

Health Impact News

Medical Kidnapping Children in the United States: Kansas

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Kansas



Special Needs Sisters Kidnapped From Homeschooling Christian Family



Veteran David Owens holds pictures of his daughters close to his heart. Source: Owen family.

by Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com Staff

Throughout history, people have taken a stand for their faith which oftentimes resulted in unfavorable consequences for the individuals. For disabled veteran David Owen and his wife Teresa, their refusal to stop practicing their Christian faith was ultimately used as a rationale in Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) seizing custody of their two special needs daughters, Angel and Catrina. According to Teresa Owen:

"Our daughters were wrongfully removed from our home because we refused to stop attending church and teaching our daughters about Christ. Angel and Catrina are being wrongfully kept out of our home, abused, and medically neglected. We are still fighting for our daughters and trying to help other families."

Their children were taken at the beginning of 2011. To this day, they are not home, and Teresa and David are fighting to regain custody of their daughters.



Catrina, left, and Angel Owen in 2010 before being separated from their parents. Source: Owen family.

Mitochondrial Myopathy, Autism, and Seizures

Both the Owen daughters, along with their mother, suffer from Mitochondrial Myopathy, the same disorder that doctors diagnosed in [Justina Pelletier](#). Her medical kidnap case made national news in 2014. Three of the Owen family were diagnosed with the disorder by a military clinic in 2001.

In addition, Angel, the older sibling, also has autism and suffers from seizures. Their mother has learned that disabilities like theirs often result in increased funding for the school district in which the students reside as long as they are in public school.



Teresa Owen with her two daughters before DCF. Source: Owen family.

Angel began the school year in August of 2009 at the El Dorado Middle School, much like any other school year. Teresa Owen reports having many concerns for her daughter's safety at the school after the semester began. Once when visiting the school, Teresa reports witnessing Paraprofessionals (Paras) slapping the hands of children. She promptly reported the incident and filed a complaint with the school.

Another visit to the school on February 22, 2010, became the turning point for Angel's education. Teresa reports that a gym teacher told her that her daughter had fallen down the stairs on at least four separate occasions, and one of those times, she was actually pushed down the stairs. They were not notified. This was alarming to her because Angel's doctor had previously sent a note to the school, ordering that she was to use the elevator, not the stairs. The doctor had also

ordered Angel to be accompanied by a Para when walking to and from classes. Her mitochondrial condition and her seizures place her at increased risk for falls.

Family Decides to Homeschool

Teresa reports withdrawing Angel from the middle school shortly after, choosing instead to homeschool. She reports filling out the required withdrawal form and informing the district of her intent to homeschool, per Kansas protocol. She researched her curriculum options, and put together an eclectic program of resources specifically designed for special needs students.

Before Teresa began homeschooling Angel, she read at a 2nd grade level. By mid-summer, under her mother's teaching, Angel had already progressed to reading at a 4th grade level.

As she connected with other families of special needs children through the Special Olympics that spring, she reports:

“I was told about [DCF] targeting special needs kids for foster care.”



The Owen girls during a supervised visitation on Valentine's Day. Source: Owen family.

That appears to the Owens to be exactly what happened. In June of 2010, the Kansas DCF took the Owen family to court for truancy of Angel, accusing the Owens of not having Angel enrolled in school, even though they were legally homeschooling. The judge ordered the Owen family to have their daughter enrolled in either an approved homeschool program or a public school for the upcoming school year. Teresa and David Owen made the decision to enroll her in a different school than the one where she had previously experienced so many problems. Angel was accepted to Haysville District Middle School, and Teresa submitted the required documentation on August 30, 2010.

Special Needs Child Removed From the Home by Court Order

The very next day, on August 31, 2010, a court hearing took place in which DCF evaluated Angel's current school

enrollment status. Teresa Owen explained that her daughter had been accepted and enrolled in a local school, but the truancy officer in the court reportedly stated on the record that Angel Owen was not enrolled in any school at that time. The court ruled that Angel was truant. She was immediately seized by DCF and placed in foster care.

Since she was taken from her home, Angel experienced an increase in seizure activity. On September 17, 2010, Angel's physician ordered lab tests and an EEG. The physician called Teresa Owen at 11:00 pm that same night with concerns over her test results.

Teresa reports that the physician submitted a letter to the judge stating that if Angel is kept out of her home environment, she is at risk for status epilepticus, which can result in a fatal seizure.

Because of these safety concerns, an urgent hearing to review the case was scheduled for September 28, 2010. Angel was sent home with her parents at this hearing. However, she remained in State's custody, and case managers were ordered to make several visits weekly to the home. This was the last court hearing at Butler County. The case was then moved to Sedgwick County when the Owens purchased a home and relocated. The girls were both enrolled in public school at this time.



Angel Owen on the left in 2011 and on the right in 2014.
Source: Owen family.

Case Manager Tells Family to Stop Attending Church

Because of the girls' mitochondrial condition, Teresa says that they require a full 10 hours of sleep per night. The family is devoutly Christian, and has always attended church services on Sundays and Wednesday nights, and some Sunday night services. The next day after any evening service is often more difficult for them than it would be for someone without their condition. Previous schools had reportedly had no problem excusing tardies on the basis of religious activity. However, in October, one case manager told the Owen family that they were to no longer attend church because of the tardies.



Catrina Owen on the left in 2014 and on the right in 2011

More Issues with Public School

By late November of 2010, mounting concerns with incidents in the public school caused the family once again to consider homeschooling the girls. These included neglect by school officials in following the girls' individual education plans (IEPs), as well as Angel's ongoing fear and reluctance to go to school. Her mother says that Angel was even experiencing anxiety attacks about attending school.

Homeschooling Again

In December of 2010, the Owens pulled the girls out of public school once again. This time the Owen family decided to use a tried and true faith-based homeschool curriculum called Alpha Omega. Angel and Catrina were enrolled in Owen Family Home School and began on December 15, 2010.

Disagreement, Corruption, and Threats from Case Workers

A case manager showed up early in December. According to Teresa, she informed the family that she had learned they were still attending church. She threatened that, if they kept going to church, they would take their kids.

Another case manager reviewed the homeschool curriculum and materials in early December and she was satisfied. According to the family, she explained that one of the positive aspects of the Alpha Omega curriculum was that it offered many ways to teach lessons, and Alpha Omega has special education staff to help parents.

The case manager who took issue with the kids attending church showed up unexpectedly just before Christmas, even though by this time they were only supposed to have visits from the other case manager. She looked at the homeschool curriculum and reportedly told the Owen family that this program would never fly because of the faith based teaching. She told the family they would be removing the kids right away.



This door with the girls picture and cards from them stands as a stark reminder of the laughter missing from the Owen home. Source: Owen Family.

Teresa protested the decision and claimed the state had no just cause for removal, only to be told by the social worker

that she could simply make up an accusation and have her kids removed. Teresa Owen told *Health Impact News* that one thing that stuck out most in her mind about the case was that:

”They constantly told us they could make up believable lies to take the children.”

When she addressed her concerns with the case manager and the issue of church attendance to her superior, she allegedly received a chilling response:

”I was told by the head case manager in charge of making the final decision regarding our girls, that your children are never coming home, another victory for me.”

Even so, the girls remained in the home through Christmas and New Years, but that didn’t last long.

Children Seized by DCF, and DCF Ignores Angel’s Sickness

In late January of 2011, Angel became very ill, experiencing frequent vomiting and sickness that seemed to be getting worse. On January 20, Teresa and David Owen were preparing to take her to the doctor for evaluation when social workers and the police showed up with a court order to remove the children from the home. The concerned parents protested, stating that Angel was sick and needed immediate medical attention. The case managers told the police that they would take the girls directly to the hospital. So the parents agreed

and drove to the hospital and waited.

The case managers never showed up with their two daughters.

A few days later Kansas DCF took the family to court on January 25, 2011 . It was determined in court that Angel was truant from school for too many days, and both children were ordered into state care. Teresa Owen reports she was using a homeschool curriculum compliant with state regulations at the time Angel was charged of being truant.

According to Kansas law, a child can only be removed from a home on the basis of truancy if they are at least 13 years of age. Catrina, age 11 at the time of removal, was also taken. The Owen's were told she was being removed under Angel's case.



A family drawing by Catrina in 2014. Source: Owen family.

Controversial Diagnosis and Unsafe Foster Care

Within the first couple of months the girls were in foster care, Angel was hospitalized on two occasions. During one of the hospitalizations, the physician reported a multitude of medical issues, including dehydration, poor kidney function, and grand mal seizures – even though the parents were informed that all tests came back normal. There was a court order in place which prevented Teresa from visiting her in the hospital or she would be arrested. A broken-hearted Teresa told *Health Impact News*:

“My daughter Angel told me, ‘You don’t love me. You couldn’t possibly love me, because you didn’t come visit me in the hospital.’”

Angel also had an emergency room visit after a large TV reportedly fell on her head while in foster care. Despite her seizure history, no CT scan was ordered following the head injury.

Munchausen by Proxy?

Teresa Own has treated both her daughters for their symptoms related to Mitochondrial Myopathy for a number of years. Despite the daughters’ specialist reports, the diagnosis of Mitochondrial Myopathy was removed from both of the girls’ medical charts. Teresa states that, to this day, the girls are still suffering from symptoms of this disorder that are being ignored. The state has accused Teresa of making up this medical condition and charged her with having Munchausen by Proxy, even though all three received

their diagnosis from a military clinic back east, when David was still serving in the Army National Guard, following a long career in the Air Force.

Along with separation from their parents, the girls have also been separated from their therapy dogs, Blacky and Tippy. Teresa reports that they still cry for their pets.



Angel's therapy dog Blacky on the left, and Catrina's therapy dog Tippy on the right.

The last court hearing was held in Sedgwick County in January 2012, with no future plans to reunite this family, despite the family reporting that they have met all conditions. While David is allowed some visitation, Teresa has been forbidden to see her beloved daughters since November 2013.

Teresa and David insist that they will not give up the fight for their daughters. They believe that the bottom line for their children being taken is that they represent a great deal of money to the state by being in state custody. The Owens are currently taking three actions in hopes of regaining custody of Catrina and Angelica:

1. They have filed an appeal in Kansas Appeals Court.

2. They have filed a federal lawsuit.
3. They have filed a petition with the United Nations offices for Human Rights – CIDH, Office for High Commissioner on Human Rights (OHCHR), and Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) based on violation of human rights.

If you watch the emotional video below at the end of this article, you will hear Teresa explain that she felt like “a traitor” by having to file a complaint in the UN against her own country. But because Congress and the federal government is doing nothing to help them with the abuses and corruption in Kansas, they felt they had few options remaining.

Reaching Out To Help Others

Teresa Owen has reached out to others who are dealing with Children Protective Services, including the [Verzosa family](#), whose story was originally covered by *Health Impact News* [here](#). She is happy to offer her help and advice, and blogs regularly about CPS corruption.

She is also going to Capitol Hill on June 18 to talk to legislators about Mitochondrial disorders, as well as about children being unjustly taken by CPS.



Teresa vows to never stop fighting for her beloved daughters.
Source: Owen family.

Teresa offers the following advice for any parent in a situation with Child Protective Services (CPS):

”Parents need to keep documentation. If social workers don’t allow you to videotape encounters, take pictures before and after they come. If you feel threatened, you can use video for your protection, but it won’t be allowed to be submitted in court. Keep a journal! Keep all court documents.”

Finding legal help has always been a challenge for this family. When the state involvement began for the Owen family, Teresa reached out to the Disability Rights Center Kansas (DRCK) for legal assistance, only to be denied help with her case involving her daughters with disabilities. Teresa also reports that doctors and attorneys have been threatened that if they help this family, they could lose their license to practice. At this time, they are pursuing all legal matters representing themselves with free Christian attorneys’ legal advice.

Teresa has also reached out to help others who are in similar situations and started the Facebook page [Protect America’s Children from the Hidden Predators](#).



Click on the image to learn more about Teresa’s Campaign

she created to help stop the unjust removal of children by the state.

Kansas Governor Sam Brownback ran for office on a [conservative platform](#) of supporting family and Christian values. Supporters ask for the public to call the Governor asking for Angelica and Catrina Owen to be reunited with their parents. He may be reached at (785) 296-5059 or (800-452-6727), and he may be contacted [here](#).

In this video from Teresa Owen, she talks about the corruption in DCF and Juvenile Court. You might want to have a box of tissues nearby before watching.

<https://youtu.be/bkK7kwjbO7Q>

Navy Dad Goes on Hunger Strike in Kansas Until State-Kidnapped Children are Returned or He Starves to Death



The Schwab family with 4 of their 6 children at a recent visit.
Source: Schwab family.

UPDATE 12/14/2016

[Children Taken from Military Dad Using Medical Marijuana for PTSD to be Returned](#)

UPDATE 3/30/2016

[Kansas Dad Ends Hunger Strike – Federal Lawsuit Filed To Return His Children](#)

UPDATE 3/25/2016

[Veteran Dad on Hunger Strike Arrested with No Charges – Kept Naked in Dirty Cell](#)

Navy Dad Goes on Hunger Strike in Kansas Until State-Kidnapped Children are Returned or He Starves to Death

by Health Impact News/MedicalKidnap.com Staff

A U.S. Navy veteran is currently on a hunger strike in hopes of getting his children back from what he calls a very corrupt child protective system in Kansas. He is prepared to continue his hunger strike until he and his wife's children are returned, or until he starves to death.

Raymond Schwab and his wife Amelia say that their children never should have been taken away from them almost a year ago, but what prompted the hunger strike was the fact that the Department for Children and Families (DCF) said they

planned to place their 13 year old son in a psychiatric residential treatment center. They started him on psychotropic drugs 2 weeks ago, against his parents' will.

Raymond Schwab began his strike on Monday, March 14, two days before DCF was to institutionalize their son. He doesn't belong there, the parents insist, and he certainly doesn't need dangerous psychotropic drugs. But he was placed into the facility on Wednesday, against his parents' wishes, and is expected to be there for up to 60 days.

Three of their children have reportedly been abused while in DCF custody. DCF has reported to the family that their 5 year old little girl has been sexually assaulted in their care, and the 13 year old and another son have been abused in the DCF placement.

Dad Pleads With Governor to Listen

DCF has reportedly been ignoring them all along, and that is why Raymond is taking such a drastic measure. He and his wife have been at the state capitol all week, holding signs and trying to get the governor's attention to stop the injustice happening to his family. This is not what the Gulf War veteran fought for, he says.

In a letter to Kansas Governor Brownback, Raymond Schwab writes:

Now, realizing Riley County Courts do not care about their oath of office, nor the Constitution or the law I will be on a hunger strike at the State Capitol until my children are returned, a Federal lawsuit or injunction is filed against you or those who have committed this crime are indicted. Some have said your State will not care, and they will let me starve

to death. If that happens it will be on your doorstep, and my blood will be on your hands. Give me my children. “Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.” – Jesus- Ms. Brownback said recently that Kansas DCF and foster care should be a model for the nation. God help us all if that ever becomes a reality.



Monday, March 14, was Day 1 of Raymond Schwab’s Hunger Strike to get his children back. Source: Schwab family.

