UNTOUCHABLE Timecoded Dialogue List
Transcribed from Festival Master

(TEXT): Blue Lawn Productions presents

In association with Racing Horse Productions

A co-production with Meerkat Media Collective

A film by David Feige

[01:00:09] [RON BOOK]: Let me be clear about something. To this moment in time, as I look at my watch and as we do this video, this tape -- this recording. I’ve never fully read the police report, never.

[01:00:29] There are lots of times I learn new things about the abuse.

[01:00:41] It’s now Wednesday, July 31st. And this in the evening and so, actually 9:15 and Lauren’s in her playpen.

[01:00:56] Today’s date is Saturday.

[01:01:00] [LAUREN BOOK]: I know.

[01:01:03] [RON BOOK]: December the 19th. And what are you doing Lauren?

[01:01:09] [LAUREN BOOK]: I’m making a house. I’ll get hurt.

[01:01:09] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: You’re not going to get hurt Lauren.

[01:01:11] [LAUREN BOOK]: Yes I am.

[01:01:14] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Paul [Phonetic] look at me.

[01:01:15] [LAUREN BOOK]: We always had nannies in and out of our home.

[01:01:17] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Hello everybody.

[01:01:19] [LAUREN BOOK]: So she was the one who stayed.

[01:01:23] [indiscernible] Hi Waldi. Her name is Waldina Flores. She came from Honduras. When she interviewed with my family, she had been background checked. She had references.

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She had worked for other families. And so my parents really didn’t have reason to believe there was anything strange or wrong when it came to Waldina.

Flash forward to December. Waldina and I were working late night at my mom’s chocolate store. I was chewing my gum like a cow and she said, “Stop chewing your gum that way.”

And being the 11-year old sassy girl that I could have been at times said, “Oh, yeah, what are you going to do about it?” And she said, “Well, I’ll show you what I’m going to do about it.” And she proceeded to stick her tongue in my mouth and take the gum out of my mouth with her tongue.

You know, that was the first overly sexually overt thing that Waldina ever did. I didn’t tell anyone from that day six years later.

The day I learned about how the abuse started when the nanny put her tongue in my daughter’s mouth.

The day that I learned that the nanny urinated and defecated on her as a control mechanism, you have to be a pretty crappy human being as a parent not to be driven, not to just fix your selfish private family thing.

But I’m a guy with access and I’m a guy with resources. I will do anything I can, anything I can, anything I can. Driven by my daughter’s ????.

Well, what I think we ought to do with pedophiles is I think you ought to lock them in a room with parents of the child and hand the parents a ball bat. No windows and give parents half an hour. And then, whatever is left, you can shovel them and throw out the garbage.

Here in the United States, 750,000 registered sex offenders. And they could be living next door to you and you don’t even know it.

I think that they should be incapacitated permanently.
[01:03:36]  [MAN ON STREET 1]: Castration would be a good option as well.

[01:03:40]  [WOMAN ON STREET 3]: You shouldn’t be a teacher. You shouldn’t be in politics. You shouldn’t work at McDonald’s. You should – I mean you shouldn’t be operating in the world.

[01:03:48]  [TEXT]: editor Jay Arthur Sterrenberg

[01:03:48]  [NEWSCASTER]: The bill was named after a very special young boy Jacob Wetterling who was abducted from a small community in Minnesota.

[01:03:56]  [TEXT]: directors of photography Eric Phillips-Horst Nadia Hallgren

[01:03:57]  [BILL CLINTON]: Megan’s law will protect tens of millions of families from the dread of what they do not know.

[01:04:02]  [GEORGE W. BUSH]: In a few moments will sign the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006.

[01:04:06]  [NEWSCASTER]: President Obama signed the international Megan’s law bill into law on Monday.

[01:04:08]  [TEXT]: executive producer David Menschel

[01:04:10]  [NEWSCASTER]: It’s been a wake up call for Florida lawmakers who are now pushing through a bill in Jessica’s name.

[01:04:12]  [TEXT]: co-producer Adam Pogoff

[01:04:16]  [NEWSCASTER]: This new law aims to make sure other predators like him are locked up for good.

[01:04:21]  [BILL CLINTON]: Today, America warns, if you dare to prey on our children, the law will follow you wherever you go, state to state, town to town.

[1:04:32]  [TEXT]: producer Rebecca Richman Cohen

[01:04:32]  [MAN ON STREET 2]: There’s no law that’s going to keep us safe. We just got to have hope and faith that these laws are slightly effective, just slightly, that’s all we can hope for.

[1:04:42]  [TEXT]: directed by David Feige
[01:04:45] [LOUIE CK]: When you consider the risk in being a child molester speaking not of even the damage you’re doing. But the risk, there’s no worse life available to a human than being a caught child molester.

[01:04:57] And yet they still do it, which from you could only really surmise that it must be really good. I mean, from their point of view, from their… not ours, but from their point of view, it must be amazing for them to risk so much. How do you think I feel it’s my last show probably.

[1:05:27] [TEXT]: TAMPA, FLORIDA

[01:05:41] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Who’s the bad guy? Raise your hand so that your victim knows. Wrap under the elbow. Wrap again.

[01:05:47] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Okay, who’s the bad guy?

[01:05:50] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Her.

[01:05:51] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: You’re the bad guy? Okay, stab him. Wait, wait, stop – anybody comes up from behind me and does this. I’m going to grab that, I’m going to yank it like I’m starting [01:06:00] a lawnmower. Okay? Yes?

[01:06:03] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Everybody, this is [JUDY CORNETT]; she is the CEO, founder President of Predator Patrol/Safety Zone.

[01:06:10] [JUDY CORNETT]: My son in 1992 was kidnapped by a sex offender. It was less than a mile from our home and a sex offender scoped him out and kidnapped him and his best friend. Took them both into the woods and brutally raped them.

[01:06:26] But I didn’t realize how large this problem was. [01:06:30] I didn’t realize there was so many sex offenders out there.

[01:06:36] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: The registry. We printed this out today. And just for your zip code, who here has pulled up the register of sexual predators or offenders in your neighborhood? How often do you it?

[01:06:47] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Once a month.

[01:06:49] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Once a month? Okay. Maybe do it every other week for a little bit.

[01:06:54] [JUDY CORNETT]: All of those sex offenders on the registry may be pedophiles. So you have to pay attention to the registry and go a little bit deeper.
[01:07:11] [JUDY CORNETT]: We have a house right over there that the children, when they get off of the school bus the guy stood in the window and masturbated at the kids.

[1:07:18] [TEXT]: Lower third: Judy Cornett Founder, Predator Patrol

[01:07:20] There’s another house up here where there was a guy that had sex with his dogs and the kids all watched.

[01:07:30] So we’re driving around guys, letting people know about the sex offenders in the neighborhood. How you guys been doing?

[01:07:36] [CROSSTALK]

[01:07:38] [MALE SPEAKER]: Sex offenders.

[01:07:39] [JUDY CORNETT]: There it is.

[01:07:40] [MALE SPEAKER]: Ho, whoa, that’s Tammy.

[01:07:42] [MALE SPEAKER]: Who?

[01:07:44] [MALE SPEAKER]: Whoa! That’s the bitch Tammy right here that be over here.

[01:07:51] [JUDY CORNETT]: And she’s bad huh? Y’all know where she lives, right?

[01:07:54] [MALE SPEAKER]: Yeah.

[01:07:55] [JUDY CORNETT]: We’re going to have to check her out a little bit more, aren’t we?

[01:08:01] [JUDY CORNETT]: I don’t want em in my neighborhood. Do you want em in yours?

[01:08:08] [TEXT]: McLoud, Oklahoma

[01:08:30] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: You want spiky? No? You want me to comb it over? Yeah.

[01:08:40] My whole life, even when I was younger I always wanted to be mom.

[01:08:44] When I was a teenager, my mom found out that I had lost my virginity and she got extremely mad at me and she kicked me out. And I went to Arizona. My old next door neighbor lived there and she had invited me to stay with her. She has a godson and we all three hung out all the time.
It was my birthday and the three of us decided to kind of have like a little party together. And we were drinking and dancing and, you know, doing things like that. And it’s kind of the three of us all together and then –

and it ended up that the underaged male and I slept together.

At the moment, I mean it was exciting. It’s like, “Okay, he likes me.” He puts his arms around me and he was like, “What? I just don’t want you to think I’m taking advantage of you while you’re drunk.” And I was like, “I don’t think that.”

The next morning, his mom called me and she said, “My son hates me. I’m so sorry.” Then she said, “I just filed against you.”

I got a call from an investigator and they said they wanted to talk to me and ask me some questions. And I went. And she said if I was honest, I wouldn’t get thrown in jail.

I was basically told, “If we go to trial, you would get 20 to 25 years for this if they find you guilty. If you take a plea, minimal time, lifetime registry, lifetime probation.”

Give me kiss. Love you.

[MALE SPEAKER]: Love you too.

[SHAWNA BALDWIN]: Go, bye.

I am defined under the registry when you look me up, child molestation. It’s actually a level 3 which is the worst of the worst.

[FILMMAKER, DAVID FEIGE]: You know, I know that you never talk publicly about this.

