent in the emergency room for a c-section. Even after she was transported to Labor and Delivery, the doctor did not arrive until 8 minutes later.

According to Lamblin, he spent too much time scrubbing up for surgery in the face of the emergency situation. That time, she said, could easily have been shortened.

The baby’s condition was very serious, and minutes counted. She pointed out that:

*you can treat a mom and a baby with antibiotics, but you can’t undo anoxia [lack of oxygen to the brain].*

Johnna’s baby was born just over an hour after they arrived at the hospital. He was “floppy” and “severely depressed.”

His heart rate by this time was only 40 beats per minute, and



he required full resuscitation to get him breathing.

Records show that he had “very severe hypoxic–ischemic encephalopathy,” which, according to the [National Institutes of Health](#) (NIH), is:

*a brain injury that prevents adequate blood flow to the infant’s brain occurring as a result of a hypoxic–ischemic event during the prenatal, intrapartum or postnatal period.*

*By the age of 2 years, up to 60% of infants with HIE will die or have severe disabilities including mental retardation, epilepsy, and cerebral palsy (CP).*

Baby Gabriel Michael James Furman weighed 5 lbs, 7 ounces, and was immediately taken to the NICU (Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) where he received a blood transfusion for suspected loss of blood because of the placental abruption.

According to an affidavit from OB/GYN Dr. Stephen N. Pine of Los Angeles, California:

*It is my opinion as a Board Certified Obstetrician that the delay of over an hour from the time of arrival in the emergency room caused severe compromise and injury to baby Furman with a certain degree of probability of more rapid delivery would have resulted in a baby with more reserve and the ability to recover from the injuries caused by this delay.*

*I feel there is an extreme deviation from the standard of care caused by the delay in delivery that resulted in more extensive and extreme damage to the fetus.*

After the birth of her baby, doctors placed Johnna into a medically-induced coma. When she woke up 3 days later, she was told that her baby had been born but would not survive. Doctors intended to pull the plug on him after she had the chance to hold him.

The devastated mother began praying. In answer to her prayers, baby Gabriel did not die at that time.

## **Child Protective Services Called, Mother Blamed**

Doctors still told her that he would not survive, but Johnna demanded that he be transferred to the local children's hospital for a second opinion.

When they opposed her, she threatened to go to the media. She was determined to fight for the life of her baby and do everything she could to save his life, including taking him out of a place where the doctors didn't believe he had a chance to live.

Doctors at Shands Hospital responded by reporting her to the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF).

They blamed the mother for her baby's condition.

That same day, when Gabriel was 11 days old, DCF seized custody of him as well as his 2 older siblings – Jaydon, who was 7 at the time, and Trinity, who was 5.



Trinity, Jaydon, and Gabriel Furman. Photo from [Facebook](#).

False allegations were apparently used against the mother to take the children, and eventually to terminate Johnna Furman’s parental rights. Doctors from the hospital, including the now-retired medical director of the Child Protection Team, Dr. Bruce McIntosh, told DCF that Johnna caused Gabriel’s brain damage by refusing a c-section for “several hours” and that she was on drugs, according to court documents.

## Mother's Testimony Misrepresented to Cover Up Medical Malpractice?

According to the DCF petition to terminate Johnna's rights to her children:

*Upon arrival at the hospital, the mother refused a cesarean section for several hours which could have prevented oxygen loss and other brain damage to the child.*

*The hospital eventually performed the procedure against the mother's request in order to attempt to save the child's life.*

However, the medical records clearly show that Johnna gave verbal consent to a c-section in the emergency room. The baby was born 1 hour and 3 minutes after she arrived at the hospital, so there was never any delay of "several hours."

There was delay, however, while ER doctors did x-rays, scans, and set her wrist.

This information was in documents which the judge allegedly never saw and the court-appointed attorney never submitted.

After she was wheeled to the operating room, 53 minutes after her arrival, the medical records indicate that the mother refused a c-section for a total of 6 minutes, not "several hours." The baby was born 4 minutes later.

She had already verbally agreed to a c-section in the emergency room. It is unclear why there was even any discussion of her consent later, after the baby's heart rate

was confirmed to be so low that indicated his life was in danger, and after the doctors suspected the true emergency of placental abruption.

Johnna was in shock and sedated, and she was put into a medically induced coma for 3 days, so she has no memory of this time period.

In a placental abruption, both the baby's life AND the mother's life are at risk. There was no visible bleeding from the abruption, which meant that she was bleeding internally.

Not only could the baby have died from lack of oxygen, the mother could have bled to death.

In fact, many days later, Johnna had a blood transfusion of several units of blood, indicating that she had lost a significant amount of blood.



Johnna with baby Gabriel. He was not expected to live, but his mother's presence comforted him. Photo from [Facebook](#).

Nurse Jean Lamblin said that the amount of time that passed before the c-section was done indicates that the team at the hospital did not treat the birth as an emergency.

Baby Gabriel never recovered from his birth injuries. Although he survived and was placed into foster care, he passed away the day after Thanksgiving the next year. He was a year and 24 days old.

Dr. Stephen Pine wrote in his affidavit:

*These deviations in the standards of care of Johnna Furman directly resulted in [the] infant's death.*

There are, he said, “reasonable grounds” for a “medical negligence claim.”

## **False Accusations about Mother's Drug Use**

DCF and Shands Hospital accused Johnna Furman of being on drugs when she arrived at the hospital after the car crash. She denies being on drugs when she got to the hospital. However, as we know, guilty people often deny wrongdoing. So, what does the evidence show?

According to the petition against Johnna:

*The child and mother also tested positive for opiates and marijuana at the birth of the child.*

Later, oxycodone was added to the allegation.

Doctors told the court that:

*her drug use caused placental abruption and severe brain*

*damage.*

Research into the causes of placental abruption shows that the primary reason is trauma, i.e. the car accident. Drugs are not even listed in many sources as a possible cause. The baby's brain damage was caused by the lack of oxygen to his brain because of the abruption.

Even so, the medical records show that the baby tested negative for all drugs. There were no drugs in his system.

There was a "presumptive positive" for Johnna on opiates and marijuana in the urine drug screen that was taken simultaneously with the birth of the baby.

Nurse Lamblin addressed that in a deposition with an attorney Daniel Hilbert, who Johnna hired for the appeal.

By this time, Johnna had obtained more than 2000 pages of medical records for her and her baby, which Lamblin reviewed.

Based on her review of the records, Lamblin points out that the screen said that "positive results are unconfirmed and should be used for medical evaluation only." There were "no detectable levels of marijuana."

A drug screen is not the same as a drug test. A test is more specific and more accurate, while a screen can show false positives for various reasons, including medical conditions.

Johnna did, however, have opiates in her system. The reason for this is that the doctors at the hospital gave the mother morphine, an opiate, in preparation for the cesarean

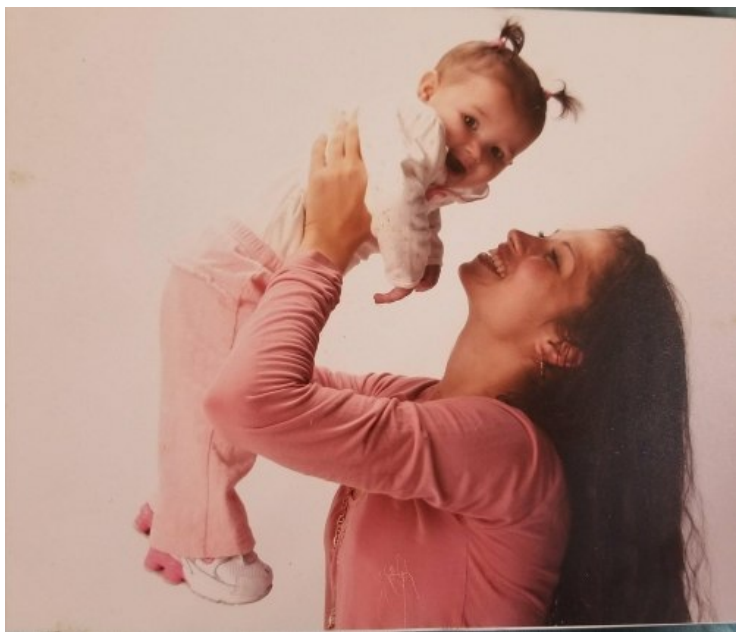


surgery. That is in her chart.

Of course it would show up. Nurse Lamblin stated that the drugs for the c-section are intentionally given very close to the birth of the baby so that they don't have time to reach the baby.

DCS argued to the court that common sense says that "no medical personnel would give these types of narcotics to a woman who was eight-plus months pregnant."

Obviously, they did. It's in the medical records.



Johnna with Gabriel's big sister Trinity. Photo provided by family.

A later drug screen, performed a week later, showed that she

had oxycodone in her system.

This is to be expected. Doctors at the hospital gave her oxycodone many times during the time period after the baby's birth for her broken bones and injuries from the car accident.

It would seem ludicrous that a mother could lose her children for having drugs in her system that her doctors prescribed and gave to her. Yet, at *Health Impact News*, we have received many such reports. It happens far more often than the public, or legislators, realize.

See this story of a newborn taken because his mother tested positive for properly prescribed drugs:

**[Medical Kidnapping in Los Angeles: 2 Day Old Infant Seized at Hospital From Mother](#)**

**Medical Records Not Presented to the Court  
– Judge Famous for 30,000 Adoptions  
Refuses Rehearing**



Florida Judge David Gooding credited with approving over 30,000 adoptions. [Image Source](#).

Johnna remembers very little of the events surrounding the car accident and the birth of her baby. In fact, when she originally woke up from a medically-induced coma 3 days after the birth of her baby, she didn't even remember that he had been born.

There are many things in the medical records which should have exonerated her had it been presented to the court.

At the time of the TPR trial, Johnna didn't have many of her medical records. She said she didn't know that she needed them.

It was only after the TPR hearing that she was finally able to get most of her records – over 2000 pages that Nurse Lamblin and Dr. Pine later reviewed.

However, shortly before the TPR hearing, she was able to

obtain some of her records. In those, she found a page showing that there was only a 6 minute period where she refused the c-section, as well as the record showing that morphine, an opioid, had been administered by the hospital before the baby was born.

She took these pages to her court-appointed attorney 3 days before the hearing, but he failed to enter the documents as evidence on her behalf. He also failed to call any witnesses on her behalf. Johnna says that Judge David Gooding refused to hear any of her exonerating evidence.



Big brother Jaydon before DCF. Photo collage provided by family.

Johnna quickly filed a motion for a rehearing based on ineffective assistance of counsel, but the judge denied her motion.

Judge Gooding prides himself on facilitating adoptions and has been recognized by the [Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption](#) associated with Wendy's fast food for his prolific work in adoptions. According to the [Associated Press](#):

*The judge normally handles foster care, delinquents and adoption cases and figures he has approved about 30,000 adoptions over the years.*

## **New Law Applied after the Fact Allowed State to Take New Baby**

Her rights to her children were terminated on August 27, 2013. Just before Thanksgiving, Johnna learned that she was pregnant again. Three days later, she got a call that baby Gabriel passed away.

Johnna says that she was not permitted to attend her baby's funeral. It took her 2 years to find out whether he was buried or cremated.



Johnna grieves her baby Gabriel. Photo provided by family.

She has filed appeals since the termination of parental

rights, but she has still not been able to get the evidence heard that would exonerate her.

When the new baby, Gabriella, was born, it looked like she was going to be able to keep her. A month after she was born, legislators changed a law regarding termination of parental rights. DCS and the state of Florida applied it to Johnna Furman retroactively so they could take the new baby from her, too.

Johnna was devastated.

Florida Statute 39.806 was amended. It removed the “Nexus” requirement that required that, in order for CPS to take any new children born to parents whose rights had been terminated, there had to be a nexus between the past case and the current case.

## **Destructive New Florida Law Assumes Parents Always Guilty if Prior Conviction Exists**

Attorney Dan Hilbert says that, now, even if there is new evidence that demonstrates that a parent was not guilty of the allegations under which they lost their parental rights, the old allegations cannot be refuted. No one will hear the new evidence.

Prior to this law being passed, says law professor and attorney Nick Martino, “evidence could be provided to save a new child.”

Not any more. He identifies a huge issue with this law and the Child Protective System:

*We have a system that I think in some ways values finality over accuracy.*



Johnna's children have a "forever home," but at what cost? Will the truth be strong enough to set her family free? Photo provided by family.

Dan Hilbert also has "great concerns about due process for all individuals."

*It is now my understanding of that law that even if something that happened in the past can be proven wrong, no matter what, it can still be used against a parent without any recourse whatsoever in its application in the new case.*



For Johnna, this law is personal. It is how the state was able to take her newest baby from her. The change in the law:

*makes it so I cannot go back to court and prove my innocence.*

*In criminal court in prison if you go to prison for something you didn't do and later you can prove that you didn't do it, they'll give you another trial, and they'll give you a chance to free yourself.*

*That doesn't exist.*

*The removal of the Nexus law now makes it so that if your rights are ever terminated to one child, you can never have a child again in the future.*

*My family's gone. I can never have another child.*

Johnna has affidavits and depositions from people willing to testify on her behalf. She has the medical records that she didn't have before, and she now has a much better understanding of what happened in the hospital. But none of that seems to matter.

<https://youtu.be/vCbDTXejgYI>

## How You Can Help

There is a Facebook page that has been set up in honor of Baby Gabriel where supporters can follow the family's story and find ways to help – [Gabriel Michael James Furman](#).



Gabriel Michael  
James Furman  
@GabrielMichaelJamesFurman



Johnna Furman has filed a medical malpractice lawsuit for Gabriel's wrongful death. She is clear that this is about justice:

*I don't want money; I just want my babies.*

Court will be held on Tuesday, April 24 at 9 a.m. at the Duval County Courthouse at 501 W Adams St, Jacksonville, FL 32202.

Johnna plans to hold a peaceful protest rally before the hearing, beginning at 8 a.m. According to a post on her Facebook page:

*We have court on 4-24-18 and I am planning to write a motion to stop my lawsuit ONLY if they agree to apologize formally for what they have done to my family by blaming me and making me look like a monster, so we can save mine and others! They have silenced my lawsuit attorneys who filed everything for me with their threats!*

*I want to hold a peaceful protest outside of the courtroom an hour before court, taping a dollar to everyone's mouth, for all of the mouths they have silenced and will silence in the future if we don't put a stop to this!*

Florida Governor Rick Scott may be reached at (850)

488-7146 or contacted [here](#). He is also on [Facebook](#) and Twitter [@FLGovScott](#).

Senator Aaron Bean represents Johnna Furman's district. He may be reached at (904) 757-5039 or contacted [here](#). He is also on [Facebook](#) and Twitter [@AaronPBean](#).

Cord Byrd is the Representative for her district. He may be reached at (904) 242-3495 or contacted [here](#). He is also on [Facebook](#) and Twitter [@CordByrd](#).

# Florida Illegally Separating Children of U.S. Citizens from their Parents - Where's the Outcry?



The Verzosa family in Florida lost their 7 children because the mother had a learning disability. It took years of fighting the Florida child welfare system to get their children back home. [Original Story](#).

**Commentary by Terri LaPoint**  
**Health Impact News**

“It’s here too.” That is the cry of parents and advocates all over the United States as they watch the media frenzy about

the separation of parents and children at the border.

They had a similar response as they watched the outcry about Baby Alfie earlier this year and Charlie Gard last year, both in the U.K.

Parents are frustrated that the media and the public virtually ignore the fact that these forced separations and medical kidnappings happen here too. Hundreds of thousands of families are separated here, to the sound of crickets from the media.

This week, Richard Wexler, the executive director of the [National Coalition for Child Protection Reform](#), wrote a piece for [Youth Today](#) exposing the harsh reality that the media in Florida is responsible for escalating the numbers of families separated by the child welfare system.

More children, not fewer, have been placed into greater danger than they were in before by the very system purported to protect them. On his [blog](#), he introduces the article thus:

*Young children torn from their parents, sleeping in a different bed every night. Families torn apart needlessly – and illegally – over and over again.*

*But this time it's not the U.S.-Mexico border. This time it's Florida.*

*Who says it's illegal? A report commissioned by the state*

*itself.*

*Why is it happening? In part because caseworkers are terrified of “media consequences” if they leave a child in her or his own home and something goes wrong.*

It has been a long-standing American principle of justice that we, as a society, would rather see a guilty man go free than an innocent man be punished for a crime he didn't commit.

The very foundation of justice states that citizens are “innocent until proven guilty.”

Yet when it comes to families, the prevailing logic of the child protective system is that children are separated from their families “just in case” the parents MIGHT harm them.

It's “for the children,” of course, and “in the best interest of the child,” they say, but how many children are destroyed as they are ripped out of the arms of loving parents and family members?

In the family court/child welfare system, parents are presumed guilty even when they have evidence of their innocence. They can be sentenced to the equivalent of the death penalty for a family – termination of parental rights – and that sometimes happens based on the societal fear that something might happen to the child in the future.

In the Tampa area of Florida, a peer review team appointed by the head of the [Florida Department of Children and](#)

Families (DCS), Mike Carroll, found that fear of media consequences has led to illegal seizures (we would call those “kidnappings”) of large numbers of children “needlessly.”

According to Richard Wexler’s article, “Tampa Child Welfare Puts Too Many Kids in Foster Care Due to Media Fear, State Report Says,” social workers take children they shouldn’t take and place them in harm’s way out of fear of repercussions to themselves:

*The peer review found that workers in Hillsborough County are so terrified of having one of their cases land them on the front page after a tragedy that they are illegally taking large numbers of children needlessly. According to the report:*

*Professionals in the system of care are often unnecessarily risk adverse due to the fear of child fatalities and media consequences. ... [E]xtreme caution and risk aversion responses do not guarantee that tragic results will be avoided, and can cause unnecessary trauma to children.*

*Indeed, as WFLA documented in this tragic case, it can cause a child to die in foster care after being taken from a mother just because that mother is poor.*

***What “risk averse” really means is that child welfare investigators, supervisors and officials are increasing the risk to children in order to decrease the risk to themselves. (Emphasis added by HIN)***

The report confirms what many families have reported to us at *Health Impact News*. The number of children taken by child

protective services tends to increase drastically after a publicized tragic death of a child. In the effort to prevent such tragedy, innocent families are traumatized. It is much like comments made by doctors defending a high unnecessary cesarean section rate:

*The only c-section I have been sued for is the one I didn't do.*

How many innocent families are destroyed, how many children are subjected to the horrors of bad foster homes or group homes, how many children die in state custody, in order to prevent one tragedy at the hands of abusive parents?

## **Social Workers Take Children Unnecessarily**

[According to the article:](#)

*The report found that investigators in Hillsborough County rush to remove children “without sufficient exploration, consideration, or conversation around reasonable efforts to prevent removal ...”*

*The report notes that violates state and federal law. Yes, such illegal behavior is [routine across the country](#) — what is unusual is when it gets so flagrant that a child welfare system’s “peers” can’t look the other way.*

Wexler links to an [article from 2016](#) citing a report from Alaska:



*Yes, the reasonable efforts clause has lots of loopholes. But it does not say “make reasonable efforts unless you don’t have time.”*

*Unfortunately, the federal government does almost nothing to enforce this law, so it’s often ignored.*

*The penalty for ignoring the law is losing federal aid for that case. But to “prove” it has complied with the requirement a child welfare agency need merely show that a judge has checked a box on a form.*

Wexler continues his analysis of the Tampa report:

*The bias extends to extended families. The report found a disturbing “lack of effort” to place children with relatives even though kinship care is the least harmful form of foster care.*

This finding is consistent with what our research has shown. We have had many cases where relatives are lined up to care for their family member, yet social workers lie to the courts saying that there are “no suitable kinship placements.”

The children are placed into the more profitable (for the state) stranger placement, bypassing even relatives who are caring for other foster or adopted children. The relatives were deemed acceptable by the system to take in other unrelated children, just not their own family members.

