

From: [Linda](#)
To: [Senate Finance Committee](#)
Subject: Erins law
Date: Wednesday, June 10, 2015 4:04:14 PM

Dear Senator MacKinnon,

I feel very strongly that Alaska must pass Erin's Law ASAP. I have worked in the ASD and in many Native villages teaching kids to say No to alcohol, drugs and Sexual Abuse. I spoke over 30 years ago requesting for Alaskans to especially take a strong stance to stop Sexual Abuse in our state. When I was working in the schools there was a 100% of families with some form of sexual abuse in the villages!

I began mentoring a young Native Blind girl from the Bethel area back in the mid eighties. I attended Governor Coopers committee concerning children and youth a guest. I was attempting to encourage them to use the Dram-eddy, Teaching Through Theater Program instead of the Dare Program. We of course lost and today is a perfect example of why we are still having our babies being sexually used and abused even more than ever with the adults and leaders keeping their head in the sand because it is not comfortable to deal with for most people. I would say that a huge majority of the abuse comes from the alcoholic mentality, but not all.

This young girl from Bethel became a victim of sexual abuse by a young white male who lives in the community whose parents worked for the government and the school district. He actually kidnapped her and took her to a place and raped her and returned her somewhere that she had no idea of where she was. She is Blind and has to have someone with her at all times. She was staying in a dorm and the guard allowed the man to enter her building and to go to her room without her consent. He would enter her bedroom and begin to do it all over again and did this as often as he wanted and she was afraid to tell anyone. He told her he would hurt her and her family if she told and he had done this to other girls. She would hide in her closet if she heard him coming. Finally she tried to tell me but her mother would not allow it and they both lied to me until a few years after it was over and she had finally told the Bethel authorities. They of course did not believe her. This man is still walking around free because it was too late to do anything about it. He bragged that he did this with other girls, he is not a registered sexual offender and is most likely still raping whom ever he wants to because of a lack of consequences for many reasons..

Then there is the story of Dan Rodey , the counselor at the SAVE school that was sexually abusing the girls there. When he was finally caught thanks to our program attempting to be involved to teaching the kids at Save High School. Dan Rodey killed himself due to his shame. I had went to his brother when he was a politician in Anchorage to get help for us to work at the school. Well of course he was absolutely useless. There is always someone who knows who these abusers are besides the Victims. The state must protect these children because some of the parents, friends or others living around them are stealing their souls and spirits and NO ONE CARES ENOUGH TO HAVE THE COURAGE TO PROTECT THEM! YOU ARE IN THE POWER POSITION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE THIS TIME AND YOU NEED TO DO THIS NOW. DO NOT HAVE FEAR OF DOING WHAT IS RIGHT!

Thank you for taking the time to listen to my plea for helping and empowering these kids, no one else can do this except for you.. I look forward to hearing a response from you. sometimes money should not be a concern. This is an epidemic in Alaska. The young girl that was killed in Anchorage could have been someone you knew or maybe the next one will be someone close to you. Thank you for taking the time to read my story and I look forward to your response!

Sincerely,
Linda Ronan
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