[SHAWNA BALDWIN]: No, never, never.

[FILMMAKER, DAVID FEIGE]: How does that feel?

[SHAWNA BALDWIN]: I’m scared. I’m really scared. I’m afraid that people won’t understand, you know, they can’t see it from the other side. And more hate, you know, being exposed and talking about things, you know, that we mainly keep in group or, you know, with our spouse or closest friends.

You know, not on a tape that anybody can see. You know, that’s not – it’s extremely, extremely scary, you know, because people have really bad opinions about anybody that has a label of the sex offender.
[01:12:25] [JOHN CRYAR]: My name is John Garland Cryar and I’m 74 years old. Grew up in an oil field camp. Dad had a third grade education. Mom a fifth grade education. Graduated from high school in 1958. Took me another 19 years to get a college degree, of going when I could afford it.

[01:12:48] [MALE SPEAKER]: It’s now a minute after five at – from the University of Central Oklahoma. This is 90.1KUCL –

[01:12:55] [JOHN CRYAR]: I served in JFK’s funeral. I stood on the tombstone and kept an eye [01:13:00] on Haile Selassie and Charles de Gaulle.

[01:13:05] I had three marriages. All failed. One was eight years, one was about seven or eight months, which ruined a good friendship and the last was around 27 years. And I was arrested for the first time roughly in 1996 for possession of child pornography and [01:13:30] I served 15 months.

[01:13:11] [TEXT]: (lower third: JOHN CRYAR)

[01:14:00] I was arrested again 10 months later here in Oklahoma for possession of child pornography and crossing the state line with the intent to have sex with a minor. I was released from prison after 11 and a half years and here we are.

[01:14:30] For most of my life, I’ve been a pedophile. What I would call a closet pedophile. One that for all intent purposes leads a normal life in society, but still knows that inside of him, there are desires about young girls.

[01:15:02] [RON BOOK]: I believe there is an absolute certainty that pedophiles will reoffend. Sentence them to having their fingernails pulled out of their hands, pulling their hair out one hair at a time. Sentence them to waterboarding everyday. Throw the keys away.

[01:15:19] I used to be a liberal Democrat and then a crime hit my family and I realized just how conservative I was.

[01:15:19] [TEXT]: 5:50 PM MAR 8 1999

[01:15:29] [LAUREN BOOK]: [Foreign Language]

[01:15:32] [WALDINA FLORES]: [Foreign Language]

[01:15:34] [LAUREN BOOK]: [Foreign Language]

[01:15:39] [LAUREN BOOK]: [Foreign Language]. I didn’t want to tell on Waldi. I loved her. She was my partner. That I think is the most difficult piece for people to understand.
She was very much omnipresent everywhere, every day of my life. She woke me up in the morning. She did my hair. She watched me shower. She picked my clothes. She picked my feminine hygiene products. She took me to school. She monitored me while I was at school.

[MALE SPEAKER]: You’re the cameraman.

[TEXT]: We came from a very prominent family. So we were bred in a world of secrecy. A world where pedophiles thrive.

When I did not go tell my father, my mother, my teacher, Waldina knew that I would never tell anyone.

We came from a very prominent family. So we were bred in a world of secrecy. A world where pedophiles thrive.

[NEWSCASTER]: Well he’s a South Florida political powerhouse but also a father. His daughter victimized by a sexual predator.

Ron Book is now on a crusade to ensure no one else will suffer abuse from a predator. He strongly supports the Miami-Beach ordinance that limits where predators can live.

Ron Book says sexual predators cannot be rehabbed.
[01:18:15] [RON BOOK]: Wake up everyday thinking about it, thinking about how you’d just as soon line them up and shoot them.

[01:18:23] [NEWSCASTER]: Strong testimonies as city of Miami Beach commission votes to go ahead with a tough ordinance that would ban [01:18:30] sexual predators from living in parts of the city.

[01:18:32] [NEWSCASTER]: If passed, it will prohibit them from living within 2500 feet of areas where children gather like schools, parks or bus stops. To give you an idea of that distance, that’s about the distance between Miami Beach high school and this high rise apartment building.

[01:18:47] [NEWSCASTER]: Miami Beach has 15 schools and 38 parks. The ordinance would make almost the entire city off-limits.

[01:18:55] [RON BOOK]: There is nothing, nothing in your tenure on this commission that you will do to better [01:19:00] protect this community than the ordinance that you are considering today.

[01:19:05] [MALE SPEAKER]: The mayor says, sexual predators have already moved out.

[01:19:12] [MAYOR]: When six people leave within a month’s time, we certainly are making progress.

[01:19:16] [MALE SPEAKER]: Where did they go then?

[01:19:17] [MAYOR]: I can’t answer that for you. I don’t know.

[01:19:19] [MALE SPEAKER]: Mr. Mayor –

[01:19:20] [MAYOR]: But they certainly aren’t here near our children.

[01:19:55] [TEXT]: (lower third: CLYDE NEWTON)

[01:20:00] [CLYDE NEWTON]: I’m this monster that everybody hate, a sexual predator. I caught my original charge, 1994. I had touched my step daughter.

[01:20:04] I took a deal for eight years and seven years probation. I got out of prison in 2000. Came home to Miami, Florida and settled down for 10 years. Doing everything that they say I had to do, register, go into class. I’m working two jobs [01:21:00] and I bought my own home.

[01:21:04] I was up under the 1000 feet rule, but when they came up with the new rule, they automatically throw me into the new rule. So, that meant the house had to go, everything had to
go. And that put me in a homeless situation. The department of corrections say I have to live on this lot. [01:21:30]

[01:21:37] [TEXT]: (lower third: MANNY ALVAREZ Clyde’s Public Defender)

[01:21:29] MANNY ALVAREZ: Okay so if you don’t have an address, that meets all the requirements of where a sexual offender is allowed to reside. Okay, if you don’t have an address they will assign you to an outdoor encampment.

[01:21:47] CLYDE NEWTON: My family don’t really know that I was sleeping outside. They know I’m homeless, but they don’t know the whole situation. There’s probably about 100 all together that live on this lot.

[01:22:00] We’re living outside on the ground. If it rained, we got wet, no running water, nowhere to pee, nothing, we livin like animals.

[01:22:13] MALE SPEAKER: I’ve been out here for, it’s about to be two years. Always sleep in the van. Only thing I could stay in is the van, because I go stay with anybody, I’m going to get arrested. If I go live with my family, I’m going to get arrested. And if you don’t get here on time, you get arrested.

[01:22:30] MALE SPEAKER: I never got in trouble with the law. Never got a ticket. I went to school, graduated. Going out with this girl that was only 15 years old by the time I was 19, she was 15. Four months in jail, five years probation and a lifetime registration.

[01:22:54] MALE SPEAKER: I sleep in my truck every night in the driver’s seat. Even though I do have a home and a residence [01:23:00] where I take baths and have a clothing and everything else. While I lead a normal life during the daytime up until that time for having to come out here and do the 8 hours or 10 hours that we have to be out here. Because of the resident restrictions.

[01:23:27] [TEXT]: (lower third: ERIC JANUS Dean, William Mitchell Law School)

[01:23:20] ERIC JANUS: Most sex offenders who are sent to prison are going to be released into the community. And if we have a policy that inhibits their [01:23:30] reintegration into the community, then that is a counterproductive policy.

[01:23:53] [TEXT]: (lower third at: VAL JONAS] Civil Rights Attorney)

[01:23:39] VAL JONAS: The first real objections to the residency restrictions came from law enforcement and victims advocacy groups. They were the first to say, “This is not making sense. We can’t keep track of people who don’t have homes. They need to have a home.”

[01:24:00] [TEXT]: (lower third: JILL LEVINSON Associate Professor, Barry University)
The rationale says in theory, if sex offenders are farther away from where children tend to be, then maybe they will be less likely to abuse kids.

And this has been studied a dozen times. Two of the most significant studies were done in Colorado and Minnesota. In Colorado, the study was done by the Colorado Department of Public Safety. That study found that child molesters in Colorado, re-offended sexually did not live closer to schools or day care centers than those who did not re-offend.

There was also a really interesting study in Minnesota. They looked at over 200 cases where the offender had gone on and committed a new sex crime. The study concluded that residence restrictions would not have prevented even one of those sex offenses. It is not residential proximity that leads to re-offending, but rather, social proximity.

I don’t know. I wish I could meet the guy that started this law and talk to this guy like, are you thinking straight?

We repeatedly tell people that where they live does matter. Well here’s a guy, they let him out and he was abusing kids in his direct neighborhood, and there is no question about what they do.

At a time where we were in the middle of the development and expansion of residency restrictions for pedophiles, our department of Corrections was simply telling people, “hey there’s a bridge you can go live under the bridge!” So they had a little sex colony under the Julia Tuttle Causeway in Miami Dade County which became internationally recognized as a sex colony.

Hello, hello. What did you do that you ended up here?

Same thing everybody else did.

Same thing everybody else did. Okay, thanks.

That ranks right up there with the ultimate bizarre. I mean bizarre with a capital B.

All those guys sleeping under a bridge?