*This is not the first official confirmation of needless removal of children in Hillsborough County. In December, 2017, a representative of the Florida Attorney General admitted that, [as WFLA put it](#), some children in the county “are separated from their parents due to poverty and nothing else.”*

## **Report – Social Workers Afraid of Media Attention**

Wexler describes the “peer review team” appointed to conduct the investigation into failures by the Hillsborough County child protective services:

*As the name suggests, the group was made up of people who are or were themselves key players in running various aspects of child welfare — in other words, a group likely to identify less with the victims of the mess than the perpetrators.*

*But even this highly sympathetic jury of system peers couldn’t look away.*

*[Their report](#) indicts just about everyone involved in the child welfare system in Hillsborough County (metropolitan Tampa), Florida. By extension, it’s also an indictment of the state’s two most prestigious newspapers, the [Miami Herald](#) and the [Tampa Bay Times](#), since their shoddy journalism set off the [foster-care panic](#) at the root of the problems and has kept that panic going.*

The report found significant problems within the system as it honed in on the “why” of children being needlessly seized

from their families:

*As stunning as the findings is the candor with which the peer review team zeroed in on the real problem: the fear caused by misleading journalism from the state's two most prominent newspapers.*

*About a decade ago, Florida had been making impressive progress transforming what had been among the worst child welfare systems in the country. Needless removal of children had been curbed and independent evaluations found child safety improved.*

*Then the Miami Herald decided to scapegoat efforts to keep families together for deaths of children "known-to-the-system." That effort began in 2011. My organization set up a website to respond. Those efforts reached a fever pitch with the publication of a series called "Innocents Lost" in 2014.*

*As we noted in our full rebuttal to "Innocents Lost," the Herald distorted data, took information out of context, got time frames wrong and systematically left out facts that contradicted the reporters' point of view.*

*The stories had the intended effect. The number of children torn from their homes soared. That led to one tragedy after another. And, of course, children "known to the system" kept right on dying. The only people who benefitted from "Innocents Lost" were the reporters and editors at the Herald.*

*Then the Tampa Bay Times joined in, with editorials demanding that more children be taken away. So it's no wonder the peer review report found that everyone in Hillsborough County child welfare is scared of "media*

consequences.”

*As the horrors caused by the foster care panic became more apparent in Hillsborough County, the Tampa Bay Times showed little interest in the suffering it caused. It was only the reporting of WFLA-TV that brought the crisis to light, and forced the state to name the peer review team.*

*As WFLA led, the Times usually would follow with a weaker version of the story the next day. And when the peer review team issued its report, [the Times story](#) left out entirely the findings about widespread needless removal of children, the violation of state and federal laws and workers’ fear of “media consequences.”*

The proposed solution to all this from the DCS head appears to be bureaucratic pretense. According to Wexler:

*As for the DCF Secretary, Mike Carroll, he has responded to the peer review team report with decisive action! Nope, just kidding again.*

*He’s demanding a “corrective action plan” from the private agency that’s sort of in charge of child welfare in the region, Eckerd Connects. (I say “sort of” because one of the other report findings is that no one is really in charge of child welfare in Hillsborough County.)*

*So allow me to save everyone a lot of time and paperwork. Here’s the corrective action plan: Stop letting two newspapers effectively run child welfare in Florida. Because they’re running it into the ground.*

Read the full article at [Youth Today](#).

# Arizona DCS Arrests Melissa Diegel as "Fugitive from Justice" While Living in Florida



Melissa Diegel with her two daughters before they were medically kidnapped by the State of Arizona.

## Health Impact News

Melissa Diegel is an Arizona mother who had her two daughters medically kidnapped back in 2014 for disagreeing with their doctors.

Her story was covered by *Health Impact News* and inspired the beginning of our [MedicalKidnap.com](http://MedicalKidnap.com) website.

The original story from 2014:

## [10 and 12 Year Old Sisters Seized from Family by Hospital in Phoenix](#)

[The Daily Caller](#) is reporting that Diegel is being [charged in an eight count indictment](#), and has been extradited from Florida, where she has lived since 2017, and is now incarcerated in an Arizona jail.

Diegel lost her long battle with the State of Arizona and never had her two daughters returned. But apparently Arizona was not content to let Diegel move on with her life, and is now charging her with “child abuse” for seeking medical treatment for her daughters from 2011 through 2014, and prosecuting her as a “fugitive from justice.”

According to [The Daily Caller](#), Diegel faced a Marion County judge on May 21, 2019, but Arizona failed to produce a warrant and the judge dismissed the charges allowing Diegel to go free.

*“I went to my extradition hearing this morning and Governor Ducey did not sign the governor’s warrant to bring me back to Arizona so as of right now I am free,” Diegel [reported on Facebook](#).*

But later that same day a sheriff’s officer reportedly arrived at her home with a new warrant and took her back into custody.

Diegel stated that she suspects Arizona may be worried about a lawsuit, since her oldest daughter is about to turn 18.

According to [The Daily Caller](#):

*Diegel said she is not sure why these charges are being brought now but believes Arizona may be worried about a lawsuit.*

*“The only thing I can think is that [her oldest daughter] will turn eighteen in December and then she can sue,” Diegel said.*

*“When the staff at Phoenix Children’s Hospital make mistakes, they have a convenient way of escaping the ire of parents and legal culpability,” says Malinda Sherwyn, who is part of the watchdog group [Arizona DCS Oversight Group \(ADOG\)](#). “They call in the Department of Child Safety and shift blame for their own wrongdoing to parents it’s called Medical Kidnapping and too often non offending parents never see their children again. AZ DCS picked on the wrong mother in Melissa Diegel.”*

*“They could not silence her regarding the harm done to her children in foster care. Six years later, as her oldest child ages out of this horrible system, a grand jury was convened based on the ridiculous fabricated evidence provided by the Department of Child Safety,” Sherwyn added.*

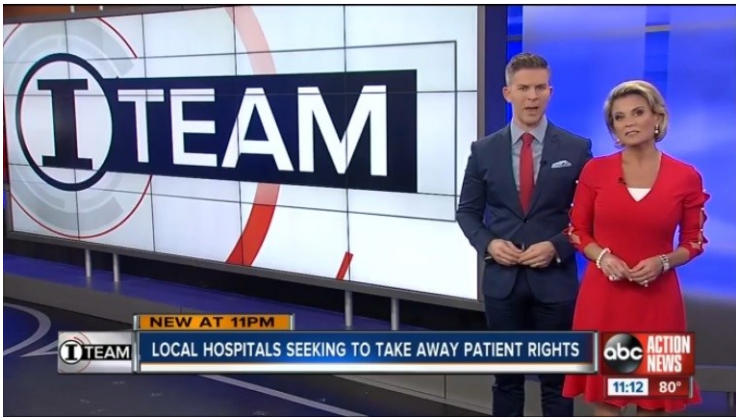
*Arizona may well have reason to worry about a lawsuit. An affidavit shared with The Daily Caller suggests that her two daughters were abused in foster care after being removed from her care.*

Read the full story at [The Daily Caller](#).

## [MedicalKidnap.com Articles on Arizona](#)



# Tampa Bay ABC Investigation Uncovers Medical Kidnapping of Seniors Throughout Florida with State Guardianships



Comments by Brian Shilhavy  
Editor, Health Impact News

The state of Florida, home to many seniors who have retired in that state, has had numerous investigations this year by local media outlets in the state's guardianship program that takes away the civil rights of senior adult patients, allowing them to seize their estates, and in at least [one high-profile case](#), even issue a “do not resuscitate” order without involving the patient's family.

See:

## Adult Medical Kidnapping: Euthanizing America's Seniors - Orlando Medical Guardian Resigns After Getting Caught, but How Many More Are There?

Now one local media outlet out of Tampa Bay, [ABC Action News WFTS](#), has conducted a three-month investigation that uncovered numerous examples of hospitals in Orlando, Miami, West Palm Beach, Naples and other Florida cities paying private attorneys to file hundreds of court petitions to put patients into guardianship.

They report:

*Hospitals across the Florida are paying lawyers to go to court to take away patients' rights, a three-month I-Team investigation uncovered.*

*An I-Team review of state court records found:*

- *Tampa Bay area hospitals, including those owned by Baycare, AdventHealth and HCA, went to court to put more than 100 patients into guardianship since 2017 alone.*
- *Tampa General Hospital filed five nearly identical court documents seeking guardianship for patients, describing each as having "disorganized thinking and poor cognition." A hospital spokeswoman said TGH spent \$28,000 on guardianship cases so far in just 2019.*
- *An attorney for Florida Hospital Altamonte requested guardianship for a patient because her "Kia Soul that was almost paid off... may be repossessed."*

Tampa guardianship attorney Gerald Hemness questions Florida's use of taking over guardianship so frequently.

*“Certainly, missing a payment on a car doesn't seem like it would be a financial emergency,” said Hemness.*

*Guardianship is supposed to protect people who have been declared incapacitated and are considered in immediate danger – something that doesn't often fit the bill for people in the hospital, according to Hemness.*

*“How – if they're in a hospital – is their physical well-being at imminent risk? They're in the safest medical place a person in America can be,” said Hemness.*

The Tampa ABC News I-Team interviewed Jay Wolfson, a medical ethicist at University of South Florida, who said that money can be a factor in the decision to take patients to court in order to gain guardianship over them.

*“It's costing the hospital too much to keep the patient in that bed,” said Wolfson.*

*The I-Team found Regional Medical Center Bayonet Point – an HCA-owned hospital where a semi-private room costs \$2,100 a day – requested guardianship for a patient on Social Security, stating in court papers, “The hospital is at risk of being over capacity and the ward's use of a bed may deprive others.”*

*None of the hospitals contacted by the I-Team would say why they pay lawyers to go to court instead of letting state social workers at the Department of Children and Families*

*handle the cases of patients potentially in need of a court-appointed guardian.*

*For those in the guardianship system, a judge hands complete control of their lives to court-appointed guardians. Those under the care of guardians also lose most of their rights, including the right to vote, drive, marry, make medical decisions, determine where to live and decide which friends and family members are allowed to visit.*

## **State Appointed Guardians: Power to Make Life and Death Decisions**

AdventHealth is one Florida hospital that paid about \$4 million to a guardian named [Rebecca Fierle](#) who is currently under criminal investigation for causing the death of a man that was appointed to her care as a guardian.

According to the [ABC I-Team investigation](#):

*Invoices show AdventHealth paid Fierle the \$4 million to serve as the guardian for 682 patients at its Orlando hospital – part of a secret arrangement hidden from the courts.*

*A court investigation report shows Fierle never disclosed to the judge she was being paid by the hospital – a violation of state statute, which bars guardians from receiving financial benefits other than those approved by the court.*

On Aug. 5, 2018, a judge approved placing Steven Stryker under Fierle's care in a hearing that allegedly lasted less than three minutes.

*The I-Team obtained the official audio recording of the court proceedings. Laughter can be heard on the recording after the judge decides to push up the hearing date by three weeks and decide the case that day.*

*Stryker spent two months in the hospital prior to the hearing. After Fierle was appointed his guardian, she moved him from the hospital to multiple assisted living facilities, which investigators reported did not meet his medical needs.*

*Stryker died in May after Fierle had his feeding tube removed and ordered a “Do Not Resuscitate” order without permission.*

Listen to the recording below, or at the ABC Action News WFTS website.

<https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/local-news/i-team-investigates/local-hospitals-seeking-to-strip-away-patients-rights-investigation-finds>

## **1.3 Million Adults Medically Kidnapped and \$50 Billion of Their Assets Seized**

Last year (2018) [The Philadelphia Inquirer reported](#) on a court-appointed guardian of seniors who had a previous conviction for fraud and bad checks, and was removed from her role as guardian by a judge due to her alleged theft of senior assets.

Their investigation revealed that nationwide, government guardians oversee an estimated 1.3 million adults and \$50 billion of their assets.

That means that it is far more likely for a senior to be medically kidnapped in the United States today, than it is for a child to be medically kidnapped, as the total number of children in foster care today is around 450,000.

In most cases, all it takes for the state to take over guardianship of a senior is the testimony of a psychiatrist stating that they are incapable of making decisions.

To learn more, read Attorney Lisa Belanger's report:

**[Elder "Protective Services" is a Racketeering Enterprise Medically Kidnapping Seniors](#)**

# USA Today Exposes Florida Doctor Medically Kidnapping Children and Destroying Lives



Sally M. Smith, M.D. [Image source](#).

by **Brian Shilhavy**  
Editor, Health Impact News

USA Today reporter Daphne Chen has [just published an article](#) on Dr. Sally Smith, a pediatrician who is the head of the child protection team in Pinellas County, Florida.

Published in the “Torn Apart” section of [GateHouseNews.com](#), this article is reportedly the first in a series investigating Florida’s child welfare system.

Chen refers to Dr. Sally Smith as:

*the 61-year-old pediatrician [who] is one of the most powerful figures in the child welfare system along Florida's Gulf Coast.*

*As the head of the Pinellas County child protection team, Smith examines virtually every child funneled to All Children's Hospital with suspicious injuries.*

*Among prosecutors, her word is like gold.*

The USA Today Network reportedly investigated hundreds of Dr. Smith's cases, and:

*found more than a dozen instances where charges were dropped, parents were acquitted or caregivers had credible claims of innocence yet suffered irredeemable damage to their lives and reputations.*





Vadim and Elina Kushnir celebrated the first birthday of their son William in July. Child abuse pediatrician Dr. Sally Smith accused them of egregiously abusing their son when he was 6 weeks old. Photo by Elina Kushnir – [Source](#).

Reporter Daphne Chen begins her article by recounting the story of Vadim and Elina Kushnir who claim Dr. Smith was responsible for the medical kidnapping of their newborn son, and his sister.

*Elina went into labor on a scorching day in July.*

*It would be the second child for her and her husband, immigrants from Ukraine who ran a trucking business in Sarasota County. They picked out Western names: Adele for their rambunctious little girl. William for the child inside her belly, the son they had prayed for.*

*And so even though Elina wasn't dilated, even though she was afraid, when the nurses told her to push, Elina pushed.*

*Less than two hours later, William was born in a torrent of blood, his umbilical cord wrapped around his neck, his face blue. Bruises dotted his face and shoulders. For two weeks, he cried every time he was touched.*

*Their pediatrician reassured them their son had a traumatic birth and sensitive skin, but was otherwise healthy.*

*Then, when William was 33 days old, Elina noticed him twitching.*

*At Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, doctors found bleeding in William's brain and two rib fractures.*

*The next day, Dr. Sally Smith came to examine him.*

*Elina and Vadim Kushnir say Smith did not introduce herself or answer the couple's questions. Instead, she took photos of every part of William's body, including his genitals and a bruise on his hand from the IV. On her way out, Smith turned to them.*

*"This is child abuse, and I'm going to prove it," she said, according to Vadim.*

*The Kushnirs had never heard of Smith. Few have.*

*Two weeks after Smith's cryptic visit, an investigator from the Department of Children and Families escorted the Kushnirs out of the hospital where they had kept sleepless vigil for weeks.*

*The department then took custody of William and his sister.*

*In family court, Smith claimed the Kushnirs subjected their son to egregious abuse. She said the mixture of old and new blood in William's brain proved he had been abused multiple times since birth. "Violent shaking would be one possibility," she said. "Slamming him on a bed 15 times would be another."*

*His rib fractures, she said, were two to three weeks old, caused by someone crushing his chest, according to DCF documents. Smith also claimed a "linear bruise" on William's arm indicated "high force blunt trauma with a long, linear object."*

*To the attorneys representing the Kushnirs, Smith's opinions came off as outlandish.*

*They said the "linear bruise" was in fact a small rash that Elina herself had shown to William's pediatrician at a recent visit. According to court records, the pediatrician testified the rash was likely from the straps of William's car seat and was so small that she would not have noticed it had Elina not pointed it out.*

*When defense attorneys asked whether birth trauma could have explained William's injuries, Smith admitted she had only partially examined the birth records.*

*Even the imaging findings were in question. California radiologist Dr. Susan Gootnick argued that William's hemorrhages were re-bleeds from birth trauma, not from shaking. In her report, Gootnick argued William's rib fractures were closer to six weeks old — right around the time of his birth.*

*“The prosecution is looking at this case from the outside in when they should be looking at it from the inside out,” Gootnick said.*

*The judge sided with the Kushnirs, citing the state’s inconsistent testimony and failure to look into the circumstances of William’s birth.*

*She ordered William and Adele returned to their parents immediately.*

*“It was a nightmare,” said Vadim. “I understand they have to check it out. But I had a feeling she [Smith] just signed off everybody as child abuse.” ([Full Story here.](#))*

Reporter Daphne Chen discusses other cases that involved Dr. Smith:

*Beata Kowalski, a 43-year-old mother of two, died by suicide in 2017 after Smith accused her of Munchausen syndrome by proxy — a rare disorder in which a parent fakes a child’s illness for sympathy or gain. Her family members are now suing Smith and All Children’s Hospital for what they said were trumped-up claims.*

*John Stewart, a Marine Corps veteran, spent 300 days in jail on Smith’s allegation that he killed his girlfriend’s son by throwing him repeatedly against a soft surface. Prosecutors dropped the charges after a neuropathologist contradicted Smith’s findings, according to internal memos.*

*Tara Brown, 39, underwent three grueling rounds of in vitro fertilization to conceive twins with her physician husband. She was accused of inflicting countless fractures on her 6-*

*week-old infants, but the charges were expunged after another doctor diagnosed them with a rare bone disorder.*

*“Sally Smith told me that if I didn’t tell them what was wrong, then my children would be put in foster care,” Brown said. “She looked us straight in the eye and said, ‘One of you is lying, one of you abused your children.’”*

Read the full article at [GateHouseNews.com](https://www.gatehousenews.com)

If you live in Florida and have been a victim of medical kidnapping, the Torn Apart editors are [collecting stories to potentially cover during their investigative series](#).

**Learn More About Child Abuse Pediatricians:**

**[Are New Pediatric “Child Abuse Specialists” Causing an Increase in Medical Kidnappings?](#)**

**[Child Abuse Pediatricians: An “Ethically Bankrupt” Profession that Destroys Families](#)**

**[History of Shaken Baby Theories Exposed: How an Elite Group of Pediatric Radiologists Started Medical Kidnapping in the 1940s](#)**

**[Elite Medical Doctors Seek to Control the Media and Public’s Perception of Child Abuse Specialists](#)**

Pediatric Child Abuse “Experts” are NOT Experts in Anything

Legal Experts: Shaken Baby Diagnosis Leads to “Destruction of Families Beyond Anything Comparable in the Modern History of the American Justice System”

Attorney: Child Abuse Pediatricians Aligned with Child Protective Services Destroy Innocent Families

Exposing How Child Abuse Pediatricians Medically Kidnap Children: A Guide for Parents

Study: In 96% of Shaken Baby Syndrome Cases Analyzed Infants Had Metabolic Bone Disorders

# Florida ABC News Covers Widespread Medical Kidnappings Due to Child Abuse Pediatricians



Image from [ABC Action News Tampa](#).

## Health Impact News

As year 2020 gets underway, we are seeing more and more mainstream media sources covering medical kidnapping stories, especially when Child Abuse Pediatricians are involved.

One of the latest investigative reports comes from the Tampa ABC News I-Team Investigations.

The Tampa ABC News I-Team also did an investigative report last October (2019) regarding the medical kidnapping of seniors. See:

## Tampa Bay ABC Investigation Uncovers Medical Kidnapping of Seniors Throughout Florida with State Guardianships

### Florida parents wrongly accused of child abuse by state experts is 'shocking,' says lawmaker

*Lawmaker to bring up concerns this legislative season*

By [Katie LaGrone](#)  
[ABC Action News](#)

Excerpts:

TAMPA, Fla. — A Florida lawmaker believes the state's medical experts on child abuse need more checks and balances after an I-team investigation revealed several pediatricians have made questionable calls against parents who appeared to have done everything right.

*“Any position of authority that isn't checked by something is concerning,” said Florida Democratic Representative Anna Eskamani of Orlando.*

Eskamani was responding to our investigation that found several cases where child abuse pediatricians, who were hired to be the state's experts on abuse, wrongly accused Florida parents of child abuse.

Child abuse pediatricians are a recent specialty medical field and hold enormous influence over whether a child's medical condition is the result of abuse. Their conclusions can also



determine is a child needs to be removed from their parents. But court records show, these doctors don't always make the right call causing children, often babies, to be removed from their parents for months unnecessarily.

[Our investigation](#) also found cases where doctors appeared to have come to far reaching conclusions without thorough investigations and, in other cases, where parents were arrested after a doctor's conclusion of abuse.


Last year, Nydia Ortiz's son and daughter-in-law were torn about from their newborn daughter after a child abuse pediatrician in Miami concluded their newborn daughter's bruises were also the result of abuse. Turns out, it was a rare genetic disorder.

<https://www.abcactionnews.com/news/local-news/i-team-investigates/florida-parents-wrongly-accused-of-child-abuse-by-state-experts-is-shocking-says-lawmaker>

Read the full article at [ABC Action News](#).

