

Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of March 23 to March 30, 2018

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

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

Type:

Sexual Assault: 1, 6, 72, 82

Physical Abuse: 3, 5, 91

Financial abuse: 4

Missing: 85

Murder: 28, 68

Attempted Murder/Suicide: 62

Neglected: 2

Wandered (died): 12

Related to special education: 1

WINNER of most egregious award: 9: Medicaid recipients must compete against each other for funding

WHO DUN IT (listed by article number):

Family: 2, 4, 62

Carer: 3, 5, 6, 72

Men: 1, 2, 3, 6, 72

Women: 3, 4, 62

Good News: 20: Agency agrees to \$10 million settlement after Medicaid billing fraud; 24: Lawmaker calls for accessibility of railroad; 25: Bill passes to provide tracking devices for autistic wanderers; 34: Improved communication technology; 35: Law enforcement to receive training working with Deaf/Hard of Hearing individuals; 37: Program to reduce abuse to be taught; 66: increased funding for special education; 80: Make Jordan accessible; 93: Play dramatizes lives of four men with I/DD who live together in a group home.

Bad News: 39: Lack of funding leads to no homes for people with I/DD; 50: NYPD ignores cases of sexual assault.

PLEASE NOTE: Visit our website at www.disabilityandabuse.org While on the homepage, we invite you to “like” us at the bottom of the page, making it easier to keep up with our activities! Prior weekly newsfeeds are archived at: <http://disabilityandabuse.org/newsfeed/contents.htm>

ABUSE & NEGLECT

1. "PD: Mesa bus aide arrested for sexual abuse of student with autism." A bus aide with Mesa Public Schools has been arrested for the sexual abuse of a preteen boy with autism. --- abc15.com, March 28 (Arizona) <https://is.gd/GYsgER>
2. "Bedridden woman found with maggots, roaches. Husband, son charged with neglect." When the county fire and emergency services department responded to a call for medical assistance from a home in Gwinnett County, Georgia, a few days ago, it felt a "moral obligation" to tell the police what was discovered. --- kansascity.com, March 26 (Georgia) <https://is.gd/1UI3Sc>
3. "Police: Caretaker used 'zap cane' to shock 'emotionally disabled' woman." About eight 'emotionally disabled' women lived at the home according to investigators --- 11alive.com. March 22 (Georgia) <https://is.gd/4zHnO1>
4. "Woman Accused of Stealing \$250,000+ From 93-Year-Old Father." A Douglas County woman is accused of stealing a \$250,000 from her 93-year-old father. --- ktvn.com, March 26 (Nevada) <https://is.gd/E39csA>
5. "Caretakers Charged with Abusing Vulnerable Adults." Two caretakers have been charged with physically abusing incapacitated vulnerable adults in unrelated incidents at separate facilities in Stillwater, court records show. --- 1600kush.com, March 23 (Oklahoma) <https://is.gd/oVAhAT>

6. “Fayette County man arrested and charged for multiple counts of sexual abuse and assault.” A South Carolina man turned himself in to Fayette County deputies after allegations of sexual abuse. --- wvnews.com, March 24 (South Carolina) <https://is.gd/kz6w1L>

GUARDIANSHIP

7. “Federal Report Calls for Alternatives to Guardianship.” Guardianship is overused, often unnecessarily depriving individuals with disabilities of their rights, warns a federal agency tasked with advising Congress and the president. --- disabilityscoop.com, March 23 <https://is.gd/E9HeCz>
8. “Missing reports plague guardianship system.” What’s become of Elizabeth Hamel? Hamel is among dozens of people placed under a legal guardianship or conservator in southern New Mexico over the past 20 years whose welfare is unknown – at least according to state district court records. --- abqjournal.com, March 25 (New Mexico) <https://is.gd/aCkzhE>

LAWS & LEGISLATION

9. “Advocates in Arkansas at odds over Medicaid suit.” A lawsuit challenging reductions in benefits for thousands of disabled Medicaid recipients is pitting two federally funded advocacy groups against each other. --- arkansasonline.com, March 23