So, who’s in charge of helping the sex offenders find a proper home? Meet Ron Book, the multi-millionaire lobbyist who is head of Miami Dade’s homeless
trust. No, don’t adjust your TV sets, yes this is the same Ron Book that pushed for the laws that pushed predators under the bridge.

[01:26:54] [RON BOOK]: In my role as chairman of the homeless trust, I didn’t go under the Julia Tuttle causeway [01:27:00] once to meet the enemy. I was there dozens of times. Different hat that I wore.

[01:26:07] [FILMMAKER]: Yeah, I was gonna say, that seems…

[01:26:11] [RON BOOK]: A lot of people found it that way, but I don’t support homelessness. But I don’t want them near kids either.

[01:26:25] [LAUREN BOOK]: Me and my family are working very hard to get these predators put in jail where they belong and they can’t hurt our children. I don’t have any sympathy for any of the predators [01:27:30] who are down there.

[01:26:34] [RON BOOK]: On the issue of whether or not residency restrictions are working and they’re protecting kids, much like I can’t necessarily produce statistics that say that our communities are safer as a result, I do have some level of common sense.

[01:27:52] If you’re keeping them away from kids, you’re reducing some of the risk. And this notion that we’ve rendered [01:28:00] them homeless, that we’ve put them out on the street, it’s a bunch of bullshit. At the end of the day, their sexually deviant criminal behaviors are what caused them their problems.

[01:28:10] [LAUREN BOOK]: We’re gonna close that colony down and we’re gonna fence off the area so that the people can’t go back.

[01:28:15] [NEWSCASTER]: Barricades are up, this fence is locked, and No Trespassing signs are up, the message clear that the Julia Tuttle Causeway an option no more.

[01:28:26] [RON BOOK]: You have an automatic right to live wherever you want, and you lost all of your rights because we as the citizens of the United States of America determined that the public policy was, you commit a crime against a kid, we’re treating you differently. Forever. Forever.

[01:29:07] [TEXT]: (lower third: PATTY WETTERLING)

[01:28:54] [PATTY WETTERLING]: On October 22nd 1989, our son Jacob was kidnapped. [01:29:00] They biked to a convenience store and on the way back they were confronted by a masked man with a gun. He let two of the boys go and kept Jacob. So, we’ve been searching for 26 years.

[01:29:23] Jacob knew this phone number. He knew this community, and I’d sit here and [01:29:30] expect him to come running up the driveway.
I learned quickly that the number one motive behind stranger kidnapping is for sexual purposes.

Just four months after Jacob’s disappearance, Patty and Jerry Wetterling became activist for children, starting the Jacob Wetterling Foundation. In 1994, they helped get the Jacob Wetterling Act passed, starting a state sex offender registry.

If we want to stop child abduction, we have to stop the child abuser every time. So that’s what we were pushing for, was to get this as a law enforcement tool in all 50 states. So it’s part of the 1994 Crime Bill and Bill Clinton signed it into law.

Because of the high level of recidivism on the part of these criminals, the Jacob Wetterling crimes against Children Registration Act requires those who prey on children to register their whereabouts with law enforcement after their release from prison or parole.

That salient image we have of the monster, the sexual predator, is the loner, the stranger who’s raped, gets out of prison and escalates. So, might have started with a rape and then moves on to a rape murder. And that’s the image that most of these laws are designed around.

And those events that happen, you know, tend to get tremendous, tremendous amounts of publicity, you know, as do other kinds of really rare but scary events.

Jessica’s dismembered body was found Wednesday, seven miles from where she disappeared walking to school.

John Couey confessed to taking Jessica from her bedroom, raping and killing her. He was a registered sex offender but police –

John Gardner, a known sex offender, is now charged with her murder.

Our narratives have applied that same archetype to all sex offenders.

The thought of a sex offender living in the neighborhood can be a constant worry for many parents.
[01:31:34] [NEWSCASTER]: Parents of students at a California high school are worried after a sex offender was allowed to enroll in classes.

[01:31:40] [NEWSCASTER]: Parents are outraged that the sex offender was even allowed into the State Fair to work here.

[01:31:51] [TEXT]: (lower third NANCY GERTNER, Retired Federal Judge)

[01:31:45] [NANCY GERTNER]: When someone commits a crime, they’re punished for the crime. And, in one sense, sort of the American sense that people can start afresh. And once you’ve finished your punishment, you can then go out and reconstitute your lives.

[01:32:00] But we’ve created a subcategory of people that we believe cannot reconstitute their lives and require essentially lifetime supervision.

[01:32:06] In the context of sex offender crimes which are so broadly defined. Someone who’s downloading child pornography is a sex offender. The 15 year old has sex with a 13 year old is a sex offender. We call the father who is abusing his daughter a sex offender. And we call the person lurking in the bushes a sex offender.

[01:32:32] [NEWSCASTER]: A former local hero, now, just another pedophile trying to stay alive in the system.

[01:32:37] [NEWSCASTER Sarah Johns]: An Elko County woman spending the rest of her life in prison for having a 13 year old boy touch her breasts.

[01:32:33] [NEWSCASTER]: Former cheerleader for the Ravens, Molly Shattuck, officially registered as a sex offender after pleading guilty to raping a 15 year old boy at a vacation home in Delaware.

[01:32:52] [NEWSCASTER Michael Shingleton]: They were having sex in front of dozens of people in the middle of the afternoon.

[01:32:57] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: They’re now facing 15 years behind behind bars. They’re on the sex offender registry [01:33:00] with pedophiles and rapists.

[01:33:03] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: How old did she say she was?

[01:33:05] [MALE SPEAKER]: She had told me that she was 17.

[01:33:06] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: But she lied. She was actually 14. Judge Dennis Wiley sentenced Zach to 25 years on the sex offender registry. This morning, half a dozen students are set to face child pornography charges.
[01:33:20] [MALE SPEAKER]: For sending explicit text messages or sexting.

[01:33:25] [MALE SPEAKER]: Technically, I was convicted of sending of child pornography.

[01:33:28] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: You are now classified as [01:33:30] a sex offender. You have been kicked out of college. You have to take a mandatory sex offender class. You’re not allowed to use the internet. You’re not allowed to live with your dad because he lives too close to a school. Do you think that the punishment fit the crime?

[1:33:47] [TEXT]: Oklahoma City

[01:33:57] [JOHN CRYAR]: I have this sort of ditty I sing, [01:34:00] every time I make this particular dedicated run, it goes like, “Hi-ho, hi-ho, off to registration I go.”

[01:34:23] Once every three months, I have to go down to the local police department, to a special unit they have just for sex registration .

[01:34:42] I have 123 days left on supervised release. Once I’m off supervised release, I’m free to move anywhere I want in the United States.

[01:35:00] Today, I live in a trailer park that is almost 100% sex offenders. I, frequently, and almost continually wonder what my life would have been like had I not been a pedophile.

[01:35:30] That blue box is a computer monitor that’s installed on here by the federal government. Checking to see if I’m doing anything – not doing anything I shouldn’t be. The authorities don’t miss any opportunity in advertising who you are. You can go out to the internet and Google my name and there it is. Picture. An address, and everything.

[01:36:00] [ERIC JANUS]: People stay on these registries and on the internet for decades, maybe for life.

[01:36:09] Of the newer tools that deal with recidivist violence, the registries probably are among the more sensible of those tools. Where they start to become less useful is where they begin to be over-inclusive and when they’re then coupled with the public notification. [01:36:30]

[01:36:32] [PATTY WETTERLING]: The Jacob Wetterling crimes against children Sex Offender Registration Act was to be information held and managed only by law enforcement. It was for them to utilize that information to investigate crimes. It was not designed or created to notify the public.

[01:36:54] [TEXT] : Mr. President, Patty Wetterling from Minnesota. Thank you.

[01:36:58] After building this, passing it in Minnesota and working on the federal law right before it was to be introduced was when Megan Kanka was kidnapped and murdered by the
neighbor. The family felt that it wasn’t okay to just let law enforcement know where these people live. We should all know.

[01:37:20] [BILL CLINTON]: Today, we are taking the next step. From now on, every state in the country will be required by law to tell a community when a dangerous sexual predator [01:37:30] enters its midst.

[01:37:34] [PATTY WETTERLING]: So that became community notification and that’s Megan’s Law.

[01:37:38] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: We have now created a public registry that has over 3/4 of a million individuals on it. We have told the public, “Go online, look for sex offenders who are living in your neighborhood.”

[01:37:56] [PATTY WETTERLING]: What it feels like sometimes is that the intention of that law got hijacked and it went down another path.

[1:38:09] [TEXT]: McLoud, Oklahoma

[01:38:20] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: Marie, my daughter, she’s my oldest. And when she was young and I’d go see my PO over or my PO would come over. I could lie and tell her he was my friend.

[01:38:30] You want a little salt and pepper?

[01:38:32] [MALE SPEAKER]: No, thank you.

[01:38:36] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: Well, she’s a smart thing. And so, I had to explain to her, these are the people that tell me what to do, just like I tell you what to do.

[01:38:44] [SHAWNA’S DAUGHTER]: When we’re done eating Mama, and you’re done eating, can we go check the mail?

