

Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of July 23 to July 20, 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*, *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.

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Types of Abuse and Neglect:

Trafficking/Prostitution: 11, 45, 46

Sexual Assault: 5, 14, 22, 42, 43, 46, 48, 49, 52

Physical Abuse: 1, 3, 4, 8, 9, 13 (torture), 20, 44, 46, 51

Emotional/Verbal abuse: 55, 59

Financial abuse/robbery: 9, 10, 17, 61

Murder: 3, 6, 8, 12, 15, 41, 53

Neglect: 3, 16, 18k 38

Related to Special Education: 21, 54

WINNER of most egregious awards: 19 - Mental health treatment program abuses children; 62: Trump Administrative leader recommends institutionalization of people with disabilities.

WINNER of most wonderful award: 2 – 261-year sentence for sexual assault of his step daughter who has a disability.

WHO DUN IT (listed by article number):

Family: 1, 3, 8, 11, 38, 41, 44, 53

Carer: 6, 12, 15, 16, 18, 19, 46, 51

Job coach: 5

Special education: 5, 14

Stranger: 9, 10, 13, 42, 48

Transporters: 21

(Note: not all articles identify gender of perpetrators.)

Men: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 20, 22, 38, 41, 42, 43, 44, 48, 49, 51, 52

Women: 3, 8, 11, 12, 16, 17, 45, 53

Good News: 30: Human rights report focuses on “stopping” violence against people with disabilities; 34: Straw campaign: some people with disabilities need plastic straws- recommendation for needs of all; 37: Improved care coordination for people with disabilities approved in NY; 60: Quiet hour instituted at supermarket for shoppers with autism spectrum disorders.

Bad News: 25: Pending legislation could harm parents with disabilities; 36: Michigan only state which failed to meet special education requirements, per DOE. (However in recent newsfeeds other states have same finding, so not sure this is accurate...); 50: System reform moves “at glacial speed” for people with disabilities; 63: SC allocated no funding for Adult Protective

Services in this year's budget...the agency responsible for investigation reports of suspected abuse/neglect.

ABUSE & NELECT

1. "Mesa man accused of hitting autistic teen" - A Mesa man is accused of hitting an autistic teen several times in the head. Mesa police report that on July 11, the Arizona Department of Child Safety was alerted to an altercation at a Mesa home between an autistic teen and the child's mother. – ABC 15 Arizona – July 16, 2018 – (Arizona) - <https://is.gd/t5Gwnl>
2. "Man Gets 261 Years to Life for Sexually Assaulting Girl and Woman" - Duckett's mental competency was questioned several times after he was arrested and at one point he was found not competent to stand trial but then was restored to competency. Duckett rocked back and forth when he appeared before jurors during in his trial, but he didn't do so at his sentencing today. Duckett's lawyer Gregory Ward said there's "overwhelming evidence" that Duckett suffers from mental health issues and is developmentally disabled and that should be considered a factor that could mitigate the length of his sentence. – SF Gate – July 13, 2018 – (California) <https://is.gd/X12F7W>
3. "A 'life of torture.' Parents tried to hide abuse of 3-year-old with makeup, police say" - Burn marks caked with makeup, gaunt and emaciated features, bruises and marks across her body - these are the things police say they noticed when called to the home of 3-year-old Angelina Costello on July 6, 2017 in Ogden, Utah, Fox 13 reported. Now the girl's parents, 25-year-old Miller Costello and 23-year-old Brenda Emile, could face the death penalty after police found the girl dead in the home, according to the Associated Press. - Sacramento Bee- July 16, 2018- (California) - <https://is.gd/Kk5Xdb>
4. "Colorado man who allegedly slapped special needs child on school bus identified" - Aurora Police issued a summons for child abuse following an incident where a teacher's aide allegedly slapped a special needs child on a

school bus Monday. The summons was issued to Corey Coburn, 34, according to Aurora Police spokesman Bill Hummel. Coburn plead guilty to a misdemeanor of driving while ability impaired offense in 2012, according to Colorado court records. – Daily Record Colorado – July 18, 2018 – (Colorado) - <https://is.gd/MVtoGb>