The Schwabs are a very devout Christian family who have homeschooled their children most of their lives. They lived in Colorado for a number of years before moving to Kansas in 2013 because of Raymond’s job. They were already in the process of moving back to Colorado in April 2015, when DCF came into their lives based on what the Schwabs say are false allegations from relatives who didn’t approve of their religious and other beliefs.

Medical Marijuana Helped Vet's PTSD

The children remain in the system over the fact that Raymond has been using medical marijuana to treat his Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and chronic pain as a veteran. The veteran has become a poster child for medical marijuana activism, but the situation is much bigger than that.

When the family lived in Colorado, Raymond worked with the VA to treat his PTSD and pain after being honorably discharged from the Navy for disability. He tried many different medical treatments from narcotics to anti-anxiety drugs, but they didn't really help much, and had many undesirable side-effects.

Eventually, Raymond fell into heroin addiction. He tells Health Impact News that he isn't proud of that fact, but he wants the public to realize that this is a pattern that happens to many veterans. He went into a Christian rehab program and got off of all of the drugs.

He was able to get his life back on track with the medicinal use of cannabis, which is legal in the state of Colorado. Medicinal marijuana is a treatment that he says can and does help veterans with PTSD and chronic pain with far fewer side effects than narcotic and psychotropic drugs.

In 2013, he accepted a federal position with the Department of Veterans Affairs in Topeka, Kansas, and moved his family there. Marijuana is not legal in Kansas, for medicinal or any use. Therefore, he stopped his cannabis treatment.

Children Seized Over False Allegations

By early 2015, the family decided to move back to Colorado in

order to legally be able to treat his PTSD in the way that has worked most effectively for him. Raymond got a job transfer, and plans were in the works for the move. In April, the family says they had a break-in at their home, so they sent their children to stay with relatives for a day or two, so that they could pack everything believing their kids would be safe.

That is when their nightmare began.

The Schwabs declined to name who it was that reported them, but someone took their children to the police in Riley County, saying that they were abandoned. There were allegations of emotional abuse, based on the fact that the children were homeschooled and not vaccinated according to the CDC schedule.



The Schwab family in happier days, before DCF. Source: Schwab family.

Though the police never investigated the allegations, 5 of the Schwabs' children were immediately placed in DCF custody on April 26. The children range in age from age 5 to 16. (Their 6th child is a 19 year old who was not involved in the case.) The children have been separated in foster care.

The couple continued the move to Colorado, with their 19 year old son, believing that they would get their children back quickly, since they knew the allegations were false.

Allegations Unsubstantiated, but Children Still in State Custody

Indeed, the allegations were found to be "Unsubstantiated" by early July. However, the children have still not been reunited with their family.

REV 07/11
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NOTICE OF DEPARTMENT FINDINGS

State of Kansas
Department for Children and Families
Prevention and Protection Services

Date of Mailing: 7 / 10 / 2015 DCF Office: Topeka

TO: Amelia Schwab FROM: Katelyn Staab
TELEPHONE #: 785-296-8718
ADDRESS: 500 SW Van Buren
Street/P.O. Box
City Topeka State KS
ZIP 80538 ZIP 66603

The Kansas Department for Children and Families has completed an investigation of a report dated: 4/26/2015

The following decisions have been made:

Child's Name	Allegation	Findings	Alleged Perpetrator(s) OR Substantiated Perpetrator(s)
[REDACTED]	Emotional Abuse	Unsubstantiated	Amelia Schwab/Raymond Schwab
[REDACTED]	Emotional Abuse	Unsubstantiated	Amelia Schwab/Raymond Schwab
[REDACTED]	Emotional Abuse	Unsubstantiated	Amelia Schwab/Raymond Schwab
[REDACTED]	Emotional Abuse	Unsubstantiated	Amelia Schwab/Raymond Schwab
[REDACTED]	Emotional Abuse	Unsubstantiated	Amelia Schwab/Raymond Schwab

*NOTE TO SUBSTANTIATED PERPETRATORS: Substantiated Perpetrators have the opportunity to appeal agency findings. If a substantiated perpetrator does not appeal or the appeal is unsuccessful, the substantiated perpetrator's name will be placed on the Kansas Child Abuse/Neglect Central Register. Perpetrators who appear on the Central Registry are prohibited from working in child care facilities.

Allegations found Unsubstantiated, yet children still held by DCF. Source: Schwab family.

[View Post](#)

DCF – “Only 4% of Removals Substantiated”

According to the [Topeka Capitol-Journal](#), a DCF spokesperson made a statement about substantiation that should be alarming to every parent in the state of Kansas:

Determining whether an allegation is true is separate from a recommendation to remove children from the home, said Theresa Freed, communications director for DCF. Though an unsubstantiated finding that doesn't lead to a parent getting their child back may be confusing, Freed said, substantiated findings account for only 4 percent of the removals the agency handles.

Freed openly admits that 96% of the children kidnapped by Kansas child protective services are for allegations that are NOT substantiated, begging the question, do any parents in Kansas have their Constitutional rights upheld which secure the right to due process and to be free from unlawful search and seizure of their children?

Evidence Only That Allegations Were Made, Not That They Were True

According to Appeal documents, there was never any evidence given by the state that the children were at risk of harm. Incredibly, the testimony presented by Officer Carla Schwartz, now retired, shows that she took the children into custody after merely listening to the allegations, without investigation of the parents' home or attempting to speak with the parents:

The State presented zero evidence that the allegations were true, only that they were made. (Source: Appeal documents)

The case is now, according to the Schwabs, all about the fact that he has used medical marijuana. Even though it is legal in his now-home state of Colorado, he has chosen to stop treating his PTSD with cannabis in order to have the clean urine tests demanded by DCF. He hopes that his condition will not get worse without treatment, but he has definitely been willing to take that risk for the sake of his children.

Family Is Being Torn Apart

But their children are still not home. The Schwabs report that they have only been permitted to visit their children on 6 occasions in almost a year. Their oldest son is devastated by not being able to see his siblings. They have always been a very close-knit family, yet DCF is alienating the siblings from each other as well as from their parents.



Schwab family – happy together. Source: Schwab family.

Even when they do visit, or on their supervised once-a-week phone calls, the Schwabs say that they aren't able to really communicate and talk to their children normally. Their visits can be terminated if anyone talks about what is really going on in their lives or about being separated.

Amelia, the mother, tells Health Impact News:

You've got to talk about the weather and such. You can't really talk to your kids.

Raymond Schwab refers to himself as a Jewish Christian. They are a Christian family, and they celebrate the Jewish holidays as well. Their children reportedly are no longer allowed to celebrate Jewish holidays, nor are they allowed to

go to church. They have been allegedly told that they don't need to pray.

Unreasonable “Permanency Plan”

After 8 months of the children being in state custody, the family was finally given a “permanency plan” to follow. As many families have reported to Health Impact News, the safety plans and permanency plans are often only an illusion of the state working toward reunification of families.

One example of an unreasonable requirement in the Schwabs' plan is the requirement that Raymond participate in a “Batterers Intervention Course.” There are several problems with this, the most glaring of which is that there have been no allegations of physical abuse. This is a 46 week course which the parents are required to pay for, but it is not even available in the state where the Schwabs live.

The children have been away from their parents for 11 months, yet the parents had no plan from the state to work on until 3 months ago. Most of the requirements are for “services” that logistically could not have been accomplished in time for their latest court hearing, even if they lived in Kansas.

The Schwabs are currently representing themselves pro se. Part of the reason is so that they can legally access all of the documents regarding their case. However, this is not happening. He reports that he was permitted to read some documents, but was escorted to the courthouse by armed police officers, and forbidden to make any copies of anything he read.

DCF Goals and Family Goals Are NOT the Same

At the latest court hearing, the judge mentioned possible termination of parental rights, and reportedly told the caseworkers that they were doing a great job. Raymond Schwab points out that the judge's idea of a "good job" and the public's idea of a "good job" are two different things. The case workers have not been working toward reintegration of the family, but toward severing the relationships between the family. Raymond says:

We think they're talking about the same thing we are, and we're not. If you just understand that their goal is to steal the children, then it makes perfect sense.

See:

[Child Kidnapping and Trafficking: A Lucrative U.S. Business Funded by Taxpayers](#)

DCF Says Parents Are Misleading the Public

DCF officials told the Topeka Capitol-Journal that the accusations against them are inaccurate, stating that:

If Mr. Schwab's interest is in the truth, he is welcome to sign a release to anyone in the public who wishes to gain more information.

Family WANTS Documents to Be Made Public

Raymond tells Health Impact News that he doesn't know what information they could be referring to, since they have repeatedly denied him access to documents. He has now reportedly signed a power of attorney and a release for former gubernatorial candidate and family advocate against CPS corruption, Jennifer Winn, so that she can have full access to all the documents. He is hopeful that she may be able to access documentation denied to him.



Raymond and Amelia Schwab have been to the state capitol numerous times to fight for their children. Source: Schwab family.

Before he signed the releases, Raymond and Amelia Schwab released this statement in response to the DCF statement:

My wife and I are thankful that DCF is so committed to releasing the truth as we are. We also agree that there needs

to be a level of privacy and safety for children concerning sensitive issues such as child abuse.

I have released to the Topeka Capital Journal the findings from DCF that ALL allegations were unsubstantiated against us. Since DCF, District Attorney Barry Wilkerson, and Judge Bosch refuse to give me ALL documents pertaining to our case, even though I am representing myself, I cannot say what DCF claims we are hiding.

We have never said this case is about Cannabis alone. It was based on false allegations of abuse, which the DCF report said were unsubstantiated, then told us that lack of substantiation meant nothing and we had to stop our legal Cannabis Therapy in our home State in order to even visit or get our children back. This we have done as we currently have visited our children after submitting clean UA's.

So this is about Cannabis. When I confronted Governor Brownback today and begged for my children back he stated that since the allegations were unsubstantiated we would get our children back. When I informed him that finding was issued in July of 2015 he said he could not control the courts and walked away.

DCF claim my children are safer in their care, but they have been abused with multiple hotline report of sexual and physical abuse filed while in DCF custody. They are hiding the actual reports from us while telling us on the phone it did happen but they cannot give me details.

How is that safer? I would be happy to release those reports to the press if DCF would stop hiding them from me and obey the law. We will sign a power of attorney as well as a release for former gubernatorial candidate Jennifer Winn to have

access to all court records, reports and any other evidence DCF allegedly have under the condition she will not be legally pursued by Kansas for releasing her findings.

If Mrs. Winn, after reviewing all the records confirms DCF's claim of dishonesty I will immediately stop my hunger strike. If they will not allow her to view the court records and documents; then they can bring my children to the Capital so we can go home and heal. We will see if DCF really is interested in transparency and truth.

Raymond and Amelia Schwab

Former Gubernatorial Candidate Jennifer Winn Responds

Jennifer Winn [posted](#) Wednesday on Facebook that she now has power of attorney:

I am now the official power of attorney over Raymond and Amelia Schwabs children.

I am hereby giving public notice to Governor Brownback, DCF, St. Francis, Judge Bosch and Pathway Family Services located at 4101 SW Martin Drive. Suite B. Topeka, Kansas 66609 you do NOT have the authority to medicate Raymond and Amelia Schwab's 13 year old son Caleb Karl Schwab DOB-07-16-03 under any circumstance with mind altering drugs. Should you continue to force feed this child any mind altering medication, your company and ANY personnel performing this task will be in violation of my consent and you will be held accountable in a court of law.

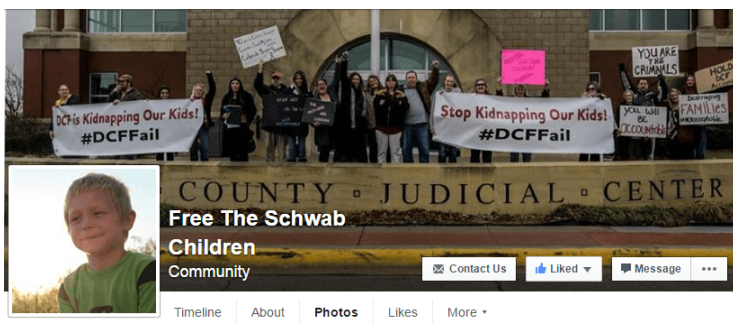
Hunger Strike Continues

Until then, or until his children are returned, Raymond Schwab remains on a hunger fast. When we spoke with him, he said that he is hungry, but he is not giving up.

I don't have any other choice. They're not listening.

What You Can Do

[Free the Schwab Children](#) is a Facebook page set up for supporters to follow the story and encourage the family. Supporters are welcome to join Raymond and Amelia Schwab at the Kansas State Capitol in Topeka, because they plan to be there every day until this is resolved.



Source.

Governor Brownback has reportedly denied that he can do anything about this, but his opponent Jennifer Winn vehemently disagrees. See her video:

<https://www.facebook.com/715476538505042/videos/1166108656775159/>

Governor Brownback may be reached at 785-296-3232, or contacted [here](#). He is also on [Facebook](#) and on [Twitter](#).

The following people can also be contacted, at the request of the parents:

DCF-Chief of Staff – Wm. Jeff Kahrs 785-296-3271

DCF Communications Director – Theresa Freed
785-296-3271

Name: Barry Wilkerson

Title: Riley County Attorney

Phone: 785-537-6390

Judge John F. Bosch

Clerk of the Court – Katherine J. Oliver

Ph: 785-537-6371

The Kansas legislature goes on a month long break on March 25.



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Veteran Dad on Hunger Strike Arrested with No Charges - Kept Naked in Dirty Cell



Raymond Schwab is arrested. Source: Schwab family.

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

A Navy veteran father was arrested on Day 11 of a Hunger Strike at the Kansas Capitol building on Thursday, March 24th, on a warrant for charges that no one seems to know

anything about.

Raymond Schwab and his supporters believe that his arrest is about “retaliation” and “intimidation” because he has been publicly fighting to get his children back since they were legally kidnapped by Child Protective Services and abused while in state custody.

After spending a night in jail that he says “was like being in hell,” Raymond was released Friday afternoon.

The treatment that he describes after being arrested is shocking.

See original story:

[Navy Dad Goes on Hunger Strike in Kansas Until State-Kidnapped Children are Returned or He Starves to Death](#)

Shortly after Raymond arrived on the north steps of the Capitol building, where he was prepared to camp out until the release of his children, Capitol police arrived and told him that they had a warrant for his arrest. The warrant is reportedly for criminal trespassing and criminal damage, and supposedly dates back to 2015.

However, to date, neither Raymond, his wife, or his advocate, former gubernatorial candidate Jennifer Winn, have been able to get any answers as to when or where the offenses allegedly happened or who reported them. They are still in the dark.



Source: Schwab family.

Once Raymond Schwab was arrested, officers first took him to a nearby hospital to be checked out. He reports that they tried to compel him to eat, but he refused, because he is continuing his hunger strike. Once he was medically cleared, he was taken to jail.

Health Impact News spoke with Raymond shortly after his release on Friday. He had not yet had a shower and was desperate to get clean after the deplorable conditions he faced in the jail. He reported that he was stripped naked and forced to remain in that condition in a filthy, cold room for the duration of his stay. There was “urine everywhere” and blood on the mattress. There was a hole in the floor where prisoners are expected to urinate. He later wrote on his Facebook:

They didn't break me by the grace of God but they refused phone calls. And I stayed stripped naked in a urine filled room for my own safety.