[01:38:49] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: You can go check the mail.

[01:38:51] [SHAWNA’S DAUGHTER]: By ourselves? Without a grownup?

[01:39:00] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: This stops me from being the best mom I can be. I’ve worked about 10 different jobs since I’ve been convicted. I worked at Kmart, at Subway. I worked at a coffee shop. I worked at a construction company, building houses.

[01:39:24] But then, there was a spot that came open to write the paper and I went from working at a gas station to, “Oh wow, I’m writing for a newspaper,” like I’m doing something. This could really lead somewhere. And there was a complaint. Somebody found out that I was a sex offender.
I was pulled into a room and told that I was fired, even though they knew when they hired me. They just said that we can’t have your name out in the public like that. So, we’re going to have to let you go.

What?

[MALE SPEAKER]: ..goldfish.

Okay. Go get them and take them to your room.

The most anyone has paid me hourly is 10.25 an hour, and that’s currently. About 300 a week is what I take home. My probation fee per month is $40. And then to go to group, it’s $170. And then polygraphs are around about 200.

So, if you do the math, over the last 14 years, it comes up to about $35,800, somewhere around there, that I have paid in all my probation fees, classes, and polygraphs. I have to register for life and I’m on probation for life.

So, 20 years down the road, when my kids are grown and I want to buy an RV and just go travel the world, I can’t do that because I have to be available for probation and I have to be available to take polygraphs. And if I go to a new state, I have to register with that state. I have to get permission to leave the state.

I want to travel. I want to show my kids something different than Oklahoma. I tell my children all the time, there’s a big world out there.

“Oh my gosh, Florida, you’d be surprised at what the houses look like in Florida.” I tell my daughter all time, you know, or Montana or Colorado, show her the mountains, you know. Let them know that when it’s time to pick a college, “Honey, go, go. Go see the world. Go do so much more than I did.”

This is where everything started, 2251 North East, 201 Street.

This was Waldi’s room, right here. Her bed was here.

When Waldina finally got arrested, we originally had offered her 10 years. And she sent a no back with her attorney to tell Mr. Book to go fuck himself.

And so, we were moving forward with the trial and, you know, it was October the 11th, which was the day before my 18th birthday. And on October the 10th, she said, “I’ll take the 10 years.” And my dad said – sent a no back with the state attorney, “Tell Waldina to go fuck herself.” It’ll be 15 and she has to apologize in open court.
September 4th 2025, Waldina will be out.

Hi, can I please have two large iced coffees? Super, super, super, super, super light with skimmed milk and 12 –

[MALE SPEAKER]: Super, super, super light with skimmed milk. How many splenda?

[LAUREN BOOK]: 12. And you had a haircut.

[MALE SPEAKER]: Yup.

[LAUREN BOOK]: Very nice.

[MALE SPEAKER]: Oh, thank you.

[LAUREN BOOK]: All right. I’ll see you tomorrow.

Good morning, how are you?

[FEMALE SPEAKER]: Nice.

[LAUREN BOOK]: Good. I like your necklace.

We all have those formative moments in life that define us. Yeah, I was on my bed and crying and my mom came up. And my mom said, “Why are you still crying about this? It has been months and, you know, this happens to everybody. This happens to all girls. This happened to me. And look at me, I’m fine.”

And it was in that moment that I realized that I needed to do something different. That that could not just be the status quo that it happens to everybody, get over it. That just was not acceptable to me.

My goal in life is to create a world where children can be safe because kids don’t have to suffer the way that I did.

[LAUREN BOOK]: For the first part of my life, I always felt invisible. Because if anybody actually saw me, they would not have let happen what was going on every night. The first time I ever felt seen was my dad. And so, I’m thankful to you dad.

On the eve before we walk our final mile, because I don’t know that I would be the person that I am today and be able to do what I do everyday. If it wasn’t for those few little words, “I’m sorry pip, and we’ll make it better.”

And so thank you for believing me. Thank you for seeing me. Thank you for making this possible. Because without you, it simply wouldn’t be.
[01:45:23] [MALE SPEAKER]: Lauren, I want to thank you for your tireless support to raise awareness on child sexual abuse. I was silenced [01:45:30] at a young age and took me 10 years to tell my story and took 30 years to feel comfortable sharing it in front of all you.

[01:45:37] [MALE SPEAKER]: I find out about this abuse, January 13th 2012 and it was devastating to know that somebody could do this type of thing.

[01:45:50] [RON BOOK]: Statistics show 1 in 3 three girls, 1 in 5 boys will be abused before they turn 18. And we’ve just, each year, chip away at [01:46:00] things that need to be fixed. And so, to put the bad people away.

[01:46:06] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: And we need to remember that we were inspired to take care of ourselves...

[01:46:09] [RON BOOK] [subtitles]: You coming tomorrow? You know, it’s going to be a big crowd tomorrow. You know there’s a counter demonstration tomorrow, right?

[01:46:15] [FEMALE SPEAKER] [subtitles]: No way.

[01:46:17] [RON BOOK] [subtitles]: Group of pedophiles and predators coming from across the country, right? You can’t make it up. They have been organizing for four months. We’ve intercepted loads of their e-mails.

[01:46:34] There are people who will come and march on my capital on the last day of my daughter’s walk with people from across the country who have either been convicted of being a pedophile or a predator and their family members.

[01:46:52] Our last mile of our walk is about kids coming together. I don’t want them anywhere near those kids. It terrifies me.

[01:47:00] I can tell you that every law enforcement agency that’s in this town will be on a high alert. We have already met with them. We are deeply concerned about it. Remember what these people are.

[01:47:26] [VICKI HENRY]: This one.

[01:47:28] [SHIRLEY FERLEY]: I think that’s good. You can see that.

[01:47:30] [VICKI HENRY]: Yeah. They’re going to be coming up the road but we expect them to finish their walk, come through there by 3:30.

[01:47:37] [SHIRLEY FERLEY]: Okay.

[01:47:54]: [TEXT]: (lower third: Vicki Henry, Mother of Registered Sex Offender Founder, Women Against Registry (W.A.R.)
[01:47:40] [VICKI HENRY]: Okay. They will have police officers, you know, walking around. They’ll have plain clothes police walking around. As long as it remains a peaceful protest, we’re fine.

[01:47:47] The public, they’re told that they need to be afraid of people on the registry. So the concept is that if the moms, the grandmothers, the aunts, the daughters.

[01:48:00] If they then say, “Okay, well we’re being – we’re collateral damage, we’re being injured too.” The shame is just so overwhelming and we just feel like there’s no forgiveness. When does redemption begin for the family and for the registrant? When?

[01:48:30] [TEXT]: (lower third: Shirley Ferley, Mother of Registered Sex Offender)

[01:48:22] I’m new to being involved with war. And so I’m very nervous about being in the public eye. So I don’t know.

[01:48:44] [TEXT]: (lower third: Terri Brinson, Wife of Registered Sex Offender)

[01:48:39] Oh, I hope a lot of people show that – I hope, I hope that they’re not scared. They just come out. I’m doing it for my husband. I’m doing it for him. I’m not ashamed of him. I’m doing it to help other sex offenders and their families.

[01:49:00] And I wish people would get out more and understand that they’re not alone and they’re not by themselves and they shouldn’t be ashamed. And I know a lot of people are scared of it because they don’t want to show their face and they’re – they already know they can’t get a job.

[01:49:13] But I want families to know they need to step up because they have to change the laws. If we don’t speak up, it’s going to always be the same. It’s never going to change at all.

[01:49:30] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Come on. We’re here, let’s do it.

[01:49:34] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: We’re doing it now?

[01:49:40] [FEMALE SPEAKER] [subtitles]: Hi, we’re actually going to do a double barrier. So would you mind moving your signs to this barrier for me, please?

[01:49:47] [FEMALE SPEAKER] [subtitles]: No, do you have that reserved?

[01:49:48] [FEMALE SPEAKER] [subtitles]: Uh, we do. We actually have –

[01:49:48] [FEMALE SPEAKER] [subtitles]: Because I went and talked to the police.
[01:49:50] [FEMALE SPEAKER] [subtitles]: That’s fine, if you’d like to wait for the police to come.

[01:49:51] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Okay.

[01:50:00] [MALE SPEAKER]: They’re coming. They’re coming. Yup, this is the moment we’ve been waiting for.

[01:50:14] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Hey guys, I need all hands on deck, please. [Indiscernible] more guys.

[01:50:30] [music playing as walkers arrive…]

[01:51:00] [MALE SPEAKER]: I want you to look around you. Almost every member of the 40 member senate and almost every member of the 120 member house is out here in this audience.

[01:51:18] [TEXT]: (lower third: Rick Scott, Florida Governor)

[01:51:4] [RICK SCOTT]: But I can tell you from everybody here that you have a legislature, you have a governor, you have a lieutenant governor, and you have a cabinet that is going to do everything we can to make this the safest place in the entire world to grow up. But it’s individuals like Lauren and Ron [01:51:30] that make these things happen.