5. “Former Harc Job Coach Accused of Sexually Assaulting Clients with Mental Disabilities” - A former Harc employee has been accused of sexually assaulting two clients with mental disabilities while he was supposed to be supervising them as their job coach. Connecticut State Police arrested 53-year-old Ricardo Marchand, of East Hartford, on sexual assault charges on July 6- NBC News- July 17, 2018 – (Connecticut) - <https://is.gd/JzZfCQ>
6. “No charges in death at Mount Dora’s Carlton Palms” - The State Attorney’s office Friday announced it will not be filing charges in the death of a developmentally disabled patient at the longtime troubled Carlton Palms Educational Facility on March 1. An ambulance was called to the facility on that date at 1:30 p.m. for William Lamson, 26, who was found unresponsive on the floor of his bedroom. Lamson had been diagnosed with bipolar and oppositional defiant disorders and hyperactivity. – Daily Commercial – July 13, 2018 – (Florida) <https://is.gd/3EDmzW>
7. “In the USA Disabled Hit the Stripper with a Taser for Refusing Sex” - The incident occurred in Georgia in the United States. 31-year-old man with paralyzed lower limbs have brought home a stripper and then tried to rape her. Information about the incident spread by the American media. - The Silver Telegram – July 15, 2018 – (Georgia) - <https://is.gd/bCAIIE>
8. “DeKalb pair accused of killing disabled toddler with ‘unknown object’” - After the child’s death, the parents were initially arrested on June 3, 2016, each charged with a single count of child cruelty. The indictment alleges both committed eight counts of child cruelty and one count of felony murder, all said to have taken place from May 9 to 31.- Atlanta Journal- Constitution – July 17, 2018 – (Georgia) <https://is.gd/hhKbRx>

9. “Homeless, Disabled Indiana Man Beaten, Robbed of \$9” - A disabled, homeless Indiana man was beaten and robbed in Indianapolis on Wednesday, with thieves getting away with \$9 as bystanders watched, WXIN reported. – News 95.5 – July 14, 2018 – (Indiana) - <https://is.gd/eu4Ubo>
10. “Worcester man accused of robbing man in wheelchair arrested after stolen cellphone rings in his pocket” - A robbery suspect accused of stealing a cellphone and cash from a man confined to a wheelchair in Worcester Sunday night was arrested after the victim’s phone starting ringing in his pocket while he was being questioned by police, officials say. – 7 News Boston – July 16, 2018 – (Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/gBwJqU>
11. “Trial date set for mother in rape, human trafficking case” - The man charged with repeatedly raping her mentally disabled adult daughter pleaded guilty and was sent to state prison. But Nancy Barr, the woman's mother who police say allowed the sexual assaults in exchange for cash and bill payments, is taking her criminal case to a jury. – The Eagle Tribune – July 18, 2018 – (Massachusetts) - <https://is.gd/knLHhD>
12. “Caregiver charged after taking disabled man to a party, where he died” - An Inver Grove Heights woman has been charged with the neglect of a vulnerable adult after she allowed a disabled man in her care to consume alcohol, resulting in his death. On Aug. 5, 2017, Taylor Elaine Wellman, 24, arrived an hour late for her shift caring for a 19-year-old man with muscular dystrophy. The man uses a wheelchair, weighs about 84 pounds and requires 24-hour care. – Twin Cities Pioneer Press- July 16, 2018 – (Minnesota) - <https://is.gd/eAewqP>
13. “Disabled woman held captive, tortured in her own home” - Police say a man gained the trust of a woman in a wheelchair before holding her captive in her Albuquerque home – torturing her both mentally and physically – for more than a month. – Albuquerque Journal – July 13, 2018 (New Mexico) - <https://is.gd/9OvsNI>