# Florida's Top Child Abuse Doctor Exposed - Second Opinions by Other Doctors Not Allowed When Examining Child Injuries

## Common False Defenses in Child Abuse Cases and How to Overcome Them



The image shows a man in a suit and glasses, identified as Dr. Bruce McIntosh, standing in front of a presentation slide. The slide is titled "Common False Medical Theories" and "Plan of Attack – What We'll Cover". It lists three bullet points: "Three false explanations for Abusive Head Trauma", "Three false explanations for Multiple Fractures in infants", and "One false theory on Sexual Abuse and three reasons why it's wrong".

**Common False Medical Theories**  
Plan of Attack – What We'll Cover

- Three false explanations for Abusive Head Trauma
- Three false explanations for Multiple Fractures in infants
- One false theory on Sexual Abuse and three reasons why it's wrong

Dr. Bruce McIntosh Training Video for Child Welfare Workers on how to accuse parents of Child Abuse. Watch the full video below.

by **Allie Parker**  
**Health Impact News**

With the recent, negative media attention focusing on the sub-specialty Child Abuse Pediatrics, Dr. Bruce McIntosh, the statewide medical director of nearly two dozen child protection teams in Florida, has broken his silence to speak out in defense of these Child Abuse Pediatricians (CAP's).

According to a [story](#) by [Katie LaGrone](#) with WPTV in West Palm Beach, Dr. McIntosh is quoted as saying:

*“We do not set out to diagnose abuse; we set out to find out what happened.”*

Katie LaGrone reports,

*“This is the first time Dr. McIntosh has responded, on the record, after their investigation found several families were wrongly accused of child abuse by child abuse pediatricians who work for the state as experts on abuse.”*

The response was the result of questions posed by WPTV regarding a 2017 training video they found on the state child welfare website. (Full video below.)

The video includes 62 minutes of Dr. McIntosh and state legal experts presenting common defenses in child abuse cases and why those defenses are false.

Dr. McIntosh claims these false defenses are often made by hired witnesses to offer alternative explanations for the child's injuries.

What McIntosh and others fail to mention is the fact that child abuse pediatricians are paid by the prosecution to testify in these cases as well. They are paid because most of them are “hired” or contracted with the state to consult on suspected abuse cases and testify for the prosecution.

Often times, the Child Abuse Pediatrician is the primary and/or only expert witness for the prosecution. This is never told to families when they are being questioned by the Child Abuse Pediatrician in the hospital.

Horace L. Bomar, Jr., author of [The Compensation of Expert Witnesses](#), points out how and why experts are paid by the prosecution, which includes medical doctors.

Bomar also brings up the fact that expert witnesses who are contracted with the state, as most (if not all) CAP's are, are paid the amount listed in the contract to testify against the defense. He writes:

*“The constitutional argument more frequently used is that an expert’s opinion is his property, the taking of which without adequate compensation is a deprivation of property without due process forbidden by both federal and state constitutions.”*

So despite what McIntosh and prosecutors say in regards to the hiring of expert witnesses by the defense, it is the constitutional right of any expert witness to ask for and be compensated for his work and testimony, whether they are testifying for the defense or the prosecution.

The real issue isn't about defense witnesses being paid for their time and testimony, but the fact that families and individuals are put in the position to have to seek out, hire and pay an expert to review medical records, provide these “alternative explanations for a child’s injuries” other than abuse, and testify at trial.

## **Child Abuse “Medical” Diagnosis: Second Medical Opinions Not Allowed**

Child abuse pediatrics seems to be the only specialty where individuals are not allowed to seek a second opinion.

According to [WebMD.com](https://www.webmd.com), second opinions are encouraged and even covered by most health insurance plans.

An article by Jay MacDonald, "[The 6 questions every patient want to ask about getting a 2nd opinion,](#)" Dr. Martin Makary, Professor of Surgery at Johns Hopkins Medicine, answers the question "why get a 2nd opinion?" by saying:

*"Easy: 20% to 30% of second opinions differ from the first opinion", says Makary.*

*"When you're dealing with something serious, what's the downside of getting one?"*

MacDonald's article also brings up another option which is to talk with your Primary Care Physician.

Niran Al-Agba, MD, a pediatrician in Silverdale, Washington, and a regular columnist for the *Kitsnap Sun*, wrote an [article](#) published November, 2019, on [Kitsapsun.com](https://www.kitsapsun.com), describing exactly how her opinion as a primary care physician, and the opinion of a seasoned law officer, were disregarded by CPS.

In one case, Dr. Al-Agba describes:

*"The CPS caseworker ultimately disregarded the opinions of a veteran police detective and the child's pediatrician, resting a determination on the outside doctor's observation. On the basis of a single piece of evidence, CPS decided the allegations of abuse were "founded" — meaning the state believed it was more likely than not that a father or mother had intentionally inflicted harm on their 2-year-old."*

According to Dr. Al-Agba, these allegations were deemed “founded” when an outside child abuse pediatrician reviewed only photos provided by CPS. These photos were the only thing used by the child abuse pediatrician to make her determination that the child was abused.

Two cases were mentioned in this article, “both involved overzealous child abuse pediatricians who made mistakes,” wrote Dr. Al-Agba.

Dr. Niran Al-Agba suggests:

*“Washington state lawmakers should implement stronger safeguards to protect families when Child Protective Services defer to contracted ‘child abuse experts’ whose opinions may at times be at odds with those of primary care physicians. Keeping families intact should always be a top priority.”*

These contracted physicians are paid by the state to testify against families, something Dr. McIntosh fails to make the audience aware of in his 2017 training video. WPTV reports Dr. McIntosh and other legal experts describe,

*“some witnesses hired by the defense attorneys as carnival people who travel around the country making six-figure incomes offering explanations not backed up by science or medicine.”*

Again Dr. McIntosh is attacking the character, agenda and knowledge of physicians who testify for the defense, this time going so far as to call them “carnival people” and again, failing to mention child abuse pediatricians, who are

contracted with the State, as mentioned by Dr. Niran Al-Agba, are also paid by the state to testify against the families.

Dr. McIntosh also claims the explanations used by these physicians are not backed up science or medicine.

This too is false. There have been countless studies done by physicians that are [peer-reviewed](#) and published, meaning they have been objectively verified and accepted by peers of the author in the medical community.

There is a multitude of peer-reviewed articles and studies that have found alternative explanations for the common “injuries” and findings, used by CAP’s to diagnose abuse. Not to mention the slew of rare and sometimes common diseases known to mimic abuse.

The studies show concrete medical and scientific evidence that support the fact that many injuries deemed abuse by child abuse pediatricians do in fact have other causes. They are not just theories.

## **Shaken Baby Syndrome Theory Lacks Scientific Consent**

The only “explanations NOT backed up by science and medicine” are the theories used by child abuse pediatricians to claim abuse; theories that, till this day, remain just that, theories. Some of which continue to be theories for almost 50 years, as is the case with Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS)/Abusive Head Trauma (AHT).

Shaken Baby Syndrome, now known as Abusive Head Trauma and other names that are constantly changing, was

popularized in the 1970's. So for almost 50 years, this theory is still unproven.

In fact, there is more evidence disproving the theory, yet it is still being taught in the medical literature, is still used by child abuse pediatricians to diagnose abuse, is used by prosecutors to charge individuals with felony child abuse, and is still convicting people of child abuse and sometimes murder.

Family (civil) courts have the lowest burden of proof which is "preponderance of the evidence," but in criminal court, the burden of proof is the highest at "[without a reasonable doubt](#)" which, according to Investopedia.com, means the evidence presented by the prosecution establishes the defendant's guilt so clearly that it must be accepted as fact by any rational person. A theory is just that, a theory, and has yet to be proven and supported as fact.

The "triad" or "constellation of findings" is what is used to make the diagnosis of SBS/AHT. Sometimes it only takes just one or two of the findings for a CAP to claim a child has been shaken. An [independent study](#) conducted by the [Swedish Agency for Health Technology Assessment and Assessment of Social Services](#) (SBU), concluded:

*"There is limited scientific evidence that the triad<sup>1</sup> and therefore its components can be associated with traumatic shaking (low quality evidence).*

*There is insufficient scientific evidence on which to assess the diagnostic accuracy of the triad in identifying traumatic shaking (very low quality evidence)."*



Even with the overwhelming evidence discrediting the theory of the SBS/AHT and other common theories used by CAP's to claim child abuse with such certainty, it is still being defended by its supporters and taught as fact in the medical literature.

In a paper by Jay Simmons, ["Ironic Simplicity: Why Shaken Baby Syndrome Misdiagnoses Should Result in Automatic Reimbursement for the Wrongly Accused,"](#) Simmons points out several times the prominent supporters of the theory acknowledge it is a theory, one even claiming "the triad" is a myth.

WPTV asked Linda Shiflet, a former State Prosecutor in Hillsborough County, Florida, to watch the training seminar and interpret it for them.

Shiflet's opinion on the training session is:

*"In my opinion it's a training session on how to be a good prosecutor."*

Shiflet goes on to explain:

*"They weren't saying that all defenses are false, they were specifying certain defenses and how the medical science doesn't support them as, in fact, true defenses."*

While McIntosh makes claims that families and individuals are using "false defenses" conjured up by these alleged "carnival people," the real question remains: How can families use a "false defense" if the child abuse pediatrician

tested for these underlying conditions and ruled them out?

McIntosh and other child abuse pediatricians are attacking families, many later deemed by the courts to be innocent of their charges, who have fought to find out the truth about their child and attacking the physicians who are more qualified to diagnose these types of conditions.

If it wasn't for the negligence of these child abuse pediatricians' biased opinions and being under-qualified in genetics, radiology, neurology, orthopedics, and other specialties, families and individuals wouldn't have a defense because anything and everything that could cause or mimic the findings to diagnose abuse have been tested for and ruled out.

It is clear this is not being done. Child abuse pediatricians continue to rely on the circular reasoning surrounding the many theories regarding common factors that are indicative of abuse; they fail to consider, which means they don't test for, other conditions and diseases.

## **Once "Abuse" is Diagnosed Families Left to Themselves to Find True Medical Causes**

This leaves the burden of finding the true cause of a child's "injuries" to the family and/or caretaker. A burden that is financially and emotionally devastating.

This doesn't include the burden placed on CPS agencies to investigate cases that should have never been referred to CPS, taking up their time and resources that need to be used for true cases of abuse and neglect.

The courts and taxpayers then have to waste time, money

and resources on lengthy and expensive trials, all due to the medical negligence of one physician who failed to perform their due diligence and has also failed to uphold the ethical oath they took when they became a doctor.

## Child Abuse Pediatricians Violate the Hippocratic Oath

The modern version of the Hippocratic Oath, according to MedicineNet.com, translates “Do no harm” as:

*“I will not be ashamed to say ‘I know not’, nor will I fail to call in my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for a patient’s recovery”.*

*“...this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play God.”*

Child abuse pediatricians continue to defy the very oath they took when they became physicians by continuously jumping to a conclusion supported only by theories and never testing for, or even considering, other possible causes.

CAP’s also fail to involve other medical specialists with more knowledge and experience in rare diseases and neurology before rendering their conclusions.

In a [recent story](#) by [Mike Hixenbaugh](#) with NBC News, Hixenbaugh reports how several emergency room doctors at a prominent children’s hospital in Wisconsin describe an:

*“‘Out of control’ child abuse team that is too quick to report minor injuries to authorities and that is too closely aligned with state child welfare investigators.”*

Hixenbaugh also reported:

*“Three of the doctors recalled being pressured by child abuse pediatricians to alter medical records, removing passages where they had initially reported having little or no concerns about abuse.”*

It seems to be common in cases involving a child abuse pediatrician where they fail to consult with other specialists.

## **Medical Doctors Speak Out Against Child Abuse Pediatricians**

Now with the investigation conducted by Mike Hixenbaugh, CAP’s are going so far as bully other physicians.

According to [The Becker Law Firm](#),

*“medical records are legal documents that may not be falsified or altered in any way. Knowingly falsifying medical records is a felony crime with a potential fine of \$250,000 or five years in prison.”*

In a medical malpractice case, “falsification of a medical record with any kind of alteration or destruction is considered as tampering with evidence,” also a felony.

In an episode of "[Diagnosis Murder](#)" – Broadcast date, [Friday, January 13, 2012](#), [Dr. Patrick Barnes](#) was interviewed.

Dr. Barnes is a Pediatric Radiologist and Pediatric Neuroradiologist who has been practicing for over 41 years. His experience also includes being a past Chair of the Child Abuse Task Force of the Society for Pediatric Radiology.

In the past Dr. Barnes was an expert witness for prosecution and would testify against individuals accused of shaken baby syndrome. After seeing the credentials of the physicians who were expert witnesses for the defense and speaking out against the theory, he decided to go back and research the science and studies used to back up the theory that continues to be taught to medical students.

He learned through his research and explains in the interview it was found out from other experts you can't diagnose shaking based on the "triad." There are lots of other causes. They also found the whole theory about the amount of force being equivalent to throwing a child out of a third story window

*"has no basis in science whatsoever and in fact the prosecution witnesses admitted it was somewhat anecdotal and it was concluded children can sustain the same findings by falling off small pieces of furniture or playground equipment."*

In regards to "the triad" he says,

*"This was a theory. A theory that made sense with no other theory to replace it which means it was taught and accepted"*

*dogma. You can't shake children to test the theory, which makes it hard to prove or disprove making it accepted."*

Dr. Barnes made it clear the theory is,

*"being questioned now quite widely. Science is always contingent and changing and developing."*

*"The point is, if the prosecutions witness is saying short falls can't kill, and you have evidence a short fall did kill, you have disproven that theory. It only takes one," he says.*

In regards to his opinion on the science used to back the shaken baby theory is:

*"Very skeptical about the science of shaken baby theory. You can't identify shaken baby syndrome as the cause of most, if any of these injuries based on the medical science today. It's just not there."*

Finally he states:

*"The medical and scientific community can't agree that the theory is the cause for a child's death. How can we expect a jury to decide beyond a reasonable doubt?"*

## Which Doctors Are Using False Theories and Hiding Behind HIPAA Laws?

So again this begs the question: Who is using false theories? The prosecution who brings in paid experts to testify about a theory as if it is fact when modern science has disproved it, or the defense who brings in experts to testify to the various other causes of a child's injuries, causes that were never considered or tested for by the child abuse pediatrician prior to concluding abuse?

WPTV reported McIntosh as saying he would not discuss any single case due to HIPAA laws, but was quoted as saying:

*“Families who have abused their children are free to go to the media and proclaim their innocence. The Child Protection Team, however, is constrained by Florida statutes and Federal HIPAA regulations. Therefore, it is easy for the public be provided a slanted impression of the accuracy and value of CPT medical provider's work.”*

This is a common excuse used by hospitals defending their child protection teams.

It's not clear if this statement is true under HIPAA regulations, but it seems if the family has made the records public, there would be nothing obstructing them from commenting on the case or at least making the public aware of the testing used to prove a child was in fact abused.

Yet, this never seems to be the case. Instead HIPAA privacy laws are used as an umbrella to hide under when the conduct and medical practices of a CAP are called into question, and

more importantly proven to be wrong in the courts.

According to WPTV, the Florida's Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, sent [a letter](#) to at least two lawmakers. The letter was defending the work of the state's child abuse pediatricians.

Dr. Paul Robinson, Chapter President responded to the WPTV investigation and other media outlets who have been reporting on this topic stating:

*“Recent news reports have contained inaccurate and misleading information about child abuse pediatricians.”*

Dr. Robinson and Dr. McIntosh make this claim, but continue to hide behind privacy laws, avoiding a true response and failing to provide any sort of evidence to back up these claims.

It seems the only inaccurate and misleading information in these cases are the reports and opinions given by child abuse pediatricians.

Judges and juries are hearing all of the evidence from both sides. They are hearing the claims of abuse based on theories and opinions not supported by medical and scientific evidence, along with other “true” causes that can and do result in the same injuries.

Are Dr. Robinson and Dr. McIntosh now claiming all of these judges and juries are getting it wrong? Are they willing to publicly say this while attacking the families that have been proven innocent, therefore proving the child abuse pediatrician was wrong?



***Furthermore, if these child abuse pediatricians are so firm in the science used to make their diagnoses with such certainty that it can't possibly be anything else, why are they so opposed to families seeking a second opinion from an independent physician or specialist?***

With the recent push for legislators to make changes to the law to provide families the right to a second opinion before CPS steps in and removes their children, Dr. Robinson also mentions in [his letter](#),

*“Some cases already can [get a second opinion] by seeking the opinion of the state’s medical director Dr. Bruce McIntosh.”*

How can a family get an unbiased opinion with this type of proposition that uses the same doctors who believe the same child abuse dogma based on circular reasoning?

Last year the Florida Department of Children and Families reported nearly 37,000 cases of child abuse and neglect, among the top five reporting states, [according WPTV](#). More than 15,000 cases were reviewed by child abuse pediatricians during fiscal year 2018/2019. The finding of abuse was confirmed in “roughly” half of cases.

It needs to be pointed out there is no mention as to how the cases were confirmed as abuse, but even “roughly” half is not a good statistic when it comes to medicine. If the “training,” studies, and scientific and medical evidence is sound and accurate, shouldn't these physicians should be getting it right a lot more than just “roughly” half the time?

## Child Abuse Pediatricians Held to the Lowest Standards of Accuracy?

No other specialty in medicine is held to such a low standard. No other medical specialty is immune from liability if they get it wrong even one time.

Why are child abuse pediatricians put on a pedestal with no oversight and accountability?

McIntosh ends his [2017 training seminar](#) by warning the audience of experts to be more thorough when evaluating a child for abuse.

*“It’s not really sufficient anymore to look at a child. Look at x-rays and say this is abuse,” he said.*

Is this the type of negligence that has been used in the past, and most likely currently used to diagnose child abuse? Simply look at an x-ray and say “this is abuse?”

And how is a child abuse pediatrician able to make such conclusions without having specialized radiological training and who does not consult with other physicians in that specialty?

How many families have been falsely accused by this type of negligence?

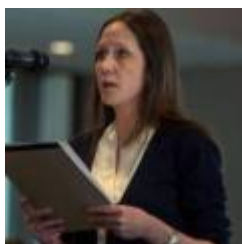
## Conclusion: Oversight and Accountability Needed for Child Abuse Pediatricians

Oversight and accountability is long overdue for this growing sub-specialty. Law makers must step in and govern how these “doctors” are practicing medicine and the methods being used to “diagnose” crimes.

Families and children deserve to remain together and not be torn apart based on flawed medical science and studies, the true “false theories,” and biased opinions of child abuse pediatricians.

<https://youtu.be/GjUDaMe8r8E>

### About the Author



Allie Parker is a Family Advocate and mother. She is a surviving victim of a false Child Abuse Pediatrician’s accusation. Read [her story here](#).

# USA Today Reports How Florida Takes Children Away from their Parents and Puts Them with Pedophiles in Foster Care



Foster Parent Rick Hazel was convicted for sexually abusing a foster girl in his care. [Image Source](#).

**Comments by Brian Shilhavy**  
Editor, Health Impact News

As we have reported many times over the years here at *Health Impact News*, the U.S. [Foster Care System is the #1 pipeline to child sex trafficking](#).

Numerous studies over the past several years have confirmed that children do far better when left in their homes, even troubled homes where parents may have drug issues and other problems, than when they are placed in foster care. See:

## **Foster Care Children are Worse Off than Children in Troubled Homes - The Child Trafficking Business**

### **Study: Children from Poor Parents, Even if they have a Drug Problem, do Worse if Put into Foster Care**

Investigative reporters at USA Today have done an excellent job in showing just how corrupt the child welfare and foster care system is in Florida, documenting hundreds of cases where children were removed from their homes and then put into foster care settings where they were sexually abused. They report:

*Using a state database, USA TODAY reporters examined more than 1 million foster home placements going back a decade. They collected police reports, court records and government documents and ran background checks on every foster parent who had been assigned a child.*

*Reporters then crisscrossed the state to interview more than 100 survivors, parents, caseworkers and child advocates.*

*Among the findings:*

- *The Department of Children and Families and the 17 private agencies that manage the child welfare*

system across Florida sent nearly 170 children to live in foster homes where the state had some evidence that abuse occurred. In 2016, two preschool girls said their Sarasota County foster father molested them. The state sent him 13 more children, stopping only when a third toddler reported that the 64-year-old had forced her to put his penis in her mouth.