[01:51:37] [TEXT]: (lower third: Jared Moskowitz, Florida State Senator)

[01:51:31] [JARED MOSKOWIZ]: Lauren and Ron, they’re on a mission. I know what they’re doing is the right thing for the state of Florida, for the children that are in my district and that’s all I care about.

[01:51:49] [TEXT]: (lower third: Oscar Braynon, Florida State Senator)

[01:51:42] [OSCAR BRAYNON]: Ron Book does not take no very well. It’s always either this or death. It’s yes or death. You know, when you operate like that, you get a lot done.

[1:52:06] [TEXT]: (lower third: Alan Williams, Florida State Senator)

[01:51:55] [ALAN WILLIAMS]: Folks believe his advocacy. They want a winner. When you go back and you look at the totality of the legislation that’s passed, maybe 40% of the bills that we pass has Ron Book’s fingerprint on them.

[01:52:09] [FILMMAKER, DAVID FEIGE]: You mean about everything?
[01:52:11] [ALAN WILLIAMS]: About everything.

[01:52:19] [JILL LEVENSON]: Ron Book, he’s got the resources to say, “I don’t want this to happen to another family. I want to try and do something to change the world.”

[01:52:28] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: If his daughter had been shot, we’d have very different gun laws. If his daughter had been hit by a drunk driver, we would have very different drunk driving laws.

[01:52:40] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: It’s, you know, the perfect paradigm of what’s wrong with lobbying. Where people with a motive, whether it’s a financial motive or a psychological, emotional motive get to write the laws.

[01:52:50] [MALE SPEAKER]: You good?

[01:52:52] [RON BOOK]: I am.

[01:52:52] [MALE SPEAKER]: How’s your daughter doing?

[01:52:53] [MALE SPEAKER]: How’s your daughter doing?

[01:52:54] [RON BOOK]: She’s on top of the world.

[01:52:57] [VAL JONAS]: It’s not really a stretch to say that he’s one of the few most powerful people that the state, has been for many, many, many years. I cannot count the number of successful professional people who have refused to go on record saying anything critical about Mr. Book, because they believe it is dangerous to their professional standing in Florida. So, it’s a real problem and I won’t pretend that I’m not frightened. There you have it. [01:53:30]

[01:53:33] [TEXT]: Miami, Florida

[01:54:22][01:53:47] [RON BOOK]: I gotta turn this stuff over to the law enforcement people… making a citizens’ arrest for bad driving. I think I’m a pretty good driver myself. Ahh.. sorry about that.

[01:54:03] [MALE SPEAKER]: Good to see you.

[01:54:04] [CROSSTALK]

[01:54:05] [RON BOOK]: Sparkling please.

[01:54:07] [MALE SPEAKER]: Everybody’s fine with sparkling water?

[01:54:09] [RON BOOK]: That is what – no. No. No. Thank you.
[01:54:22]  [RON BOOK]: You want to know what I like? I come through the gate. I’m left alone. I like getting home and watching my crime shows. I love the [01:54:30] Law and Orders, I love the CSIs, I love Blue Bloods, I love them all.

[01:54:38]  My children gave me Lauren’s idea of a pair of swans for Valentines Day 8 years ago and I love those swans so much. They went out and got me two more for father’s day. Hi guys. And I love those so much, I went out and bought myself another pair, and I love those so much, I bought another pair, and so I’ve got 15 to 18 swans.

[01:54:54]  But don’t tell too many people that I’m into birds and fish because they won’t believe that Mr. Tough and Mr. Cutthroat could be into those kinds of things. They would say, "Oh, if he’s got a fish tank, he’s got a shark in it." I did have a shark in my tank actually.


[01:55:23]  [LAW & ORDER]: sexually based offenses are considered especially heinous. In New York City, the dedicated detectives who investigate these [01:55:30] vicious felonies are members of an elite squad known as the special victims unit. These are their stories.

[01:55:38]  [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Nothing happened that night.

[01:55:43]  [RON BOOK]: She’s not telling the truth .. now.

[01:55:56]  I hate the bad guys, I hate the bad guys.


[01:56:00]  Those people who came to march on Tallahassee, they probably wish they could put that back in a bottle, all 12 of them. They ought to have figured that out, that all they’re doing is recommitting me, refocusing me, and refocusing my daughter on our agenda to make this place safer for others.

[01:56:24]  They don’t believe there should be registries, they don’t believe there should be notification of people where predators and [01:56:30] pedophiles live, they think they should be restored all of their rights. And allowed to go out and infiltrate our communities.

[01:56:43]  [TEXT]: Tampa, Florida

[01:56:52]  [NEWSCASTER]: Judy Cornett’s son was raped when he was 11 years old.
[01:56:57] [MALE NEWSCASTER]: An outraged mother on a crusade. A self-described vigilante.

[01:57:00] [FEMALE NEWSCASTER]: She educates families and neighborhoods on technical probation violations and helps send sex offenders back to jail.

[01:57:08] [TALK SHOW HOST]: Oh, we need an army of you, you know that right?

[01:57:12] [JUDY CORNETT]: Yes I do. We’re building one.

[01:57:18] [TOM]: I’m Tom [Phonetic] I was molested as a kid and I never told anybody about it. Not no one until that day when we’re talking and then it just, I don’t know it just came out.

[01:57:28] We’re telling everybody about it. We’re going to tell them it’s happening. It’s happening everyday. It’s happening to little boys. It’s happening to little girls, that’s why you’re here.

[01:57:37] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: I was molested by my grandfather and my father from a very young age, from 2 to 13 when I finally told.

[01:57:44] [MALE SPEAKER]: I’m a single dad and my daughters were very fortunate that we’ve never experienced the things that I hear about here. But I’m here because I believe in the mission, the mission statement, and I believe in Judy.

[01:57:55] [MALE SPEAKER]: Predator patrol.

[01:57:57] [JUDY CORNETT]: Predator patrol rock.

[01:58:00] [JUDY CORNETT]: These fliers are the sex offenders that predator patrol has had arrested. This is one that I had arrested, his name is David Cursey, and he’s a police officer. I went online and posed as a little boy. Really got into a very nasty conversation, and he got arrested.

[01:58:27] This guy was a registered sex offender with one address, but he was living with his girlfriend. So we had him arrested. This Spanish guy was consuming alcohol on his porch, consuming alcohol, technical violation, and went back to prison.

[01:58:32] This guy is a truck driver, he had failed to register. This one here was an ordained minister that I had arrested. This is Aaron Chapman, the partner in crime with Kevin Kinder who kidnapped my son.

[01:59:00] [CLYDE NEWTON]: Every morning I wake up on the ground because my curfew was from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
I had to go to work. And so at 6:00 a.m., I would get up off the ground, go to the bus stop, travel two and a half hours down to the job where I work.

[TEXT]: (lower third: Manny Alvarez, Clyde’s Public Defender)

MANNY ALVAREZ: Well we knew he is homeless and had no shelter. He actually found a job at a carwash about 50 miles from where his encampment was.

CLYDE NEWTON: Coming by this particular day, the bus was late. I called my probation officer.

MANNY ALVAREZ: He freaks out and calls his probation officer and tells where he is, he’s a couple of minutes late. When he finally gets back, it turns out he was only eight minutes late. He was supposed to be there at 10:05. He gets there at 10:13.

CLYDE NEWTON: This is my appeal for the violation. It tells the whole story. Because I was eight and half minutes late for my 10:00 curfew, I got sentenced to four years in prison.

MANNY ALVAREZ: He had not committed any other crime. He was simply eight minutes late, and my position was that, this was a draconian application of the law that judges are required to exercise a little bit of humanity and some common sense. And clearly, being eight minutes late doesn’t justify throwing someone in prison for four years.

And they rejected the arguments of the defense. They issue a document that says, “You lose and we’re not going to tell you why.” That’s it, case closed.

MALE SPEAKER: Many, many of the people who go back to prison are going back on technical violations. There could be upwards of 200 different rules that they have to follow. A misstep is taken as grounds for sending them back to prison.

CLYDE NEWTON: I’ve been violated three times. My first violation, was they said it took me too long to find a suitable house.

I won it, on appeal, but I still did three and a half years before they overturned it. The second one was for being 8 minutes late. Four more years of my life in prison. My third violation was for missing one sex offender class. And I got seven months, because that was all the time they could still give me.

I been twenty years, this whole thing. Because of the laws I can’t live with the family.

MANNY ALVAREZ: The way the system is set up, I don’t think it’s so much a matter of public safety as it is a matter of setting up all of these traps for these people to fall into so they can reincarcerate them.
[02:02:18] [ERIC JANUS]: There’s a recent Department of Correction study out of California that studied all of the sex offenders who were released. What they found was for every 100 sex offenders released, 70 were sent back to prison.

[02:02:32] But of those 70 who were sent back to prison, only 1 of the 70 was convicted of a new sex crime. 5 were detected committing a new non-sex crime, and 90% of those were returned to prison for a technical violation.

[02:02:55] [TEXT]: (lower third: Nancy Gertner, Retired Federal Judge)

[02:02:54] [NANCY GERTNER]: For judges that have any discretion at all, there’s no question that if you exercise that discretion because you see distinctions in the group of sex offenders, the reaction would be extraordinary. So you err on the side of punishment and that’s what we’ve all been doing for 20, 30 years now. So we’ve simply created a punishment machine, endless punishment machine.