(Arkansas) <https://is.gd/bOuasB>

10. “Letter to the Editor: Physician-assisted suicide harms the poor, elderly and disabled.” Once again, a bill in Connecticut legalizing physician-assisted suicide was the subject of discussion at a public hearing on Tuesday, March 20. This year, it is HB 5417, with the Orwellian name, “An Act Concerning End-of-Life Care.” --- nhregister.com, March 24 (Connecticut) <https://is.gd/JXyJZK>
11. “Bill Would Encourage Housing Options for Group Home Clients.” A bill cleared a hurdle Friday that would encourage private group homes to find other housing for clients, such as an apartment with a roommate, that is less expensive and helps the clients become more independent. --- courant.com, March 23 (Connecticut) <https://is.gd/t3eqOG>
12. “Hinesville Police locate missing autistic boy deceased in pond near home.” Hinesville Police have located 3-year-old Ayiden James Quilter in a pond that was located roughly 200 feet near his home in the Governor's Quarters neighborhood. -- wtoc.com. March 25 (Georgia) <https://is.gd/MvkGyQ>
13. “Brief Eldora escape exposes divisions.” A short-lived escape this week from the Boys State Training School in Eldora left an employee badly beaten and again exposed sharp disagreement over the fate of the facility’s program. --- thegazette.com, March 28 (Iowa) <https://is.gd/tOJ1jW>
14. “Kansas considers regulating antipsychotics in nursing homes.” A bill that would require nursing facilities to get written permission

from residents or their guardians before administering antipsychotic drugs faced stiff opposition from groups representing doctors, hospitals and skilled nursing homes during debate in the Kansas Legislature. --- ledger-enquirer.com. March 25 (Kansas) <https://is.gd/o30oh7>

15. “State agency asks courts for emergency power to take over 15 nursing homes in Kansas.” The Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services is asking 13 district courts for emergency power to take over operations for 15 nursing homes throughout the state, including several in Wyandotte County. --- kansascity.com, March 28 (Kansas) <https://is.gd/EkasT4>
16. “Kansas considers regulating antipsychotics in nursing homes; faces stiff opposition.” A bill that would require nursing facilities to get written permission from residents or their guardians before administering antipsychotic drugs faced stiff opposition from groups representing doctors, hospitals and skilled nursing homes during debate in the Kansas Legislature. --- ljworld.com, March 25 (Kansas) <https://is.gd/ON1NnL>
17. “Legislators lobbied by people with disabilities in halls of the State Capitol.” State Sen. Ed Price, D-Gonzales, met Wednesday with a group of disabled constituents from Assumption Parish. --- theadvocate.com, March 27 (Louisiana) <https://is.gd/fgiB3D>
18. “Lawmakers to consider approving medical marijuana as autism treatment.” A bill headed to committee this week would make medical marijuana a legal treatment for children and adults diagnosed with autism. --- wdsu.com, March 26 (Louisiana)

<https://is.gd/NGkWz1>

19. “State proposes giving schools responsibility for special education for 3- to 5-year-olds.” Lawmakers will take up a bill Monday that would shift all special education services for 3- to 5-year-olds to local school districts from the Maine Department of Education – which regularly runs over its \$30 million annual budget for those services and often fails to adequately provide them. --- sunjournal.com, March 26 (Maine) <https://is.gd/6wk8xX>
20. “Rape trial opens for former cop.” The rape trial against former Michigan City police officer Thomas K. Jackson is underway in La Porte Superior Court 1 this week. --- thenewsd Dispatch.com, March 27 (Michigan) <https://is.gd/ELkvae>
21. “Hundreds of licensed Missouri drivers receive blind benefits.” Hundreds of people with active Missouri driver’s licenses are collecting from a pension fund set up for blind residents, Gov. Eric Greitens said Friday in alleging widespread abuse of the system. -- - wtop.com, March 23 (Missouri) <https://is.gd/tKk8wE>
22. “Nevada Issues \$25,000 Fine To Las Vegas Group Home Owner.” The state has issued a \$25,000 fine to the owner of a Las Vegas group home after Nevada health officials found it was operated illegally. --- knpr.org, March 23 (Nevada) <https://is.gd/zu7Abz>
23. “CenterLight Healthcare Agrees to \$10M Settlement Over Medicaid Billing Fraud.” A New York health care provider under investigation for improper Medicaid payments for long-term care services that were never provided has agreed to a \$10 million

settlement, state and federal prosecutors announced Wednesday.
--- law.com, March 28 (New York) <https://is.gd/MngOb5>