14. "Disabled girl who said she was punished for reporting school gang rape wins nearly \$1 million settlement" - The city paid nearly one million dollars to settle a lawsuit brought by the family of an intellectually disabled teenager who said she was gang raped in her Brooklyn school's stairwell — and then punished by school brass for reporting the attack. The victim, who wants to remain anonymous, has an IQ of 71 and possessed a perfect disciplinary record when she was forced into a stairwell at the troubled Teacher Preparatory High and forced to perform sex acts on a group of boys, according to the suit. – Daily News- July 14, 2018 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/Lo0G3h>
15. "Investigation opened into Schenectady group home death" - She said her brother, who had intellectual disabilities, was known to wear all of his clothes because he was afraid his roommate would steal them. She alleges that it was in his treatment plan to keep his clothes locked up so he would not wear layers. Also, she questioned why there was apparently no fan or air conditioner in an upstairs bedroom when temperatures had reached into the 90s for the fifth day in a row.- times union- July 16, 2018 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/HaKh0G>
16. "Caretaker charged with neglecting, abusing elderly man" – A caretaker is being charged after an elderly man was found suffering in his home due to unsanitary living conditions, according to Lumberton police. Lovia George was charged with domestic abuse of disabled or elder adults resulting in serious injury and domestic neglect of disabled or elder adults resulting in serious injury, as stated in a release. – ABC 15 – July 17, 2018 – (North Carolina) - <https://is.gd/Catcey>
17. "Granite Falls Woman Indicted On Fraud, Exploitation Charges" - 37-year-old Jane Morgan Hefner of Peachtree Lane in Granite Falls was arrested Monday (July 16) by Caldwell County Sheriff's Officers. She's charged on bills of indictment with felony financial card fraud and felony exploit a disabled or elderly person. Hefner was detained in the Caldwell County Detention Center under \$10,000 secured bond. A Superior Court appearance is scheduled for

September 10. – WHKY- July 17, 2018- (North Carolina) - <https://is.gd/LsFe7O>

18. “State revokes licenses for 'Just Like Home' elderly group homes” - Just Like Home was cited for a finding of neglect, not conducting background checks and not reporting allegations of possible abuse or neglect to the state in a timely manner or at all. An 88-year-old woman fell in 2017 and did not receive medical attention until two days later and another elderly woman had to go without prescribed pain medication for 17 days. After the recommendation, Mihas voluntarily turned in her licenses June 4.- WFMJ- July 13, 2018 – (Ohio) <https://is.gd/TYFujS>
19. “Disability Rights Ohio alleges abuse, neglect, exploitation at child treatment center” - After a nine-month investigation into a child treatment center, where Fairfield County Job and Family Services sent at least one child, accusations of abuse and unsanitary conditions emerged. - Lancaster Eagle Gazette – July 20, 2018 – (Ohio) - <https://is.gd/NqdJGg>
20. “Man arrested for allegedly assaulting an elderly, disabled person” - A man was arrested this weekend after police say he assaulted an elderly, disabled person. – eParisExtra- July 16, 2018 – (Texas) <https://is.gd/dP3Qeu>
21. “Washington school district violates special education laws for a decade” – A three-month KING 5 investigation into Anthony's case uncovered a pattern of wrongdoing in the Mabton School District. Officials there violated state and federal special education laws, including the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) — the law that guarantees all students with disabilities receive the specialized services they need to reach their full potential in school. Special education experts say the district's failures will likely cost Anthony a meaningful future due to his lack of progress. - King 5 News- July 16, 2018 – (Washington) - <https://is.gd/stYFf2>
22. “La Crosse man pleads 'not guilty' to sexual assault charge of disabled woman” - A La Crosse man charged with sexually assaulting a woman with a cognitive disability pleads not guilty. The woman says she wanted to try

having sex with Stoy, but her care providers believe she is unable to give consent because of her disability, according to court papers. – WKBT- TV- July 18, 2018 – (Wisconsin) <https://is.gd/YzShc6>

GUARDIANSHIP

23. “Possible changes to guardianship laws in Nevada” - On July 18th a public hearing was held to review the first interim report of the Guardianship Commission. The commission is addressing concerns of people who could become subject to the guardianship system, a system that has been criticized in the state of Nevada for its ease of obtaining guardianship over someone. – News 4 – July 19, 2018 – (Nevada) <https://is.gd/bGsasc>
24. “Planning for Special Needs Children in a Divorce” - First and foremost, parents should be informed that joint decision-making for that child will likely need to continue well past when the child turns 18. If the child is disabled, but not incapacitated, at age 18 the child may execute a General Durable Power of Attorney in favor of one or more parents to allow continued assistance with financial decision-making. – New Jersey Law Journal – July 19, 2018 – (New Jersey) - <https://is.gd/0ugicv>