[2:03:18] [TEXT]: Tallahassee, Florida

[2:03:25] [LAUREN BOOK]: It goes back to control. We need to have different pieces in place that make it much easier for law enforcement officers to put these individuals back in prison because it’s not a matter of if, it’s a matter of when. It’s not if they reoffend, it’s when will they reoffend and I don’t want to take that chance.

[2:03:46] [LEGISLATOR]: Normally, I would let the daughter go first. But first up, I think we’ll have Ron Book because I knew that she want her daddy to go first. Ron?

[02:04:00] [RON BOOK]: Thank you Mr. Chairman, members of the committee. I will be brief.

[02:04:05] [LAUREN BOOK]: We cannot allow guilty sexual predators to walk free. I know, you know, and the Supreme Court knows the time has come to empower children who are being victimized.

[02:04:18] This year is one of the most aggressive years that we’ve ever had.

[02:04:21] [RON BOOK]: Video voyeurism, and sexting, and porno, we’ve been involved in all of those efforts.

[02:04:30] [MALE SPEAKER]: [indecipherable..] you’re recognized to close?

[02:04:33] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Thank you Mr. President. I ask that everyone support this bill and give voice to the concerns and fears of children across the state allow them to bring their abusers to justice.
[02:04:43] [MALE SPEAKER]: Lock the board, announce the vote.

[02:04:46] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: 32 yays, 0 nays Mr. President.

[02:04:48] [MALE SPEAKER]: By vote, the bill passes. Take up our next bill.

[02:04:50] [MALE SPEAKER]: State passed four bills on the first day of session.

[02:04:53] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Making Florida scorched earth for sexual predators.

[02:04:57] [RON BOOK]: Having all four bills that you’ve spent months putting together, taken up as the first act on the first day of this legislative session, that’s a big deal.

[02:05:09] [MALE SPEAKER]: Designed to make the sunshine state the most difficult place in the country for sex offenders.

[02:05:14] [RON BOOK]: Lots of what we have done affects categories of sexual assault other than children. While I may have this like deep-seated stab you in the heart and kill you for committing crime against the kid, I find sexual abuse as a whole abhorrent, unacceptable, punishable. I’m sorry, I put him away.

[02:05:44] [TEXT]: (lower third: Matt Gaetz, Florida State Representative)

[02:05:40] [MATT GAETZ]: Thanks to Ron and Lauren Book, Florida is now the only state in America that has a 50 year mandatory minimum.

[02:05:48] [LAUREN BOOK]: They will spend 50 years in prison if they sexually assault a child. That’s like the minimum sentence.

[02:05:54] [RON BOOK]: My daughter’s favorite issue this year. Now, on your driver’s license? They’ll be a notation, you are a sexual predator.

[02:06:03] [MALE SPEAKER]: Now, I don’t think there’s any legislator really that has been against these. I haven’t heard anybody say, “Yeah, I really don’t like these bills.” Politically, it would harder too. Politically, it would be hard to do.

[02:06:14] [MALE SPEAKER]: We want to make Florida safe and we know if we can make Florida safe, then we know that the entire country has a blueprint for the rest of those states in the Union.

[02:06:26] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: We can start to see new bills filed this session to toughen up laws.

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[02:06:30] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Legislators hope to have their new law in place as early as next month.

[02:06:35] [MALE NEWSCASTER]: A growing number of cities have bans on sex offenders offering candy at their door.

[02:06:41] [FEMALE NEWSCASTER]: It’s gonna require sex offenders to put fluorescent green license plates on their car.

[02:06:46] [MALE NEWSCASTER]: The bill that would make those sex offenders have to get surgically castrated before they leave prison.

[02:06:52] [MALE SPEAKER]: They have marked this child for life, and I feel like the punishment should fit the crime.

[02:06:57] [MALE SPEAKER]: Governor Cuomo has signed legislation that prohibits registered sex offenders from becoming firefighters.

[02:07:04] [TEXT]: (lower third: John Flanagan, New York State Senator)

[02:07:03] [JOHN FLANAGAN]: I had a bill say that if you’re a sex offender, you couldn’t drive an ice cream truck. A lot of these folks are repeat offenders. If it was something where you said 95% of the people who commit these types of acts never do it again? Different story.

[02:07:25] [TEXT]: (lower third: Tom Ivester, Oklahoma State Senator)

[02:07:21] [TOM IVESTER]: You can’t find a more hot-button issue than especially pedophiles. The great fear among politicians is being, I thought I was soft on crime.

[02:07:30] The sentiment has been to err on the side of safety even though maybe the net has been cast too wide.

[02:07:38] [TEXT]: (lower third: Richard Morrissette, Oklahoma State Representative)

[02:07:36] [RICHARD MORRISSETTE]: There’s bipartisan support, almost unanimously, overwhelming support. There is no activity of any kind in any way to somehow water these laws down or to soften them, not in this building.

[02:07:52] [TEXT]: McLoud, Oklahoma

[02:07:55] [MALE SPEAKER]: Na, na, na, bo, bo, you can’t catch me.

[02:08:00] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: A bill that passed the state house of representatives on Monday would prohibit sex offenders from visiting any recreational park in Oklahoma.
[02:08:10] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: State Representative Josh Cockroft authored the legislation to include any neighborhood, county or state park, as off limits to habitual or aggravated sex offenders.

[02:08:28] [TEXT]: October 31st, The day before the park ban goes into effect.

[02:08:30] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: Friend you say what you’re waiting for. We all sit down and jump on the floor.

[02:08:36] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: I’m sorry.

[02:08:37] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: It’s okay.

[02:08:43] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: I love you so much.

[02:08:45] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: I love you too mommy.

[02:08:47] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: You’re the best daughter in the whole world.

[02:08:49] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: You’re the best mom in the whole world.

[02:08:57] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Okay.

[02:08:58] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: Okay. I love you.

[02:09:00] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: I love you too.

[02:09:09] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: I’m very afraid of losing everything that I have now. I don’t have tons but what I have is everything to me.

[02:09:20] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: We had a good day mama. We got to go to the park, one more time. One more time. One more time.

[02:09:26] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: Okay, stop.

[02:09:30] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Let the sea monkey get in first.

[02:09:32] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: Watch your hands.

[02:09:34] [RON BOOK]: This year, in this package of bills, senate bill 1666 automatically upon conviction as a sexual predator, you lose your parental rights to your kids. See you later. Adios. Have a good life on your own. Go live out in the middle of nowhere because you’re not going to have any relationships with your kids and nor should you. Whether your crime is against your kids or not, you shouldn’t have that right to be that close to your kids.

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Because they have a hardwire problem. A pedophile sees that picture of that three month old? Or that five year old? Or that 12 year old? And they get stimulated and they want to go have sex. They want to go have sex with that little child.

[FEMALE SPEAKER]: God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change. The courage to change the things –

[MALE SPEAKER]: I can.

FEMALE SPEAKER]: Wisdom to know the difference. Well, that’s a good one ain’t it? The wisdom to know what we can change.

[JOHN CRYAR]: What I have learned in the last three and a half years of therapy is just astonishing. I’ve been attracted to a particular type of young girl ever since I was around eight years old.

I witnessed my two older cousins having sex in the bed with me on an overnight visit from out of town and then she became the fantasy and she was around eight or nine years old. And I’ve always been attracted to that age range since.

The counselors make no bones about it, mine doesn’t. This is not something you cure. It’s something you learn to manage.

It’s certainly possible that I would have never offended. Had I known what I know now and had I had the kind of treatment I’ve had since my release.

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[TEXT]: (lower third: Jill Levenson, Associate Professor, Barry University)

We know from research that the sex offenders who receive treatment do reoffend at lower rates than those who don’t get treatment. Is treatment perfect? No, but neither are most medical interventions. People die after receiving chemotherapy and we don’t say, “Well, we’re not going to treat cancer.”

[JOHN CRYAR]: This is a very candid statement. I’ve told the group that I’m participating in and to my counselor, “If you really knew sometimes what went on in my mind, you would lock me up and throw away the key.”

[MALE SPEAKER]: But should we do that?

[JOHN CRYAR]: No. I’m not a harm to anyone. But those thoughts occur in my mind from time to time. What I’ve learned in counseling in group is how to manage them.

And through that, I get some modicum of a peace of mind and the knowledge that I’m not a danger.
[02:13:00] [TEXT]: (lower third: Eric Janus, Dean, William Mitchell Law School)

[02:12:44] [ERIC JANUS]: Everybody wants a risk-free society but the thing about these sex offender laws is that they focus with laser sharpness on a particular kind of risk. And it is the risk of recidivist sexual violence.

[02:13:00] Now, what recidivist sexual violence means, the definition, is a person who’s been convicted of a sex crime who then commits another sex crime. That’s recidivist violence.

[02:13:12] Now, the public thinks that that is a huge number. The public thinks that almost 100% of sex offenders who are released from prison go off and do it again.