- Caseworkers ignored or overruled DCF safety guidelines to crowd children into foster homes not equipped to handle them. The number of foster homes caring for four or more kids almost doubled between 2014 and 2018, according to a USA TODAY analysis of child placement data.
- The number of children under 10 sent to live in group homes doubled between 2013 and 2017, adding to the cost of care and the danger to children. Some were sent to places such as the Mount Dora-based National Deaf Academy even after a whistleblower lawsuit was filed in Lake County claiming that staff had held children down, punched them in the stomach, spat on them and denied them medical care.
- As caseloads rose, child welfare workers skipped home visits and parent training sessions because they could not keep up with required safety checks. They fabricated logs to make it appear as if the sessions took place. When caseworkers lied and omitted information from their reports, children got hurt, according to lawsuits and DCF inspector general reports. One IG report told of a child who was sexually assaulted after an investigations supervisor falsely claimed a hotline call had been successfully investigated and provisions had been made for the safety of the children involved.

Several stories are highlighted in their report, including the case of longtime Florida foster father Rick Hazel, who they say repeatedly raped a child in his care, taking videos of the molestation and hiding a camera in the bathroom to watch her shower.

More than 70 children allegedly passed through his home.

*When deputies arrested him in 2019, the Hazels were the longest-tenured foster parents in St. Augustine. More than 70 kids had passed through their home. In addition to the rape victim, the family members of two other foster children came forward with concerns of abuse or neglect.*

*But following Hazel's arrest, no one – not caseworkers, not child abuse investigators, not law enforcement – talked to all of the other children who had lived in the home to see if they had seen or suffered abuse.*

*Those children were all adopted or moved on to new homes. Until contacted by reporters, the adults in their lives had no idea they had spent time with a man who ultimately was convicted of child sex abuse.*

*Rick and Shirley Hazel were considered model foster parents.*

*They took in children of all ages and races, including kids with autism, and adopted three of them. They were active at church and the foster parent association, meeting with biological parents on nights and weekends to make visits easier.*

*“Wonderful human beings, blessed, doing God’s work,” one social worker commented in their file.*

*“One of the very best places a child could be,” wrote another.*

*As they gained a rapport with workers in the system, St. Johns County sent the Hazels more and more kids, even when their home reached – and surpassed – the state-mandated capacity of five total children.*

*The stream of kids finally ended in 2019, when a 13-year-old told detectives that her foster-turned-adoptive father had “raped me like I was his wife.”*

Read the [full report at USA Today](#).



# Families Sue Governor DeSantis and State of Florida for Medically Kidnapping Their Children



[Image source from WPTV video.](#)

by **Brian Shilhavy**  
**Editor, Health Impact News**

We recently reported how Florida Governor Ron DeSantis threatened parents in his state who took their children to “family friendly drag shows” by stating that he would ask Child Protection Services (CPS) to investigate these parents for “child endangerment,” although he has not issued similar threats against parents who choose to inject their children with deadly COVID-19 vaccines in Florida. See:

## **Florida Gov. DeSantis Wants CPS to Take Children Away from Parents Attending “Drag Shows” but Not from Parents Attempting to Murder Their Children with COVID-19 Shots**

While most parents would probably agree that taking children to these “drag shows” is not appropriate, neither is the State threatening to take children away from their parents, when neither the parents nor the children are requesting it, appropriate either.

When the state has the power to decide who is a good parent and who is not, who gets to define what a “good parent” is? And even if there is an accepted legal definition for a “good parent,” why punish the children for the crimes of their parents? See:

## **Does the State Ever Have a “Right” to Remove Children from a Home?**

As we have documented numerous times over the past many years, putting children into the nation’s child trafficking network called “foster care” has disastrous and deadly results, as many of these children are raped and sexually abused in foster care, and nationwide studies have shown that children who are left with their biological families, *even in troubled homes*, fare much better than children forced to be separated from their families and put into the foster care system. See:

## **The U.S. Foster Care System: Modern Day Slavery and Child Trafficking**

## [Child Kidnapping and Trafficking: A Lucrative U.S. Business Funded by Taxpayers](#)

## [Foster Care Children are Worse Off than Children in Troubled Homes – The Child Trafficking Business](#)

## [Study: Children from Poor Parents, Even if they have a Drug Problem, do Worse if Put into Foster Care](#)

Last week, Katie LaGrone with WPTV Channel 5 in West Palm Beach [reported on a lawsuit with multiple families suing Gov. DeSantis and the State of Florida](#) for medically kidnapping their children.

I have been covering this issue of “medical kidnapping” for almost a decade now, and the most common way the State removes children from their parents is through the testimony of “Child Abuse Pediatricians” whose sole job is to find parents who abuse their children, and most often they do it simply through examining medical records, such as x-rays, while never talking to the family’s own pediatrician nor even interviewing the parents to see if true abuse is happening.

We have published an eBook on this topic of “Child Abuse Pediatricians”, and for a limited time you can [download it for free here](#).



[Image source from WPTV video.](#)

This appears to be similar to what happened to one of the families who are plaintiffs in the lawsuit, Tanyah and Rodney Williams.

*With a small village of family members surrounding them, Tanyah and Rodney Williams shared, what they say, no loving parent should ever have to.*

*“They called us abusers and just took us from her,” Williams explained about the day her then-12-week-old daughter was taken by state child welfare workers after a nurse suspected her daughter was being abused.*

*The Williams now believe the system, created to protect families, not only failed them but distorted the truth to steal their daughter away from them and her biological family.*

*“I don’t know anything about her. What her favorite color is, her favorite show on TV, I don’t know anything,” said Williams about her daughter who she hasn’t seen since 2018.*

*The Williams are among four Florida families now suing Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis and leaders of Florida’s Department of Children and Families (DCF) along with several other state foster care organizations.*

*In the lawsuit, filed in a Tallahassee federal court Wednesday, dozens of relatives across four families accused employees within the state’s foster care system of fabricating evidence, hiding and withholding key information, creating false abuse allegations, or ignoring state and federal family laws so the system workers could keep children from being placed with biological relatives and, instead, place them with system-connected people seeking children of their own.*

*For the Williams family, it all started in 2017 when their infant daughter showed signs of leg pain. According to the lawsuit, Williams had been in and out of her pediatrician’s office and the hospital over various medical issues involving her newborn daughter.*

*According to the lawsuit, her daughter’s birth was traumatic. The umbilical cord was wrapped around the baby’s neck, forcing doctors to break the baby’s clavicle during delivery to get her out, the complaint states. The baby’s birth also resulted in bruising, noted by the family’s pediatrician, court records show.*

*After the baby's birth, the Williams' made every doctor's visit for their new daughter, the suit states. Mom had also been to the ER a few times over different issues with her daughter, including a respiratory infection. According to the 106-page complaint, the baby's pediatrician never suspected abuse. In fact, he noted the baby has a form of brittle bone disease that made her bruise easily.*

*On the day the Williams brought their baby in over concerns about leg pain, doctors ordered X-rays which revealed the baby had a fractured femur and more than a dozen other fractures "in various stages of healing," according to the lawsuit.*

*A nurse suspected abuse.*

*Following the nurse's suspicion, mom and dad were investigated by police. According to the lawsuit, the case was closed with no criminal charges filed.*

*Still, DCF filed a petition to remove the baby and her brother from their parents. The young parents were eventually stripped of their parental rights.*

*"It broke us, it changed us and it's always going to be a part of us missing until she comes home," said an emotional Williams.*

*"It ruined my life," added dad, Rodney.*

*The couple vehemently denies they ever abused their children and are fighting to get their parental rights restored.*

*But their relatives said the system also broke the family by depriving biological relatives of their right to take custody of*

*the baby.*

*According to the lawsuit, agencies within the state's foster care system bypassed state and federal laws that require foster care workers to give relatives the opportunity to take custody of a child before placing that child with non-relative strangers.*

*On the day investigative reporter Katie LaGrone, and her photographer, Matthew Apthorp, met Taniyah and Rodney Williams, they also met more than a half dozen members who said they were each ready, willing, and able to take custody of the Williams' daughter. But family members were, ultimately, disqualified for reasons they still don't understand. ([Source.](#))*

The other parents that Katie interviewed had similar stories:

*"I can't even describe the pain that we experienced as a family," explained Judy Miller, who said, she and other family members were also unjustly disqualified from taking care of a baby relative who was also removed from her family.*

*Miller moved to Florida from Illinois to care for her granddaughter after her daughter and son-in-law's parental rights were terminated over allegations of abuse.*

*While the baby's biological parents deny they did anything wrong, Miller said she was one of eight family relatives ready, willing, and able to take custody of the baby, but who were all rejected by the system.*

*"They did two home studies and they were both approved,"*

*Miller said of her attempts to gain custody of her granddaughter. Miller is also seeking legal action and named in the suit.*

*According to the complaint, caseworkers rejected Miller as a suitable guardian for her grandbaby because Miller's "bond with her daughter was too close."*

*Instead of family, the lawsuit states the baby was placed with a stranger, "system-connected."*

*"You can't write off the whole family," said Anna DaCosta and her husband.*

*Their daughter's half-sister was also removed from their biological family because DCF, against committee recommendations according to the complaint, placed the young girl with a non-relative, foster-system connected person after the baby's mother lost her parental rights.*

*"She was a pretty little blond-haired, blue-eyed baby. Of course they wanted her," said DaCosta. ([Source](#).)*

This problem of state-sponsored child kidnapping and trafficking, is systemic in Florida, and NOT rare.

*"It's happening all over Florida," said attorney Octavia Brown of Community Law for Families and Children. She's part of a team of attorneys who filed the complaint.*

*When LaGrone suggested the lawsuit accused kidnapping by and within the system, Brown responded "what else do you call it? If there is someone who is connected to the system*



*and they see a child that they want, they are going to get the child.”*

*Brown is also a former insider who worked as an attorney for DCF and other agencies representing Florida’s foster care system.*

*She explained how some staff members who collaborate to deliberately keep a child from being placed with biological relatives can get away with it.*

*“This system is so bogged down”, she said. “When they [system staff] come in with these false stories or they come in with false allegations of caregivers having backgrounds, the judge is not going to say ‘oh let me look into that home study or let me look into that criminal record,” she explained.*

*Brown said young parents and poor families are most vulnerable to what they dub as “internal diversion” practices.*

*“Because those families don’t have the money to fight the bogus allegations,” Brown said. ([Source.](#))*

Read the [full article at WPTV](#). Katie LaGrone did an incredible job in covering this lawsuit and giving a voice to the families who had their children kidnapped, and a copy of the entire lawsuit can be found there also.

Here is the video with some of the family members she interviewed. This is on our [Bitchute Channel](#), and will also be on our [Odyssey Channel](#) and [Telegram Channel](#).

<https://www.bitchute.com/embed/DwY7FEKjY4zs/>

As I have previously reported, Conservatives, and specifically Evangelical Christians, are the main ones holding up the nation's Foster Care system, due to a false theology called "Orphan Care," and if these churches and Christian groups got out of bed with the Satanic U.S. Government, and stopped participating in the very evil and corrupt child welfare and Foster Care system, the system would be crippled, and many lives of babies and children would be spared.

But no one in the Conservative Evangelical Christian movement wants to touch this issue, which brings in great revenue and babies for those who want them. See:

**[Christian Churches Redefine the Meaning of "Orphan" to Justify Participating in Child Trafficking](#)**

UPDATE 6/23/22



*Health Impact News* has learned that Gov. DeSantis' wife, Casey DeSantis, is now working with DCF to recruit military veterans to become DCF investigators to be able to kidnap more children into Florida's corrupt Child Welfare program. The state loses federal funding for Child Welfare if they do not meet certain quotas for the number of children put into the system.

## **Casey DeSantis launches program to recruit veterans to become DCF investigators**

*First Lady Casey DeSantis on Wednesday morning announced a new state initiative to recruit military veterans to work for the Florida Department of Children and Families.*

*DeSantis said the "Continue the Mission" initiative aims to recruit veterans to become Child Protective Investigators (CPIs) for DCF, saying it's a good use of their skills and may help give them purpose after serving.*

*DeSantis said there is a lot of turnover in the position because of how difficult the job can be.*

*"So what we wanted to do is provide an opportunity for our veterans to continue their service and to continue to serve our great children of this state. And so we are asking them to do that to sign up as CPIs," DeSantis said.*

*Florida is home to 1.5 million veterans.*

*The first lady also said the state was looking to give opportunities to military spouses and former law enforcement officers.*

For more information, you can visit DCF's website at [MyFLFamilies.com](http://MyFLFamilies.com).

<https://youtu.be/c15hy8dXSps>

# Has Florida Become the Top State in the U.S. for Medical Kidnapping and Child Trafficking?



by **Brian Shilhavy**  
Editor, Health Impact News

Florida is rapidly becoming the go-to State for people fleeing the rapidly decaying mega urban centers in the U.S., and that includes some of the richest and most famous billionaires who have recently moved their residency to Florida, such as former President Donald Trump and Oracle founder Larry Ellison, among others.

Even Ukraine President and alleged billionaire Volodymyr Zelensky has a \$35 million dollar mansion in South Florida, where he will undoubtedly retire to if the war in his country doesn't go his way. ([Source](#).)

And with Wall Street mega-bank criminals now starting their own virtual stock exchange, MEMX, it is probably only a

matter of time before South Florida replaces New York's Wall Street as the new residence of most of the world's billionaires and bankers who can just work online while hitting the Florida beaches. ([More on MEMX here.](#))

Tragically, one thing that seems to follow the rich and famous in this country is the problem of human trafficking, and specifically child sex trafficking, as even Jeffrey Epstein ran a major portion of his child sex trafficking operation through South Florida. ([Source.](#))

As we have reported numerous times over the years, the #1 source for child trafficking in the United States is the corrupt child welfare program that funds foster care and adoptions in the U.S. You can learn more about this corrupt system of child trafficking that imperils all of the nation's children every day on our [Medical Kidnapping website.](#)

Thanks to some good local reporting in Florida, many families who have had their children taken away from them illegally by the State of Florida are fighting back and suing the State of Florida, naming Florida Governor **Ron DeSantis**, Secretary of the Florida Department of Children and Families **Shevaun Harris**, Executive Director of the Florida Department of Health **Dr. Joseph Ladapo**, Bureau Chief of the Florida Department of Health Child Protection Team **Patricia Armstrong**, and Executive Director of the Florida Guardian ad Litem Program **Attorney Dennis Moore** as defendants in the case. ([Source.](#))

Katie LaGrone with WPTV Channel 5 in West Palm Beach [reported on a lawsuit with multiple families suing Gov. DeSantis and the State of Florida](#) for medically kidnapping their children back in June this year, and [we covered her story](#) then where she interviewed some of the family members who are plaintiffs in the case.

Here is the 8-minute video that WPTV produced about the alleged corruption happening in Florida where children are being kidnapped by the State of Florida:

<https://www.bitchute.com/embed/DwY7FEKjY4zs/>

Since that story broke in June, last month (September, 2022) [Katie LaGrone reports](#) that many other families in Florida have now contacted them, and there are now at least 22 families who have joined the lawsuit.

*Three months after Investigative Reporter Katie LaGrone and photojournalist Matthew Apthorp were the first journalists to share a [new lawsuit](#) accusing Florida's child welfare system of going out of its way to break families apart, 18 additional families have now joined the suit.*

*“People saw your story on the news. People said it happened to me,” attorney Valentina Villalobos with Community Law for Families & Children.*

*Since our initial story aired, Villalobos said her phone hasn't stopped ringing.*

*“I can't even answer my own phone right now, I need an assistant screening my calls,” she said in regards to the volume of calls she's been getting from families sharing similar stories.*

*A total of 22 families now claim Florida's Department of Children and Families, along with its child welfare partners including Florida's governor, Florida's Surgeon General and the head of the state's Guardian Ad Litem Program, have all violated family rights by denying relatives custody of young family members who enter the state's care. ([Full article.](#))*



10-year-old Maya Kowalski (left) was taken away from her Florida parents based on the testimony of a Child Abuse Pediatrician. [Image Source](#).

And Katie LaGrone is not the only one in Florida who is reporting on this problem of corruption in the state child welfare program.

Dyan Neary, writing for [The Cut](#), just published an investigative report about a medical kidnapping case in Pinellas County Florida.

**[What Happened to Maya - When a 10-year-old girl complained of mysterious pain, a doctor suspected child abuse. How far would she go to prove it?](#)**

This is another tragic story where a family innocently took their child to an emergency room, in this case the pediatric emergency room at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital in



St. Petersburg, Florida, and then found themselves in the middle of an investigation from a “Child Abuse Pediatrician” whose sole job is to find abuse in children.

This medical sub-specialty of “pediatrics” is thoroughly corrupt, and responsible for incarcerating literally tens of thousands of innocent parents over false allegations of abuse. We have written many articles exposing this corrupt profession in the medical system, and have written an entire book on the subject, which normally sells for \$10.00 but is [now available for free in the Healthy Traditions store here](#).

In the case of Maya Kowalski, Sally Smith, a doctor with more than 30 years of experience in “child-abuse pediatrics,” was called in. Some excerpts:

*Smith is a doctor with more than 30 years of experience in child-abuse pediatrics. Virtually everyone at All Children’s — maybe even most medical providers in Pinellas County — regarded her as the doyenne of the field. She had spent so much time at the hospital that physicians knew to call her at the first indication of abuse or neglect, and they nearly always deferred to her judgment.*

*Early on Thursday, October 13, 2016, Smith filed a report chronicling Maya’s extensive medical history. Her formal diagnosis was Munchausen syndrome by proxy. The state quickly issued what is known as a shelter order, directing that Maya be kept in the hospital and forbidding her parents from seeing her. When a nurse entered Maya’s room to inform the family, Beata had already left for work and Jack was on the floor, cleaning up feces, because Maya was no longer in control of her bowels. “You have to leave now,” the nurse said, looking squarely at Jack. “Your daughter is in state custody.” As he walked out, Maya sat up in bed, calling*

out for her father.

*That evening, Kirkpatrick sent a memo to a colleague. “I cautioned Dr. Smith about accusing a family member of criminal conduct as she moves forward with her investigation,” he wrote, noting that doing so “could result in needless and permanent harm to the child and family.” Separately, Hanna advised Smith that Munchausen by proxy was a common misdiagnosis in CRPS cases. (According to the Cleveland Clinic, there are “no reliable statistics” on the disorder, but one estimate is that 0.04 percent of child abuse cases reported annually are “related” to it.) The doctors’ warnings were not included in Smith’s report to the state, which urged that Maya be protected from her parents.*

*Smith, who retired this summer, tended to interpret cases aggressively. Children in Pinellas are removed from their homes at one of the highest rates of Florida’s 67 counties, and Smith said this is because the child-protection team she directed does “a more thorough, higher-quality job.” ([Full article.](#))*

Here is another story we covered involving Dr. Sally Smith and medical kidnapping in Florida from 2019:

### **[USA Today Exposes Florida Doctor Medically Kidnapping Children and Destroying Lives](#)**

As we have previously reported, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has no problem threatening families who do not agree with his views with having their children taken away from them by Florida’s Child “Protective” Services, weaponizing the State’s alleged authority to take children away from their parents for a wide variety of reasons that do

not include physical abuse.

This past June, DeSantis criticized a [“family friendly” drag show](#) held at a gay bar in Dallas, Texas.

*“That is totally inappropriate,” [said](#) DeSantis. “That is not something children should be exposed to.”*

And while most parents in the U.S. would probably agree with the Governor on this issue, it is what he said next that should concern every parent in America who values *parental rights*.

*When asked by reporters whether he would support proposed legislation from a Florida state representative that would punish parents who take their children to such performances, the governor said he has asked his staff to look into the idea.*

*“We have child protective statutes on the books,” the governor said. “We have laws against child endangerment.”*

*“It used to be kids would be off-limits. Used to be everybody agreed with that,” DeSantis continued. “Now it just seems like there’s a concerted effort to be exposing kids more and more to things that are not age appropriate.” ([Source.](#))*

Threatening parents who do not conform with a politician’s view about what constitutes being a good parent or not by having their children kidnapped by the State and put into the nation’s lucrative child trafficking network called “foster care” by government “child protection” agents, is something everybody should be **against**, *regardless of your*

*political views.*

And while exposing children to sexual perversion is probably something that should be legislated against (but punish the parents, NOT the children by taking them away from their families!), what is worse, exposing a child to bad sexual morals, or trying to maim and kill them with a vaccine that the Governor's own Surgeon General admits is dangerous to children and could kill them?

And yet, not only are such parents not being threatened by having their children taken away from them (which they should not!), there has been **no action by the State of Florida to protect these children** from their ignorant parents who foolishly follow the FDA and CDC advice on COVID vaccines and then **end up with dead or permanently injured children.**



Casey DeSantis, wife of Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis. [Image source.](#)

In spite of this lawsuit and the exposure by some in the Florida media of widespread corruption in the Florida child welfare system, Governor DeSantis's wife is recruiting more investigators to go on the state payroll to look for more children to put into the system, and they are recruiting these investigators from military veterans and former law enforcement.