24. “Lawmaker: LIRR needs to improve handicapped accessibility.” State Sen. John Brooks (D-Seaford) cites Wantagh station elevator issues in calling for the railroad to address “needs of those with disabilities.” --- newsday.com, March 24 (New York) <https://is.gd/Wf6aVt>
25. “Omnibus bill funds tracking devices for vulnerable children and adults.” The same night a wake was held for a Rochester teen with autism who died after walking away from his school unnoticed, a federal measure to pay for tracking devices for vulnerable children and adults passed in both houses of Congress. --- wxxinews.org, March 23 (New York) <https://is.gd/hX902Y>
26. “US Attorney joins IRT 6 elevator suit.” The MTA was under fire for an item it left out of its renovation of a train station in Pelham Bay. --- bxtimes.com, March 23 (New York) <https://is.gd/nV5607>
27. “Cops must consider a suspect's disability, court rules in Nazareth man's suicide.” The federal law that protects people with disabilities from discrimination applies to police making an arrest, an appeals court ruled in the case of a mentally ill Nazareth man who committed suicide after a police officer knocked on an apartment door before crisis negotiators arrived at a standoff. --- mcall.com. March 23 (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/fQjH5n>
28. “Wrongful death lawsuit filed by brother of disabled man settled by agencies for \$250,000.” By the time emergency medical

workers arrived at the Chesco group home in Chesterfield County on May 11, 2014, Michael Ashby Farrow had already died. ---
greenvilleonline.com, March 26 (South Carolina)

<https://is.gd/JgDjI5>

29. “Facebook Sued by Civil Rights Groups for Alleged Housing Discrimination [Updated].” A coalition of civil rights groups filed suit against Facebook on Monday, alleging the already harried company violated the Fair Housing Act by allowing housing advertisers to discriminate against minority users. ---
gizmodo.com, March 25 (Texas) <https://is.gd/aDmf4K>

30. “West Virginia launches new elder abuse litigation and prevention unit.” A new elder abuse litigation and prevention unit within the West Virginia attorney general's office will include civil prosecutors pursuing cases against those who exploit, abuse or neglect older adults in the state, West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrissey announced Thursday. ---
mcknightsseniorliving.com, March 25 (West Virginia)
<https://is.gd/izhwAx>

STUDIES & STATISTICS

31. “Low vitamin D levels linked to autism, study says.” Getting a dose of vitamin D is often as simple as basking in the rays of the sun. But as Scientific American noted, the lack of this crucial nutrient, often called the sunshine vitamin, may be related to autism, which has seen an alarming spike in cases in recent years. ---

mercurynews.com, March 23 <https://is.gd/pYSetx>

32. “Ketogenic Diets and Psychiatric Medications.” What you need to know before you go low carb. --- psychologytoday.com, March 27 <https://is.gd/y2LOKf>
33. “A New Drug Designed to Help Autistic People with Social Skills Is Currently in Clinical Trial.” A new drug designed to help people on the autism spectrum with social skills is currently being tested in a clinical trial. --- themighty.com, March 29 <https://is.gd/pJImix>
34. “Study: Accessible Technology Boosts Communication for People with Disabilities.” A new research article co-authored by Christine Holyfield, assistant professor of communication disorders, describes improvements in communication that children with intellectual and developmental disabilities made by using new technology. --- uark.edu, March 26 (Arkansas) <https://is.gd/glrB5R>
35. “Children with autism vaccinated at lower rates than others: study.” Parents of children with autism are less likely to get their children fully-vaccinated after the autism diagnosis, according to a new study. --- globalnews.ca, March 26 (Canada) <https://is.gd/ELG60x>

IMPROVED SUPPORTS

36. “Special police training on how to communicate with people who are deaf and hard of hearing.” This year is the first year the Arizona Commission for Deaf and the Hard of Hearing is teaming

up with the Phoenix Police Department on how to respond during tactical situations. --- fox10phoenix.com, March 25 (Arizona) <https://is.gd/Ahvo8P>