He said that they had him on a “hunger strike protocol – whatever that is” and that they kept trying to say that he was suicidal. He wasn't, but he admits to having some pretty dark moments in that cell. Officers continued to try to make him eat, but he remained committed to the hunger strike. Raymond called the actions of the police “pure political intimidation,” and says that it was “psychological warfare” to try to break him or get him to eat.

In the darkest moments, he decided to pray. As he began praying, like Paul and Silas in the Book of Acts, he felt strength return. He was determined not to allow those who jailed him to break him. Though the police refused to honor his request for a Bible, he kept praying, and then began preaching in jail to those around him.

By 10:30am Friday morning, officers told him that he was leaving at 2:30pm.

Futile Attempts to Post Bond

Meanwhile, his wife Amelia and advocate Jennifer Winn were working to get him bailed out. They had been told that he was to appear before a judge at 10am, but the arraignment got moved to 3pm. However, the ladies were told that it had been moved to Monday. Jennifer Winn tried for hours to post a \$5000 bond to get him out, but she was reportedly being stonewalled at every turn. She spoke with Captain Dean at the Capitol police who couldn't tell them anything about the charges – where they supposedly occurred or who filed the charges.

Ultimately, the bond money was not needed, and Raymond was released on his own recognizance. While Amelia and Jennifer were still working to post the bond, Raymond was transported to appear before the judge. Though some local media had been alerted and were there for the 3pm appearance, no one notified Mrs. Schwab.

Prosecutor Not Sure if They Are Pressing Charges

After all that Raymond had just experienced, he was floored by the responses of the prosecutor in court. Schwab asked what the address was where the alleged crime supposedly occurred and who the victim was. The prosecutor reportedly replied:

We don't have that information.

The prosecutor also reportedly told the judge:

We need to file a continuance, Your Honor, because we're not even sure if we're pressing charges.

Raymond told them he does not want a continuance; if they have any charges they want to press, he wanted a jury trial. Trial is now set for April 26.

Retaliation Against Jennifer Winn?

Jennifer Winn believes that the state is retaliating against her as well for her involvement in exposing the corruption of the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF). Her son Kyler Carriker is presently on probation for telling someone where they could purchase marijuana. This week he was suddenly informed that the state is appealing his sentence, and will attempt to have him imprisoned for five years, even though he is fully compliant with all the demands of his probation.



Source: [Jennifer Winn for Kansas](#) Facebook page.

The former gubernatorial candidate has been actively involved with the Schwabs and fighting for them to get their children back. The couple appointed her as power of attorney over their children since Child Protective Services recently informed them that they were sending their 13 year old son to a psych ward and placing him on dangerous psychotropic drugs. She has denied permission for the drugs, and is calling for his release. Regarding the recent events, she tells Health Impact News:

I never thought in my wildest dreams that this was possible

in America.

DCF Refuses to Release Documents

DCF recently told the [Topeka-Kansas Journal](#) that Raymond Schwabs' claims that this is about his medical marijuana use as a veteran for his PTSD are false, and that there is more to the story. The children were taken from their parents in April 2015 based on allegations that were determined 3 months later to be "unsubstantiated." Yet the children remain in state custody. A DCF spokesperson told the Topeka-Kansas Journal:

Determining whether an allegation is true is separate from a recommendation to remove children from the home, said Theresa Freed, communications director for DCF. Though an unsubstantiated finding that doesn't lead to a parent getting their child back may be confusing, Freed said, substantiated findings account for only 4 percent of the removals the agency handles.

DCF has maintained that there are other reasons besides the unsubstantiated claims and the father's medical marijuana use behind their still being in state custody; however, they have refused to release documents to refute the Schwabs' claims. After DCF called Raymond Schwab out on this last week, he asked for the documents to show what their reasoning was. They refused to release those documents, so the Schwabs signed a release for Jennifer Winn to have access to all of the documents, saying that Raymond would cease the hunger strike if there were any legitimate reasons discovered in the documents for the state to keep his children.

Apparently, the claims by DCF have been “smoke and mirrors,” because they continue to stonewall every effort by Jennifer Winn to obtain the documents and expose the truth. Despite having ample opportunity to release the documents, they allegedly still refuse.



Schwab family before DCF involvement. Source: Schwab family.

Meanwhile, the Schwab’s children suffer. Their 13 year old is allegedly in a psych ward unnecessarily, separated from everyone he knows. According to emails that DCF sent to the Schwabs, there are substantiated allegations of sexual abuse against their 5 year old daughter, and substantiated allegations of abuse against another one of their boys.

Hunger Strike Continues – Public Invited to Stand With Schwab

Saturday marks Day 13 of Raymond Schwab's Hunger Strike. He has obtained permission from the state to camp out on the North Capitol steps for the next 30 days. He invites the public to stand with him, beginning at 12:01pm on Saturday, March 26.

Office of Facilities & Procurement Management
800 S.W. Jackson St., Room 600
Topeka, KS 66612



Phone: (785) 296-8070
Fax: (785) 296-3456
mark.mcgivern@da.ks.gov
http://da.ks.gov/fm

Sarah L. Shipman, Secretary
Mark J. McGivern, Director

Sam Brownback, Governor

--	--	--

March 24, 2016

Raymond Schwab
524 Shephard Way
Loveland, CO 80538
Delivered via E-mail

Dear Mr. Schwab:

Your request to use the North Capitol steps is approved. You have indicated an indefinite ending time. We require a definite ending date so we will be glad to approve this request for 30 days. The ending date will be listed as Saturday, April 23, 2016. You are welcome to contact us towards the end of the 30 days to request an additional 30 days. We will review your request and if there are no other approved events for that location we will approve your request. You are approved to be located on the North Steps beginning Friday, March 25, 2016 at 12:01 pm through Saturday, April 23, 2016.

All persons participating in your event are expected to follow the requirements of personal conduct outlined in the policy and on the enclosed sheet. Upon leaving the area, please check to make sure the area is left in the same manner as it was when you arrived. Should you have any questions, please feel free to e-mail me at Kathleen.Williams@da.ks.gov or call me at 785-296-7909.

Sincerely,

Source: Raymond Schwab.

Press Conference

Jennifer Winn has announced that they will be holding a

press conference next week:

Raymond Schwab, the Colorado veteran who has been on a hunger strike in an effort to have his children returned to him by the state of Kansas will hold a press conference to make a major announcement in his case this Wednesday, March 20, at 11am, on the South Steps of the Capitol Building in Topeka, Kansas.

Raymond will be joined by Wichita activist Jennifer Winn, and Cheryl Shuman, Founder of the Beverly Hills Cannabis Club. Shuman will be coming in from California, and is one of the leading voices for cannabis reform in the United States.

Contact Jennifer Winn

316-207-9343

winn_enterprise@hotmail.com

Upcoming March for Families

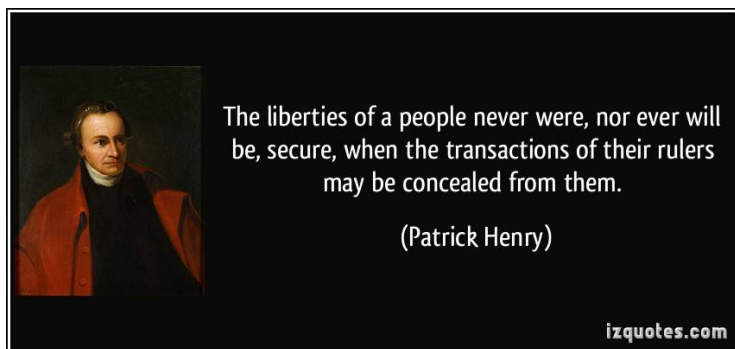
On Friday, April 1, there will be a rally and a march at the state capitol, beginning at 11am. All families who have suffered at the hands of DCF through legal kidnapping or medical kidnapping are invited, as well as those who support these families. Those wanting to see cannabis law reform are also invited to join them in the [“Fools No More” March](#):

Join us for a march on the Topeka Capital to let our legislators know we are concerned and demanding change of the current family services.

Not Backing Down

Raymond Schwab recognizes that his is just one of many families who are being ripped apart by corrupt forces within the Kansas DCF system, and that he speaks for many when he says that things have to change. He sees that there are forces in Kansas which are pushing back hard, who seemingly would like nothing better than to see himself and Jennifer Winn go away. They both assure Health Impact News that “that is not going to happen.”

The “confidentiality” that is purportedly in place to protect the children has become a tool for the family courts and DCF to hide behind, allowing corruption to continue unchecked.



Source: izquotes.com.

They have no intention of backing down, as they stand for families across Kansas, and all across the nation. Jennifer says:

I will not sit back and let this kind of thing go on.

She believes that the prohibition on marijuana use has

filtered down to DCF and is behind much of the legal kidnapping that they do. She quoted these verses from Isaiah 10: 1-4, which are a stern warning to governmental officials who should stand for justice, but refuse:

*Woe to those who make unjust laws,
to those who issue oppressive decrees,
2 to deprive the poor of their rights
and withhold justice from the oppressed of my people,
making widows their prey
and robbing the fatherless.
3 What will you do on the day of reckoning,
when disaster comes from afar?
To whom will you run for help?
Where will you leave your riches?
4 Nothing will remain but to cringe among the captives
or fall among the slain.*

*Yet for all this, his anger is not turned away,
his hand is still upraised.*

Kansas Dad Ends Hunger Strike - Federal Lawsuit Filed To Return His Children



Schwab family Press Conference at Kansas State Capitol.

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

The hunger strike is over for Navy veteran dad Raymond Schwab, and a federal lawsuit has been filed against Kansas DCF for their role in kidnapping his children and holding them in state custody long past the time when the allegations against the parents were found to be unsubstantiated.

But the battle is far from over. His children are not yet home, and thousands of children in Kansas and around the United States remain separated from their families without any evidence that the allegations are even legitimate. He fights

for these children and others who are in the foster care system simply because a parent has used medical marijuana.

Press Conference – Federal Lawsuit Filed

Raymond and his wife Amelia were joined on the steps of the Kansas capitol on Wednesday by dozens of supporters and media personnel for a press conference at 11am. Speakers included former Kansas gubernatorial candidate Jennifer Winn, Cheryl Shuman, Founder of the Beverly Hills Cannabis Club and one of the leading voices for cannabis reform in the United States, and California civil rights attorney Matt Pappas.

Amidst cheers and applause, Matt Pappas announced that on Wednesday a federal lawsuit has been filed in Kansas district court on behalf of the Schwab family against Kansas DCF, seeking an order—for DCF to return the Schwab children to their family—from the federal court.



Civil Rights Attorney Matt Pappas arrives in Kansas from California. Source: [Jennifer Winn for Kansas](#) Facebook page.

Hunger Strike Ends

The filing of a federal lawsuit was one of the possible outcomes that Raymond Schwab sought at the beginning of his hunger strike. Though he would have preferred that DCF simply return his children, Schwab indicated that the lawsuit was an acceptable outcome for the time being, and he has ended his hunger strike.

After the press conference and interviews with numerous reporters, Raymond broke his 17 day fast at a nearby restaurant with his wife and supporters where he enjoyed egg drop soup. He and Amelia plan to be back on the steps of the capitol building until such time as their children are returned to them.

Cannabis Reform Activist Fights for Families

Cheryl Shuman spoke to media at the press conference about the “Kids for Cash” program, whereby state governments seize children and line state coffers with money they receive from the federal government for taking children.

What they do is they literally take these children, they kidnap these children basically, because their departments get bonuses for all of the children that they place into foster care, and you know what? They're not giving the children back. That's a very big problem.

<https://youtu.be/rGWcgTwOiac>

She described the plight of veterans who come back from war with injuries and trauma, and are prescribed opiate pain-killers. This can lead to addiction. She says there has to be a better way to take care of our veterans.

Often the children who are taken from their parents and go into foster care are raped, molested, abused or even killed in foster care. Shuman continues:

I can also show you psychological studies that can prove that children are in far greater danger being placed in foster care

and losing that bond with their families. They suffer psychological damage truly for their entire lives after that. Is that really what we want for our children? No. I don't think so.

Cheryl Shuman describes how families such as the Schwabs are caught in the crossfire of the conflict between state laws about medical marijuana. Raymond Schwab is perfectly legal to treat his conditions with medical marijuana in Colorado, where he lives, but his children are in Kansas custody, where it is illegal.

Her intent is to utilize grassroots and social media and media to bring about change and to bring about the mission of bringing the Schwab's children, and other children like them, home.

Winn – Children Seized for No Reason Must End!

Jennifer Winn gave an impassioned plea for the public to understand the gravity of the situation in Kansas, quoting DCF spokesperson Theresa Freed, who openly stated that only 4% of the children they remove from homes are removed on grounds that are substantiated. The Schwabs are just the tip of the iceberg. Jennifer Winn asks the audience:

Let me get this straight. We have 6000 children right now in custody, and DCF openly stated that 96% of them are unsubstantiated abuse? And every American and every veteran is not on these steps? What are we doing?? That is absolutely sick! That is no longer going to be tolerated...

https://youtu.be/_f9ssmbYJRU

Rally and March on Friday, April 1

There will be a rally and a march beginning at the south steps of the Kansas state capitol in Topeka, Kansas, on Friday, April 1, at 11am to draw attention to the injustices faced by many innocent families. The rally is titled “Fools No More!” and is a testament to the fact that parents and activists are waking up and refusing to stand for the unconstitutional seizure of children and the unconstitutional silencing of parents and activists.

Activists are calling for people everywhere to join them from 11am to 1pm to “make some noise” and rally on behalf of families whose children have been taken by child protective services and face injustice in the family court system, as well as on behalf of veterans and others who are medical marijuana patients and their right to access medicine. They hope to get the attention of legislators whom they say have been refusing to listen. See more about the event at the Facebook page – [Fools No More!](#)

See previous coverage of this story:

[Navy Dad Goes on Hunger Strike in Kansas Until State-Kidnapped Children are Returned or He Starves to Death](#)

[Veteran Dad on Hunger Strike Arrested with No Charges – Kept Naked in Dirty Cell](#)



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Wife of Hunger Strike Dad Arrested in Kansas While Protesting to Have Kidnapped Children Returned



Amelia Schwab on the capitol steps fighting for her children.
Source: Schwab family.

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

Just before 11:30 am on Saturday morning, police arrested Amelia Schwab, wife of Raymond Schwab, who is the Navy veteran dad who went on a 17 day hunger strike at the Kansas state capitol in an effort to get their children free from child protective services custody. The strike ended only as a federal lawsuit was filed against Kansas DCF (Department for Children and Families).

Kansas Dad Ends Hunger Strike – Federal Lawsuit Filed To Return His Children

Raymond and Amelia and some of their supporters have been spending time at a local cafe which has wi-fi access. Amelia had just left from there when police pulled her over to arrest her. Raymond speculates that they may have been trying to see if there was any marijuana in the car. (There wasn't.)

Health Impact News called the police department, which confirmed that Amelia Schwab has been arrested on a bench warrant for a battery charge, dated May 11, 2015. Her bond is \$674.