[02:13:21] One of the most comprehensive students of recidivism was done by the US Department of Justice. They followed every single [02:13:30] sex offender released from about 15 states. It was almost 10,000 people. And they followed them for three years to determine who got rearrested or reconvicted for another sex offense. That study found a recidivism rate among those almost 10,000 sex offenders of 3.5%.

[02:13:58] [TEXT]: (lower third: Val Jonas, Civil Rights Attorney)

[02:13:53] [VAL JONAS]: There is a huge disparity between the public’s perception of sex offenders and [02:14:00] the truth, the empirical, scientific, actuarial truth about sex offenders.

[02:14:06] [ERIC JANUS]: The recidivism of sex offenders has been studied over and over and over again. It’s been studied by the federal government, bureau of justice statistics, the state departments of corrections. Connecticut department of corrections broke out the various measures of recidivism over five years.

[02:14:25] So using the loosest measure of recidivism, 3.6% of the [02:14:30] sex offenders were arrested or charged with a new crime over five years. The next most narrow definition of recidivism, a conviction of sex offense found 2.7% and then using restrictive definition of recidivism returned to prison, to service sentence for a new sex crime that was 1.7%.

[02:14:52] There’s a study in Maine that had a rearrest rate of 3.9%. A Nebraska study found a two-year recidivism rate [02:15:00] of 1.7%. One year recidivism, 0.6%.

[02:15:09] These studies are quite consistent. It’s completely counter to the narrative that underlies all of these laws that sex offenders are extremely highly likely [02:15:30] to reoffend. This is a myth. It’s a total myth.

[02:15:35] There are two different worlds here. One is the world of the politicians and in that world, we are identifying the most highly dangerous and these people have hugely high recidivism rates. And then there’s the world of science. And those two worlds do not meet.

[02:15:56] The Supreme Court had its own role in perpetrating this myth.
IRA ELLMAN: The two most well known Supreme Court cases on sex offenders are the case called McCoon [Phonetic] and another case called Smith. They report that the sex offender registry and other things that are imposed on sex offenders are justified by the fact that they have a frightening and high reoffense rate.

As high as 80% of sex offenders reoffend, and that’s a frightening and high rate and I would agree to that. If 80% of sex offenders reoffend upon release, that would be frightening and certainly very high. And in explaining this frightening and high reoffense rate, Justice Kennedy made reference to a manual published by the United States Department of Justice.

The justice department manual cites only one thing, an article in Psychology Today, a mass market magazine from 1986. That article in Psychology Today is written by a fellow who is a rehabilitation counselor, that’s his only degree, he’s not an academic, he’s not an expert in reoffense statistics. It’s just his salesmanship of his counseling program. People who don’t take his therapy, they’ll reoffend as high as 80%.

It has no back up data, it has nothing in it that it cites. There’s no doubt that the statements about reoffense rates are wrong. They’re just as a matter of social science fact, those statements are wrong.

VAL JONAS: At this point, the phrase “frightening and high” has been cited in close to 100 cases. Legislatures routinely recite it in their preambles to their legislation. They cite the U.S. Supreme Court which rested its assumptions on nothing, on nothing. You wouldn’t make any decision affecting your life on the basis of things like that.

IRA ELLMAN: A hundred judicial opinions that uphold laws that say, “Yes, you could put this person in the registry, yes.” If someone on the registry cannot go to a library, cannot go to a park in Florida, they can’t live anywhere in the city of Miami.

FEMALE SPEAKER: They’re throwing thousands of people on to the streets, out of their houses, out of school, wrecking their marriages, wrecking their – any prospect they may possibly ever have of reintegration into the community based on “frightening and high,” decades of recidivism, “80%” which came from nothing.

RON BOOK: Where in the heck do they get that success rate? Is that remotely tied to anything verifiable? Little extra today –.

MALE: Thank you.

RON BOOK: But I probably have some more this week, so– okay. Thanks for making sure– you keep my feet looking good my friend.
[02:19:16]  [VAL JONAS]: I occasionally force people that I know to read some of the studies that I’ve read. And sometimes they read them and then put them aside and they just say, “I don’t believe it,” just like [02:19:30] Mr. Book.

[02:19:42]  [RON BOOK]: Look, I don’t really care what the critics say, because what they say is, “I don’t have any statistics.” I suggest to you, their statistics are made up and they’re phony baloney. They make it look like it’s something other than it is.

[02:19:56]  It’s underreported because people don’t report sex crimes because [02:20:00] they’re embarrassed, they’re ashamed, they’re intimidated, they’re threatened, their lives have been threatened, just like my daughter’s life was threatened.

[02:20:10]  If you’re not a victim of sexual abuse, you just don’t have a clue. And if you aren’t a parent of a child who’s been sexually abused, don’t tell me about leniency. Don’t tell me about compassion. Don’t tell me about what rights your kids should have or shouldn’t have.


[02:20:47]  [JUDY CORNETT]: There was this rally. Sex offenders were trying to change the laws related to the registry. I didn’t really understand a whole lot of it but I want to learn. I mean obviously, I was on defense mode [02:21:00] and I’m like, you know, we’re going to take on these sex offenders.

[02:21:05]  There was families who were fighting for their loved ones because of the effect it was having on them. It’s not fair. My heart broke for some of these family members. Because they truly loved the sex offender that was in their life. The crime that that sex offender did is unforgivable. But the domino effect on that side, that was an eye-opener for me.

[02:21:30]  At one time, I felt like I was on the real good side of the law because I was working with law enforcement to get the bad guy of the street. And now all of a sudden, I’m on this side, I’m on the criminal side.

[02:21:48]  Now, my son is a criminal and now my son is getting in trouble, and now we’re looked at differently. It’s very classic for children who have been molested [02:22:00] to live a dysfunctional life.

[02:22:05]  My little happy son had a demonic seed planted in him after he was kidnapped and molested. His world stopped after this happened. He got hooked on drugs, and he went to a drug dealer’s house. And my son shot a gun to try to save his best friend. He ended up getting 25 years.

[02:22:30]  There are people that I became very close with within the judicial system and I have the utmost respect for them. And when my son got charged with these crimes, I wanted so
bad to go and beg them to help me but I knew my son did something wrong and I knew they had to do their job. So I couldn’t go ask something that was unreasonable. We had to just face it and do what we had to do.

[02:23:03] So know I am on the other side and I want to be as realistic as possible. I don’t want to be a vigilante. I’ve learned. You know, there were times where I got very angry with the predators and things that were going on and I didn’t understand it. But today, I understand it. I get it.

[2:23:27] [PATTY WETTERLING]: The bizarreness of what happened is still haunting. It’s just in the middle of nowhere, you know. There’s like 15 houses up here. You’re actually more likely to get struck by lightning than to get abducted, you know. But with abduction and sexual assault, there’s such tremendous fear that it steers the direction of the conversation.

[2:23:57] I’m often afraid to talk about this topic knowing [2:24:00] that there are a lot of other victims who’ve gone through the same thing and who don’t see eye to eye with me.

[2:24:10] I’ve been doing this 26 years and I’ve learned a lot. And my attitude has changed. At the beginning, this was a tool for law enforcement, now it’s a punishment. I just think we need to have a critical eye and keep what’s good [2:24:30] and fight for what’s missing.

[2:24:36] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: The consensus of the research indicates that public notification and public sex offender registries have not resulted in a decrease in sexual crimes over the years.

[2:24:57] We’ve created a system that has taken on a life [02:25:00] of its own. It’s less effective than we’d hoped it would be. Are we simply punishing people? Or are we really trying to do something effective that’s going to change the way our society thinks about and deals with sexual assault.

[02:25:024] [MALE SPEAKER]: What has happened is our policy has gone off in the wrong direction. [02:25:30] There is growing concern among experts that the super draconian responses to sexual crimes can actually have the perverse effect of depressing the reporting of sex offending. Particularly within family settings.

[02:25:57] [PATTY WETTERLING]: People forget the goal. [02:26:00] We want them to never offend again. So to do that, we should be giving them treatment and then they need a place to live, they need a job, they need social support, continued treatment and we take all of those away one by one by one.

[02:26:26] [CLYDE NEWTON]: I didn’t want my kids to [02:26:30] know I was homeless. They found out.
[02:26:36] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Actually, I looked you up online and I found you on the registry. Honestly, I was the happiest person on the planet when I found that picture of you. I never forgot you. I never stopped loving you. I’m just happy I found you.

[02:26:56] [CLYDE NEWTON]: This is only the second Father’s day that me and her [2:27:00] spent time. The first time we spent time together. I caught a technical violation right behind that and went away for the four years.

[2:27:09] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: How do I tie this so that the ball won’t be falling?

[2:27:14] [CLYDE NEWTON]: Now push it. Hook all the way up and tie.

[2:27:16] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: All way up to the, uh.

[2:27:18] [CLYDE NEWTON]: All the way up to it – That way. You got it up there, right?

[2:27:22] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: Yeah.

[02:27:30] [CLYDE NEWTON]: I’m free. But it don’t take away the scars. I still got my own nightmares. Because nobody knew my story. Nobody knew about the little boy that was raised on 21st Avenue in Tampa, Florida and every time his baby sister went in the hospital, his daddy stuck his dick in his mouth. Sorry I had to say it that way, but that’s the truth.