LAWS & LEGISLATIONS

25. “A Looming Family Leave Plan in Congress Could Harm Parents with Disabilities” - On Wednesday, the U.S. Senate held a hearing to discuss potential federal family policies, featuring two competing proposals. – Rewire News- July 13, 2018 (D.C.) <https://is.gd/xop7wd>
26. “Senate Approves Delay of Caregiver Check-In Mandate” - “We’re being tracked like criminals, like we’ve done something illegal,” Carr said. “We pushed so hard for this to give us that year’s time to organize the disability community to have it removed from the Cures Act. It’s going to take a huge grass roots push like we haven’t done in a long time.” - disability scoop – July 19, 2018- (D.C.) <https://is.gd/cN6OO5>

27. "Congress should build upon the ABLE Act, giving more Americans with disabilities access to financial tools" - The Senate Special Committee on Aging recently announced that they would be holding a hearing to discuss the growing population of aging caregivers for individuals with disabilities. As the committee considers ways to protect our nation's most vulnerable population, it is important to highlight the impact of a program that we know is already making a huge difference for families of individuals with disabilities: The Achieving a Better Life Experience Act.- The Hill – July 18, 2018- (D.C.) <https://is.gd/21NQfY>
28. "Number of disabled vets to get tax refunds jolts law's backers" - Nineteen months ago, as Congress considered the Combat-Injured Veterans Tax Fairness Act of 2016, lawmakers shepherding the bill (HR 5015) toward enactment advised that perhaps 13,800 veterans had taxes mistakenly withheld from lump-sum disability separation payments and would get refunds. – Stars and Stripes – July 19, 2018 – (D. C.) - <https://is.gd/kW7LxH>
29. "People using fake service dogs to face fines under new Hawaii law" - A new Hawaii law will fine people for knowingly misrepresenting a pet as a service animal, after passing without Gov. David Ige's signature. Under Senate Bill 2461, a person can be fined anywhere from \$100 to \$500 for bringing an untrained animal into a private space under the pretense of a disability. – Hawaii News Now -July 14, 2018 – (Hawaii) - <https://is.gd/iPPFIt>

STUDIES & STATISTICS

30. "Human rights report calls for new approach to tackle violence against people with disabilities" - Federal Disability Discrimination Commissioner Alastair McEwin said the report, titled A Future Without Violence, was an important attempt to stop the violence that impacted millions of Australians. "Because it's behind closed doors, it means that often people with disabilities can't know how to make a report," Mr. McEwin told ABC Radio Sydney's Wendy Harmer and James O'Loughlin. "[And] because police don't know how to communicate with them appropriately, we find that those issues go

unreported or are not pursued within the justice system." – ABC News- July 16, 2018- (Australia) - <https://is.gd/rOVkpt>

31. "Most nursing homes are not adequately staffed, new federal data says" - Most nursing homes had fewer nurses and caretaking staff than they had reported to the government, according to new federal data, bolstering the long-held suspicions of many families that staffing levels were often inadequate. – PBS News Hour – July 13, 2018 – (New York) - <https://is.gd/G2f72a>

32. "Pew: Philadelphia has highest rate of disability among large U.S. cities" - Philadelphia residents have the highest rate of physical, emotional and cognitive disabilities among large U.S. cities, a statistic that appears to reflect the deeper degree of poverty found in cities near the top of the list, according to new research from the Pew Charitable Trusts. – Philly Voice- July 17, 2018 – (Pennsylvania) - <https://is.gd/eY1DqV>

IMPROVED SUPPORTS

33. "What Now After Solitary Confinement? Part 2" – The exception may be the fact that the prisoner may have a predisposed or diagnosed mental illness. Therefore, in any release, mental health providers must be part of the release plan because, with adequate attention and treatment, they could have gotten better. "Explaining why isolation is so damaging is complicated but can be distilled to basic human needs for social interaction and sensory stimulation, along with a lack of the social reinforcement that prevents everyday concerns from snowballing into psychoses," said Kupers. – Corrections.com – July 16, 2018- (Arizona) <https://is.gd/8PAWeu>