37. “Seeking to prevent abuse before it starts.” in the community.” Through promoting self-esteem and education, Turning Point hopes to prevent abuse before it starts. Turning Point received \$20,000 from the SHARE Foundation to continue providing violence prevention education to families in the Turning Point shelter and to teenagers through school-based curriculum as part of the new Violence Intervention Program. --- eldoradonews.com, March 25 (Arkansas) <https://is.gd/jUnUmg>
38. “From Service Dogs to a Prosthetic Arm, Apple Proposes 13 Disability Emojis.” In a proposal sent to the Unicode Consortium — the nonprofit organization that sets the global standard for emojis — the company is advocating for 13 new additions. --- sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com, March 23 (California) <https://is.gd/nQV6RA>
39. “Lack of state funding leaves the most vulnerable without homes.” The parents of children with intellectual and developmental disabilities are always planning for the future. School systems help teach and care for the children while parents are at work until the students turn 21 years old. --- thehour.com, March 25 (Connecticut) <https://is.gd/NryR9l>
40. “Autistic teen gets to play baseball after initially being banned by FHSAA.” A South Florida autistic teen has been granted the right to play baseball for a local high school after suddenly being

banned by the Florida High School Athletic Association. ---
local10.com, March 23 (Florida) <https://is.gd/byeyAq>

41. “Autism Awareness Day: Baker aims to open bakery with autistic employees.” Robin Hoffman has always been tough. Since she was in college, Hoffy, as everyone knows her, had a goal of wanting to help people with autism. That was years before her own daughter was born and diagnosed with autism. --- wogx.com, March 23 (Florida) <https://is.gd/U8fwwB>
42. “Ahead of state report, special ed advocate says Chicago Public Schools sought 'ways to reduce the level of service'.” Three days of public hearings as part of a state inquiry into special education at Chicago Public Schools ended Tuesday after hours of testimony that reinforced divisions between advocates and the district over revised practices implemented in 2016. --- chicagotribune.com, March 28 (Illinois) <https://is.gd/wq0FmH>
43. “Instead of jailing those with mental illness, here's what Indianapolis is doing.” The 911 call came from an 83-year-old woman. A dog had crawled into a small hole dug up by a mouse, she said, and now the animal was trapped inside the walls of her Indianapolis home. --- indystar.com, March 26 (Indiana) <https://is.gd/NwV3Qy>
44. “Disabilities message: Be cool, don’t pre-judge other-abled persons.” Often the greatest obstacles the "other-abled" face are not physical limitations, but others focusing on their limitations and not their strengths. --- nwitimes.com, March 29 (Indiana)

<https://is.gd/wfdh72>

45. “Deaf, Deaf World allows students to enter a world of silence.” Students at Barbe High School shuffled into the gym and were greeted with silence; a world without sound, something thousands experience in the state. --- kplctv.com, March 23 (Louisiana) <https://is.gd/NSiDuX>
46. “Financial abuse still a major problem for elderly Mainers, police say.” Whether they are being scammed by someone from faraway or by someone in a position of trust much closer to home, incidents of financial abuse of the elderly tend to go unreported. - -- bangordailynews.com, March 29 (Maine) <https://is.gd/bToc15>
47. “Double amputee stuck in home for years needs wheelchair ramp.” For a year and a half Diane Henderson hasn't stepped out of her door. She's a double amputee and can't make it down the stairs. To make things worse, she can't afford the thousands of dollars it costs to build a ramp. --- fox2detroit.com, March 23 (Michigan) <https://is.gd/LWDvc7>
48. “Who should pay? Duluth, other Minnesota districts advocate for changes in how special education expenses are covered.” School districts throughout Minnesota have spent years dealing with a delicate issue: an obligation to help pay for the needs of their resident special education students who opt to enroll in charter schools. --- bemidjipioneer.com, March 23 (Minnesota) <https://is.gd/owhqxS>

49. “Why is it getting harder to find handicapped parking in NJ?” Scott Chesney just needed a few things from Walgreens. But with snow plowed into the store's only two handicapped-accessible spaces, the Verona resident, who is paralyzed and uses a wheelchair, had nowhere to park. --- northjersey.com, March 26 (New Jersey) <https://is.gd/QFlpBE>
50. “How the NYPD Is Reportedly Failing Sexual-Assault Victims.” A disturbing new report from a leading law-enforcement agency reveals that the New York City Police Department has knowingly neglected its division that investigates sexual assault. --- thecut.com, March 27 (New York) <https://is.gd/YeUVb3>
51. “Farming is an increasingly popular career choice for those with developmental disabilities.” Rachel Kaplan is a farmer. Although she has only rudimentary speech and is considered to be on the autism spectrum, the 33-year-old has a support team who help her plant, cultivate, harvest, and sell the crops grown on a small farm in Accord. --- hudsonvalleyone.com, March 26 (New York) <https://is.gd/OEfThZ>
52. “Grimm says 'my bad' after parking in handicapped spot.” It's a law routinely broken in parking lots across the borough: Illegal use of parking spots reserved for the handicapped. --- silive.com, March 22 (New York) <https://is.gd/oHyVv8>
53. “‘Spread the Word to End the Word’.” The Jefferson County Board of Developmental Disabilities is honoring Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month by speaking with local students to encourage them to be kinder to their peers. --- wtov9.com, March