[02:28:00] I walk around everyday of my life with two hurdles. One, I was a molested child and lived with that all my life. Second, I [??] touched the child and don’t even know how and it hurts me everyday of my life. Because I don’t know where that came from and nobody gave a damn what was going on with me when I was a kid.

[2:28:38] I really don’t want to live no more. I don’t want nothing to do with society. I trusted this great country we call America and it screwed me, not only as an adult but as a kid too. [02:29:00]

[02:29:35] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: I’m done. I’m done being afraid. I’m done worrying about if my children are going to be taken from me. I just want to be a normal person. I just want to live my life. I’ve paid enough. And there’s a lot of people just like me. [2:30:00] It’s really time to stand up.

[2:30:00] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: Hi Patty, my name is Shawna. I was wondering if there would be any time possible that I would be able to actually, maybe sit and talk with Representative Cockroft? I’m a registered sex offender in the state of Oklahoma. Recently, the laws have completely changed my life, and my children’s life. I don’t know when he would be available to meet. Do you have any idea? [02:30:30]
[02:30:30] [PATTY]: I don’t know, he keeps his own calendar.

[02:30:32] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: He keeps his own calendar. Okay.

[02:30:35] [PATTY]: [Inaudible]

[02:30:38] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: Okay. Thank you so much Patty.

[02:30:40] [PATTY]: You’re welcome Shawna.

[02:30:41] [SHAWNA BALDWIN]: Bye-bye.

[02:30:53] [CAROL]: Hello.

[02:30:56] [JOHN CRYAR]: Hey CAROL [Phonetic], this is John, how are you doing?

[02:30:57] [JOHN CRYAR]: I’m fine. [2:31:00] Listen, in anticipation of me coming there for Thanksgiving? Have any – are you in touch with my boys ever?

[2:31:11] [JOHN CRYAR]: The reason I’m asking, I wonder if it would be appropriate to let them know either, you know, tangentially or directly that I’m going to be in Conroe during the Thanksgiving holidays. I haven’t seen them in – yeah, I haven’t seen them in 15 years.

[02:31:30]

[02:32:00] [LAUREN BOOK]: Everyday, it seemed the babysitter was always touching Lauren where she should not be touched. Lauren wanted to tell someone about the way she was feeling, and the way the babysitter had touched her, but she was scared.

[02:32:23] On the count of three, you can all do that, ready? One, two, three, stop, that’s not safe. [02:32:30] Oh I think they didn’t hear you over on...

[02:32:30] [RON BOOK]: Anyway, so she didn’t just rape her, she didn’t just beat her.

[02:32:38] [LAUREN BOOK]: If you’re choking back tears and your heart’s filled with fears, you know very well that?

[02:32:42] [KIDS]: It’s okay to tell.

[02:32:44] [LAUREN BOOK]: Her father held his precious daughter in his arms. He looked into her eyes as tears rolled down his face. The mean green Ogre babysitter will never hurt you again, I promise.

[02:32:55] [RON BOOK]: I’ll be 74 when the bitch gets out of prison. I’ve been waiting for her [02:33:00] and when they put her on the plane to Honduras I’ll be right behind her, I’ll be right behind her --
[02:33:03] [FEMALE SPEAKER]: You should be, with an army of other people.

[02:33:05] [RON BOOK]: I have – I’ve had people on my payroll for 13 years in Honduras. I know where every family member lives.

[02:33:26] [LAUREN BOOK]: He’s my mentor, he has taught me a tremendous amount, but don’t always agree about policy. He believes that we need to do all that we can to restrict predators, [02:33:30] and when we started, that’s what I was doing too.

[02:33:45] When I went back and got my Master’s degree, I realized, if you don’t work to prevent sexual abuse through education and awareness, then you can’t be effective. To be able to educate, you have to understand. So I still interact with predators where dad will not.

[02:34:00] [ERIC JANUS]: We tell ourselves that the people to whom these laws apply are monsters. They’re the other, they’re not us. We can identify who they are, get them away from us. The reality is recidivist sexual violence is a tiny portion of the problem of sexual violence.

[02:34:30] Most sexual offending takes place in the fraternity houses, in drunken parties, on dates, with coaches, with religious leaders, among families. These are people who are not visibly monsters. In fact, they are among us. They’re us.

[02:35:00] Normal people who are guided by screwed up values, by permissive societal messages. The real harm in those kind of laws is that they acquit us as a society of our deeper obligation to change the mores, to change the values that allow sexual violence to flourish. That’s what we really ought to be working on, not some foolish laws about Halloween candy or license plate color.

[02:35:30] We have limited resources and every 5 million that we spend on this program is 5 million that we’re not spending on primary prevention, changing attitudes and tried and true supervision and treatment of sex offenders. There are choices that we’re making.

[02:35:56] [LAUREN BOOK]: You cannot broad-brush this issue. And the minute that you do so you will create policies that are dangerous, that cannot be enforced.

[02:36:00] That’s where I try to temper some of where dad comes from. What can we do to create smart policy to again, do what? Not be punitive, to keep kids in our communities safe.

[02:36:26] [MALE SPEAKER]: And what does your dad say to that?

[02:36:27] [LAUREN BOOK]: I don’t know what he would say to that. He would probably tell me to lock them up and throw away the key and that there’s no use for them back out here in the community.
[02:36:45] [RON BOOK]: These people need to be put away until they’re too old to walk. I told you before, I don’t try to be what I’m not, I don’t try to be anything other than who I am.

[02:37:00] [FILMMAKER]: Which of these laws would have been most effective in protecting your daughter?

[02:37:17] [RON BOOK]: You know, most of the laws that we have passed would likely have done nothing to protect my daughter. But I believe had we properly educated my daughter on how to be safe, had we properly trained her on safe touch and unsafe touch, [02:37:30] had we properly trained her about secrets, and that no secret is forever, I am absolutely convinced that the abuse would have been short-lived.

[02:37:51] [LAUREN BOOK]: You keep on telling until you are heard and helped

[02:37:56] [RON BOOK]: It may not have prevented that first act or that second act, but my daughter would have told, my daughter would have figured it out, my daughter would have told, my daughter would have figured it out. She would have told, she would have told.

[02:38:00] [LAUREN BOOK]: She feels sad…

[02:38:08] [KID]: Even the cat is scared..

[02:38:09] [LAUREN BOOK]: Even the cat is scared…

[02:38:22] He’s an angry dad who had to watch his kid endure a tremendous amount. But I'm that kid who had to endure a tremendous amount who doesn’t want that to happen [02:38:30] to other kids.

[02:38:42] [PATTY WETTERLING]: We have been victims of a horrific crime. I got very angry. It was eating away my insides, just the absolute fury. It was like acid inside of me. But I can’t live in that world. I can’t live in the world of exploitation and anger and rape and assault and the language, it just – will eat you alive.

[02:39:00] I have to focus on the vision, the world we were trying to build for our kids, the world that Jacob knows.

[02:39:17 ] Jacob was good and fair and I refuse to let the man who took Jacob take anything more from me. You can’t take away my world. You can’t take my belief that there’s more good people in the world than bad and it’s time for good people to stand up and build a better environment for our kids. [02:39:30]

[02:39:44] [LAUREN BOOK]: One of the things that no survivor talks about, none of us, every survivor that I’ve ever talked to, has this little, deep, dark hole inside of us that we feel that that monster exists. That there is a Waldi in me, that if I’m not careful, she’s going to come out and she’s going to hurt another kid. [02:40:00]
I have spoken to family members, who have to give up children because they cannot live in a home with a sex offender father or they have to sell their home, they have to move, they’re leaving in cars and are very, very, very angry.

There is a place for anger. There is a place where that has to fire you along to get something done.

And the only reason that we’re sitting here today is because a young lady who had no voice and felt invisible for so long was tired, and pissed. People are afraid of predators, people are scared and they should be. The aftermath is catastrophic and cataclysmic.

Unless we’re putting them in prison and throwing away the key, never letting them out, they’re getting out. They’re going to live in your neighborhoods. They will be there.

We need to be smart. We need to be strategic about the way that we do things, to create a more effective system than what we currently have. But we can’t be driven by fear.

[YOUNG LAUREN]: Turn it off… turn it off.

John Cryar is off of supervised release, and free to leave Oklahoma.

He is required to register in any state he moves to.

Clyde’s daughter has introduced him to a woman who has become his fiance.

Less than 30 days after our final interview, a neighbor found his photo on the registry and notified his landlord.

He was given a 7 day eviction notice.

Judy Cornett still runs Predator Patrol.

Her son is expected to spend 17 more years in prison.

Lauren’s Kids secured 3.8 million dollars in State funding last year, making it Florida’s most supported charity.

They know that she’s decided this is the next place she wants to go. It’s a parent’s responsibility to do everything they can to support what their kid’s dreams are, so.

And we’re actually filing our papers in the next 15 minutes and so it’s officially official. I’m running for the Senate.
Lauren Book is unopposed in her race for the Florida State Senate.

Shawna remains one of over 800,000 Americans on the sex offender registry. She will be on the registry for life.