34. "Disability, environment groups seek win-win solutions following straw ban" - There's an opportunity for the same kind of conversation around straws ... to really think about how they're used and how we can make sure that people who need a straw can have one," she said. "I don't think it's an either-or. I think it's an 'and'." – Chicago Sun Times- July 15, 2018- (Illinois) - <https://is.gd/1nRarz>

35. "Massachusetts debates 25-year-old education funding formula" - Massachusetts lawmakers are in the middle of a debate about how best to increase spending on local school districts. At the heart of the discussion is the state's 25-year-old education funding formula — known as the "foundation budget" — which was a key element of the landmark 1993 Massachusetts education reform law. – Boston News- July 15, 2018- (Massachusetts) <https://is.gd/L1YbBf>
36. "Michigan only state to need special ed intervention" - Michigan is the only state in the nation that failed to meet federal special education requirements and requires intervention, according to a U.S. Department of Education evaluation. - The Detroit News – July 17, 2018- (Michigan) <https://is.gd/O1JiwX>
37. "Improved care coordination services available for those with disabilities"- Seven approved Care Coordination Organizations (CCOs) will begin providing improved People First Care Coordination to residents of New York with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD). This has taken place under the state Department of Health's Health Home Care Management program in partnership with the Office for People with Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD). – Rome Sentinel- July 16, 2018- (New York) - <https://is.gd/T4cz3n>
38. "Loris man charged with 'wilful abuse' of his mother"- A 34-year-old Loris man has been charged with abusing his 60-year-old mother by not being around to feed her, according to a police report. She said she receives her food via a feeding tube and her son, Charlie Powell, is the only one who knows how to administer the tube but she hadn't seen him in four days and didn't know where he was. – ABC 15 News – July 19, 2018 – (South Carolina) - <https://is.gd/OjQTKP>
39. "Virginia Beach voter registration event helps people with disabilities" - The event will register voters with disabilities and instruct them or their caregivers on how to use disabled-accessible voting equipment. Additionally, photos can be taken during registration, with Voter IDs mailed to

participants. – The Virginian Pilot – July 13, 2018 – (Virginia)
<https://is.gd/GY512b>

40. “Reporting is Key to Stopping Bullying”- Many schools now have law enforcement officers right on campus, readily available to charge people with legal offenses if they occur. What’s lacking is the information flow process that brings the awareness of incidents to the officer. Why can’t we build a school-wide reporting system (anonymous and technology-based) that gets information to these officers for every bullying offense that takes place, whether assault or battery? – Volume One- July 17, 2018 – (Wisconsin) - <https://is.gd/vnLEp3>

INTERNATIONAL

41. “Husband pleads not guilty to killing disabled wife in Adelaide parklands pond” - A man accused of drowning his wheelchair-confined wife in a parklands pond in Adelaide has pleaded not guilty to murder.- ABC News- July 17, 2018 – (Australia) - <https://is.gd/LodewV>

42. “Man wanted after daylight sexual assault of disabled teen girl” - Police are hunting for a man after the daylight sexual assault of a disabled teenage girl in Melbourne’s south-east last month. The 15-year-old girl, who has an intellectual disability, was walking along Chesterville Road in Cheltenham about 12.40pm on June 24 when she was approached by a man who spoke to her briefly, and then sexually assaulted her. – spiffy trend – July 19, 2018 – (Australia) <https://is.gd/A8lu5f>

43. “Farmer charged with raping disabled girl” - Kandal Provincial Court yesterday charged a 28-year-old man with raping a 14-year-old deaf girl in Ponhea Leu district. District deputy police chief Major Seng Duong identified the accused as Chun Khouch, a farmer living in the district’s Phnom Bat commune. He was charged with rape with aggravating circumstances and faces up to 15 years in jail if convicted. – KHMER Times – July 19, 2018 – (Cambodia) - <https://is.gd/z84TQi>