23 (Ohio) <https://is.gd/9GNs4L>

54. “Jobs for intellectually disabled students come into focus with workstation research.” Sara Riggs of Clemson University watched as two students with intellectual disabilities worked in the training room of the Walgreens Distribution Center near Williamston, packing bins with consumer products ranging from applesauce to toothpaste. --- newsstand.clemson.edu, March 29 (South Carolina) <https://is.gd/1LBbHM>
55. “Texas Official Calls Special Ed Students 'Slow Learners'.” A Texas official is being denounced for calling special education students "slow learners" and questioning whether it's worth spending public money on their education. --- nbcdfw.com, March 23 (Texas) <https://is.gd/3yPvcz>
56. “West Jordan teen donates 'little rooms' for the deaf and blind.” A West Jordan Eagle Scout surprised Utah Schools for the Deaf and Blind with 25 "little rooms" designed as an interactive play space for visually impaired children. --- kutv.com, March 23 (Utah) <https://is.gd/LvcBDg>
57. “Utah Disability Law Center introduces new voting equipment.” The Disability Law Center demonstrated new voting equipment that counties across Utah will soon begin using. --- kutv.com, March 27 (Utah) <https://is.gd/cuQYOP>
58. “Flight rehearsal held at Richmond International Airport for people with developmental disabilities.” At Richmond International Airport on Saturday, an American Airlines employee

announced boarding for flight 9567 to New York. ---
richmond.com, March 25 (Virginia) <https://is.gd/87VSXj>

59. “After years of flux, new report outlines how Spokane schools can improve special education.” Lisa Pacheco took over as director of special education at Spokane Public Schools in a period of upheaval. --- inlander.com, March 29 (Washington)
<https://is.gd/ngfNm8>
60. “Gay couple to open Wisconsin's first group home for LGBTQ youth.” It’s a small home that hopes to make a big difference. Courage House, which is expected to open its doors in November, will be Wisconsin’s first group home and drop-in center specifically for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer youth. --- nbcnews.com, March 27 (Wisconsin)
<https://is.gd/ukVGOF>

INTERNATIONAL

61. “Aborting unborn children with Down syndrome is ‘genocide’, UN told.” Aborting a child with a prenatal diagnosis of Down syndrome is a gross violation of human rights and anti-discriminatory commitments, and can be considered genocide, according to speakers at a March 20 panel at the United Nations. -
-- catholicerald.co.uk, March 23 <https://is.gd/rzgNTv>
62. “‘I felt there was nothing out there for him’: Haunting words of a mother who tried to KILL her intellectually disabled son, 34, when she reached breaking point after caring for him for 30 years.” A

mother who reached 'breaking point' after three decades caring for her autistic son has relived the night she attempted a murder-suicide with her disabled son. --- [dailymail.co.uk](https://www.dailymail.co.uk), March 25 (Australia) <https://is.gd/npvX4c>

63. “'60 Minutes': Heartbreaking stories of parents who are disability carers.” Last night on 60 Minutes, reporter Liz Hayes exposed the shameful truth that has left many elderly Australians in crisis. In particular, 63-year-old Yvette Nichol. For 33 years, Yvette did her very best to raise and be the full-time carer for her intellectually disabled son. --- [honey.nine.com.au](https://www.honey.nine.com.au), March 26 (Australia) <https://is.gd/cf2k97>
64. “Wait for beds goes on for prisoners found mentally unfit “ An intellectually disabled man who has spent more than a year in jail despite being found unfit to stand trial must spend another three months in custody before he gets suitable accommodation and treatment. --- [watoday.com.au](https://www.watoday.com.au), March 23 (Australia) <https://is.gd/lzh2pM>
65. “Disability rights activists call for equal opportunity in employment.” According to gov’t statistics, just 56 people with disabilities have found full-time jobs --- [thescoop.co](https://www.thescoop.co), March 26 (Brunei) <https://is.gd/bdSaez>
66. “Special education gets \$300 million funding boost.” The Liberals are pledging to spend an additional \$300 million over the next three years to hire teachers and assistants to work with special education students — an area parents and school boards have long complained is underfunded. --- [thestar.com](https://www.thestar.com), March 26

