

06/12/2012

Senate Judiciary Subcommittee

Constitution, Civil Rights, and Human Rights

Chaired by Illinois Democrat Dick Durbin,

Dear Senator Durbin,

I am enclosing my opinion on the issue of *Solitary Confinement* and the direct impact it makes on the medical disabled.

Solitary confinement is any institution that has inmates locked down for 23 out 24 hours a day.

CTC is suppose to be a stopping place for medically ill inmates before they either go back to population or transferred to the required facility. So when a medically disabled person has been confined for almost two years now the impact is detrimental.

My son Billy (MCSP P61175) has had what amounts to three brain surgeries in the since 2010. After the first surgery he went back to a cell where his cell mate was instrumental in his recovery. Photo 4/2010. He was talking and walking although with a cane and braces. I believe with the constant communication and interaction with at least one person helped in his recovery.

The surgery was not a complete success due to the lack of information or neglect on either MCSP or UC Davis Medical Center. Billy's symptoms' reappeared only this time on his right side. Billy went back in for surgery almost one year later for surgery on a different part of his brain.

After the surgery is when he went back to CTC. (Locked down 23 out of 24 hours a day) I was told it was just for him to recover. After about 90 day I began questioning why he was still in the CTC Yard. It was then that the Chief Medical Officer told me that it was for Billy's safety. He was concerned that other inmates may use his disability to cause him harm. (Light bulbs went off in my head,) Every time I go to see Billy, once a month; (a 17 to 20 hour drive depending on the traffic) the inmates in visiting ask me when he will be back to the yard. Not to mention that is cell mate is a protector of sorts. Tim Purtel is old enough to be his father.

Billy's recovery has not gone at all well. Surgery on the brain takes a lot of nurturing. (Use it or lose it.) He has been told that he gets the best care. When you look at the pictures you wonder if this is the best, what Billy's condition would be like in a poor situation. I am told he see a doctor daily. MON-WED-FRI (I can count.) If my doctor saw me in the shower and just asked me how I am; knowing that surprise encounters cause me anxiety and that I have problems thinking before I can respond, that he might wait until I was back in my cell. Not to mention that my memory span has been shortened after the surgery. He also sees a panel on Fridays. When he tries to speak he is cut off. No one really wants to know what is going on with the medically disabled inmate in Solitary Confinement let alone anywhere else. Solitary Confinement is where they put inmates that they have no time to be bothered with. Statement made to

me: ***Mom I am cold. I told the doctor and he told me that the weather is getting warmer that would affect my cell.*** Billy is cold all the time; except in bed. If the staff forgets you medication it's no big thing, if you are in pain 24/7 you are making it up. Even if the staff and Doctors see that you ***can't move*** until after the medication for pain kicks in. Billy has braces on his left/right side, a tube running from his brain into his stomach, also has to have thickener put in his fluids to be able to swallow, Billy is also wheelchair bound.

The issues of Solitary Confinement affect any and everyone.

California Department of Correction and Rehabilitation (CDCR) what ever happened to Rehabilitation? Having you life taken away and locked in **Solitary Confinement** while being medically disabled in inhumane, Cruel and unusual treatment. After all it was the State of California that put Billy in his condition due to the delayed medical treatment. The State knew of Billy's condition at the time of incarceration. The State choose not to do due diligence for his care. If I choose not to provide medical attention the State would either put me in jail or relinquish my rights as mother and handle it their self. Well the State has custody of my Son and they are taking a piece of him a day at a time. **Solitary Confinement** is where they can forget about you.

Please consider sending Medically Disable Inmates Home. The reason for incarceration is to keep inmates from harming again. Most inmates can be rehabillited.

Thank You for Your interest,

Janet Davis *Mother for injustice for the Medical Disable in Solitary Confinement.*

619-227-3814