Interestingly, the police appear to have learned about the bench warrant from an anonymous tip, according to Raymond Schwab.

When we spoke with Raymond, he said that this was around the same time as the bogus charges that he was arrested for recently. No charges were ever actually filed against him, and he was released on his own recognizance after spending a brutal night in jail on March 24. He sees the arrest of his wife as further harassment and intimidation, and the trumping up of bogus charges.

See:

Veteran Dad on Hunger Strike Arrested with No Charges – Kept Naked in Dirty Cell



Source: Schwab family.

Raymond and Amelia have been camping out on the capitol steps for weeks. He questions the timing of her arrest. If they actually had a valid reason to arrest her,

why wait until now?

The DailyHaze.com [posted a video of her arrest.](#)

According to the DailyHaze, there was a ruling in Wednesday's permanency hearing that Raymond Schwab

would be permitted to use medical marijuana to treat his PTSD from his time served in the military, as long as he does not do so in the state of Kansas. In his home state of Colorado, it is legal.

Excerpts:

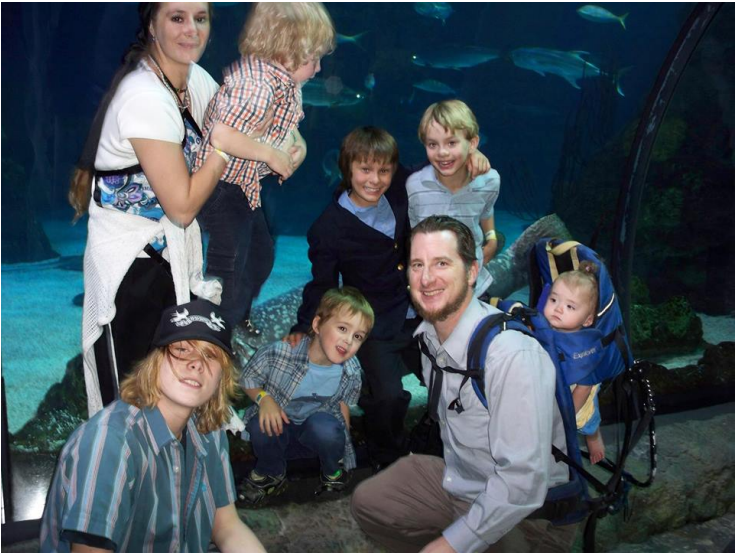
Today's trial was a cruel reminder of the intimidation tactics used against parents in this situation. DCF had just over two dozen people allowed to go in the courtroom while the Schwab's were not even allowed Jennifer Winn, who is Raymond's power of attorney.

The trial did not bring the Schwab's any closer to getting their children back, but it was a step forward for their visitation. The trial also did not change any of the current circumstances. The Schwab's will continue to live on the capitol steps, and the chance of intervention from the Native Americans is a real possibility.

The one thing that is known, the Schwab's do not plan on stepping down from this fight against the State of Kansas.

Read the full story at DailyHaze.com.

Raymond and Amelia Schwab are loving parents who just want to get their children back home. DCF seized custody of their children in April 2015 on false allegations. By June 2015, all allegations against them were found to be "unsubstantiated." However, DCF did not return their children.



The Schwab family before DCF. Source: [Free the Schwab Children](#) Facebook page.

In fact, in a shocking statement, DCF spokesperson Theresa Freed boasted that substantiation of allegations was really not necessary for the state to remove children from their families and keep them in state custody, saying that only 4% of removals of children in Kansas were based on substantiated allegations.

See the original story on the kidnapping of the Schwab children:

[Navy Dad Goes on Hunger Strike in Kansas Until State-Kidnapped Children are Returned or He Starves to Death](#)

The Schwabs' 5 year old little girl has been sexually assaulted

in state care, and 2 of the Schwab's have been abused, while under the "protection" of Kansas Child Protective Services under DCF. Unlike the allegations against the parents, those allegations of abuse have been substantiated.

Their 13 year old son is currently being held against his and his family's wishes in a mental health facility, where he was recently punched in the face. In a letter to the parents who are fighting with all they have to get their children free, DCF told the parents not to worry because the state would replace the glasses broken in the assault. There was no apology or compassion for the fact that the child had been assaulted.

The protest against Kansas DCF is growing, and corruption within the system is daily being exposed. One has to wonder if that is what Amelia Schwab's arrest is really about. Her husband knows of no valid reason that his wife could have charges against her.



Press conference for the Schwab family. People are rallying around the family to expose DCF. Source: [YouTube video](#) of rally.

Children Taken from Military Dad Using Medical Marijuana for PTSD to be Returned



Schwab family together at a visit last spring. Photo source: Schwab family.

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

Tuesday, December 13th, was a day of victory for the Schwab family, and their advocate Jennifer Winn is calling it “a

miracle.”

When Raymond and Amelia Schwab walked into the Riley County Courthouse in Kansas Tuesday morning, it looked like they were going to lose their children. Child Protective Services’ social workers had made it clear that they were pushing for termination of parental rights during the 3 day permanency hearing.

Instead, the judge ruled that there will be no termination, but instead, they are to be reunified with their children.

Raymond Schwab told *Health Impact News*:

They really were attempting to terminate, and they failed.

It has been 18 long months since 5 of their 6 children were first seized by Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) over false allegations. (Their oldest was already of age.) Raymond, a Navy Gulf War veteran, went on a hunger strike last spring in the hopes of getting his children home.

Like many military veterans, Raymond suffered from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), and when pharmaceutical products were used to treat his symptoms, he developed a heroin addiction. He was prescribed medical marijuana to break his heroin addiction, and the family was living in Colorado homeschooling their children where medical marijuana is legal. The family was happy, and Raymond had successfully returned to the work force.



Raymond Schwab was arrested in Kansas earlier this year while protesting the removal of his children. He was allegedly kept naked in a dirty cell overnight. ([Story.](#))

But while visiting Kansas where marijuana is not legal, false allegations led to CPS taking custody of their children. The Schwab family case gained national media attention over the civil rights of military veterans and medical marijuana users.

Raymond reports that the judge on Tuesday “believed that our children deserved their parents.” He wants an ICPC – Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children – to be completed within 6 months. This will require a home study of the parents’ home in Colorado to be completed, and then

the children will be turned over to Colorado. The number of visitations will increase prior to that, with the goal of unsupervised visitation soon.

Reunification, unfortunately, usually does not happen immediately when children are in the foster care system. Even though they were abruptly seized from their parents and their homes, generally reunification of families takes place over the course of several months.

See original story:

[Navy Dad Goes on Hunger Strike in Kansas Until State-Kidnapped Children are Returned or He Starves to Death](#)



Raymond and Amelia Schwab on the first day of the 17 day hunger strike. Photo source: Schwab family.

The strike ended after 17 days when a federal lawsuit was filed against DCF.

Kansas Dad Ends Hunger Strike - Federal Lawsuit Filed To Return His Children

The couple have fought long and hard, not only for their own children, but also to expose the corruption that they found in Kansas family courts, corruption that affects thousands of families across the state. Raymond says that several things came together for their victory this week. The court and DCF are getting pressure on many fronts. There is pending litigation in federal court. Their case plan has been completed. Congressmen have been calling for accountability and for the firing of some officials within the DCF system.



Advocate Jennifer Winn and a giddy Raymond Schwab celebrate victory. Source: Facebook Livestream [video](#).

The Schwabs also have an attorney, Jennifer Chaffee, whom they say is actually doing her job. She reportedly reviewed the evidence in their case and saw for herself that numerous civil rights were being violated. Raymond says:

Everything was failing before because nobody was doing their job.

Social workers were caught lying to the court, and people were illegally signing documents for the Schwab children.

There were numerous biases of the social workers, as well as conflicts of interests. Previous court-appointed attorneys failed to present evidence and file appropriate motions. The Schwabs believe that all that was business-as-usual for DCF, who is “so used to being unconstitutional” that they didn’t know how to act when they were challenged. This is consistent with the testimonies of hundreds of other parents who have contacted *Health Impact News*. It is almost as if those in the system are in their own little bubble and have forgotten all concept of right and wrong.

We realized it was bad, says Raymond, but we didn’t realize it was this bad.

“First and foremost,” Raymond and Amelia give glory to God for their victory in court.

People need to understand that this is a spiritual war [for our children].

In a celebratory livestream video after court, advocate Jennifer Winn pointed out that, when child protective services gets involved with a family illegally or unjustly:

It’s not just the adults who suffer; it’s the children.

Raymond Schwab spoke of his long beard and long hair. He stated that he is not shaving or cutting his hair until his kids are home, as a visible sign to them and to the world of how long he and his wife have fought to bring their children back

home. They hope that it will happen soon, but they are not letting their guard down.

The Schwabs offer this counsel to other parents in the battle to get their children home:

Don't ever stop fighting, even if they're terminated, let's all work together to find out ways to help one another.... Never give up Continue to protect your rights. If their lips are moving, they're probably lying.

Other coverage of the Schwab family story:

[Veteran Dad on Hunger Strike Arrested with No Charges - Kept Naked in Dirty Cell](#)

[Wife of Hunger Strike Dad Arrested in Kansas While Protesting to Have Kidnapped Children Returned](#)

Missouri Hospital Refuses Transfer of Sick Baby - Kidnaps Kansas Couple's Newborn Child



Brianne and baby Serenity in the NICU at Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City, Missouri. Photo provided by family.

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

Baby Serenity decided to make her arrival about 4 weeks ahead of time, catching her parents, Brianne and Jason Glazier off guard. The couple were in the middle of moving from Kansas to Illinois, and her father had gone ahead a couple weeks before to get things set up at their new apartment to get ready for her arrival.

Brianne never made it there.

She went into labor early, and Serenity was born in a Kansas hospital on September 15, 2016.

Jason rushed back to Kansas for what should have been a happy occasion, but it has turned into a nightmare for the new family.

Now, the couple are fighting Child Protective Services in a third state – Missouri – to try to bring their baby home.

Their newborn daughter was born with a heart defect, called Tetralogy of Fallot, as well as other birth defects. The hospital she was born in transferred her to another Kansas hospital, which immediately transferred her to [Children's Mercy Hospital](#) in Kansas City, Missouri.

The frightened parents found themselves in a strange city, in a state where they had no connections, and they were faced with doctors and staff who they say were not telling them what was going on with their baby. They told the staff that they wanted to transfer their baby to Illinois and arrange for her care in hospitals near their home. Jason tells *Health Impact News* that is when the problems with the hospital began.

With every fiber in my body, I felt like they were hiding something from us.

Parents Try to Transfer Care of Their Sick Baby

This was their first baby. Brianne was attempting to breastfeed, but was not successful. They learned that their baby had heart problems, and various tests were being run to find out more about her condition.



Baby Serenity just wants her mommy and daddy. Photo courtesy of Glazier family.

After a couple weeks of a great deal of uncertainty and fear for their baby, Jason grew increasingly frustrated. They had asked to transfer to Illinois, simply because that was where their home was, but Jason says it became clear to them that

the Kansas hospital had no desire to let go of Serenity.

Children's Mercy Hospital in Kansas City was the hospital involved in one of the very first stories covered by *Medical Kidnap*, after a parent asked for a second medical opinion:

Eight year old Jaxon Taken By Hospital When Parents Ask For Second Opinion

According to [Mayo Clinic](#), Tetralogy of Fallot "is a rare condition caused by a combination of four heart defects that are present at birth. These defects, which affect the structure of the heart, cause oxygen-poor blood to flow out of the heart and to the rest of the body."

Serenity has a rare form of Tetralogy of Fallot which includes pulmonary valve atresia and major aortopulmonary collateral arteries. According to the medical reports, Serenity was born with other congenital defects as well: low set ears, flat nasal bridge, low muscle tone, and a heart murmur. She has [22q11 deletion syndrome](#), a chromosomal disorder where she is missing a small piece of chromosome 22. She also had respiratory distress and hypoglycemia at birth.

The Glaziers learned that the heart defect that their daughter had would likely require more than one heart surgery. Jason says the cost can run about \$300,000 per heart surgery. He believes that Children's Mercy Hospital wanted those surgeries to take place in their hospital rather than in another hospital which would be closer to their home.

The difficulties with the staff at Children's Mercy Hospital, he says, began after they made it clear that they wanted to transfer their daughter's care. Jason told *Health Impact News*:

All this started when I asked for a second medical opinion.

Tensions Mount at Hospital

Any time a parent faces having a child in the NICU, it is a stressful time. Being in a hospital in a strange city during such a difficult time, far from all of their normal support system, can be especially stressful. The couple were staying at the nearby Ronald McDonald house, but they spent a great deal of time at the hospital.

As time wore on, the parents' frustrations increased. They did not feel that they were getting straight answers about their daughter's condition.

A hospital social worker was assigned to work with them. Jason let the social worker know that he is on disability for ADHD, manic depressive disorder, and paranoid schizophrenia.

He was not taking any medications at the time because none that he had previously taken seemed to have any effect, except for side effects.

However, he was managing his condition. He has learned how to recognize his stressors and manages them with various coping strategies which have served him well. He has never hurt anyone as a result. Part of the reason for the move to Illinois was so that he could access better care than he had in Kansas.



Brianne and Jason want the opportunity to parent their baby girl. Photo courtesy of Glazier family.

It was difficult in the hospital setting to make use of his normal coping strategies. One day, there was a screaming child in the cafeteria, and Jason found himself getting stressed out. He crushed his styrofoam cup, and walked out

of the room in order to calm down. That action was perceived as a negative outburst by the hospital staff.

On another occasion, he became frustrated with rules being applied inconsistently to parents in the waiting room, and he exchanged some words with the nursing staff.

The most frustrating thing was that they did not feel that they were getting any answers from the doctors or medical staff. According to a report later given to the court by social workers:

Social worker received a referral from nursing staff that Jason wanted to formally complain about baby's attending physician and request a different doctor. Per staff, Jason expressed frustration with a lack of answers and a discharge plan for the baby. He reportedly used the phrase patient was "being kidnapped" by having to stay here in the hospital. Jason became loud at bedside but reportedly lowered his voice when bedside nurse provided redirection.

Jason admits:

I yelled at the staff because they weren't telling me anything at all. They were keeping all the meetings a secret and not talking to my wife.

He says he could feel himself becoming unstable, and he decided that the wisest course of action would be for him to leave the hospital. He voluntarily placed himself on a 24-hour ban from the hospital.

Baby Seized by Child Protective Services

Children's Mercy Hospital called Missouri Children's Division Abuse and Neglect Hotline Unit, and social workers seized custody of Serenity on October 5. Notably, the hospital did not call law enforcement, because, as they state in their report, it was:

“not warranted at this time as no crime has been committed.”

No safety plan was “deemed necessary” at the time of referral.

Neither Jason nor Brianne has any kind of criminal record or substance abuse history. There is no history of violence. Their records are clean. They were reported to CPS due to the outbursts which were attributed to Jason's mental health.

How many parents with no mental health issues at all might find themselves responding just as Jason did? Were his outbursts a result of mental illness, or simply a reasonable response of a frightened, frustrated parent feeling like he was left in the dark about the most important little person in the world to him?