(Canada) <https://is.gd/FxxC3r>

67. “Expert warns of incarcerating people with intellectual disabilities in psychiatric wards.” The author of a study that sounded an alarm over confining Nova Scotians with intellectual disabilities in a psychiatric ward has testified the “incarcerated” residents were denied their human rights and good care practices. --- theglobeandmail.com, March 23 (Canada) <https://is.gd/TNbnoT>
68. “Teen sentenced 25 months for fatal foster home fire in City of Kawartha Lakes.” An 18-year-old girl has been sentenced to 25 months for lighting a fire in a foster home which killed two people and injured another in Oakwood, Ont., in February 2017. --- globalnews.ca, March 23 (Canada) <https://is.gd/8grNhC>
69. “Indigenous children continue to pay a steep price.” We want simple answers. But, sometimes, there aren’t any. Take Manitoba’s child welfare system, for example. --- troymedia.com, March 25 (Canada) <https://is.gd/jOvAM3>
70. “WARMINGTON: Smile for the camera 'tough guy'! One down, two to go!” Smile, Parmvir Singh Chahil. You are on camera. It’s (perhaps) not the first time as more than 500,000 people on YouTube already know. --- canoe.com, March 23 (Canada) <https://is.gd/NCSfD3>
71. “Study: Teachers don't know how to approach handicapped children.” Czech teachers often do not know how to work with either handicapped or talented pupils in their classes, and experts are often unable to describe the way for them to meet special

educational needs of particular children, a study released by the Education Ministry has shown. --- praguemonitor.com, March 29 (Czechoslovakia) <https://is.gd/TNQ6Rh>

72. “Family of mentally impaired woman takes legal action over alleged rape at care home.” The family of a mentally impaired care home resident is taking legal action after its former director allegedly had non-consensual sex with her in 2014. --- hongkongfp.com, March 27 (China) <https://is.gd/EqUWhz>
73. “My son has Down’s syndrome – and he belongs in a mainstream school.” I realise me writing about Finnish education may require an awkward introduction. --- theguardian.com, March 26 (Finland) <https://is.gd/U8UBBP>
74. “Intellectually Disabled Children Cry for Gov’t Support.” The Parent Association for Children with Intellectual Disabilities (PACID-Ghana), in collaboration with New Horizon Special School, has held a day workshop to sensitise parents and the media on the various forms of intellectual disabilities and called on government to support such children. --- modernghana.com, March 23 (Ghana) <https://is.gd/jil1QN>
75. “Curtains on Little Elly playschool for ‘retarded’ remark.” The child has since been moved to another playschool and is reportedly showing good progress. --- deccanchronicle.com, March 26 (India) <https://is.gd/eFUTAK>
76. “Family of deaf man had to tell him he was dying.” A health trust has apologised to the family of a deaf man who had to tell him he

was dying because a hospital did not provide a sign-language interpreter. The South-Eastern Health and Social Care Trust has paid £7,000 compensation to Thomas Carson's family. --- [bbc.com](https://is.gd/bnW5xF), March 23 (Ireland) <https://is.gd/bnW5xF>

77. “HSE group to examine complaints at centre for intellectually disabled.” The HSE has set up a group to examine more than 100 complaints from service users of a centre for intellectually disabled people in the south of the country. --- [rte.ie](https://is.gd/IzRNle), March 24 (Ireland) <https://is.gd/IzRNle>
78. “Troubles Legacy Raises Disability Rights Issues in Northern Ireland.” The decades of conflict in Northern Ireland, known as ‘the Troubles’, led to thousands of civilian deaths and many more were left with serious, life-altering injuries. --- [rightsinfo.org](https://is.gd/crxhxc), March 28 (Ireland) <https://is.gd/crxhxc>
79. “Morris Wants Disability Law to Come Into Force.” Opposition Senator Floyd Morris has urged Minister of Labour and Social Security Shahine Robinson to set the effective date for the Disabilities Act, which was passed in 2014, to come into force. He made the call during his contribution to the debate on the Appropriations Bill in the Upper House yesterday. --- [jamaica-gleaner.com](https://is.gd/Ygwbgc), March 24 (Jamaica) <https://is.gd/Ygwbgc>
80. “Making Jordan accessible for wheelchair users.” Accessible Jordan is an online platform that catalogues wheelchair-friendly spaces around Jordan. --- [thearabweekly.com](https://is.gd/cQ00Kq), March 25 (Jordan) <https://is.gd/cQ00Kq>