*First Lady Casey DeSantis announced a new state initiative to recruit military veterans to work for the Florida Department of Children and Families.*

*DeSantis said the "Continue the Mission" initiative aims to recruit veterans to become Child Protective Investigators (CPIs) for DCF, saying it's a good use of their skills and may help give them purpose after serving.*

***DeSantis said there is a lot of turnover in the position because of how difficult the job can be.***

*"So what we wanted to do is provide an opportunity for our veterans to continue their service and to continue to serve our great children of this state. And so we are asking them to do that to sign up as CPIs," DeSantis said.*

*Florida is home to 1.5 million veterans.*

*The first lady also said the state was looking to give opportunities to military spouses and former law enforcement officers. ([Source](#). [Update here](#).)*

First Lady Casey DeSantis also announced recently that the State of Florida was giving away free government money to Foster and Adoptive homes who were taking care of other

people's children to "fight inflation."

***Casey DeSantis, Florida Department of Children and Families "on a mission" to aid foster and adoptive homes with one-time payment***

*First Lady Casey DeSantis this month announced that 59,000 Florida families in need will receive a one-time payment of \$450 per child this summer, with foster and adoptive families as the focal point.*

*These funds — as part of the state's Hope Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity initiative — will aid families affected by inflation, yet are preparing to send children back to school next month, according to a statement made by the Florida Department of Children and Families. The focus of foster and adoptive families is part of an expansion to the initiative to better provide "guidance for immediate and future family needs," according to a statement from Gov. Ron DeSantis' office.*

*"I am on a mission to make sure that no child in Florida goes without hope, happiness, and a home," Casey DeSantis said in a Tampa ceremony launching the payment program on July 15. "That means doing everything we can to support those who have stepped up and welcomed these children into their homes, as well as local partners that are already lending families a helping hand." ([Source](#).)*

But if you're a family struggling with your own biological children and not part of the child welfare system, you don't qualify.

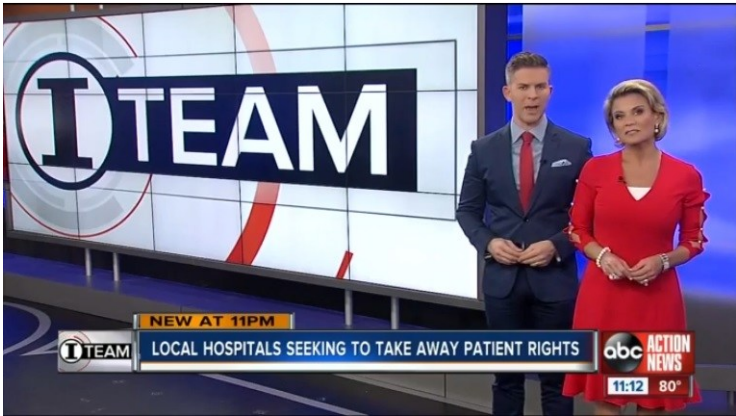
*The announcement was made in conjunction with Gov. DeSantis signing a \$35.5 million budget to support those families, but to qualify, requirements must be met. The Florida resident must be a foster parent, a relative caregiver, a non-relative caregiver, be a part of a guardianship assistance program or be a family receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families cash assistance. ([Source.](#))*

How is this not “child trafficking,” when biological families who are struggling get no support from the State, but those taking care of other families’ children who have been taken away by the State, often illegally, get “free money?”

And this is a “conservative” state??

According to [Business Insider](#), Governor DeSantis took this money from COVID-19 relief funds:

**DeSantis uses federal COVID-19 relief funds to send nearly 60,000 Florida families a \$450-per-child check to ‘offset the costs of rising inflation’**



Report on seniors being medically kidnapped in Florida.  
[Image source.](#)

Florida is also a popular destination for seniors who retire to the state, or just reside in the state during the winter months from colder states as “snow birds.”

They are a big part of Florida’s economy, but sadly many of them are also medically kidnapped by the State through the “guardianship” program where all of their life savings are then seized by the medical system.

Again, thanks to some good local investigative reporting in Florida, this entire scam has also been exposed in Florida:

**[Tampa Bay ABC Investigation Uncovers Medical Kidnapping of Seniors Throughout Florida with State Guardianships](#)**



## Adult Medical Kidnapping: Euthanizing America's Seniors - Orlando Medical Guardian Resigns After Getting Caught, but How Many More Are There?



And let's not forget the other big draw to Florida's lucrative tourism industry: **Disney World**.

## Disney Employees in Florida Arrested for Human Trafficking as Videos Appear Online Showing Top Disney Executives' Desire to Sexualize Children with Transgender Teaching

So I end with the same question I started this article with: Has Florida become the top state in the U.S. for medical kidnapping and child trafficking?

# Florida Group Homes in Foster Care are Pimping and Sexually Trafficking Children

**Children are Sexually Trafficked in Florida's Department of Children and Families System**



Jayden Alexis Frisbee died in 2021 at age 16 after being shifted among 16 Florida group foster homes in a year and a half then snared by sex traffickers (Courtesy Glenda Usher). [Original image source.](#)

by **Brian Shilhavy**  
**Editor, Health Impact News**

The *Family First Prevention Services Act* is a bill that was passed by Congress and signed into law by President Donald Trump in 2018.

It was a bill championed by many on the Right and the Q Anons as a way to stop the tide of child sex trafficking

through the nation's Foster Care child welfare system. America's tax-funded Foster Care system has been documented over the years as being the #1 pipeline to child sex trafficking. See:

**State Department Report: U.S. #1 in Sex Trafficking – 60% American Child Sex Slaves Come Out of Foster Care**

**Attorney Reporting in Newsweek: Foster Care is a System Set Up to Sex Traffic American Children**

The bill was originally drafted in 2016, but met with opposition, primarily from the nation's lucrative group home industry, where private investors start group homes for troubled teens and then collect massive government funding through the child welfare Foster Care system to run them.

When the bill finally passed in 2018 as a rider tacked onto a budget bill that averted a government shutdown at the time, a provision was made that Richard Wexler called a “presents for pimps” loophole for the group home industry.

*The group home industry insisted that even the slightest restriction on their ability to warehouse children in the very worst form of “care” was more than they could handle.*

*Desperate to get something passed, supporters caved on issue after issue:*

- *They weakened a provision requiring institutions that supposedly engage in residential treatment to have actual clinical staff on site.*

- They added a “[presents for pimps](#)” loophole – creating a whole new category of institution exempt from restrictions on federal funding.

[Full article.](#)

Now more than 4 years later, “the Florida Department of Children and Families took the ‘presents for pimps’ loophole, and drove a truck through it.” ([Source.](#))

## How Florida Uses Taxpayer Funds in the Foster Care System to Sexually Traffic Children



Florida is one of the world’s #1 destinations for tourism, attracting the rich and powerful from all over the world, which has made it one of the world’s most lucrative centers for sex trafficking as well.

Florida is also rapidly becoming the go-to State for people fleeing the rapidly decaying mega urban centers in the U.S.,

and that includes some of the richest and most famous billionaires who have recently moved their residency to Florida, such as former President Donald Trump and Oracle founder Larry Ellison, among others.

Even Ukraine President and alleged billionaire Volodymyr Zelensky has a \$35 million dollar mansion in South Florida, where he will undoubtedly retire to if the war in his country doesn't go his way. ([Source](#).)

Tragically, one thing that seems to follow the rich and famous in this country is the problem of human trafficking, and specifically child sex trafficking, as even Jeffrey Epstein ran a major portion of his child sex trafficking operation through South Florida. ([Source](#).)

The [Sun Sentinel](#) recently published a story titled:

**Innocence Sold: Florida hotels have stacked up thousands of violations of a 2019 sex-trafficking law. But not one has been fined.**

Excerpts:

*The assault spilled into the fifth-floor hallway of the Plaza Hotel on State Road 7 in Fort Lauderdale.*

*Angry that a 17-year-old girl refused to turn over the full \$200 take from two sexual encounters with men, Damion Miller allegedly struck her and choked her. She fled the room and ran down the hallway screaming for help as other hotel guests called 911.*

*Miller, who had been paying the girl with drugs, would be*

*arrested a week later at another Fort Lauderdale hotel, plead no-contest to sex trafficking and receive a five-year prison sentence. The Plaza Hotel would be cited four times in the next three years for violating a 2019 state law intended to fight sex trafficking at hotels.*

*More than 14,000 such citations have been issued to 6,669 hotels and other public lodging establishments for violating the law, which requires employees to be trained to recognize and report trafficking for sex or forced labor. Violators are subject to fines of up to \$2,000 a day.*

*But the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation has not issued a single fine, even though more than 100 hotels and other lodging establishments have racked up at least six violations each, the South Florida Sun Sentinel has found.*

*Operating at a sophisticated level was an organization run by a South Florida couple that used Priceline.com to pay for 3,276 hotel bookings around the United States and required “employees” to light candles, practice excellent hygiene and remember “your clients are paying for a fantasy.”*

*At the low end was the experience of a woman trafficked out of a Holiday Inn and an Extended Stay in West Palm Beach, who relied on breakfast buffets for an entire day’s nutrition since the trafficker “paid” her only in crack cocaine. When she said she was hungry, he asked her, “What do you need food for? You ate yesterday.”*

*The 2019 Florida law was meant to crack down on activities like this by requiring hotels to take modest steps to restrict the sex trade, under the threat of \$2,000 daily fines for violations.*

*But the Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation says there has been no reason to fine hotels so far because all violations had been corrected within the 90-day window provided for in the law.*

*“Hotels are the main location for trafficking or for commercial sex dates,” said Brent Woody, a Tarpon Springs lawyer who helps trafficking victims clear their criminal records and take other steps to restore their lives. “We’ve represented a lot of survivors out of the Orlando area, and I can’t go to Orlando and drive past a hotel that one of our clients hasn’t been trafficked out of or in. That includes all the big places.” ([Full Article.](#))*

And where do the victims who are sexually trafficked come from to fill this demand for child sex in Florida?

Many of them come from the taxpayer funded Florida Foster Care system, primarily the privately owned and operated group homes.

Another article published by the South Florida Sun Sentinel, titled [“Innocence Sold: Florida’s foster system provides dangerous sex traffickers with easy access to vulnerable children,”](#) reports on this.

Excerpts:

*Jayden Alexis Frisbee died last year at age 16. She had a passion for animals and music.*

*She left behind grieving sisters, a baby brother, her mother, and a grandmother who still can’t forgive herself for ever letting the Florida Department of Children and Families into*

*Jayden's life.*

*The state was in charge of Jayden through its privatized foster care system, and it made an inadequate, unstable parent. Jayden was shifted among 12 foster homes in a year and a half, and neighborhood sex traffickers caught up with her along the way.*

*She died on Jan. 11, 2021, in the bathroom of a Jacksonville Studio 6 motel.*

*A yearlong investigation by the South Florida Sun Sentinel exposed the complicity of Florida's child welfare system in underage sex trafficking, through evidence found in government records, state and federal lawsuits, research studies, and interviews with victims and family members.*

*The Sun Sentinel found:*

- *When Florida's child welfare system takes in a girl, the odds she will be trafficked for sex increase.*
- *Florida exploited a loophole so it could keep sending vulnerable girls to group homes, despite a federal law that discourages their use. Teen girls at those homes have been preyed on by traffickers who sometimes "shark" the block, waiting for a girl to walk to the corner store.*
- *Young people with a history of commercial sexual exploitation run away from group homes at an alarming rate, and those runaways are even more susceptible to sex trafficking. Yet, once they're gone, no one tries very hard to find them, and nothing in Florida law requires them to.*



Jayden's mother, Chrissy Frisbee Morales, told the Sun Sentinel she doesn't believe her daughter would have been trafficked had she not been placed in the foster system.

"None of, like, the drugs and the sex trafficking, none of that happened until they put her in the first foster home," Frisbee Morales said.

Jayden was in a special group home for trafficked youth when she ran away a final time, records show. It was five days before Christmas 2020, and Frisbee Morales said Jayden wanted to come home for the holiday.

On a Monday afternoon three weeks later, a 911 call came in from a 37-year-old, unemployed man who was staying in Room 331 of a Studio 6 on Philips Highway in Jacksonville. He told the police he'd met a girl at a gas station at midnight and she was on drugs with nowhere to stay. It was cold out. He offered his hotel room, and he said she slept on the floor.

She was moaning, and "out of touch with reality," he told police. He asked her to leave in the morning, but she was still moaning and said she was tired. He left, and when he returned, she was dead.

Even though she was a child who had run away from a state-funded foster home in a nearby county, police couldn't figure out who she was, and described her in reports as an adult. She had no identification and the man she was with didn't know her name.

For more than a month, Jayden's body lay in the Duval County morgue while Chrissy Frisbee Morales searched for her missing daughter.

*“I just had a horrible feeling,” she said.*

## ***The complicity of the state***

*Documents show that the state has been aware for years that girls in group foster homes are specifically targeted by sex traffickers.*

*In September of 2022, 29% of the teenagers in Florida foster care were in group homes, according to DCF reports. The numbers were even higher in ChildNet’s territory of Broward and Palm Beach counties — 36%. In neighboring Miami-Dade County, 19% of teens were in group homes. In Embrace Families CBC territory of Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties, it was 31%.*

*Broward County Public Defender Gordon Weekes reported what he considered “unsafe” and “abusive” conditions in a bluntly worded 2014 letter to DCF after he visited several group homes in Broward County.*

*His letter to the head of DCF alleged that child-welfare workers knew girls in the group homes were targeted by sex traffickers, “yet little has [been] done to address the traffic recruiter that prowls the area seeking out vulnerable girls in foster care as prey.”*

*“Knowingly placing highly vulnerable foster care girls in such an environment without protection is tantamount to state-sponsored human trafficking, and it must be stopped,” Weekes wrote.*

*In recent interviews with the Sun Sentinel, Weekes described a culture that allowed underage girls to stay out until 2 a.m. and return with their hair or nails done, or carrying*

*unexplained expensive items — and neither the staff nor the police asked many questions.*

*“It was implicit that they knew, and they weren’t gonna ask, and the young ladies knew and they weren’t going to tell,” Weekes told the Sun Sentinel.*

*Weekes sent his letter to DCF eight years ago, but the state still oversees a system that provides traffickers with ideal targets.*

*“Group homes create an unregulated environment where children can literally walk out and meet a stranger across the street — a perfect hunting ground for traffickers,” said Justin Grosz, a partner of Kelley Kronenberg law firm and co-founder of Justice for Kids, a division of the firm.*

*In October, Grosz, a former Broward County prosecutor, filed a lawsuit against ChildNet and several of its contractors on behalf of a girl who entered foster care at age 12, and was trafficked by men in the community during her years in state care.*

*“Group homes within Florida’s child welfare system have been an open market for human trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of minor children for far too long,” the lawsuit claims. ([Full article.](#))*

The Sun Sentinel is not the only local media organization investigating child trafficking in Florida.

CBS 12 News I-Team has also published several reports recently, showing how Florida’s Child Welfare system is used to weaponize abusive spouses, and take advantage of

families who turn to them for help.

## ***Kids taken from battered mothers***

*A CBS12 News viewer contacted the I-Team and asked for us to investigate the problems and policies of Florida's Department of Children and Families.*

*Some experts characterize what's happening as "wrongful removal." They say it is especially troubling when DCF orders a child to be taken from their home, places them into the system, then later the child is returned by a court order. And sometimes that order comes too late.*

*When it happened to Jabari Glover, he had just turned 10 years old.*

*"And that made me feel like, this is going to be rough, I don't know anyone where I'm going, my family is not around, I'm by myself, I'm alone." Jabari said.*

*His mom and sister tell the I-Team their story is an example of the system creating more problems than it solves.*

*"They were like, at the time, kids like you, we are not going be able to find a foster home for you, it's going to be very hard." Jabari said.*

*"The one thing I kept requesting was a lawyer for my kids. They kept telling me that I'm not a credible witness, I have no rights, because a criminal has more rights in a criminal case than we have in a child welfare, juvenile, family court case, it's just this big system.*

*“8 years ago, Shakema Glover, Jabari and her three other children were living in Broward County with a man who was physically abusive.*

*He was charged and convicted for domestic violence.*

*After that, authorities tell the I-Team he used the phone in the Broward County jail to report Shakema was abusing the kids.*

*DCF investigators opened a case and removed the children from her home. Shakema was crushed. Getting her abuser out of their lives was supposed to be a new start, instead, he managed to hurt her worse than ever before.*

*“That’s when my faith in the system changed and I was like wow, I’ve got to do something to change this,” Ms. Glover said.*

*Jabari and his sister Ze’kariah spent the next 6 years bouncing between foster homes. Ze’kariah says she was abused. Jabari struggled in school and was getting in trouble with police. All they wanted was to be back home with their mom.*

*“They took many years away from our life with our mother, and now, the family is kind of broken,” Zekariah told the I-Team, “No disrespect mommy, but the family is kind of broken.*

*“The Glovers say even though Shakema got her parental rights restored in 2020, there had been so much trauma in between that reconnecting is still a work in progress.*

*“The monster, the beast, we call the system the beast,” Ms.*

Glover said.

*The National Coalition for Child Protection Reform reports Florida has an unusually high rate of wrongful removals, much higher than most of the country.*

*Records reviewed by the I-Team revealed in 2020, approximately 12,000 kids were removed from their homes, and about a quarter of those involved some form of domestic violence. However, DCF did not provide details, breaking down the reasons for the removals.*

*“It does terrible emotional harm to the children needlessly taken away,” said Richard Wexler, the Executive Director of the Coalition for Child Protection Reform and he says Florida’s DCF has effectively become “a spouse abuser’s best friend” because of cases like the Glovers.*

*“Spouse abusers know this, and they say to their victims ‘oh yeah, call the cops on me and they’ll just call DCF and they’ll take away your kids’ and that threat is real,” Wexler said. “DCF has not been pressured to change, the legislature has failed to take this up and demand change in order to stop the suffering inflicted on children of battered mothers.” ([Full article.](#))*

In [another investigative report](#), the I-Team reported on a tragic story where a 9-year-old girl suffered after her parents had a traffic accident and ended up addicted to pain killers, which led to the grandmother reaching out to the Florida Child Welfare system for help. Her granddaughter ended being placed in foster care where she was sexually abused until she aged out of the system at 18.

*Alexia Nechayev has few pictures from her childhood. But there are two on the kitchen wall of her apartment. Alexia and her sister.*

*They were taken before the accident. Before life changed forever. Before Florida's Department of Children and Families came into the picture.*

*"It just felt like I was being thrown around to anybody without any type of background check or any type of attention to what was going on behind those closed doors where they were placing me. I would have rather been sent to jail. Anywhere but there," Nechayev said.*

*9 year old Alexia was living in Wellington when her mom and step-father were badly injured in a car accident.*

*As Alexia tells it, both became addicted to their pain medication. Then her step-dad overdosed and died.*

*Mom, grief stricken and struggling with her addiction, couldn't care for the girls, so their two grandmothers stepped in.*

*But Alexia wouldn't talk and wouldn't eat. Finally, her grandma, overwhelmed and frustrated, asked Florida's Dept. of Children and Families to take care of her.*

*Alexia was immediately sent to a so-called safe house, then a group home in Orlando. She told the I-Team, she was sexually assaulted while in the system and she described frequent cruelty and abuse.*

*Her grandmother told DCF she wanted Alexia back.*

*“They told her, it’s too late, she’s already in care, you already said that, and if you want to take her back you have to go through the court proceedings,” Alexia said.*

*She says grandma- who emigrated from Haiti- struggled with language and cultural barriers, and couldn’t manage to get her granddaughter back.*

*Alexia remained a ward of the state until she turned 18.*

*“This could happen to anyone, there’s not a certain type of person that this happens to, you don’t have to look a certain type of way,” Alexia says.*

*According to the National Coalition for Child Protection Reform, Alexia’s story is not unique.*

*Florida’s DCF often removes children from homes where, the Coalition argues, addiction services and counseling might have kept the family intact.*

*“It happens all the time, it happens all the time across the country and we know that because the rate of removal in Florida is higher than the states that have outstanding, relatively speaking, records of child safety and don’t tear apart families,” said Richard Wexler, NCCPR Director. “Even when the issue is substance abuse, drug treatment for the parent is almost always a better option than foster care for the child because the trauma of removal is so great.” ([Full article.](#))*

We have [previously reported](#) how over 20 families are now suing Florida for kidnapping their children, naming Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and others as defendants.