Baby Serenity has never had the chance to live with her own parents. Photo provided by family.

More importantly, is getting upset with doctors and hospital staff over the care of one's child a valid reason to seize

custody of the child away from the parents?

See:

Does the State Ever Have a “Right” to Remove Children from a Home?

At no time were Jason or Brianne ever abusive toward their baby, yet the Child Protective System has accused the parents, saying that their “actions place the child at risk of further harm or neglect absent the intervention of this court.”

Parents Still Fighting to Get Baby Back

Since baby Serenity was taken from the Glaziers, Children’s Mercy Hospital of Kansas City, Missouri, has performed 3 heart surgeries on Serenity.



Serenity Glazier has had numerous surgeries in state care. Photo provided by family.

She has been placed into foster care with strangers in Kansas City, even though several other relatives have volunteered for kinship placement. Such placements were allegedly not considered by DCF.

Both parents have attempted to comply with the demands of DCF, because they desperately want to get their daughter

back. Jason has been compelled against his will to take medications for his mental conditions, but, as before, he says they aren't making a difference.

Jason and Brianne are court ordered to undergo drug testing, individual counseling, and psychological evaluations and treatment.

They have given up the apartment in Illinois, but are still trying to get their case moved out of Missouri. Their families are in Kansas, and they would like to be there. However, they are stuck in Missouri in order to be closer to their baby. Jason has a job now in Kansas City. They are supposed to have weekly visitation and be able to go with Serenity to doctor visits.

Their plight of having their child stuck in a strange state that they only went to for medical treatment is reminiscent of Missouri residents Michelle Rider and her son Isaiah, who went to Illinois solely for the purpose of medical treatment at Lurie Children's Hospital. Isaiah was medically kidnapped by Illinois DCF, and he remained a prisoner there until well after his 19th birthday.

See articles on Isaiah Rider [here](#).

Their next court date is June 29, 2017, in Kansas City, Missouri. Missouri has refused to relinquish jurisdiction. Jason says that social worker Tracy Sudtelgte told them that they have no intention of transferring the case to Kansas, because it would take 6 months of "tedious paperwork," and they won't do it.



Baby Serenity at Easter. Photo provided by family.

DCF in Violation of Americans with Disabilities Act

Jason has a disability for which he receives a monthly check. According to the Americans with Disabilities Act, social workers and the hospital were supposed to be making

accommodations for his disability. He has seen no sign of any accommodations other than the fact that he himself was appointed a Guardian ad Litem (GAL). However, the GAL is reportedly not helping him at all.

In a 2015 case, the US Department of Justice and the US Department of Health and Human Services ordered that Massachusetts DCF return a child to her mother who was taken due to her mother's disability.

See:

[Feds Order Baby Returned After Massachusetts Kidnaps Baby Due to Mother's Disability](#)

[Disabled Father Denied by State of Tennessee to Father his Own Child](#)

Since Missouri DCF's grounds for taking Serenity from her parents was the allegation that "parental mental illness placed the child at risk of harm," Jason wants to know if an attorney will step up to fight for his civil liberty to parent his child under the ADA (American's with Disabilities Act). He and his wife have never had the opportunity to parent their daughter outside of the hospital. Jason says:

DCF kidnapped my daughter due to my disability. I believe that they're using her for medical practice because of her heart.

My one goal is to make sure my daughter is safe. That's the job of any father.

How You Can Help

Missouri Governor Eric Greitens may be reached at 573 751 3222. He may be contacted [here](#).

Representative Judy Morgan represents the Missouri district where Serenity was taken at Children's Mercy Hospital. She may be reached at 573 751 4485, or contacted [here](#).

Representative Ken Wilson has previously sponsored Isaiah's Law, a bill that would prevent children from being kidnapped by the state when their parents seek a second medical opinion. He may be reached at 573 751 9760, or contacted [here](#).

Senator Jason Holsman is the Senator for the district where the hospital is, and he may be reached at 573 751 6607, or contacted [here](#).

Navy Dad Plans Hunger Strike at White House Over Medically Kidnapped Kids



Raymond and Amelia Schwab during a previous trip to Washington, D.C. When they return, it will be for a hunger strike at the White House. Photo courtesy of the Schwab family.

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

In December, a Kansas judge ordered reunification for the “Hunger Strike Dad” and his children. That hasn’t happened. Though Raymond and Amelia Schwab have done everything the court has ordered them to do, they say that the Kansas Department of Children and Families (DCF) has “sabotaged the whole process.”

The Navy veteran father of 6 has had enough, and he is throwing down the gauntlet. He is making plans now for another hunger strike – this time at the White House – until President Trump acts to investigate the child trafficking by Child Protective Services, or he starves to death in front of the White House.

This is really about all of us, and I’m willing to do that. It’s gotta stop.

See original story:

[Navy Dad Goes on Hunger Strike in Kansas Until State-Kidnapped Children are Returned or He Starves to Death](#)



The Schwabs on Day 1 of the hunger strike in Kansas in March 2016. Photo courtesy of the Schwab family.

Raymond (Seraphim) Schwab [posted](#) a notice Monday on his Facebook page to those involved with the kidnapping of his children. He is fully aware that social workers and those in the DCF system monitor his social media, and this message was aimed toward them:

I AM DONE PLAYING YOUR SICK, CHILD TRAFFICKING GAMES.

I am done with coward attorneys.

I am done. This is it. All...or nothing. Either way your criminal behavior will be on display for the whole world to see.

I am sorry if this causes people distress. I cannot let them kill my children's hope, our family bond, and keep stealing your kids.

It must stop now. The gauntlet is thrown down. May God have mercy on us all.

He then posted the text of an email that he sent to “the governor, St. Francis, Phyllis Gilmore, the Attorney General of Kansas, every caseworker, the Attorney Ad Litem Lora Ingles and her boss Bret Oleen, ADA Bethany Fields and her coward boss Barry Wilkerson and every media contact I have.”

EMAIL:

Calling during a visit is too chaotic and I cannot have meaningful conversations with my children. We need to arrange another call this week.

You guys have til the 20th to fix all this. No matter what scheme you employ, or manipulation of the legal process you continue to engage in, or excuses you have. If I don't have a date of my children's return on June 20th I will immediately go to D.C. and begin my hunger strike. If the court hearing drags on, like the last and the judge schedules the next hearing to interfere with my hunger strike, I just won't come back. June 20th is your day to do what's right. I'm done with your psychotic, lying, criminal games.

So you want to ignore my emails, law, constitutional protections, policy...you better cross your T's and dot your I's because when I go to D.C. I will daily leak documents, call you out by name and stay there until the president gives me

audience to present my evidence or I die. Either way...you will all be known for what you have done. I believe you are wrong enough to lay my life down. I am done playing your games. You need to return my children. You have one day. June 20th. Give me back my children.

Seraphim-Raymond R. Schwab

Health Impact News spoke with Mr. Schwab, who made it clear that he is willing to go the distance, not only for his own family, but also for the thousands of other families who are suffering at the hands of Child Protective Services all across the United States of America.

He said that when his family's ordeal first started, he thought it was about the fact that he used medical marijuana to treat his PTSD from his military service. He realizes now, after speaking with hundreds of other parents and after much research, that this is far bigger than social workers not liking his use of medical marijuana. He alluded to the Clinton's [Adoption and Safe Families Act](#) of 1997 (ASFA), and said that they are seizing and trafficking children "for money and greed."



Part of the Schwab family during a visit. Photo courtesy of the Schwab family.

Trump - “Forgotten No Longer”

The agenda of states to take children, often from innocent families, is inconsistent with President Donald Trump’s inaugural speech on January 20, 2017. On the Facebook event page for the planned hunger strike, “[No Longer Ignored](#),” Raymond Schwab reminds Americans of the President’s speech:

For too long, a small group in our nation’s Capital has reaped

the rewards of government while the people have borne the cost.

Washington flourished – but the people did not share in its wealth.

Politicians prospered – but the jobs left, and the factories closed.

The establishment protected itself, but not the citizens of our country.

Their victories have not been your victories; their triumphs have not been your triumphs; and while they celebrated in our nation's Capital, there was little to celebrate for struggling families all across our land.

That all changes – starting right here, and right now, because this moment is your moment: it belongs to you.

It belongs to everyone gathered here today and everyone watching all across America.

This is your day. This is your celebration.

And this, the United States of America, is your country.

What truly matters is not which party controls our government, but whether our government is controlled by the people.

January 20th, 2017, will be remembered as the day the people became the rulers of this nation again.

The forgotten men and women of our country will be

forgotten no longer.

Everyone is listening to you now.

Schwab then asks the question:

Will we be ignored?

Kansas DCF Refused to Comply with Judge's Orders

On December 13, 2016, a judge ruled that the Schwab children were to be reunified with their parents. The process was to begin for the parents to have unsupervised visits with their children, and for an ICPC – Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children – to be put into place to transfer the children to their parents' home in Colorado.

See:

Children Taken from Military Dad Using Medical Marijuana for PTSD to be Returned

That never happened. Instead, DCF has reportedly sabotaged the process and keeps changing reasons for things not progressing. In May 2017, Kansas DCF informed the Schwabs that the ICPC was denied by Colorado “with zero home study, no contact from Colorado DCF and in clear violation of the Schwab’s right to equal protection under Law.” They have learned that Kansas DCF workers allegedly told Colorado DCF to deny the ICPC.

According to the “[No Longer Ignored](#)” Facebook event page:

The Schwabs have complied, within the boundaries of their Constitutional Rights and Protections, with every violation of their privacy and request from Kansas. Nevertheless DCF, Attorney ad Litem Lora Ingles, Riley County ADAD Bethany Fields and DA Barry Wilkerson, and St. Francis refuse to obey the law, police and procedures and statues which govern these proceedings in their witch hunt against the Schwabs for protesting Kansas’ State Sponsored Child Trafficking, Kids for Cash Agenda.

Raymond says that Kansas DCF has been playing “ridiculous legal games,” (at taxpayers’ expense).

They know that what they are doing is illegal, and they still think they are going to get away with it.

They know how to silence parents. They are NOT going to silence me.



Amelia and Raymond Schwab speaking out for families and their children in Washington, D.C. Photo provided by the Schwab family.

Navy Dad Fights for All American Families

This is bigger than their family. Obviously, the Schwabs want their children to be returned home, but it isn't just their children who have been unjustly taken from their family. There is a much bigger agenda involved, and Raymond says that it must be exposed.

Since posting about the planned hunger strike in Washington, D.C, Raymond's phone has been ringing off the hook. Many different groups, organizations, and individuals fighting against corruption in the family court system have said that they intend to join him in the fight, though not necessarily the hunger strike itself.

Raymond welcomes people to join him, but he warns that

“it’s not going to be easy.” He tearfully acknowledges that this fight is about all of us, and vows not to stop until there is federal intervention or he dies trying.

We have to come together in all our different fronts to put an end to this system that is geared to destroying families. It needs to stop. It’s all the same beast – they are profiting from people in crisis.

If they destroy the American family, we’re all done, and they are doing it for money and greed.

Not Enough for President to Listen; Schwab Wants Action

Raymond Schwab’s goal is to get the ear of President Donald Trump. He wants him to:

1. Order a Justice Department investigation into what the state of Kansas is doing to him and to other families, and
2. Use his executive power to order a complete overhaul of the system, investigating Kids for Cash and family court crimes against families all across the United States of America.

If Kansas DCF does not return his children at the hearing on June 20, Raymond and Amelia Schwab and others will make their way to Washington, D.C. for the Hunger Strike scheduled to begin on June 27 in front of the White House.

He prays that the nation will pay attention.

Judge Orders Children Home in Kansas Case with Navy Dad Who used Medical Cannabis



Part of the Schwab family during a visit. Photo source: [Free the Schwab Children](#) Facebook page.

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

Raymond and Amelia Schwab didn't know what to expect

when they went into a Kansas courtroom on Tuesday, August 15, 2017. The Colorado couple has been fighting to get their children back since the Department for Children and Families (DCF) seized custody of them in April 2015. During that time, they have been told that their parental rights would be terminated, that their children would be returned home, and everything in between.

It has been an emotional roller coaster, and 5 of their 6 children have been in foster care for more than 2 years. (Their oldest son was 19 when his younger siblings were taken and therefore avoided foster care.)

Raymond Schwab (also known as Seraphim), an honorably discharged Navy veteran, and his wife Amelia took to Facebook Live with an update for thousands of their followers, many of whom have been praying for their children to be returned to the family.

The update was a mixture of good news and bad news – the children are supposed to be returned home, just not immediately. They were told that the children should be home by Christmas.

Children Seized Over False Allegations, Which Turned into a Battle over Medicinal Cannabis

The Schwabs have always maintained that their children should never have been taken from them in the first place. As we reported in our original coverage of their story, there were false allegations made against the homeschooling parents. By July 10, less than 3 months after the children were taken, DCF knew that the allegations were unsubstantiated.

See original story, which contains the Notice of Department Findings of the unsubstantiated allegations:

[Navy Dad Goes on Hunger Strike in Kansas Until State-Kidnapped Children are Returned or He Starves to Death](#)



Amelia and Raymond Schwab during a Hunger Strike in March 2016. Photo source: Schwab family.

But by then, the ball was already rolling, and things were spinning out of control. Most parents who have talked to *Health Impact News* have told us that once Child Protective Services gets in their lives, it is very difficult to get them out. They have reported that social workers often go on extensive “fishing expeditions,” searching for any little thing that they can use against the parents, creating narratives if no evidence exists that they will use to paint the parents in the worst possible light, so that the state can retain custody of

the children.

To see why this happens, see:

Child Kidnapping and Trafficking: A Lucrative U.S. Business Funded by Taxpayers Called “Foster Care”

In the Schwabs’ case, social workers thought they found a winner – medical marijuana, a substance which is illegal in the state of Kansas. But the Schwabs broke no laws.

While the Schwabs were residents of Colorado, Raymond discovered that medical cannabis greatly helped his Post Traumatic Stress and pain that he suffered from his military service. Conventional medications were addictive with many undesirable side effects, and the veteran found the medicinal cannabis treatment to be more effective with less side effects. And it was legal in Colorado.

When Raymond’s job required a move to Kansas, he stopped using the marijuana, because it was illegal there. The family was in the process of moving back home to Colorado when DCF became involved. The allegations against Raymond and Amelia were quickly shown to be untrue, but by then, social workers had discovered that Raymond Schwab used the pot when he was in Colorado.

The whole thing became a civil war of sorts over medical marijuana, even though Raymond never broke the law and never used the substance in Kansas. The children were subjected to abuse and psychotropic drugging in foster care, while Kansas DCS and the courts have continued to drag the case out.

Many of the original players in this long, drawn-out saga are no longer in the picture. Following a federal lawsuit, the caseworkers being sued have been removed from the case.

There is new legal counsel in place as well. [Michael Minardi](#) is a Florida attorney who has fought and won numerous medical cannabis cases. He and Wichita attorney Casey Yingling are now working with the Schwabs, along with Topeka attorney Jennifer Chaffee and former Kansas gubernatorial candidate Jennifer Winn.