81. "Liberian Group Wants End to Discrimination Against Down Syndrome Patients." My Heart's Appeal, a community-based program of the Down Syndrome Association of Liberia, is confident people with the condition can contribute to the society if given the opportunity. --- frontpageafricaonline.com, March 26 (Liberia) <https://is.gd/DIHpbL>
82. "Tanker driver rapes girl." A tanker driver has been arrested on the charge of raping a teen girl at Athrai Rural Municipality in Tehrathum district. --- kathmandutribune.com. March 23 (Nepal) <https://is.gd/zcSg3t>
83. "School restraint rules 'undermine adult authority' - Family First." New rules that have required schools to report on more than 1000 incidents of physically restraining children since last August are undermining adult authority, the Family First lobby group says. --- nzherald.co.nz, March 26 (New Zealand) <https://is.gd/dG8meS>
84. "Damages for handicapped boy, uncle after wrongful arrest ordeal." Almost 10 years ago a man decided to go on a Christmas shopping trip to Cape Town, and took his physically handicapped nephew who was 8. But Nundkissoon Latchman, and the boy (who may not be named) were locked up by police, he for two nights and the boy for one. --- iol.co.za, March 24 (South Africa) <https://is.gd/bmJBOH>
85. "South Africa shocked by deaths of 144 psychiatric patients." During a regular visit, Sophie Mangena was shocked to find that her mother with dementia had been transferred from the

psychiatric facility without so much as a phone call to the family, and the nurse on duty didn't know exactly where she was. --- abcnews.go.com, March 26 (South Africa) <https://is.gd/R4Pzua>

86. “Rise in reports of abuse in residential and nursing homes in Kent and Medway.” Allegations of abuse against vulnerable adults in their own home in Kent and Medway have risen sharply, according to a report by a safeguarding board. --- kentonline.co.uk, March 23 (UK) <https://is.gd/njlvSM>

87. “Scouts pay £42,000 over treatment of autistic boy.” The family of an autistic boy has received £42,000 in compensation after successfully suing his local Cub Scout group over claims it discriminated against him. --- thetimes.co.uk, March 26 (UK) <https://is.gd/95oSFh>

88. “‘I could be taken from my home’: why disabled people once again fear being ‘warehoused’.” In the 1970s, disabled people were often placed in out-of-town institutions. Then came the independent living revolution. Is the clock turning back? --- theguardian.com, March 27 (UK) <https://is.gd/WKqese>

MISCELLANEOUS

89. “The Controversial Process of Redesigning the Wheelchair Symbol.” Just 50 years ago, the International Symbol of Access did not exist. Known variously as the Wheelchair Symbol and “the little blue sign,” the icon features an individual sat on their wheelchair, apparently motionless, with their arms perched on

the sides. --- atlasobscura.com, March 29 <https://is.gd/HP7Yk3>

90. “Man Who Overcame Childhood Sexual Abuse Runs 3,000 Miles Across the U.S. to Help Other Victims.” A survivor of childhood sexual abuse is hoping to make a difference for other victims by raising money for charity during an excruciating 3,000-mile run across the country. --- people.com, March 23 <https://is.gd/NywBDa>
91. “Perris Couple Accused of Torturing Children Return to Court.” David and Louise Turpiin have been charged with 12 counts each of torture and false imprisonment, as well as nine counts of child abuse and seven counts of cruelty to a dependent adult. --- nbclosangeles.com, March 22 (California) <https://is.gd/TNbnoT>
92. “Students honor National Down Syndrome Day with colorful footwear.” Students from P.S. 380 rocked crazy socks Friday in honor of National Down Syndrome Day. --- Brooklyn.news12.com, March 23 (New York) <https://is.gd/F8t5oU>
93. “Theater Review: 'The Boys Next Door' Offers Deft Portrayal of The Intellectually Challenged.” Within the first five minutes of Tom Griffen’s “The Boys Next Door,” you become aware that the play is not going to be drama in the normal sense—with a beginning, middle and end—but instead a gentle episodic drift into the lives of four intellectually challenged men who live together in a group home. --- 27east.com, March 25 (New York) <https://is.gd/FS3tuW>