*Many families who have had their children taken away from them illegally by the State of Florida are fighting back and suing the State of Florida, naming Florida Governor **Ron DeSantis**, Secretary of the Florida Department of Children and Families **Shevaun Harris**, Executive Director of the Florida Department of Health **Dr. Joseph Ladapo**, Bureau Chief of the Florida Department of Health Child Protection Team **Patricia Armstrong**, and Executive Director of the Florida Guardian ad Litem Program **Attorney Dennis Moore** as defendants in the case. ([Source.](#))*

Here is the 8-minute video that WPTV produced about the alleged corruption happening in Florida where children are being kidnapped by the State of Florida:

<https://www.bitchute.com/embed/DwY7FEKjY4zs/>

[Kevin Ozebek from WSNV Miami 7](#) has also recently interviewed some of the plaintiffs in this lawsuit:

<https://www.bitchute.com/embed/cKinQ5Ie8JZM/>



10-year-old Maya Kowalski (left) was taken away from her Florida parents based on the testimony of a Child Abuse Pediatrician. [Image Source](#). Dyan Neary, writing for [The Cut](#), recently published an investigative report about a medical kidnapping case in Pinellas County Florida.

**What Happened to Maya – When a 10-year-old girl complained of mysterious pain, a doctor suspected child abuse. How far would she go to prove it?**

This is another tragic story where a family innocently took their child to an emergency room, in this case the pediatric emergency room at Johns Hopkins All Children’s Hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida, and then found themselves in the middle of an investigation from a “Child Abuse Pediatrician” whose sole job is to find abuse in children.

This medical sub-specialty of “pediatrics” is thoroughly corrupt, and responsible for incarcerating literally tens of thousands of innocent parents over false allegations of

abuse. We have written many articles exposing this corrupt profession in the medical system, and have written an entire book on the subject, which normally sells for \$10.00 but is [now available for free in the Healthy Traditions store here](#).

In the case of Maya Kowalski, Sally Smith, a doctor with more than 30 years of experience in “child-abuse pediatrics,” was called in. Some excerpts:

*Smith is a doctor with more than 30 years of experience in child-abuse pediatrics. Virtually everyone at All Children’s — maybe even most medical providers in Pinellas County — regarded her as the doyenne of the field. She had spent so much time at the hospital that physicians knew to call her at the first indication of abuse or neglect, and they nearly always deferred to her judgment.*

*Early on Thursday, October 13, 2016, Smith filed a report chronicling Maya’s extensive medical history. Her formal diagnosis was Munchausen syndrome by proxy. The state quickly issued what is known as a shelter order, directing that Maya be kept in the hospital and forbidding her parents from seeing her. When a nurse entered Maya’s room to inform the family, Beata had already left for work and Jack was on the floor, cleaning up feces, because Maya was no longer in control of her bowels. “You have to leave now,” the nurse said, looking squarely at Jack. “Your daughter is in state custody.” As he walked out, Maya sat up in bed, calling out for her father.*

*That evening, Kirkpatrick sent a memo to a colleague. “I cautioned Dr. Smith about accusing a family member of criminal conduct as she moves forward with her investigation,” he wrote, noting that doing so “could result in needless and permanent harm to the child and family.”*

*Separately, Hanna advised Smith that Munchausen by proxy was a common misdiagnosis in CRPS cases. (According to the Cleveland Clinic, there are “no reliable statistics” on the disorder, but one estimate is that 0.04 percent of child abuse cases reported annually are “related” to it.) The doctors’ warnings were not included in Smith’s report to the state, which urged that Maya be protected from her parents.*

*Smith, who retired this summer, tended to interpret cases aggressively. Children in Pinellas are removed from their homes at one of the highest rates of Florida’s 67 counties, and Smith said this is because the child-protection team she directed does “a more thorough, higher-quality job.” ([Full article.](#))*

Here is another story we covered involving Dr. Sally Smith and medical kidnapping in Florida from 2019:

## **[USA Today Exposes Florida Doctor Medically Kidnapping Children and Destroying Lives](#)**

As we have previously reported, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has no problem threatening families who do not agree with his views with having their children taken away from them by Florida’s Child “Protective” Services, weaponizing the State’s alleged authority to take children away from their parents for a wide variety of reasons that do not include physical abuse.

This past June, DeSantis criticized a [“family friendly” drag show](#) held at a gay bar in Dallas, Texas.

“That is totally inappropriate,” [said](#) DeSantis. “That is not

*something children should be exposed to.”*

And while most parents in the U.S. would probably agree with the Governor on this issue, it is what he said next that should concern every parent in America who values *parental rights*.

*When asked by reporters whether he would support proposed legislation from a Florida state representative that would punish parents who take their children to such performances, the governor said he has asked his staff to look into the idea.*

*“We have child protective statutes on the books,” the governor said. “We have laws against child endangerment.”*

*“It used to be kids would be off-limits. Used to be everybody agreed with that,” DeSantis continued. “Now it just seems like there’s a concerted effort to be exposing kids more and more to things that are not age appropriate.” [\(Source.\)](#)*

Threatening parents who do not conform with a politician’s view about what constitutes being a good parent or not by having their children kidnapped by the State and put into the nation’s lucrative child trafficking network called “foster care” by government “child protection” agents, is something everybody should be **against**, *regardless of your political views*.

And while exposing children to sexual perversion is probably something that should be legislated against (but punish the parents, NOT the children by taking them away from their families!), what is worse, exposing a child to bad sexual

morals, or trying to maim and kill them with a vaccine that the Governor's own Surgeon General admits is dangerous to children and could kill them?

And yet, not only are such parents not being threatened by having their children taken away from them (which they should not!), there has been **no action by the State of Florida to protect these children** from their ignorant parents who foolishly follow the FDA and CDC advice on COVID vaccines and then **end up with dead or permanently injured children.**



Casey DeSantis, wife of Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis. [Image source.](#)

In spite of this lawsuit and the exposure by some in the Florida media of widespread corruption in the Florida child welfare system, Governor DeSantis's wife is recruiting more investigators to go on the state payroll to look for more children to put into the system, and they are recruiting these investigators from military veterans and former law

enforcement.

*First Lady Casey DeSantis announced a new state initiative to recruit military veterans to work for the Florida Department of Children and Families.*

*DeSantis said the “Continue the Mission” initiative aims to recruit veterans to become Child Protective Investigators (CPIs) for DCF, saying it’s a good use of their skills and may help give them purpose after serving.*

***DeSantis said there is a lot of turnover in the position because of how difficult the job can be.***

*“So what we wanted to do is provide an opportunity for our veterans to continue their service and to continue to serve our great children of this state. And so we are asking them to do that to sign up as CPIs,” DeSantis said.*

*Florida is home to 1.5 million veterans.*

*The first lady also said the state was looking to give opportunities to military spouses and former law enforcement officers. ([Source. Update here.](#))*

First Lady Casey DeSantis also announced recently that the State of Florida was giving away free government money to Foster and Adoptive homes who were taking care of other people’s children to “fight inflation.”

## **Casey DeSantis, Florida Department of Children and Families “on a mission” to aid foster and adoptive homes with one-time payment**

*First Lady Casey DeSantis this month announced that 59,000 Florida families in need will receive a one-time payment of \$450 per child this summer, with foster and adoptive families as the focal point.*

*These funds — as part of the state’s Hope Florida – A Pathway to Prosperity initiative — will aid families affected by inflation, yet are preparing to send children back to school next month, according to a statement made by the Florida Department of Children and Families. The focus of foster and adoptive families is part of an expansion to the initiative to better provide “guidance for immediate and future family needs,” according to a statement from Gov. Ron DeSantis’ office.*

*“I am on a mission to make sure that no child in Florida goes without hope, happiness, and a home,” Casey DeSantis said in a Tampa ceremony launching the payment program on July 15. “That means doing everything we can to support those who have stepped up and welcomed these children into their homes, as well as local partners that are already lending families a helping hand.” ([Source](#).)*

But if you’re a family struggling with your own biological children and not part of the child welfare system, you don’t qualify.

*The announcement was made in conjunction with Gov.*



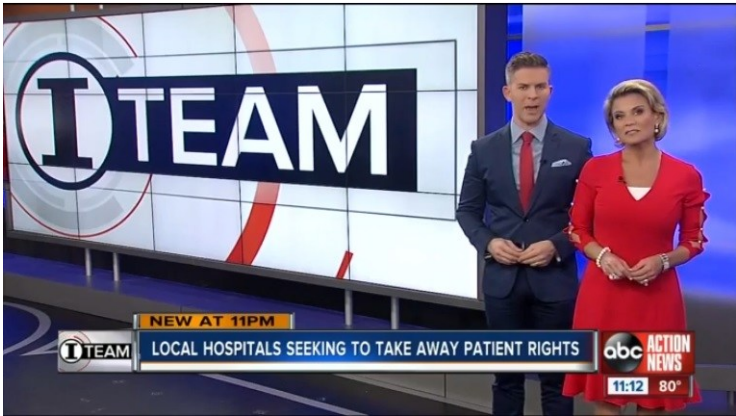
*DeSantis signing a \$35.5 million budget to support those families, but to qualify, requirements must be met. The Florida resident must be a foster parent, a relative caregiver, a non-relative caregiver, be a part of a guardianship assistance program or be a family receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families cash assistance. ([Source](#).)*

How is this not “child trafficking,” when biological families who are struggling get no support from the State, but those taking care of other families’ children who have been taken away by the State, often illegally, get “free money?”

And this is a “conservative” state??

According to [Business Insider](#), Governor DeSantis took this money from COVID-19 relief funds:

**DeSantis uses federal COVID-19 relief funds to send nearly 60,000 Florida families a \$450-per-child check to ‘offset the costs of rising inflation’**



Report on seniors being medically kidnapped in Florida.  
[Image source.](#)

Florida is also a popular destination for seniors who retire to the state, or just reside in the state during the winter months from colder states as “snow birds.”

They are a big part of Florida’s economy, but sadly many of them are also medically kidnapped by the State through the “guardianship” program where all of their life savings are then seized by the medical system.

Again, thanks to some good local investigative reporting in Florida, this entire scam has also been exposed in Florida:

**[Tampa Bay ABC Investigation Uncovers Medical Kidnapping of Seniors Throughout Florida with State Guardianships](#)**

## Adult Medical Kidnapping: Euthanizing America's Seniors - Orlando Medical Guardian Resigns After Getting Caught, but How Many More Are There?



And let's not forget the other big draw to Florida's lucrative tourism industry: Disney World.

## Disney Employees in Florida Arrested for Human Trafficking as Videos Appear Online Showing Top Disney Executives' Desire to Sexualize Children with Transgender Teaching

## **Conclusion: Florida is a Very Dangerous Place for Children!**

Many parents think of Florida as a family-friendly place to take their children on vacation to the theme parks there.

But as we have reported in this article, it is actually a very dangerous place where children are routinely kidnapped and

then sexually trafficked, mainly through the Florida Child Welfare System.

# Florida Parents Beware! Your Children are NOT Safe! Pastors and Foster Parents in Florida are Sexually Trafficking Children



[Original image source.](#)

by **Brian Shilhavy**  
Editor, Health Impact News

Sheriff deputies in Hillsborough County, Florida, arrested a youth pastor and a foster parent this week for sexually trafficking children.

Nathaniel Rodriguez and Nicole Rogers [reported the story](#) on WFLA in Tampa:

*Hillsborough County deputies arrested a youth pastor and a foster parent on human trafficking charges involving teenage victims, according to a Friday press release.*

*The Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office said their investigation began on Feb. 9 after a local mother said she found "disturbing content" on her 16-year-old child's cell phone.*

*Deputies said their suspect, 36-year-old Moises Escoto of Temple Terrace, had first contacted the victim two years ago on an app called Sniffies.*

*Escoto serves as a youth pastor at Iglesia de Cristo Misionera Mahanaim Church on North Amenia Avenue.*

*"It started with, hey I'll give you gifts and money in exchange for sexual photos and videos," said Marco Villarreal. "Over time, they started meeting and having secret sexual contact."*

*According to deputies, the youth pastor also was meeting the teenager in secret and having sex with him.*

*He was arrested by human trafficking deputies on Feb. 9. ([Full article.](#))*

*<https://youtu.be/QV3ZPZv-eWg>*

## **Florida's Child Trafficking Problem**

## Florida Government Sued for Child Trafficking

Ron DeSantis, Joseph Ladapo, Shevaun Harris, Dennis Moore

among defendants named in lawsuit by Florida families who had their children taken away



This recent arrest of child sex abusers highlights an ongoing problem in Florida with child trafficking.

We have [previously reported](#) how over 20 families are now suing Florida for kidnapping their children through the State's Foster Care program, naming Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and others as defendants.

*Many families who have had their children taken away from them illegally by the State of Florida are fighting back and suing the State of Florida, naming Florida Governor **Ron DeSantis**, Secretary of the Florida Department of Children and Families **Shevaun Harris**, Executive Director of the Florida Department of Health **Dr. Joseph Ladapo**, Bureau Chief of the Florida Department of Health Child Protection Team **Patricia Armstrong**, and Executive Director of the Florida Guardian ad Litem Program **Attorney Dennis Moore** as defendants in the case. ([Source](#).)*

Here is the 8-minute video that WPTV produced about the alleged corruption happening in Florida where children are being kidnapped by the State of Florida:

<https://www.bitchute.com/embed/DwY7FEKjY4zs/>

Many of the children who are sexually trafficked in Florida come from the taxpayer funded Florida Foster Care system, primarily the privately owned and operated group homes.

An article published by the South Florida Sun Sentinel, titled "[Innocence Sold: Florida's foster system provides dangerous sex traffickers with easy access to vulnerable children,](#)" reports on this.



*Jayden Alexis Frisbee died last year at age 16. She had a passion for animals and music.*

*She left behind grieving sisters, a baby brother, her mother, and a grandmother who still can't forgive herself for ever letting the Florida Department of Children and Families into Jayden's life.*

*The state was in charge of Jayden through its privatized foster care system, and it made an inadequate, unstable parent. Jayden was shifted among 12 foster homes in a year*



*and a half, and neighborhood sex traffickers caught up with her along the way.*

*She died on Jan. 11, 2021, in the bathroom of a Jacksonville Studio 6 motel.*

*A yearlong investigation by the South Florida Sun Sentinel exposed the complicity of Florida's child welfare system in underage sex trafficking, through evidence found in government records, state and federal lawsuits, research studies, and interviews with victims and family members.*

*The Sun Sentinel found:*

- When Florida's child welfare system takes in a girl, the odds she will be trafficked for sex increase.*
- Florida exploited a loophole so it could keep sending vulnerable girls to group homes, despite a federal law that discourages their use. Teen girls at those homes have been preyed on by traffickers who sometimes "shark" the block, waiting for a girl to walk to the corner store.*
- Young people with a history of commercial sexual exploitation run away from group homes at an alarming rate, and those runaways are even more susceptible to sex trafficking. Yet, once they're gone, no one tries very hard to find them, and nothing in Florida law requires them to.*

*Jayden's mother, Chrissy Frisbee Morales, told the Sun Sentinel she doesn't believe her daughter would have been trafficked had she not been placed in the foster system.*

*"None of, like, the drugs and the sex trafficking, none of that*

happened until they put her in the first foster home,” Frisbee Morales said.

## ***The complicity of the state***

Documents show that the state has been aware for years that girls in group foster homes are specifically targeted by sex traffickers.

In September of 2022, 29% of the teenagers in Florida foster care were in group homes, according to DCF reports. The numbers were even higher in ChildNet’s territory of Broward and Palm Beach counties — 36%. In neighboring Miami-Dade County, 19% of teens were in group homes. In Embrace Families CBC territory of Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties, it was 31%.

Broward County Public Defender Gordon Weekes reported what he considered “unsafe” and “abusive” conditions in a bluntly worded 2014 letter to DCF after he visited several group homes in Broward County.

His letter to the head of DCF alleged that child-welfare workers knew girls in the group homes were targeted by sex traffickers, “yet little has [been] done to address the traffic recruiter that prowls the area seeking out vulnerable girls in foster care as prey.”

“Knowingly placing highly vulnerable foster care girls in such an environment without protection is tantamount to state-sponsored human trafficking, and it must be stopped,” Weekes wrote. ([Full article.](#))

Religious leaders, such as Priests and Pastors, are also

frequently involved in child sex trafficking.

A six month investigation by the [Houston Chronicle](#) and San Antonio Express-News back in 2015 found widespread child sex abuse by over 220 Southern Baptist leaders against more than 700 victims since 1998, and that included Florida.

Pastor Darrell Gilyard, who originally pastored in Texas and was allegedly a protégé of Paige Patterson, the former president of the Southern Baptist Convention who was ousted as president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth after he said he wanted to meet alone with a female student who said she was raped so he could “break her down,” was also reportedly sexually abusing people in his church in Texas back in the 1980s and 1990s.

After Gilyard was removed from his church in Texas, he moved to Florida where he was arrested for molesting teenage girls.

*Gilyard was convicted in 2009 of lewd and lascivious molestation of two other teenage girls, both under 16, while pastoring a Florida church. He found work at an SBC church after his three-year prison sentence, prompting the local Southern Baptist association to end its affiliation. ([Source.](#))*

This problem of child sex trafficking in Christian churches is much larger than most realize. Here are some previous articles we have published on this topic:

**Southern Baptist Church: Leader in Foster Care and Adoption – Home to Pedophiles**

**The Catholic Church and Pedophilia: Trafficking Children as Sex Slaves**

**Pedophilia Crimes Against Children Inside and Outside the Church – Time to Acknowledge the Child Sex Trafficking Problem**

**Texas Baptist Home Failed to Protect Foster Kids from Sexual Abuse**

**Former County Administrator, CPS Board Member, and Pastor’s Wife Sentenced to Prison for Child Sex Trafficking Involvement**

**Pastor Convicted of Repeatedly Raping Adopted Daughter Gets Light Sentence Because of “Longtime Ministry”**

I have been calling out Christians for years now to STOP participating in child trafficking by receiving funds from the government to foster and adopt children, which is where most of the nation’s children come from who are sexually trafficked.

But the desire to take someone else’s child is just too strong for most Christians.

## Christian Churches Redefine the Meaning of “Orphan” to Justify Participating in Child Trafficking

As we have previously reported, Florida Governor Ron DeSantis has no problem threatening families who do not agree with his views with having their children taken away from them by Florida’s Child “Protective” Services, weaponizing the State’s alleged authority to take children away from their parents for a wide variety of reasons that do not include physical abuse.

Last June, DeSantis criticized a “family friendly” drag show held at a gay bar in Dallas, Texas.

*“That is totally inappropriate,” said DeSantis. “That is not something children should be exposed to.”*

And while most parents in the U.S. would probably agree with the Governor on this issue, it is what he said next that should concern every parent in America who values *parental rights*.

*When asked by reporters whether he would support proposed legislation from a Florida state representative that would punish parents who take their children to such performances, the governor said he has asked his staff to look into the idea.*

*“We have child protective statutes on the books,” the governor said. “We have laws against child endangerment.”*

*“It used to be kids would be off-limits. Used to be everybody*

*agreed with that,” DeSantis continued. “Now it just seems like there’s a concerted effort to be exposing kids more and more to things that are not age appropriate.” (Source.)*

Threatening parents who do not conform with a politician’s view about what constitutes being a good parent or not by having their children kidnapped by the State and put into the nation’s lucrative child trafficking network called “foster care” by government “child protection” agents, is something everybody should be **against**, *regardless of your political views.*

And while exposing children to sexual perversion is probably something that should be legislated against (but punish the parents, NOT the children by taking them away from their families!), what is worse, exposing a child to bad sexual morals, or trying to maim and kill them with a vaccine that the Governor’s own Surgeon General admits is dangerous to children and could kill them?

And yet, not only are such parents who try to harm their children with COVID bioweapon shots not being threatened by having their children taken away from them (which they should not!), there has been **no action by the State of Florida to protect these children** from their ignorant parents who foolishly follow the FDA and CDC advice on COVID vaccines and then **end up with dead or permanently injured children.**



Casey DeSantis, wife of Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis. [Image source.](#)

In spite of the lawsuit against DeSantis and Ladapo in Florida for child trafficking, and the exposure by some in the Florida media of widespread corruption in the Florida child welfare system, Governor DeSantis's wife is recruiting more investigators to go on the state payroll to look for more children to put into the system, and they are recruiting these investigators from military veterans and former law enforcement.