Termination of Parental Rights “Off the Table”

When Raymond and Amelia arrived at the courtroom last Tuesday, a clerk came in to tell them that there would be no court hearing that day, and that the judge wanted to see the attorneys in his chambers.

<https://youtu.be/jl2CO5rIL6o>

According to Raymond Schwab, the judge basically said:

I don't think anyone's going to argue that reintegration is no longer an option.

Though social workers have threatened and batted around the idea of termination of the Schwabs' parental rights (TPR) for some time, the Schwabs were greatly relieved to learn that the TPR option is now “off the table.”

[The judge] came out and said that we want all the council to

have a meeting to come up with a plan for how we are going to get these kids home.

With tears in his eyes, an emotional Raymond told his supporters:

We're going to get our kids back. ... It's going to happen.

There should be no reason why our kids should not be home for Christmas.

Amelia said, "That's Asher's birthday."

There are still some hoops that the court wants them to jump through, and they have things that they have to get in place in Colorado in order for the children to join them in Colorado. They believe that this part will go by quickly, and that they will begin having unsupervised visitation very soon.



The Schwab family was a very close-knit family before DCF. Photo source: [Free the Schwab Children](#) Facebook page.

Kansas DCF wants the family to immediately begin family counseling, which the Schwabs see as a win, because that is “more time with our children.”

Already they have discovered through family counseling that the children have been psychologically harmed as well as coached through the DCF/foster care process.

Raymond and Amelia would much rather their children come home now, but they have more hope than ever before that it really will happen.

Raymond addressed a concern that many parents have expressed to us – that Child Protective Services can come in and rip a child or children from their family in an instant, but when they bring them home, it usually takes months for

the “reintegration” process:

I know that they can take them without all this fanfare, but now they have to do their process.

That’s WHY it’s important to reform this system, because once you’re in it, it starts this machine rolling that’s really easy to start –

- *a stupid [hot]line phone call*
- *a false allegation*
- *some angry social worker stealing your kid*

And a 2 to 3 year nightmare starts for parents and children – some that don’t ever get their children back, some whose children die, or come back damaged because they were raped or over-medicated.

They thanked God and their supporters for their prayers. They said that they are “emotional, tired, and really excited.”

Later, Raymond Schwab told *Health Impact News* that they are more hopeful than ever before that they will get their kids back, but until he sees it happening, he remains skeptical. They have told them before, in December 2016, that the children were coming home, but it didn’t happen.

See:

Children Taken from Military Dad Using Medical Marijuana for PTSD to be Returned

Nonetheless, he said that things have:

definitely changed, and it looks like they're following their policies. And reintegration is supposed to be happening.

He pointed out that they never started protesting until 8 months into the case, when it became obvious to them that the state had no intention of returning their children. Their story has drawn widespread attention, including local mainstream attention, to the corruption of the Kansas family courts.



They plan to participate in the Million Parent March in Washington, D.C. to advocate for families. Source: [Free the Schwab Children](#) Facebook page.

As a veteran, Raymond Schwab fought to uphold Constitutional principles. The fight for his own children is a fight that he has no intention of giving up. Their children are

everything to Raymond and Amelia. In this battle, they have connected with hundreds of other families who are fighting the same fight. The battle for the families of all Americans is a battle that they intend to win.

Grandparents Fight State of Kansas Over Attempted Forced Vaccination of Grandson Residing in Their Home



Linus and Terri Baker. [Image Source](#).

Health Impact News Editor Comments

The war against parents who choose not to vaccinate their children, or to not follow the CDC vaccine schedule which requires more vaccines for children in the U.S. than any other developed nation of the world, rages on all across America.

Citizens of the United States are waking up and recognizing that with no legal accountability for pharmaceutical companies to produce safe vaccines in the U.S., unlike most other countries of the world where one can sue a vaccine manufacturer for damages resulting from their vaccine products, the proliferation of vaccines and their known side effects carries tremendous risk of injury and even death.

Parents and physicians in the U.S. are increasingly standing up for their rights to choose medical procedures for their children and resisting coercion by government agencies who seek to mandate vaccines even against the desires of parents and sometimes their physicians as well.

In Johnson County, Kansas, one 2-year old little boy has been taken away from his mother and placed in foster care with his grandparents. The young boy was born with a serious heart defect, and has never been vaccinated. The mother and the grandparents, for both health and religious reasons, have utilized Kansas' legal vaccine exemption laws to prevent the young boy from being vaccinated.

But since the child has been removed from his mother and placed into the temporary custody of the state of Kansas, the state is now trying to force the child to be vaccinated against the wishes of both his mother and grandparents, even while he continues to live under the care of his grandparents.

Video no longer available.

Kansas acting as 'religious police' in mandating vaccine for grandson, couple argue

by [Tony Rizzo](#)
[Kansas City Star](#)

Excerpts:

The 2-year-old grandson of Linus and Terri Baker has never been vaccinated.

His mother and the Bakers oppose immunization on religious and health grounds.

But now that the boy is in temporary state custody, the Kansas Department for Children and Families intends to vaccinate him despite the family's wishes.

The Bakers, who have physical custody of the boy as his foster parents, say it's an unconstitutional overreach and they are now fighting it in federal court.

The grandparents are particularly galled that DCF appears to be requiring people who want to exempt their children from daycare and school vaccination requirements to cite their denomination and its specific teaching opposed to immunization.

"They've become the religious police," said Linus Baker, a lawyer who lives in southern Johnson County.

The Bakers are seeking to stop the Kansas Department for Children and Families (commonly called DCF) and its contractor, KVC Behavioral Healthcare, from immunizing their grandson, identified as S.F.M.

Officials with DCF and KVC have notified the family that they intend to immunize the child, even though he is currently enrolled in a private, religious day care after Terri Baker provided a religious exemption statement that both the school and Kansas Department of Health and Environment did not contest.

According to the lawsuit, the Bakers' grandson was born with a heart condition, which required surgery when he was six months old. He is now very healthy, but they don't know how different vaccines could affect his health.

Terri Baker has also "long been of the Christian faith," the suit says.

"Part of that faith is having an understanding about vaccines and the risks they pose for children," according to the suit. "Terri has religious convictions and objections to vaccines using cell lines from tissue harvested from abortions."

Even more troubling, according to Linus Baker, is that DCF appears to be requiring people who cite the exemption to provide the name of a denomination and its specific teaching opposed to immunization.

Linus Baker asked what if someone is not part of a specific denomination or they have a personal objection not specified in a particular group's teachings?

If the law does not apply to everyone equally, then it is unconstitutional, he said.

A recently mailed letter from KVC to their daughter, the child's mother, gave 14 days for one of the child's parents to assert one of the exemptions in writing or file a written objection with the court handling the child's child in need of care case.

Imposing the 14-day deadline is "completely arbitrary," according to the suit.

"Why 14 days when there is no medical necessity or emergency?" the suit asks.

Plus, the letter was sent to an address where the mother no longer resides.

The bottom line for the Bakers is that their grandson is only in state custody temporarily, while having him vaccinated against their wishes is "permanent and irreversible."

Read the entire article at the [Kansas City Star](#).

Families Protest at Kansas State Capitol: "Our Children are not for Sale!"



After 3 years of fighting the system, the Schwab family is finally together again. They join many others in speaking out against what they see is wrong with the system. Photo provided by Raymond Schwab.

by **Terri LaPoint**

Health Impact News

The crowd of parents, advocates, and recently freed children say they have had enough.

About 150 people braved freezing temperatures to march on the Kansas state capitol for the 3rd annual *Fools No More* rally on April 2, 2018. Event organizer Jennifer Winn, family advocate and former gubernatorial candidate, said:

This is about our children. All the aspects of this event are about issues that impact our children from DCF, parental rights, juvenile justice, medical cannabis; all these issues impact the lives of our children.... We are fighting for their future.

Some of the most fervent marchers were children who were recently held captive in the Child Protective System, known as DCF in Kansas, and who are now reunited with their families.

One such child, the 14 year old son of “Hunger Strike Dad” Raymond Schwab, was asked what he thought of what DCF did to him.

There was no hint of hesitation on his part. He replied passionately:

Shut the system down!



Children understand the importance of stopping the DCF/CPS trafficking of children. Photo from [Facebook livestream](#).

See their story here:

[Navy Dad Goes on Hunger Strike in Kansas Until State-Kidnapped Children are Returned or He Starves to Death](#)

Media Coverage

Local media covered the event, which was also livestreamed by various attendees. See links [here](#) and [here](#).

According to [WIBW13](#):

Families joined candidates for governor, attorneys, and representatives at the Statehouse Monday afternoon in hopes of reforming the Department for Children and Families.

CBS affiliate [KSNT](#) reports:

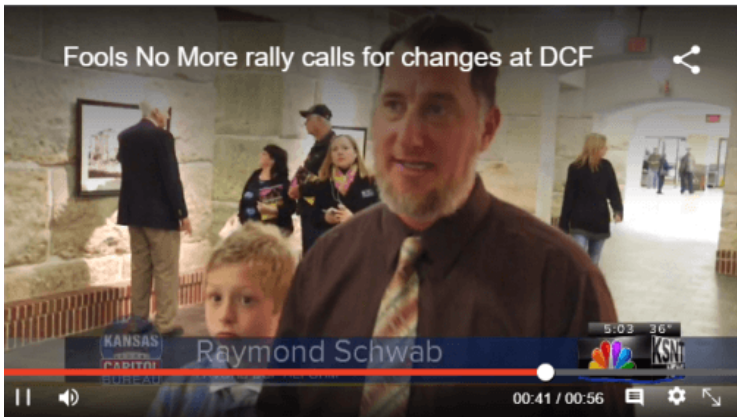
People who say they're tired of the controversies at the Department for Children and Families voiced their opinions at a rally at the Statehouse today.

Activists, government officials and political candidates spoke at the Fools No More rally.

They tried to shed light on what they called "inadequacies at DCF."

KSNT spoke with Raymond Schwab, a Navy veteran and father whose story we have followed at *Health Impact News*. He and his wife Amelia have been vocal advocates fighting to get their children back after they were taken by Kansas DCF. Their children were returned shortly after Christmas. Raymond told KSNT:

I'd also like to see that there be no more removal of children without a jury. Because right now it's a judge, a prosecutor, and attorney ad litem can terminate someone's rights and adopt their kids out.



Raymond Schwab, with one of his sons by his side, speaks to KSNT about the injustice of the DCF/CPS system. Photo from [KSNT](#).

“Our Children Are Not for Sale”

The rally began inside the Topeka state capitol building in the rotunda. Jennifer Winn exposed the magnitude of the problem that we face in the United States:

If your children haven't been affected yet, they probably will be. And if they are not, I assure you, your grandchildren will fall victim.

That will not happen on my watch!



Jennifer Winn explains some of the issues surrounding DCF to news media. Photo from [WIBW 13](#).

She told WIBW 13:

We have multiple agencies around our state as well as across the country that have been profiting off of our children, namely DCF.

One of the things they do to these families is they take away their 1st Amendment rights. They tell them, "If you talk about this, you will not see your children." And that cannot continue.

We want legislatures to hear us. That passing laws such as the secret social file that make accusations against parents that they will never know about, that's unconstitutional, that's not acceptable any longer.

Our children are not for sale.

And we are here today to stand against all these organizations that claim to represent our children's best interests that absolutely are failing our children and are using our children to profit under Title IV.

See:

[Child Kidnapping and Trafficking: A Lucrative U.S. Business Funded by Taxpayers Called "Foster Care"](#)

The "Swamp" of Child Protective Services and Family Court

Tennessee attorney and family rights advocate Connie Reguli addressed the crowd about the "national and worldwide problem" that we face. The founder of the [Family Forward Project](#) said that we, the people, need to be asking legislative and gubernatorial candidates the "difficult questions" as they campaign for election.

Regarding oversight of Child Protective Services, she said that we don't need:

another government agency that's going to nod their head and say, "We're doing the best we can." We need oversight that is responsive to the people and parents of your community.

Until that happens, we are lost in the swamp.

Child Protective Services impacts all of us, Connie said.

These are crimes against humanity.

If we don't speak up now, our children and our children's children are going to be subject to this system.

On any given day of the year, there are 500,000 children in the foster care system. Every one of those children has a mother, father, a grandmother, other siblings, cousins. There are millions of people affected.



Powerhouse advocate meeting – Connie Reguli (left) joined Merissa Hamilton (center), Jennifer Winn, and others to finalize rally plans. Photo from Connie Reguli.

Medical Freedom Needed

Lisa Sublet, President and founder of Bleeding Kansas Advocates, is a proponent of safe access to medical cannabis. She began her speech with a quote that is often attributed to Dr. Benjamin Rush, one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence:

Unless we put medical freedom into the Constitution, the time will come when medicine will organize into an undercover dictatorship to restrict the art of healing to one class of Men and deny equal privileges to others; the Constitution of the Republic should make a Special privilege for medical freedoms as well as religious freedom.

She told KSNT:

Kansans are fed up. And all we have to do is look at now 30 other states, and we are one of two states that don't recognize medical cannabis has any medical purpose at all.



Lisa Sublett advocates for parental rights regarding medical cannabis. Photo from KSNT.

Call for Judicial Accountability

After hearing speakers inside the state house, the crowd took to the street. An estimated 150 parents, advocates, and children marched from the state house to the Kansas Judicial Center, then ended their march outside the governor's offices.

As they marched, they chanted:

One, two, three – Set our children free!

Four, five, six – The system needs fixed!

Seven, eight, nine – The children are mine!

What do we want? Justice! When do we want it? Now.

Their first stop was the building where the decisions that ultimately affect the families are made.



Parents want their voices heard – “Our children are not for sale.” Photo from [Facebook](#).

The Kansas Judicial Center houses the Court of Appeals, the Kansas Supreme Court, and the Hall of Justice, the latter of which is generally open to the public. Connie Reguli noted that, when the marchers arrived:

They locked the doors to the courthouse.

Jennifer Winn gave an impassioned speech in front of the building:

They don't want to face the people who they're afflicting, because we're just the ones who pick up the tab.

This is no longer acceptable. There is no excuse in the world to me why you [addressing the judges] can't stand up and fight for these kids. None.

We're holding you accountable, judges.

Unacceptable to Use Children for Profit

Kash Jackson, Libertarian party candidate for Illinois governor, spoke of the importance of citizens coming together for events like the Fools No More rally and march, in order to:

let our legislators know that we're not going to tolerate that they use our children for profit, that they take our pain and suffering and twist that into bumping up their bottom line. We want change. We want change right now.



Kash Jackson at the Fools No More rally and march 2018.
Photo from [Facebook](#).

Child Trafficking Is Happening Here in the U.S.

Merissa Hamilton is a family rights advocate from Arizona who first became involved in the movement when she learned of an Alabama infant who was medically kidnapped from his mother in the hospital by Child Protective Services. (See [story](#).)



Merissa Hamilton with Raymond Schwab outside of the Kansas state house for the Fools No More Rally 2018. Photo courtesy of Raymond Schwab.

The injustice that she learned about was such that she could not sit back quietly:

They keep trafficking children, and that's happening not just in my state, not just in Kansas. It's all over the country and all over the Westernized world.

We complain about the things that are happening in third world countries when right here, right here is where the crisis is.