44. “Man in China Caught on Video Beating Disabled Father in Hospital Ward” - It shows the man, identified only as Li, violently hitting his 63-year-old father who was admitted to the hospital on June 26 after suffering high blood pressure and a brain hemorrhage., according to ThePaper.- Next Shark- July 18, 2018- (China) - <https://is.gd/JBbGQq>
45. “LFP Longform: A shocking sex-trafficking arrest. A sex-trade grey area” -The case seemed black and white when London police announced human trafficking charges three years ago against a Brampton woman accused of forcing an intellectually disabled woman to sell sex out of hotels. But as the charges slowly made their way through the justice system while the accused remained behind bars, questions emerged about whether the disabled woman was being trafficked or was a willing sex worker. Randy Richmond explores how the case illustrates the grey areas of human trafficking, prostitution and consent – The London Free Press- July 20, 2018 – (England) - <https://is.gd/IGlf9n>
46. “DRI releases new report on Guatemala – voluntourism, abuse, trafficking” - Disability Rights International (DRI), along with Colectivo Vida Independiente de Guatemala and the Guatemalan Human Rights Ombudsman, today released a report documenting the human rights violations, abuse and trafficking of children in orphanages and institutions across the country. DRI’s Guatemala investigation also found conditions for children with disabilities in institutions extremely dangerous. Children tied in restraints and locked in cages – and most will never leave institutions until they die. - Disability Rights International – July 16, 2018- (Guatemala) - <https://is.gd/3ezEeM>
47. “Look Who Isn’t Dead Yet, Please Don’t Be Disappointed” - It’s weird. We all agree that Muslims with disabilities have the right to access and accommodation in our masjid and our communities, but why don’t we seem to be doing much about it? We all agree that fulfilling these rights are hard, but why do so many of us act like the rights of Muslims with

disabilities are optional? – Muslim Matters- July 17, 2018- (Global) - <https://is.gd/msMxUP>

48. “18 Men Arrested for Allegedly Raping a 12-Year-Old Disabled Girl in India”- The young girl identified her first attacker to police as Ravi Kumar, a 66-year-old elevator operator in a 300-apartment complex on the block where the victim’s family lived. She said that after first assaulting her, in subsequent days he would bring other men into the apartment complex to rape and assault her as well, The Times of India reported Tuesday. – The Daily Caller – July 17, 2018 – (India) <https://is.gd/qtb2Qh>
49. “Man held for rape attempt on mentally disabled minor in Odisha's Jajpur”- Two cases of rape attempt on minor girls were reported at Jajpur and Jagatsinghpur on Tuesday. A 21-year-old youth was arrested on Tuesday for allegedly trying to rape a mentally-challenged minor girl in Badabalikuda village under Balichandrapur police limits in the district. – New Indian Express – July 18, 2018 – (India) <https://is.gd/7UYlgx>
50. “Children with disabilities: 'The assessment of need system is in disarray’- Inclusion Ireland is all too aware from our work that reform in disability law and policy moves at glacial speed. Additionally, when policies are put in place and laws are actually changed they are rarely implemented, and children with disabilities and their families, in particular, are left fighting for the crumbs from the table. – the journal – July 20, 2018 – (Ireland) - <https://is.gd/hjPl61>
51. “Tokyo: Home helper accused of molesting handicapped girl” - According to police, the suspect provided help to the girl, who is suffers from a severe mental handicap, in speaking and eating over a 9-year period. In late June, the father of the girl noticed that she was behaving differently and set up a security camera, whose footage showed the violation. – Tokyo Reporter – July 15, 2018 – (Japan) - <https://is.gd/uYWWOn>
52. “Principal found dead after teacher revealed raping disabled students” - A principal of a special school for disabled students in Gangwon Province was

found dead Thursday morning, days after the revelation that one of the teachers had sexually harassed and raped students with mental disabilities over several years. – The Korea Herald – July 19, 2018- (Korea) <https://is.gd/BWG4N4>

53. “Review prompted by Ruby Knox murder blasts NZ's disability care” - A review of New Zealand's disability services prompted by a mother murdering her autistic daughter has found no failings by individual staff but warns "there will be more Rubys" unless services improve. The independent review of services used by Donella Knox and her daughter Ruby has identified a series of systemic service issues contributing to Ruby's death two years ago. Knox smothered Ruby to death after 20 years as her sole caregiver and was sentenced to four years' imprisonment. Ruby was a large and violent child with serious health problems and Knox felt let down by services supposed to be helping. – stuff – July 18, 2018 – (New Zealand) <https://is.gd/A2YUCs>