*First Lady Casey DeSantis announced a new state initiative to recruit military veterans to work for the Florida Department of Children and Families.*

*DeSantis said the "Continue the Mission" initiative aims to recruit veterans to become Child Protective Investigators (CPIs) for DCF, saying it's a good use of their skills and may help give them purpose after serving.*

*DeSantis said there is a lot of turnover in the position because of how difficult the job can be.*

*“So what we wanted to do is provide an opportunity for our veterans to continue their service and to continue to serve our great children of this state. And so we are asking them to do that to sign up as CPIs,” DeSantis said.*

*Florida is home to 1.5 million veterans.*

*The first lady also said the state was looking to give opportunities to military spouses and former law enforcement officers. ([Source](#). [Update here](#).)*

Florida is a very dangerous place to raise children.

**Related:**

**[Florida Goes After Homeschoolers by Offering Money in Return for Government Oversight](#)**



# Florida Parents Continue to Expose Child Trafficking as Pleas to Abolish the Nation's "Child Welfare" System Pick up Momentum

## 6 Children Murdered by Foster Parents



Jennifer Jean Hart and her spouse, Sarah Hart with their 6 adopted children just before the couple allegedly committed murder and suicide by driving off the road in California on March 26, 2018, crashing into the Pacific Ocean. The couple was being investigated for allegations of abuse. Photo: Tristan Fortsch, HONS / Associated Press. ([Source.](#))

by **Brian Shilhavy**  
Editor, Health Impact News

We have previously reported about a lawsuit in Florida where dozens of parents were suing the State for illegally taking their children away from them. This has been an ongoing problem in Florida, where children are taken away from families who love them, and put into the foster care system where they are often sexually abused and trafficked.

See some of our previous coverage of this issue:

**[Florida Parents Beware! Your Children are NOT Safe! Pastors and Foster Parents in Florida are Sexually Trafficking Children](#)**

**[Florida Group Homes in Foster Care are Pimping and Sexually Trafficking Children](#)**

**[Families Sue Governor DeSantis and State of Florida for Medically Kidnapping Their Children](#)**

**[Has Florida Become the Top State in the U.S. for Medical Kidnapping and Child Trafficking?](#)**

**[USA Today Reports How Florida Takes Children Away from their Parents and Puts Them with Pedophiles in Foster Care](#)**

The original lawsuit filed last year has since been thrown out by a judge calling it a “shotgun complaint.” The lawsuit accused the State of taking away their children illegally, and placing them with strangers instead of placing them with relatives.

Many parents and their attorney have now amended that lawsuit and refiled it on the grounds that their

Constitutional rights have been violated. Interestingly, Gov. Ron DeSantis, who was a defendant in the original lawsuit, seems to have been dropped in the amended lawsuit.

Local ABC affiliate WFTS [reported on the new lawsuit.](#)

*TAMPA, Fla. — Relatives who claim Florida’s child welfare system broke their families apart aren’t giving up despite a judge dismissing their original complaint earlier this year, calling it a “shotgun complaint.” The term is used to describe legal complaints that are too broad, contain too many accusations, and lack clarity on what plaintiffs are seeking.*

*“As long as there’s breath, we’re going to fight. We’re not going to stop,” said Lisa Crutch, whose granddaughter was just 12 weeks old when she was removed from her biological parents in 2017 after a nurse suspected abuse.*

*Nine months ago, Crutch’s family filed a lawsuit accusing the Florida Department of Children and Families (DCF) and its contracting agencies of lying, falsifying documents or manipulating facts to keep children from being placed with biological family members.*

*But in a newly amended lawsuit filed just last month, Crutch’s family, along with eight other families, are accusing Florida’s foster care system of violating their First Amendment Rights by having “customs and policies” that separate siblings, ignore family visitation rights and deprive able and willing family members from getting custody of young relatives.*

<https://assets.scrippsdigital.com/cms/video/player.html?video=https://content.uplynk.com/02778350cda9445c896df9408f0fbdo0.m3u8&mp4=https://x-default-stg.ec.uplynk.com/a>

[usw/slices/027/45bf940c346f431c9be273b8942ab6eb/02778350cda9445c896df9408f0fbdo0/02778350cda9445c896df9408f0fbdo0 e.mp4&purl=/news/state/families-dcf-violated-constitution-by-not-granting-them-custody-when-parents-lost-rights&ads.iu=/6088/ssp.wfts/news/state/families-dcf-violated-constitution-by-not-granting-them-custody-when-parents-lost-rights&ads.proxy=1&poster=https://x-default-stg.ec.uplynk.com/ausw/slices/027/45bf940c346f431c9be273b8942ab6eb/02778350cda9445c896df9408f0fbdo0/poster\\_16d1b56059aa47149bb6c053cf4578da.jpg&title=Families%20DCF%20violated%20Const.%20not%20granting%20them%20custody%20when%20parents%20lost%20rights&kw=ABC%20Action%20News%20CDF%20Florida%20news%20Sunshine%20State%20news%20CWFTS%20Ccustody%20Cdepartment%20of%20children%20and%20ofamilies%20Cfamilies%20Cfirst%20oamendment%20rights%20Cparents&autoplay=true&contplay=\\*recent&mute=0&tags=State%20News%20CHomepage%20Showcase%20CNewsletter%20Showcase%20CFlorida%20Investigative%20Team%20CI-Team%20Investigates&section=Florida%20News&cust\\_params=temp%3D%26weather%3D&host=abcactionnews.com&=wfts&ex=1&ex=1](https://www.wftsp.com/ausw/slices/027/45bf940c346f431c9be273b8942ab6eb/02778350cda9445c896df9408f0fbdo0/poster_16d1b56059aa47149bb6c053cf4578da.jpg&title=Families%20DCF%20violated%20Const.%20not%20granting%20them%20custody%20when%20parents%20lost%20rights&kw=ABC%20Action%20News%20CDF%20Florida%20news%20Sunshine%20State%20news%20CWFTS%20Ccustody%20Cdepartment%20of%20children%20and%20ofamilies%20Cfamilies%20Cfirst%20oamendment%20rights%20Cparents&autoplay=true&contplay=*recent&mute=0&tags=State%20News%20CHomepage%20Showcase%20CNewsletter%20Showcase%20CFlorida%20Investigative%20Team%20CI-Team%20Investigates&section=Florida%20News&cust_params=temp%3D%26weather%3D&host=abcactionnews.com&=wfts&ex=1&ex=1)

WFLA, a local NBC affiliate out of Tampa, also just published [an investigative report](#) explaining how Florida's Child Welfare system has a near 100% turnover rate in staffing, creating massive labor shortages in the system that seems to routinely kidnap and traffick children.

*One arm of Florida's Department of Children and Families was hit with a complete turnover of its staff over the past two*

*fiscal years and turnover rates for other positions were also high.*

*Data released in DCF's expenditure report in October indicates during that two-year period the turnover rate was 85% for critical care staff positions at the State Mental Health Treatment Facilities (MHTF).*

*The report stated that includes a rate of over 100% for MHTF Human Services worker positions.*

*Turnover was said to be 71% for Child Protective Investigators (CPI) and 56% for Adult Protective Investigators (API) in fiscal 2021-2022.*

*The agency said the issues have forced some employees to work 16-hour shifts, provoking other problems.*

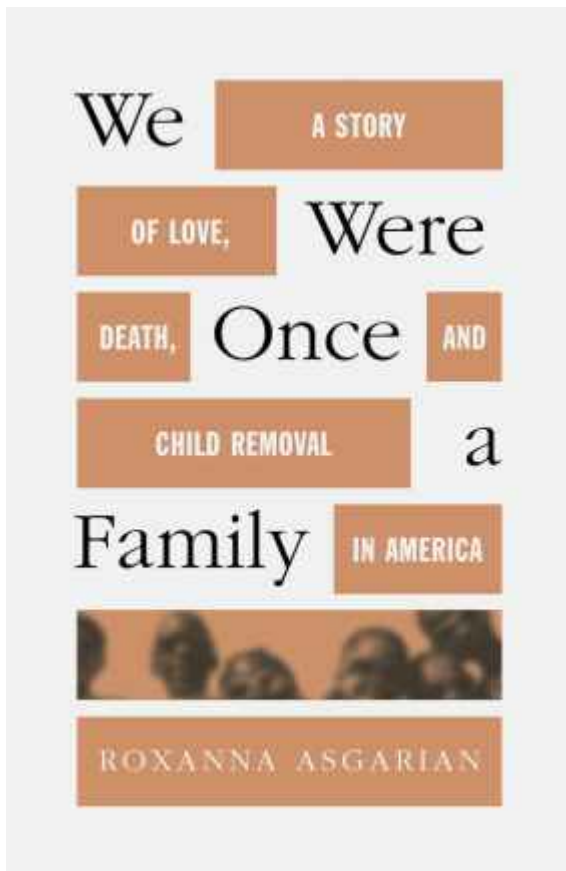
*"This has caused employee burnout and has led to an increase in the use of sick leave," the DCF report stated.*

*Richard Wexler, Executive Director of the National Coalition for Child Protection Reform, blames the shortage on the state taking custody of too many children.*

*"Florida has had a take the child and run mentality for nearly 25 years," Wexler said. "They have flooded the system with false allegations, trivial cases and family poverty is confused with neglect. That's what causes the overload." (Source.)*

<https://youtu.be/HWDnzmotWxo>

## More Voices Now Calling for an End to the Child “Welfare” System that Trafficks Children



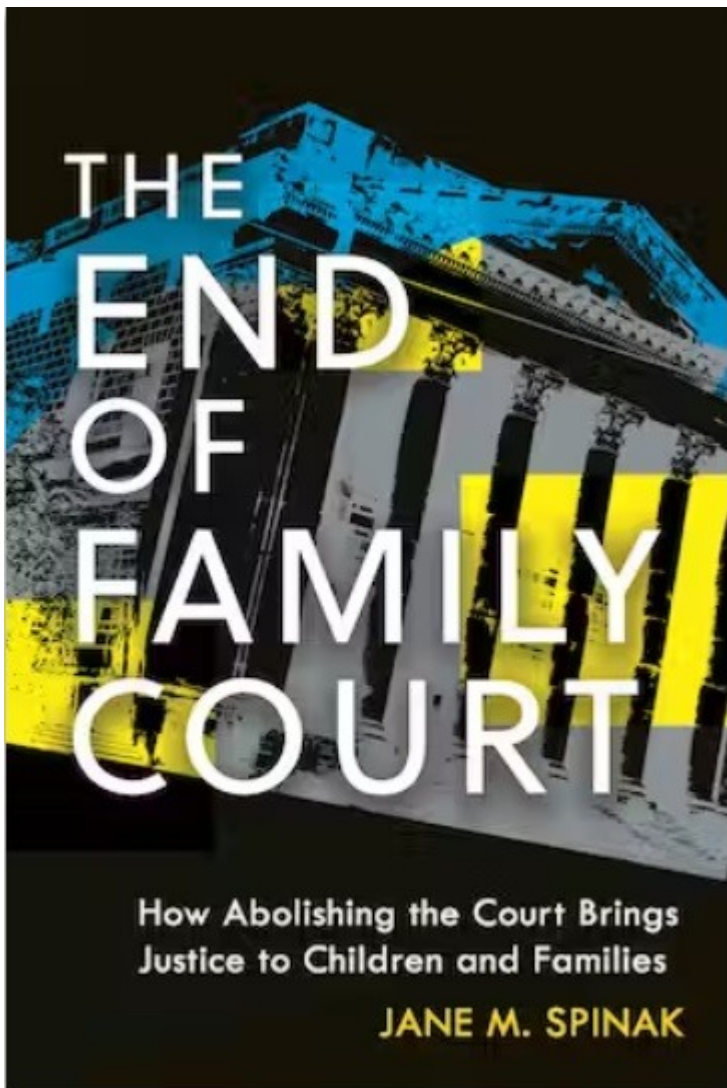
Book cover for “We Were Once a Family: A Story of Love, Death, and Child Removal in America,” by Roxanna Asgarian. [Image source](#).

The late Georgia Senator Nancy Schaefer was one of the first

to call for an end to the nation's Child Welfare System over a decade ago, and it cost her her life. See:

### **Senator Nancy Schaefer: Did her Fight Against CPS Child Kidnapping Cause her Murder?**

But a couple of new books just published this year, 2023, show that others have now taken up the call to end the nation's child trafficking system that is so wrongfully referred to by such terms as "Child Welfare" and "Child Protection Services."



[Image source.](#)

One of those is attorney Jane M. Spinak, the Edward Ross Aranow Clinical Professor of Law Emerita at Columbia Law



School, and her book: **The End of Family Court: How Abolishing the Court Brings Justice to Children and Families.**

*At the turn of the twentieth century, American social reformers created the first juvenile court. They imagined a therapeutic court where informality, specially trained public servants, and a kindly, all-knowing judge would assist children and families. But the dream of a benevolent means of judicial problem-solving was never realized. A century later, children and families continue to be failed by this deeply flawed court.*

*Spinak proposes concrete steps toward abolishing the court: shifting most family supports out of the court's sphere, vastly reducing the types and number of matters that need court intervention, and ensuring that any case that requires legal adjudication has the due process protections of a court of law. She calls for strategies that center trusting and respecting the abilities of communities to create and sustain meaningful solutions for families. ([Source.](#))*

Spinak has been blowing the whistle on the corruption in the Child Welfare System for a few years now.

In 2021 she [published an article](#) in the *Columbia Journal of Race and Law* stating that the system needed to be abolished.

*We call for abolition of the family regulation system, the term we use as a more accurate description of what is commonly called the child welfare or child protection system.*

*We situate this call in the context of the more developed*

*movement for prison abolition. The current system is predicated on seeing individual parents as a risk to their children.*

*It fails to see the strengths and resilience of parents and families; the harms of surveillance and removal; and the structural forces that harm children by failing to invest in adequate housing, income, child care, health and mental health services, and educational opportunities for all families.*

*Abolition provides the transformative mind-set that will enable loving and strengthened families to raise happy, healthy, safe, educated, and imaginative children. ([Source](#).)*

Another book that was just published, **We Were Once a Family: A Story of Love, Death, and Child Removal in America**, by Roxanna Asgarian, covers the tragic story of Jennifer and Sarah Hart, a lesbian married couple who had adopted six Black children from two different Texas families in 2006 and 2008, and then together drove them off a cliff beside the Pacific Coast Highway in California in 2018 in an alleged murder suicide.

*On March 26, 2018, rescue workers discovered a crumpled SUV and the bodies of two women and several children at the bottom of a cliff beside the Pacific Coast Highway.*

*Investigators soon concluded that the crash was a murder-suicide, but there was more to the story: Jennifer and Sarah Hart, it turned out, were a white married couple who had adopted the six Black children from two different Texas families in 2006 and 2008.*

*Behind the family's loving facade, however, was a pattern of abuse and neglect that went ignored as the couple withdrew the children from school and moved across the country. It soon became apparent that the State of Texas knew very little about the two individuals to whom it had given custody of six children—with fateful consequences.*

*In the manner of Adrian Nicole LeBlanc's *Random Family* and other classic works of investigative journalism, Roxanna Asgarian's *We Were Once a Family* is a revelation of vulnerable lives; it is also a shattering exposé of the foster care and adoption systems that produced this tragedy.*

*As a journalist in Houston, Asgarian became the first reporter to put the children's birth families at the center of the story.*

*We follow the author as she runs up against the intransigence of a state agency that removes tens of thousands of kids from homes each year in the name of child welfare, while often failing to consider alternatives.*

*Her reporting uncovers persistent racial biases and corruption as children of color are separated from birth parents without proper cause. The result is a riveting narrative and a deeply reported indictment of a system that continues to fail America's most vulnerable children while upending the lives of their families. ([Source.](#))*

Many in the corporate media have picked up the story that Asgarian's book reveals. Jennifer Szalai wrote a review of the book in [The New York Times](#):

*"[Asgarian] knows that abolishing #fostercare as it's currently practiced might sound not only undesirable but*

*almost inconceivable to many people – myself among them, at least before the book unsettled some of my assumptions ...”*

An excerpt from the book has been published in several corporate media publications, and I am going to end this article with some excerpts from Asgarian’s book.

As someone who has reported on these issues for over a decade now, and the one who first coined the term “Medical Kidnapping” back in 2013, I know how difficult it is for journalists to cover this topic, and try to expose it.

I have been threatened by judges, attorneys, and wealthy people, and have even faced a criminal complaint wrongly filed against me in one of the largest criminal courts in the world, which took me over two years to clear my name, in order to bring this information to the public.

It is so gratifying to see others now come forward and expose this very evil, very Satanic system we call “Child Welfare” here in the U.S.

I have no hope that this exposure will change or abolish the system, because the people who control it and control this nation are led by pedophiles and wealthy psychopaths who sit in positions of power at the top, and also control the judiciary. See:

**[Justice for Sale – Why the Criminals Running the U.S. Will Continue to Operate Until the Corrupt Judicial System is Replaced](#)**

As the empire known as the *United States of America* now

begins to collapse, and perhaps faces judgment from a higher source, look no further than how this nation treats their most helpless members of our society for a reason why.

## **Book excerpt: 'We Were Once a Family'**

By Roxanna Asgarian

I wrote my first stories about the U.S. foster care system in 2016, while I was working at a city magazine in Houston, Texas. I began by looking deeply at the federal lawsuit against the state for its inhumane treatment of children in long-term foster care. I spent hours and days interviewing people and reading the case file of one of the plaintiffs, Trish Virgil.

After being removed from her mother's care because her stepfather had physically and sexually abused her, Trish was bounced around various foster homes and institutions for years before aging out.

Once she left care, she ended up right back in the same trailer with her mother and stepfather; she had nowhere else to go. Her story was harrowing, but it was far from unique.

In the years since, I have spoken to dozens of young people with lived experience in foster care, and in every single case these folks endured some type of abuse—after they entered care.

What we call the “child welfare system” is actually a large web of state, county, and city agencies that each run their own operations, with their own rules and procedures, all with the main goal of protecting children from child abuse and neglect.

Because of the sometimes overlapping patchwork of agencies involved, and the fact that most child abuse and neglect cases and adoption cases from foster care are sealed, the child welfare system is a difficult one to report on.

The general understanding of the system, which is responsible for about 425,000 children around the country, is vague at best, and many people hold misconceptions about the parents and children who become entangled within it.

Mainstream media outlets often report about the child welfare system only when major cases of child abuse happen; without systemic analysis, these stories can end up promoting more punitive policies aimed at families who need help.

In fact, about 75 percent of child welfare cases involve not abuse but neglect, which can often be caused by or confused with poverty.

When reports emerged that two women, a married couple, had crashed their car into the ocean in late March 2018, killing themselves and their six adopted children, I was struck by all the details that were coming out.

My friend Shane Dixon Kavanaugh and his team were publishing breaking news stories for The Oregonian, Portland's daily newspaper, that revealed long-term abuse by the two white adoptive mothers against their six Black children.

Those stories began to paint a sinister picture of the family. When I saw that some of the children came from Harris County, Texas, where I live, I was struck by a gut feeling: I knew that there was much more to this story, and that it

started earlier, way earlier, when these kids were still in their homes with their birth parents.

Two weeks after the crash, my phone rang. It was Shane, calling from his office in Portland, and I knew what he was going to say before the words came out of his mouth. Yes, I told him. I can find the kids' birth parents, and I can speak with them.

As a journalist, I was most interested in looking at who has power and who does not—my aim was to write stories that hewed closely to the perspective of the people without power, instead of assuming the perspective of those with it.

I had done quite a few sensitive interviews by then and had been witness to many people affected by crimes, in the stage when their grief was still shock. Even so, when I first met the Davis family—the relatives of three of the children in the 2018 crash—I was bowled over.

This, this felt different. The family's pain ran deep. It was a pain that had existed in their lives since they first lost the children a decade before, and now it was double-edged: they were re-experiencing the trauma of the children's removal, and they were coming to understand that the fantasies they'd told themselves about the lives the children were living were just that, fantasies.

The reality was that the children had not been okay. They had not been cared for. They suffered, and then they died.

They were murdered.

In the media frenzy over the Hart family tragedy, the deeper story got largely overlooked. While many of the big stories

focused on Jennifer and Sarah Hart, stories about the children—who they were, where they came from, what happened to their birth families—were mostly absent.

Much of what was written about the kids concentrated only on their harrowing abuse—even as major questions about the child welfare system’s role in the deaths went unanswered.

In the coverage of the crash, mainstream media continued in its long-standing tradition of reporting on foster care and adoption almost exclusively through the lens of adoptive parents, while largely leaving out the experiences of adoptees and birth families.

We like our adoption stories to be happy endings; many people took note of the Hart case because it contradicted what they thought they knew about adoption.

But since there’s a scarcity of in-depth reporting about the child welfare system, people zeroed in on the women’s motivations and intentions, instead of on the biased decision-making and dehumanizing practices that created the conditions that allowed the Harts’ abuse to flourish.