We need to stop kidnapping our children.

We need to abolish Title 4-D and E funding.

We need to abolish CPS as it exists today and create a system that keeps children safe, that investigates children when they're truly being abused, and leaves families alone when they're not.

We need a system that rehabilitates whole families together and we need a system that protects our veterans and stops stealing their children, casting them aside and forcing them to become homeless.

We've had enough!

Photos from Fools No More Rally

Tyler Schwab, the oldest son of Raymond and Amelia Schwab, captured some powerful images of the event with his camera:



Raymond Scwab, left, shares the burden of carrying the banner: “Fight for the Children” with his daughter, right. She was held in captivity by DCF, away from her parents and photographer big brother. This family understands what is at stake. Photo by Tyler Schwab.



The Schwabs were joined by about 150 other parents, advocates, and children in the march to demand justice for children. Photo by Tyler Schwab.



A spokesperson for the Kansas Department of Children and Families has admitted that more than 90% of the allegations against parents are unsubstantiated. Yet, they continue to seize tens of thousands of Kansas children from their families every year. Photo by Tyler Schwab.



Children who are taken by the state are worth billions of dollars to the taxpayer-funded “Kids 4 Cash” program. Photo by Tyler Schwab.



Kash Jackson of Illinois is one of many advocates who marched in unity with Kansas families. He fights for families battling the family court system in his home state and is now running as a Libertarian candidate for governor of Illinois on a platform of justice for families. Photo by Tyler Schwab.



Families and activists rallied at the Kansas State House before marching to the Justice building and governor's building. Photo by Tyler Schwab.



Children like this young man, the Schwabs' 14 year old son, are what the Fools No More rally and march are all about. He was part of the foster care system when he shouldn't have been, and he understands all too well the horrors that face children in "the system." His was one of the most passionate voices in the day's events. Photo by his brother, Tyler Schwab.

Mother's Day Reunion: Military Dad and Mom Reunited with Children 3 Years After Kansas Took Them Over Medical Cannabis



The Schwab family – their ordeal is finally over. They joined activists speaking out for families at the Fools No More Rally in Topeka, Kansas, on April 2, 2018. Photo provided by Raymond Schwab.

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

Shortly before Mother's Day 3 years ago, on April 26, 2015, the Department for Children and Families (DCF) in Kansas seized 5 children from Raymond and Amelia Schwab over false allegations.

Now, just before Mother's Day 2018 – 3 years later – their nightmare is officially over. The children are home and the case against them is finally closed.

See our original coverage of their story here:

[Navy Dad Goes on Hunger Strike in Kansas Until State-Kidnapped Children are Returned or He Starves to Death](#)

The happy parents took to Facebook Live on Thursday night, May 10, to share their joyous news, surrounded by 2 of their children and a couple of pet guinea pigs. The children shouted:

We don't have court anymore!

Raymond said:

In a stunning surprise, we got an email today that the Kansas case has been dismissed. We are officially, completely and utterly out of out of DCF business, out of court business.

It is over.

There is a great deal of excitement in the Schwab household over the news, and Amelia had a huge smile on her face as she exclaimed:

Finally!

The children came home on December 27, 2017, but as families whose children have been taken by Child Protective Services know, just because the children come home, it did not mean that the case was over at that time. Social workers and court hearings continued to be part of their lives until the case was finally closed yesterday.

The final closure of the case was not expected to happen for another 2 months, but the unexpected email arrived Thursday, May 10, 2018 to announce the good news.

Even so, Raymond told *Health Impact News* that even this is not really a “win” because they lost so many years with their children. Those are years they can never get back.

Mother of Medically Kidnapped Children Speaks Out

Amelia Schwab has been largely silent throughout the family’s entire ordeal, staying in the background as her Navy Veteran husband became the voice and face of the fight for families all across Kansas and even the United States.

On Friday, she spoke up in a powerful Facebook post about what they have been through:

I still can't believe it's over!! The stress I have felt for 3 years is gone!! I have my children back!!!! We are healing...

Now we will persevere with making these people be held accountable! We will shout it from the rooftops what dcf kvc and st Francis community services did!! We will encourage others to file law suits and be proactive! We will help others when we can. This isn't over by a long shot.

I was silent but my children are here behind me... so now it's time to roar!! My fight now is for our own justice, others suffering the same cause as ours, and my future grandchildren's lives.



Amelia beamed at her husband Thursday night as they shared the good news that their DCF case is over. Photo from Facebook.

Child predator services needs shut down!! We need a new system!

People say “what will we do for the children who need intervention if there is no cps...” you will save so many lives that’s what you will do if child predator services get shut down. Look at the statistics! The WORST homes are SAFER than cps care!!

The children who need to be taken need help. Right now they don’t get it, they are further traumatized and most of the time drugged. Children that are DYING from abuse at the hands of the state care. Sexual abuse and child sex trafficking is rampant for children in state care.

The parents that need help, training, and real resources that will actually help (in most cases); right now they are bombarded with case plan tasks and futile classes.

Many parents take their own lives in the midst of the stress child predator services puts on them. Too many children feel hopeless as well ending their short lives.

We need a new system in place! That’s years beyond, it’s probably true. If people stay dormant and do nothing except complain, it may never change.

I do see an awakening but not enough to make a difference.

We have to be louder!!! We need more people to get involved! We need better coordination nationally! So many children’s lives depend on what we do!! Sit back be silent and blood is on your hands also. If you know what’s happening and don’t do anything you are guilty of whatever these children in state custody go through.

It's time to stand up and speak the truth to save these children. It's time for the children to speak and be heard.
~Amelia

Amelia speaks of things about which the general public remains largely unaware. Like most Americans, they learned these things the hard way – as they happened to her own family.

Hard Fought Battle

The Schwabs have traveled cross-country speaking out against the injustices that they see in the system.

Raymond Schwab went on a 17 day hunger strike on the steps of the steps of the Kansas capitol. The couple and their oldest son Tyler have traveled to Washington, D.C., several times to rally for families and to speak with legislators.

Tyler was not taken by DCF because he was already 18 by the time his siblings were taken. He spoke out many times on behalf of his younger brothers and sister.



Tyler with his parents at a candlelight vigil in Washington D.C. Photo from [Free the Schwab Children](#) Facebook page.

Theirs was a hard-fought battle. It was costly.

During the reunification process, Raymond Schwab took a job in Puerto Rico helping the people there rebuild after their hurricane. He was thankful that God provided the job, but he points out the irony of having to go so far away from home simply in order to be able to pay for the reunification of his own family.

He says that they were spending \$700 a month on court-ordered counseling because he didn't qualify for Medicaid.

They had to come up with \$1000 for a home inspection in order to get their children back.

How can families without resources fight such an expensive battle? Raymond said:

There were times I didn't think it was going to happen. I would not want to subject what our family had to go through on my worst enemy, and yet there are parents that have far worse, and there are parents that get [their parental rights] terminated, and there are grandparents that get terminated.

Like Most Foster Children, Schwab Children Were Taken for Unsubstantiated Allegations

The Schwab children should not have been taken, as is clear from the original allegations were found to be “unsubstantiated” less than 3 months after they were taken.

The children were taken in Kansas while their parents were packing up to move back to their home state of Colorado. The Schwab parents thought that things would be cleared up quickly, so they continued their move as they worked to get their children back.

The children were kept in Kansas DCF custody after this because their father, a Navy veteran suffering from PTSD, used medical cannabis to treat his PTSD in Colorado, a state where it was legal.

REV 07/11
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NOTICE OF DEPARTMENT FINDINGS

State of Kansas
Department for Children and Families
Prevention and Protection Services

Date of Mailing: 7 / 10 / 2015 DCF Office: Topeka

TO: Amelia Schwab FROM: Katelyn Staab
TELEPHONE #: 785-296-8718

ADDRESS: [REDACTED] ADDRESS: 500 SW Van Buren
Street/P.O. Box

City [REDACTED] State CO City Topeka State KS

ZIP 80538 ZIP 66603

("Report Date" on PPS 1001)
4/26/2015

The Kansas Department for Children and Families has completed an investigation of a report dated:

The following decisions have been made:

Child Name	Allegation	Findings	Substantiated Perpetrator
[REDACTED]	Emotional Abuse	Unsubstantiated	Amelia Schwab/Raymond Schwab
[REDACTED]	Emotional Abuse	Unsubstantiated	Amelia Schwab/Raymond Schwab
[REDACTED]	Emotional Abuse	Unsubstantiated	Amelia Schwab/Raymond Schwab
[REDACTED]	Emotional Abuse	Unsubstantiated	Amelia Schwab/Raymond Schwab
[REDACTED] ab	Emotional Abuse	Unsubstantiated	Amelia Schwab/Raymond Schwab

***NOTE TO SUBSTANTIATED PERPETRATORS:** Substantiated Perpetrators have the opportunity to appeal agency findings. If a substantiated perpetrator does not appeal or the appeal is unsuccessful, the substantiated perpetrator's name will be placed on the Kansas Child Abuse/Neglect Central Registry. Perpetrators who appear on the Central Registry are restricted from employment with children in the State of Kansas.

Allegations found Unsubstantiated, yet children still held by DCF. Source: Schwab family.

It was in the Schwabs' story that we first learned that most of the allegations against families whose children are taken from them are not substantiated.

The [Topeka Capitol-Journal](#) reported in 2016 that a DCF spokesperson admitted that 96% of the children taken by Kansas DCF are taken for reasons that are not substantiated:

Determining whether an allegation is true is separate from a recommendation to remove children from the home, said Theresa Freed, communications director for DCF. Though an unsubstantiated finding that doesn't lead to a parent getting their child back may be confusing, Freed said, substantiated findings account for only 4 percent of the removals the

agency handles.

The numbers are not much better nationwide.

According to the 2016 Child Maltreatment Report by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, only 17% of the allegations against parents are “substantiated” or “founded.” ([Source.](#))

See:

[Almost 40% of American Families at Risk to Have Their Children Kidnapped by the State - Over 50% if You Are Black](#)

Not Abused at Home, But Traumatized by Abuse in Foster Care

As Amelia pointed out, children are more likely to be abused or even killed in foster care than they are in their own homes. Sadly, this is something their family learned the hard way. Their children, too, suffered abuse under the system that says it protects children.

Health Impact News has previously reported that, under DCF care, at least one of the Schwab children was sexually assaulted, and others were abused.

One child was punched in the face and his glasses were broken, but DCF told the parents in a letter not to worry because the state would replace the glasses broken in the assault.

Unlike the allegations against the parents, those allegations of abuse have been substantiated. At least one of their children was placed on psychotropic drugs.

See:

Foster Care Children are Worse Off than Children in Troubled Homes – The Child Trafficking Business

Their friend and advocate Jennifer Winn, former gubernatorial candidate for the state of Kansas, joined the Facebook Live broadcast to say:

Now we have a family, a beautiful family, that has so much healing to do from the trauma caused by DCF. But it's over!



Advocate Jennifer Winn fought long and hard for the Schwab family and others. Photo from [Free the Schwab Children](#) Facebook page.

Amid Their Gratitude, Schwabs Vow to Keep Fighting for Other Families Trapped in the System

The Schwabs consider themselves blessed to have had the support of many. They are grateful to all the people who have stood by them, prayed, financially supported them, and published their story.

Raymond recognized that God was with them through

everything, and that there were times that they felt like giving up. In those moments, they were thankful for people who helped to hold them up:

Thank You, Jesus! We can't forget that. We thank the Lord first and foremost, because it was our faith praying through this and having confidence that we were not alone.

Even in the spiritual [unclear], that helped us stand up when we didn't want to stand up anymore, we didn't want to get up any more.

He wants to encourage other parents who are fighting for their children:

We've just got to keep up the fight and hope that our story inspires people to never give up. Never quit. Never surrender.

The part of fighting DCF to get their children home is indeed over. But the battle for families is not over by any means. Raymond and Amelia Schwab and Jennifer Winn have each stated that they intend to keep fighting for justice for all families.

Raymond said that they will keep supporters posted as they heal and work to help other families and change the system. They will continue to post on their Facebook page, [Free the Schwab Children](#), although, Raymond said with a smile, they will have to change the name of the page:

The Schwab Children Are Free!



Free The Schwab
Children
@freetheschwabchildren



Their son Asher shouted out a blessing at the end of the video:

Let the Lord be with you!

See our continuing coverage of the Schwab family story:

[Veteran Dad on Hunger Strike Arrested with No Charges - Kept Naked in Dirty Cell](#)

[Kansas Dad Ends Hunger Strike - Federal Lawsuit Filed To Return His Children](#)

[Wife of Hunger Strike Dad Arrested in Kansas While Protesting to Have Kidnapped Children Returned](#)

[Children Taken from Military Dad Using Medical Marijuana for PTSD to be Returned](#)

[Navy Dad Plans Hunger Strike at White House Over Medically Kidnapped Kids](#)

Judge Orders Children Home in Kansas Case with Navy Dad Who used Medical Cannabis

Navy Veteran Makes Christmas Eve Plea for His Children

Families Protest at Kansas State Capitol: “Our Children are not for Sale!”

Former Kansas Gubernatorial Candidate Becomes Warrior Fighting Against State-Sponsored Child Kidnapping



Jennifer Winn is a passionate family activist, rallying the troops to action to restore children to their own families. Photo by Shara Michelle.

Commentary by **Terri LaPoint**
Health Impact News

There are things in life that happen that change you. There are things that, once you see, you cannot un-see.

Throughout history, there have been individuals who rise up against the evil that confronts their society, who become a voice for their generation who say, “No more! This wickedness must end, and I will not stop until it does.”

These voices lead by example and inspire those around them to stand strong and never give up, no matter how intimidating the battle may be.

Jennifer Winn is such a voice for families fighting against the evils of medical and state-sponsored kidnapping of children. She has become known for her fiery passion, uncompromising quest for justice, and inspirational speeches that call governmental officials and agencies out on the carpet for the injustice they inflict on the people they are supposed to serve.

It was not until shortly after her run for governor of the state of Kansas in 2014 that she learned that Child Protective Services (CPS) and family courts were taking children away from non-abusive parents, often putting them into horrific foster care situations. Once she recognized what was happening to thousands of families, she refused to be silent.

She immediately began speaking up for families and speaking out against the corruption that she found in the CPS system.

Jennifer Winn joined Connie Reguli and others on September 11, 2018, as part of a team of activists and professionals who gathered in Washington DC to participate in an Educational Panel put together by [4 the Children USA](#). The event was live-streamed to hundreds of thousands of viewers, including District Attorneys’ offices from several states according to event founder Robert Slaven.

See Connie Reguli's speech here:

The Ease with which Government Kidnaps Children – A Review of Current Legislation and the Multi-Billion Dollar Child “Protection” Industry

Various speakers educated the audience regarding law, medical practices, and legislation. Some shared personal stories of first-hand encounters with corruption within the system.

Jennifer Winn has no such story of having her own family members taken by CPS. However, she is a mother, a grandmother, an American, and a human being, all of which means to her that she must stand and fight for those who are being torn apart by injustice:

I am an advocate who will fight until it is finished and that is the end of the story. I will not remain silent!

Here is the speech she gave at the event:

Video no longer available.