54. “Shameful’ failings in special needs education revealed” - ‘Significant concerns’ about the state of special educational needs and disability (SEND) provision in North Somerset have been raised in a report, with parents slamming the ‘horrific’ service. -Mercury in Brief- July 16, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/kGF5qB>

55. “Disabled comic 'harassed and shamed' in scooter row on train” - Disabled comedian Tanyalee Davis has criticised train company Great Western Railway after she was “harassed and shamed” in a row over her mobility scooter on a journey from Plymouth to London. Tanyalee, who is just 3ft 6ins tall and uses the scooter to get around, found herself in a beef with a young mother and train staff when she put her scooter into a space reserved for wheelchair users. – Plymouth Live – July 17, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/jscl8e>

56. “Perpetrators of domestic violence abuse within Intellectual Disability services: A hidden population?” - Domestic violence abuse is when people

hurt family members or partners with their words or actions, take their money or try to control them. It is against the law to do this. We wanted to know more about how many people with intellectual disabilities are being violent in their relationships. – The British Journal of Learning Disabilities July 16, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/MEMPAF>

57. “Disability legislation to crack down on public bodies in the UK” - New legislation coming into force will mean that, as early as 2020, all public-sector organisations, including all councils will need to make sure that their digital services and online information are accessible for disabled people. – b daily news – July 16, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/RYWkPx>

58. “NICE guideline set to address variation in provision of services for adults with cerebral palsy” - NICE has published a draft guideline on the care and support adults with cerebral palsy should receive. “This guideline aims to ensure that adults with cerebral palsy have easy access to equitable, cost-efficient services, with a clear network of referral to more specialised services as appropriate.”- NICE – July 16, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/sFaogv>

59. “Football Bosses Must Tackle 'Disgusting' Online Abuse of Disabled People, Say MPs” - Football bosses must tackle the “disgusting” online abuse of disabled people by fans, MPs have demanded. The call comes after an inquiry inspired by former model Katie Price discovered football fans using offensive terms about disabled people to insult players and their performances online - as well as the name of Price’s teenage son. – HuffPost- July 20, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/1AF07I>

60. “Reading supermarket launches Quieter Hour for autistic shoppers” - he Quieter Hour initiative has been created with the support of the National Autistic Society. Many people who are autistic or those with autistic children can find shopping in a supermarket an anxious experience.- In Your Area- July 20, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/bTy7k3>

61. "Thousands of disabled people failed by government's 'culture of indifference', report finds" - MPs condemn DWP's 'failure' to act on 'unacceptable and entirely avoidable' underpayment error which saw sick and disabled people miss out on thousands of pounds- Independent – July 17, 2018 – (United Kingdom) - <https://is.gd/mmeACF>

MISCELLANEOUS

62. "Sen. Duckworth Responds to Lazare's Disability Comments" - US Senator Tammy Duckworth calls it a dangerous concept that would set disabled rights back "several decades". She's talking about a statement made recently by Mary Lazare, who oversees community living for the Trump administration and who basically suggested that it would be okay to institutionalize those with disabilities. – KMOX – July 20, 2018 – (Missouri) - <https://is.gd/5VDPPQ>

63. "Funding for help to vulnerable SC adults again at zero, even as more in need" - Funding for a program to protect vulnerable adults in South Carolina has remained flat this year, even as the number of adults who need the help is rising. The state's General Assembly ratified a budget June 29 that includes no funding for Adult Protective Services, the section of the Department of Social Services tasked with caring for adults who have been abused or neglected. – The Post and Courier – July 16, 2018 – (South Carolina) <https://is.gd/Q45PMS>

64. "The Americans with Disabilities Act: Why It's Not Enough" - The ADA mandates a great deal, but the mechanisms for enforcement are complex and often costly. Disabled people can file reports and grievances, but the only real avenue for action is litigation, often at the plaintiff's expense. – The Rivard Report- July 16, 2018 – (Texas) <https://is.gd/DbrEGN>