In order for the children’s stories to become the book in your hands, the birth families took a huge leap of faith, opening their homes and lives and histories to me, a stranger. I had no personal experience with the foster care system, but I’d had an unstable childhood home life and could relate to some aspects of these families’ struggles.

Above all, I was struck by the lack of dignity in the way these families were treated, as they repeatedly grieved the loss of their children—first to the state, and then to their



murderers.

There is a unique trust that is built between journalist and source over years of spending time and having deep conversations; it's an honor for me to experience that trust.

This is the hardest work I have ever done, and I have routinely confronted the fact that this reporting affected me deeply, even as I knew that the families experiencing this pain firsthand were actually living it each day—pain that is hard to comprehend, that is overwhelming.

As journalists, we are often taught to stay stoic, to depersonalize situations, to get out of the way of the story.

This ethic has its merits, but it has costs as well.

In this book, I'm not a passive observer of injustice. I note in the text places where I have influenced aspects of the story.

I refer to the girlfriend and son of one Davis family member—Dontay—by their nicknames to be considerate of a child who is still a minor.

In one case, which is also noted in the text, I have used a pseudonym for another child for the same reason. I used a pseudonym for Tammy's husband, on her request. When Devonte, Jeremiah, and Ciera were adopted by the Harts, the women changed the spelling of Ciera's name to Sierra. I will use the spelling of her name on her original birth certificate throughout.

This book is a culmination of five years of work. The reporting is based on extensive interviews, traveling to key locations, and studying thousands of pages of foster care

case files, criminal case records, and law enforcement investigation documents.

I conducted the present-day reporting in person unless otherwise noted, and I reconstructed past events by conducting in-depth interviews with multiple sources and examining primary documents related to the events.

The work is also informed by my seven years of continuous reporting on the foster care system as a whole.

To investigate the Hart family murder without investigating the role the child welfare system played in it is to ignore the hundreds of thousands of children in foster care around this country, and the physical, sexual, and emotional abuse many of them have experienced while in government care.

Telling this story without reporting on the failures of the system is not telling the whole story. By diminishing the children's former lives and sidelining their birth families, the media risks reinforcing the same racist structures and actions that allowed the adoptive parents to hang on to the children after numerous allegations of abuse, the very structures and actions that contributed mightily to these children's deaths.

This book, I hope, is a corrective to that.

*Excerpted from "We Were Once a Family: A Story of Love, Death, and Child Removal in America" by Roxanna Asgarian. Published by Farrar, Straus and Giroux, March 2023. Copyright © 2023 by Roxanna Asgarian. All rights reserved.*

# New Documentary on Medically Kidnapped Girl Whose Mother Committed Suicide is the Most Powerful Film Ever Produced Exposing Medical Kidnapping



by **Brian Shilhavy**  
Editor, Health Impact News

Last night I watched the new documentary that was released by Netflix last month (June, 2023), “Take Care of Maya.”

This is, by far, the best documentary I have ever watched that exposes the criminal enterprise allowed to operate in this country, and which I have been covering as a journalist for about a decade now, *medical kidnapping*.

Here is the Netflix trailer:

<https://youtu.be/beXuaN-Wr-E>

The documentary shows the true story of the Kowalski family of Florida, a medical kidnapping horror story that we have covered in previous articles. See:

## **Florida Group Homes in Foster Care are Pimping and Sexually Trafficking Children**

## **Has Florida Become the Top State in the U.S. for Medical Kidnapping and Child Trafficking?**

The documentary was produced by Caitlin Keating, who also writes for [People Magazine](#).

Here is an excerpt from People that was published just before the film was released on Netflix.

### ***An Allegation of Munchausen by Proxy, a Mom's Suicide, a Daughter's Pain: 'Take Care of Maya' Exclusive Clip***

*Maya Kowalski tells PEOPLE how a hospitalization for her painful and rare neurological condition led to her mother's suicide, ahead of the premiere of the new Netflix documentary*

By Abby Roedel

*Maya Kowalski was rushed to the ER at Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital in St. Petersburg, Fla., in the early morning of October 7, 2016. She had crippling stomach pain*

*(“so severe, her knees were going up to her chest, and she was screaming,” says her father, Jack,) related to the rare neurological condition complex regional pain syndrome or CRPS.*

*The 17-year-old’s first memory was with her mom days later at the ICU. She kissed Maya on the forehead, told her she loved her, and they’d see each other the next day. “I never saw her again,” Maya says.*

*Maya’s mom, Beata, 43, had been accused of child abuse due to Munchausen syndrome by proxy, a mental disorder in which a caregiver fakes or causes symptoms to make a child look sick. She was immediately separated from her daughter.*

*In this exclusive clip for People from the new Netflix documentary Take Care of Maya (premiering this weekend at the Tribeca Film Festival and available to stream beginning June 19), Beata speaks with a parent advocate counseling her about how to get Maya back. The advocate says: “Beata, this is the thing you need to understand about these cases. They’re not fair. They don’t care about the evidence.”*

*In the ICU, Beata, trained as a registered nurse, told the doctors to administer a high dose of ketamine, the one treatment the Kowalskis and Maya’s doctor believed to be effective for her pain. The request raised concerns among the staff, and child protective services was called, which sent Dr. Sally Smith.*

*A court-ordered psychological evaluation eventually determined Beata did not have the illness. Still, Dr. Smith, a child abuse pediatrician who handled investigations for Pinellas County, a county with the highest rate in Florida of removing children from families under investigation, and the*

investigating team continued to push the case.

*Less than a week after Maya checked into Johns Hopkins, she was placed in state custody and remained in the hospital away from her parents and her younger brother Kyle, now 16, for over three months. ([Full article.](#))*

<https://youtu.be/QSBllXbN-7o>

Producer Caitlin Keating and director Henry Roosevelt were [interviewed by The Wrap](#) a few days ago, where they stated that they hear from other families with similar medical kidnapping stories as the Kowalskis, *every single day*.

### ***'Take Care of Maya' Filmmakers Say They Hear From Families Every Day Who See Themselves in Kowalskis' Medical Nightmare***

*When journalist Daphne Chen first wrote about the case, she heard from dozens of families in the same situation. Have you gotten a similar response to the documentary?*

CK: There's rarely an hour that goes by that we're not getting a tweet, direct message, email, phone call or letter. It really shows you how widespread this problem is and how many people are experiencing something similar. People are saying that they saw themselves in this film in some way and the response has been overwhelming.

HR: We know that RNs and CPS workers are talking about it in classes and break rooms. So for us, it's a positive thing, but it's just the beginning of the conversation.

*Would you do a follow-up documentary if the trial happens? And how much of your life is still about this case even if you're not going to make another film about it?*

CK: It took up a lot of our life for good reason for a long time. And if we're not filming the trial, we will definitely be tuning in.

HR: Truthfully after we finished it, I don't think it belongs to us anymore. I don't even think it necessarily belongs to Netflix. When the audience gets a hold of it, they're going to experience it through their own lens. It's almost taken on a life of its own. ([Full article.](#))

The filmmakers received so many stories from other families, even before the filming was completed, that they added a short clip at the end with testimonies from other parents who suffered the same kind of medical kidnapping of their children as the Kowalskis.

Stew Peters recently interviewed one of these other parents that [you can watch here](#).

**The Corrupt, Criminal Enterprise known as  
"Child Abuse Pediatric Doctors"**



Pediatric Child Abuse specialist Dr. Sally Smith. [Image source.](#)

This film clearly exposes how a medical doctor who in reality is not even practicing medicine, but is acting as a forensic criminal investigator with ZERO training in law enforcement or forensic evidence, the corrupt pediatric specialty of “Child Abuse Specialist” which is a recent specialty started around 2010, has the enormous power to destroy families, as judges are all too quick to accept their “advice”.

The doctor in this case, Sally Smith, is one we are all too familiar with here at *Health Impact News*, as we have seen her repeatedly commit these crimes against other families in Florida.

See this 2019 story which was published in USA Today:

[\*\*USA Today Exposes Florida Doctor Medically Kidnapping Children and Destroying Lives\*\*](#)

The USA Today Network reportedly investigated hundreds of



Dr. Smith's cases, and:

*...found more than a dozen instances where charges were dropped, parents were acquitted or caregivers had credible claims of innocence yet suffered irredeemable damage to their lives and reputations.*

*Beata Kowalski, a 43-year-old mother of two, died by suicide in 2017 after Smith accused her of Munchausen syndrome by proxy — a rare disorder in which a parent fakes a child's illness for sympathy or gain. Her family members are now suing Smith and All Children's Hospital for what they said were trumped-up claims.*

*John Stewart, a Marine Corps veteran, spent 300 days in jail on Smith's allegation that he killed his girlfriend's son by throwing him repeatedly against a soft surface. Prosecutors dropped the charges after a neuropathologist contradicted Smith's findings, according to internal memos.*

*Tara Brown, 39, underwent three grueling rounds of in vitro fertilization to conceive twins with her physician husband. She was accused of inflicting countless fractures on her 6-week-old infants, but the charges were expunged after another doctor diagnosed them with a rare bone disorder.*

*“Sally Smith told me that if I didn't tell them what was wrong, then my children would be put in foster care,” Brown said. “She looked us straight in the eye and said, ‘One of you is lying, one of you abused your children.’” ([Full article.](#))*

This medical sub-specialty of “pediatrics” is thoroughly corrupt, and responsible for incarcerating literally tens of thousands of innocent parents over false allegations of

abuse.

We have written many articles exposing this corrupt profession in the medical system, and have written an entire book on the subject, which normally sells for \$10.00 but is [now available for free in the Healthy Traditions store here.](#)



**FREE!**

**The New Child Abuse Pediatrician**

*Doctors become Prosecutors*

MedicalKidnap.com

The image is a book cover with a black background. At the top, the word "FREE!" is written in large, bold, red letters with a white outline. Below it, the title "The New Child Abuse Pediatrician" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font. Underneath the title, the subtitle "Doctors become Prosecutors" is written in a smaller, italicized white font. In the center-left, there is a photograph of a wooden gavel resting on a wooden block, with a stethoscope lying next to it. To the right of this image is a photograph of a person in a white lab coat and a striped tie, with their arms crossed. At the bottom left, the website "MedicalKidnap.com" is written in white, bold, sans-serif font.

This is the book to give to attorneys and judges so they can be educated about these unlicensed law enforcement thugs who pose as “doctors”, as we clearly trace their history and medical abuses by destroying families.

If you don't want to get the free ebook, here are some of the individual articles that are contained in the book:

[Are New Pediatric “Child Abuse Specialists”  
Causing an Increase in Medical Kidnappings?](#)

[Child Abuse Pediatricians: An “Ethically  
Bankrupt” Profession that Destroys Families](#)

[History of Shaken Baby Theories Exposed: How  
an Elite Group of Pediatric Radiologists Started  
Medical Kidnapping in the 1940s](#)

[Elite Medical Doctors Seek to Control the Media  
and Public’s Perception of Child Abuse Specialists](#)

[Pediatric Child Abuse “Experts” are NOT Experts  
in Anything](#)

[Legal Experts: Shaken Baby Diagnosis Leads to  
“Destruction of Families Beyond Anything  
Comparable in the Modern History of the  
American Justice System”](#)

[Attorney: Child Abuse Pediatricians Aligned with  
Child Protective Services Destroy Innocent  
Families](#)

[Exposing How Child Abuse Pediatricians  
Medically Kidnap Children: A Guide for Parents](#)

## Study: In 96% of Shaken Baby Syndrome Cases Analyzed Infants Had Metabolic Bone Disorders

### Issues Not Covered in the Documentary – Was Maya Vaccinated?

#### Search Results

From the 7/7/2023 release of VAERS data:

Found 373 cases where Symptom is Complex regional pain syndrome

[Government Disclaimer on use of this data](#)

Table

Vaccine/Manufacturer	Count	Percent
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>† 411</b>	<b>† 110.19%</b>
COVID19 / PFIZER/BIONTECH	126	33.78%
HPV4 / MERCK & CO. INC.	69	18.5%
HPV2 / GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS	56	15.01%
COVID19 / MODERNA	37	9.92%
HPVX / UNKNOWN MANUFACTURER	17	4.56%
HPV9 / MERCK & CO. INC.	10	2.68%
MNQ / SANOFI PASTEUR	9	2.41%
COVID19 / JANSSEN	7	1.88%
TDAP / GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS	6	1.61%
TDAP / SANOFI PASTEUR	5	1.34%
HEP / GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS	5	1.34%
PPV / MERCK & CO. INC.	4	1.07%
FLUX / UNKNOWN MANUFACTURER	4	1.07%
FLU4 / GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS	4	1.07%
FLU3 / SANOFI PASTEUR	4	1.07%
VARZOS / GLAXOSMITHKLINE BIOLOGICALS	3	0.8%
UNK / UNKNOWN MANUFACTURER	3	0.8%
TD / UNKNOWN MANUFACTURER	3	0.8%

[Source.](#)

While Maya's medical condition is identified in the documentary as *Complex regional pain syndrome* (CRPS), there is no discussion about how Maya suddenly developed this condition at the age of 9.

CRPS is a known side effect of vaccines, and prior to the emergency use authorization of the COVID shots, the vaccine that produced the most recorded side effects for CRPS in the

U.S. Government's Vaccine Adverse Events Reporting System (VAERS), was the HPV vaccine, primarily Merck's Gardasil.

We have documented [hundreds of cases of HPV vaccine injuries](#) that have destroyed people's lives, primarily young, child-bearing girls.

## [Learn More About the Deadly HPV Vaccine](#)

The CDC authorizes the HPV vaccine for girls starting at age 9, the same age that Maya's symptoms began, although I do not know if she received the HPV vaccine or not. ([Source.](#))

Japan and other countries stopped recommending the HPV vaccine for young girls in 2015, due to incidences of POTS and CRPS following the HPV vaccine.

The pharma-funded medical journals tried to discredit these side effects, but [here is a good study](#) published by Dr. Peter C Gøtzsche, of the *Institute for Scientific Freedom* in the BMJ showing their conflict of interests and hiding data in their attempts to explain away these HPV vaccine side effects.

## [EMA's mishandling of an investigation into suspected serious neurological harms of HPV vaccines](#)

## [All the Kangaroo Family Courts are Constitutionally Illegal](#)



Florida Judge Lee Haworth. [Image source.](#)

The other issue not addressed in this documentary, is the fact that the way parents are treated in child custody cases in these family courts, which in some states can also go by different names such as probate court, juvenile court, etc., is totally unconstitutional.

As soon as there is a claim of “child abuse,” the alleged victim, the child, is incarcerated, while the alleged abusers, usually the parents, are treated like criminals, but without the constitutional protection afforded to suspected criminals, such as being arrested and having their Miranda rights read, appearing before a judge at an arraignment to

determine if there is sufficient evidence to be incarcerated before trial, the right to an attorney, the right to remain silent, etc.

No, parents are not afforded these constitutional rights, that are afforded to terrorists, rapists, murderers, etc. in the criminal justice system, when they are accused of “child abuse” which is often defined as “medical neglect” for failing to follow doctors’ orders.

In one scene, the father is being grilled and accused of wrongdoing by a Sheriff, as a criminal, with no legal representation whatsoever.

This is one of the few aspects of the child welfare system that is seldom, if ever, talked about. See:

### **Does the State Ever Have a “Right” to Remove Children from a Home?**

What is shown in this documentary, is how Judge Lee Haworth denied Maya’s mother even the opportunity to hug her daughter, before leaving court.

She committed suicide shortly after this.

Read this account published in [The Cut](#) where Maya was forced to undress and be humiliated before going to court, and how the Judge refused to even let her hug her mother.

*A week later, in January 2017, just before Maya was to travel from the hospital to another hearing, Bedy and a nurse entered her room and told her to take her clothes off.*

*The hospital's risk-management department wanted photos of her taken before the proceeding. Maya refused to cooperate, even when Bedy told her that if she didn't, she wouldn't be allowed to go to the courthouse and see her mother.*

*Bedy began to forcibly remove her pants and shirt; Maya wrote an account of it that was later included in a legal filing.*

*"I was crying and saying, 'No, stop,'" Maya wrote. "But she wouldn't stop. Bedy pinned me face down and either she or the nurse took photos of me in my training bra and shorts."*

*(The Kowalskis later learned that Bedy had been fired from a previous position managing foster-care children for Suncoast when she was arrested and charged with child abuse. Four fellow Suncoast employees called the police after they watched Bedy pin a 10-year-old boy to the ground with her knees and cover his face with a blanket as he cried out that he couldn't breathe. In a deposition, Bedy denied using her knees on the child. She declined to comment for this article.)*

*Afterward, Maya got dressed and met her uncle outside the hospital. With the exception of afternoon walks on hospital grounds escorted by Bedy, it was the first time in months that she had been outside a fluorescent-lit hospital room.*

*She had spent Halloween, Christmas, New Year's, and her 11th birthday in the hospital. She wanted to go back to school; she wanted to play Mario Kart with her brother and watch figure skating with her mom.*

*At the courthouse, Maya waited in a holding room while the family attorney told the judge that Maya had two requests: to speak to him and to hug her mother.*



*“No, not today,” Haworth said.*

*“Is there any way that even just momentarily she can just see her mom, just to hug her mother and —”*

*“No,” Haworth said. “I’m afraid not. From what I’ve heard from the doctors, the status is uncertain at the moment, so we’ll have to do without that today.”* ([Source.](#))

In the Netflix film, the family attorney stated:

*It never made any sense to me, why she was denied giving her child a hug. And I can tell you, as we left the courthouse that day, that Beata was devastated. Devastated.*

*And the one thing that I know to this day is, none of us can get that hug back now.*

*That hug is gone.*

*Interviewer: “Do you think if she had hugged her, things would have turned out differently?”*

*Yes, I do. I do.*

In the Netflix film, Beata’s husband Jack stated that he also thought that the judge’s decision to refuse his wife the opportunity to even hug her daughter, was what drove her over the edge.

Netflix showed portions of the letter left behind by Beata before she committed suicide.

From: Beata Kowalski  
Subject: Letter for Judge Lee E. Haworth

Your hart is made out of iceberg!

By taking the side of ACH and DCF you have destroyed my family, my marriage, you have put us in bankruptcy, and you still denied me to see my daughter in court today

Further, you let them continue to destroy her even more, slowly each day. My daughter will never be who she was before October 13, 2016.

I hope you will take responsibility for "my daughter's physical deconditioning, worsening of her CRPS that eventually will lead to her slow, painful death."

From: Beata  
Subject: Goodbye (Draft)

Please take care of Maya and tell her how much I love her every day.

please tell Kyle also that I love him very much and I hope that he grows up to be a strong good man, has great future and stays close to God.

I'm sorry but I no longer can take the pain being away from Maya and being treated like a criminal. I cannot watch my daughter suffer in pain and keep getting worse.

## The Kowalski's Civil Lawsuit – Maya's Deposition

It appears to me that perhaps the motivation to produce this documentary might be the fact that the Kowalski family now has a civil lawsuit against *Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital* for all these crimes committed against their family, but keeps getting delayed in the corrupt legal system, although I

do NOT know this for a fact.

Their next scheduled court date is on September 11, 2023. Unless the public becomes outraged and puts pressure on this corrupt court and judge, there is probably very little hope of seeing justice done against this mega children's hospital.

[Gregory Anderson is the attorney](#) on this case, and appears in the film.

The film includes depositions taken from the father and Maya.

Having covered this issue for about a decade now, and having dealt with literally hundreds of people who have been victimized by medical kidnapping, I have chosen a different clip from this documentary that I think best communicates what these families go through, and what this film is all about.

It is from the deposition of Maya, where she is asked why she does not want to go to a doctor or hospital anymore.

If you have never dealt with people victimized by medical kidnapping, I want you to listen very carefully to what Maya says in this clip.

Because people who go through this, and to a lesser extent those of us who advocate and work with these victims to bring their story to the public, have a very different perspective on our culture and the medical system that very few people can understand.

We are prone to anger and outbursts, even at seemingly

simple questions.

So for me personally, and I am sure for many others, this is probably the best clip from the film:

<https://www.bitchute.com/embed/qI3vsGlt2obw/>

Please watch the entire documentary at Netflix.

You can pay for a 1-month subscription to Netflix and then immediately cancel after watching this film, which will be less than the cost of a ticket to a movie theater.

<https://help.netflix.com/en/node/24926>

This film is far more significant in exposing child trafficking in this country than the fictional *Sound of Freedom* movie, in my opinion, and shows that the horror of child trafficking in this country is not just limited to sex trafficking, but includes medical kidnapping by the pharmaceutical cartels as well.