Awakening to the Truth of Government-Sponsored Child Trafficking



Jennifer Winn at a Washington DC protest in 2017.

Near the end of Jennifer's gubernatorial campaign, she told the D.C. audience, a mother reached out to her and said that she needed to talk with her. She told Jennifer Winn that the state was taking children from families. Frankly, she sounded crazy to Jennifer, like a "conspiracy theorist."

When the election was over, the woman didn't stop trying to talk to her. For three weeks, she persisted, blowing up her phone daily, insisting that Jennifer didn't understand and that she needed to hear her out. She begged to meet with her for just 30 minutes.

It became clear that "she's not going to let up," so Jennifer agreed to have the woman come to her office.

She was not prepared for what she heard. The mother brought in a detailed timeline of what had happened to her family, complete with transcripts and evidence to back up her side of the story.

Jennifer carried the papers home with her that night and stayed up most of the night reading the woman's story. Based on a social worker's allegations, the mother's children had been taken and placed into foster care. After 15 months, the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) placed the children with their "father, who was on criminal probation for beating those children."

As Jennifer got deeper into the story she says:

I could not believe what I was reading.

I was like Terri [LaPoint, who believed] "Oh, this is just an isolated case." I am going to expose this, and we're going to fix it, and we're going to get your kids. That's what we were

going to do.

I called her at 6 a.m. I was up, because my heart, my brain, everything about my being knew that this was wrong, and I was going to fix it!

She came in. We did a video that day.

I released that video, and in 24 hours, I had over 500 requests. In a week later, I had over 1,500 requests, and I was flooded.

I literally, like, for 2 days, I shut down and I cried, because I couldn't believe the stories I was reading.

Everything about this agency that I believed was true was a lie. Everything.

Everything I had thought and had been dispositioned to believe was wrong, and children are being harmed.

Not only are they being harmed, they're being drugged. I have 5-year olds that we have uncovered, addicted to Xanax, because they want mommy. Excuse me?

A warrior had awakened. The truth of what Jennifer Winn was seeing caused something to rise up within her, and she has not been the same since.

I cannot un-see what I have just seen.

I'm not made to be that woman that sees any type of behavior that's completely against humanity and keeps

walking.



Jennifer Winn (right) with Connie Reguli, firing up an audience at the Lincoln Memorial to keep fighting against the CPS devastation of families, September 10, 2018. Photo by Francesca Amato Banfield.

“It Doesn’t Matter What the Law Says”

Jennifer’s speech was the final speech of the second panel for the September 11 event.

David Jose opened the panel with a discussion of the Constitution and laws regarding family courts.

I spoke about Medical Kidnapping, then Kathleen Arthur delved into the Family First Act legislation and its impact.

Two attorneys followed. Ken Rosillini of New Jersey and

Connie Reguli of Tennessee discussed family law, family courts, and legislation. The entire segment had a strong emphasis on law.

When Jennifer Winn addressed the crowd, she acknowledged what most of the group had learned the hard way about the law:

We understand that the law says “this,” and we understand that it doesn’t mean anything, because we are still without our children.

We are still facing the unjustness of our courts, of our lawmakers, and of those who are allegedly there to protect the best interests of our children. What do we do?

Doctors and social workers, she explained, often report and take children over allegations that are not even worthy to warrant an investigation, but they sometimes do it out of fear of being blamed for not intervening when they should. Jennifer continued:

You understand that the law says they can’t [take the children]. You understand what it says by definition, and what does that do for us?

Where are are children? Are they with you because you know the law?

No! They’re not!

So now what do we do?

*Fight. But we do it **correctly**.*

Fighting Correctly

Record Everything

Jennifer Winn is not a lawyer or an investigator. She owns a landscaping business. But she has tools at her disposal with which to fight the corruption. They are the same tools that most of us have.

The reality is that we hold [government officials, doctors, and social workers] accountable the best way we can – with what we have....

It doesn't seem to matter what the law says [regarding what CPS/DCF can and cannot do], so what do we do? We start holding them accountable with our cameras. We start recording them.

She cautions to “make sure that you check your state laws for that, but in Kansas, we’re a ‘one-party consent.’” (Link to recording laws [here](#).)

[LeagleBeagle.com](#) says that conversations may be recorded if there is not an “expectation of privacy,” i.e. conversations in public places where they can be overheard easily.

Don't Let Fear Control You

Jennifer Winn boldly confronts fear:

You cannot let fear control you. You can not.

Someone said to me, "Aren't you scared?"

No. I'm not. ***I will never be scared to fight for the future of our children! Never.***



Jennifer Winn fights for families impacted by Medical Kidnapping. Photo from the Million Parent March September 2017.

Elect People Who Will Fight for Family Rights

Jennifer Winn mentioned several factors common to many CPS jurisdictions which violate parental and constitutional rights, including “the secret social files that are on statute.”

In an earlier interview with [WIBW 13](#) during the April 2, 2018, *Fools No More* rally in Topeka, Kansas, Jennifer described those secret files. She told the *WIBW 13* reporter that:

passing laws such as the secret social file that make accusations against parents that they will never know about, that's unconstitutional, that's not acceptable any longer.

Our children are not for sale.

See:

[Families Protest at Kansas State Capitol: “Our Children are not for Sale!”](#)



Jennifer Winn explained some of the issues surrounding DCF to Kansas news media. Photo from [WIBW 13](#).

Other factors that are reality for families dealing with CPS, Jennifer told the audience in Washington, D.C., include:

- *the anonymous reporting that violates your constitutional right to face your accuser, and*
- *the fact that they don't have to have "clear and convincing" evidence, only a "preponderance" to take your children with SWAT at 3 a.m.*

How does that get changed?

How did it get started? That's the better question.

It got started by the most egregious act a person could ever

think about, and it's a bill. Our legislators are the worst enemy we have.

The solution, she says, is one that is admittedly difficult:

We have to start electing the people that will take the pen away from the criminals that are corporately owned, that don't care about your kids....

These guys [other speakers] are right. Connie [Reguli] is right – this is not legal. This is not what we as Americans signed up for! But it's where we are. And regardless of what is says, they're doing it.

What are you going to do when law enforcement is showing up to steal your children for a “preponderance” – “a thought” – of some social worker who has no children, probably doesn't have a degree if she works in Kansas, that are absolutely facilitating the kidnapping of your family?

The only way that we can win is to put people like us behind that pen.

The only way we can continue educate and bring it to light is your phone, your videos, your audio. Get up and go to court [with families].

Until we can elect people who understand the law side like the guys [who spoke about the law at the event], Connie, etc., ... until then we have to expose it, and we don't stop! We keep going. We protest. ... We've got to pay attention to our elections.

Jennifer Winn closed her rousing speech with a call to put aside our differences and come together to fight for all of our children who are our future:

It is important for us to unify, work together, educate one another, and then eventually we're going to save our kids.

Kansas Mom Has Children Taken Away While Husband Dies in Jail for Using Medical Marijuana



Jennifer Hess with her husband Homer, and their two sons. Homer died in jail after being arrested for possessing medical marijuana, and Jennifer lost custody of her two children. [Image from Facebook.](#)

A Eureka, Kansas couple reportedly had police enter their home recently without a warrant, based on what the police allegedly stated was a complaint from someone that they heard screaming from inside the home.

Jennifer Hess answered the door and explained that no one was screaming, and attempted to close the door. Doug McVay, writing for [FreedomLeaf.com reports](#):

“At that point, they forced the door open. Two of them entered the house, and they demanded I go outside,” Hess tells Freedom Leaf.

On June 14 on [Facebook](#), she wrote: “They said they were getting a search warrant, alleging they had seen drug paraphernalia in the house.”

Police searched the house and found “293 grams” (about 10 ounces) of cannabis, “all personal use.” Hess and Wilson both had medical conditions and used marijuana for that purpose, she said.

“They made up a reason to come to my door, probably because there was no one we associate with to do a controlled buy.”

Medical marijuana is legal in many U.S. States, but not Kansas.

Jennifer and her husband Homer were arrested, and the two children, Ashton, 15, and Holden, 11, were put into protective custody.

Two weeks later, with Homer having various medical conditions and being denied his medical marijuana, he died in jail.

On Friday, June 7, according to a press release from Greenwood County Sheriff Heath Samuels, as reported by the Emporia [radio station KVOE](#), “Greenwood County EMS and Eureka Rescue responded to a call that an inmate was experiencing ‘medical issues.’

Prior to EMS’ arrival on scene, deputies began administering CPR before the inmate, identified as Homer M. Wilson Jr. of Eureka, was taken to Greenwood County Hospital by ambulance. The Sheriff’s Office reports Wilson was later pronounced deceased. Due to this being an in-custody death the investigation into the cause will be handled by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI).” ([Source](#).)

Homer was 35 years old. Jennifer Hess tells [FreedomLeaf.com](#):

“He had [mitral valve prolapse](#) (a heart condition), hypertension, bipolar disorder and ADHD, and also some issues with his ear. He was not about to die before we went in. He was on several medications, mostly for blood pressure, and on Lithium.”

Hess, who is 39, suffers from severe depression, general anxiety, social anxiety, ADHD and fibromyalgia.

“We were absolutely using (cannabis) medically,” she said.

Facing criminal charges and having just lost her husband, Jennifer must now also fight to regain custody of her children.

On June 7, I was preparing to bond out and was taken to the interview room and informed by the Sheriff and a KBI agent that my husband had a medical emergency, and he didn't make it.

They proceeded to ask me questions about his health and habits, then left me in the interview room for about 30 minutes.

Now, I'm separated from my kids and unable to be with them during this difficult time, and facing serious charges all alone. I'd like to know what makes us such a danger to society that my husband deserved to lose his life. ([Source](#).)

Read the full story at [FreedomLeaf.com](https://freedomleaf.com).

1 of 4 American Inmates Product of the Foster Care System According to Kansas City Star Investigation



SPECIAL REPORTS

'We are sending more foster kids to prison than college'

Star investigation reveals stark outcomes for America's foster care children.

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The Kansas City Star published a [6-part investigative report](#) on the U.S. Foster Care system this week.

[Part One of the series](#), **THROWAWAY KIDS: 'We are sending more foster kids to prison than college'**, is [found here](#).

They surveyed nearly 6,000 inmates in 12 states, and one of out four responded that they were products of the Foster Care system in the U.S.

For the past year, The Kansas City Star has examined what happens to kids who age out of foster care and found that, by nearly every measure, states are failing in their role as parents to America's most vulnerable children.

Roughly 23,000 kids across the country are churned out of the system every year, and their lives highlight a distinct path traveled by many:

Taken from an unstable home. Terrified by their first contact with the state. Emotionally and cognitively damaged in care as they are moved from home to home. Robbed of an education equal to their peers. Turned out to the streets unprepared to stand on their own. And changed for life.

"We are sending more foster kids to prison than college," said Brent Kent, who spent the past 3½ years helping Indiana foster children transition into adulthood. "And what do we lose as a result? Generations of young people.

"I think as a society we view foster children the same way that we might view offenders coming out of prison or addicts in recovery. We forget that they are just children, that they were put in foster care and removed from their families through no fault of their own."



Michelle Voorhees is a product of the Foster Care system, and an inmate in the Topeka Correctional Facility. She keeps a photo of her and her younger sister as one of the possessions she's allowed to have. Photo by Shelly Yang. [Source.](#)

One of the many stories highlighted in the series is the story of Michelle Voorhees, who is currently an inmate in the Topeka Correctional Facility.

The Star, in a yearlong investigation of the long-term outcomes for children who age out of foster care, surveyed nearly 6,000 inmates in a dozen states. Michelle Voorhees was one of them. She believes many former foster kids end up in worse condition than if they had been allowed to stay in their homes.

“Just because their family doesn’t have the means to take care of them doesn’t mean that you should just sever that bond,” said Voorhees, 28, who had two stints in foster care.

“So many of these problems truly do stem from poverty.”

Sitting inside the Topeka Correctional Facility in her prison-issued navy blue shirt and olive pants, Voorhees said the state could have done more to keep her with her mother.

“There’s all this money to pay to foster homes and all this money for adoptions and what-not,” she said. “I don’t understand how there is so much funding to rip us away, but no funding to keep us there.”

All Michelle Voorhees ever wanted was to be home. Her home.

But the state decided in the mid-1990s that her 21-year-old single mother, with three children and another on the way, wasn’t emotionally or mentally fit to care for them. The young mom was struggling. Eventually, all three daughters were put in foster care.

“And I just remember crying, crying for my mom and wondering where she was,” Voorhees said. “I couldn’t concentrate on anything else. I needed my mom.”

Being taken away from her home at age 5 had a lifetime effect on her, Voorhees says now. She believes it shaped who she became — a woman behind bars who struggles with relationships and attachments — and fueled her distrust of people.

Voorhees remained in foster care for 11 months the first time. She was released to her mother when she was 6. The state then sent her to live with her father, whom she had never met.

But when she was 14, while living again with her mom for a short time, Voorhees went back into the system.

After a couple of weeks in a foster home during her freshman year in high school, she bolted.

“And after that, there was just a series of me running away, me being placed in a different placement, running away, different placement,” she said. “And I really just kind of fell through the cracks.”

When she ran away, Voorhees would often find herself homeless.

“I really was just on the streets and was at the mercy of whatever weirdo decided that he wanted to pick up a 14-year-old girl walking down the street,” she said.

She quickly discovered that when a foster teen runs away, no one comes looking for them.

Eventually, when living on the run got to be too much, she would go back into state care.

“I was placed in 11 different state placements by the time I was 17,” she said. “I had two children during this time, developed a drug addiction, and sex trafficked. I spent a lot of my time in custody as a runaway. I did not graduate high school. I dropped out at 16 and got my GED. I am not sure if I aged out in the traditional sense.

“The state just stopped dealing with me at some point.”

Eventually, Voorhees stopped trusting people. That disconnection increased as she grew older.

“I had some really antisocial behavior,” she said. “I also had a deep dislike for government agencies — for the police, for social workers. I did not believe that they were on my team.”

In 2014, when she was just 22, she was convicted of aggravated arson, aggravated burglary and second-degree murder in the death of a southeast Kansas woman whose remains were found in the rubble of a burned-out home.

Prosecutors said Voorhees and a 26-year-old man went to the house to retrieve property that had been stolen from Voorhees, and the man put a pipe bomb on a mattress and lit the fuse. The pipe bomb did not explode, but set the house on fire. Voorhees and the man said they thought the house was empty at the time.

Voorhees was sentenced to nearly 24 years in prison. The earliest she could be released is 2033. The man received a life sentence with a possibility of parole after 20 years.

Through it all, Voorhees and her mom have stayed connected.

She often thinks of how life could have been different if she were able to stay with her mother for all of her childhood. To know that she was always safe and loved.

“Had my mom just had a little bit of help, had she had enough money to buy her own vehicle, had she had enough money to relocate herself from an abusive situation, had she not had to have been dependent on men in the first place for any kind of financial stability, I don’t believe that she would have made some of the decisions that she made,” Voorhees says. “I don’t believe that she would have struggled as a mother, because my mom is a good mom.”

She was also filmed for the interview:

Video no longer available.

Read the full series at [The Kansas City Star](#).