

Disability and Abuse Newsfeed

Week of June 8 to June 15, 2018

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

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

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ABUSE & NEGLECT

1. “Arkansas-side police arrest 2 in rape case Report: Alleged victim is mentally disabled”

Texarkana, Ark., police arrested two men recently for allegedly raping and beating a mentally disabled woman. Vincent DePaul West, 30, and Auston Lindsey, 18, were taken into custody after officers responded to a call about a sexual assault May 31 about 11:30 p.m., according to a probable cause affidavit used to create the following account. The alleged victim was extremely upset when two patrolmen approached her on East 29th Street near County Road. -Texarkana Gazette – June 10, 2018 (Arkansas) <https://is.gd/datlzg>

2. He's been silenced': Bay Area man gets seven life sentences plus 300 years in human trafficking, child rape case

In what local officials call the longest sentence for human trafficking in recent memory, a Contra Costa County man was given seven life terms plus another 300 years in state prison Friday. Louis Ray Coleman, 43, was convicted last year of 25 counts that included kidnapping, rape, child molestation and human trafficking. It was all related to two separate kidnappings, where Coleman took a woman and a girl off the streets of West Contra Costa County, took them to an abandoned house in Richmond and sexually assaulted them for days on end. - East Bay Times- June 8, 2018- (California) <https://is.gd/M7v8SX>

3. "Before bus assault, teacher was drinking on the job at another Coast school, lawyer says"

The school bus assault of a disabled girl may have never happened, a notice of a lawsuit says, had a Coast school district taken action against teacher Kerri Anne Nettles for alleged misconduct in 2009. The girl's lawyer, Michael Crosby, on Friday sent the Ocean Springs School District a notice of potential litigation.- Sun Herald- June 16, 2018 – (Mississippi) - <https://is.gd/29UsIR>

4. "Harmon Elementary special needs teacher accused of hitting autistic student with a stick."

A Harmon Elementary special needs teacher is behind bars for child abuse for an incident involving a student. Melody Carter, 58, showed up in court Friday morning to turn herself in and listen to the charges of child abuse she is facing. Court documents say in April, a substitute filling in for one of two teacher aides, that help Carter, witnessed the special needs teacher poke an autistic 5-year-old with a stick and alerted school officials. Channel 3 News – June 15th- (Nevada) - <https://is.gd/54qzvK>

5. "NY Attorney General Underwood attempting to protect Cuomo & sexual assault cover-ups- The new Attorney General of New York State, Barbara Underwood is attempting to protect Governor Cuomo and his sexual predator cover-up scheme."

The Jonathan Carey Foundation which represents the countless sexual assault and rape victims with disabilities has sent three certified letters to Attorney General Underwood within the last month seeking immediate intervention, all have been ignored. A personal request at the New York State Capital of AG Underwood by Michael Carey, the founder, has also gone ignored. EIN Presswire -June 15, 2018- (New York) <https://is.gd/hb1pqC>

6. "Spartanburg man faces charges, videos show abuse of elderly mother"

A Spartanburg man faces charges after police watched video of him hitting an elderly woman's head against a vehicle's door frame, a report stated. Jerome Earl Boyd, 54, of 590 John B. White Sr. Blvd., faces charges of abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult with great bodily harm and abuse of a vulnerable adult. – Herald Journal – June 6, 2018 (North Carolina) <https://is.gd/Rkp1NO>

7. "Man gets prison for molesting disabled family member"

A man who pleaded guilty to molesting a developmentally disabled family member will spend a year in prison. Dwayne Eley, 54, of Saranac Avenue received the sentence Tuesday from Judge R. Scott Krichbaum of Mahoning County Common Pleas Court on two counts of gross sexual imposition. The victim was 28 when the crimes occurred, but prosecutors said she has the mental capacity of a 10-year-old. The Vindicator- June 13, 2018 – (Ohio) <https://is.gd/De8Qom>

8. How many bruises must this young man sustain before we help?

Jill Daly has lost count of the times her son has visited home for the weekend, covered in bruises. Tommy, 29, is autistic, has significant cognitive delays, and is

nonverbal, so he is unable to tell his mother what happens at the various group homes where he has lived over the last decade. What's frightening is that the state-paid workers who care for Tommy are either unable or unwilling to tell her. "Look at these," she says, swiping through the cellphone photos of injuries her son sustained in prior placements. The Inquirer – June 14, 2018 – (Pennsylvania) - <https://is.gd/n4btas>

9. "Fayette resident pleads guilty to rape of mentally disabled woman"

Facing trial in Washington County Court, a Uniontown resident chose to plead guilty last week to rape of a mentally disabled woman and committing involuntary deviate sexual intercourse. Dominike Francis Tedrow, 46, formerly of Marianna, faces 5 to 10 years in a state prison on the rape charge. Judge Valarie Costanzo also placed him on probation for a decade after he completes the prison sentence, and recommended he be assessed for any mental health issues and treated. Observer Reporter – June 16, 2018- (Pennsylvania) <https://is.gd/r7OCxt>

10. "Woman charged in Chattanooga with leaving disabled adult naked, crawling with roaches"

Chattanooga Police have arrested and charged a woman with willful abuse or neglect of an impaired adult, almost two years to the day after police say the crime was discovered. Authorities arrested 55-year-old Erica Watson during a traffic stop Tuesday night, after learning of a warrant for her arrest. A police report obtained by News Channel 9 says an officer was called to Mary Walker Place to a medical call on June 16th, 2016. News Channel 9 – June 13, 2018 – (Tennessee) <https://is.gd/zShDga>

11. Indicted: Abilene man accused of causing 'severe bruising' on autistic 6-year-old

An Abilene man accused of causing severe bruising on the buttocks of an autistic 6-year-old boy has been indicted. Anthony McCoy, 29, was indicted Thursday for

Injury to a Child in connection to the incident that happened in February of 2018. Court documents state employees at Dyess Elementary School contacted CPS after noticing a 6-year-old boy with autism had 'severe bruising' on his buttocks that wasn't there the previous day. Abilene police detectives then interviewed the boy's mother who said her boyfriend, McCoy, had watched him the night before, according to the documents. Big County- June 14, 2018- (Texas)
<https://is.gd/aLPnHv>

12. "Area man accused of raping disabled woman out on bond"

A 70-year-old Hamilton County man accused of raping a mentally disabled woman seven times over the course of about two years is free on bond after he was charged with sexual assault. Hamilton County Justice of the Peace James Lively who issued the arrest warrant for Loyd Daniel Woolsey recommended a \$50,000 bond, but Justice of the Peace Kim Avants in neighboring Mills County, where Woolsey was jailed, set bail at \$25,000. Woolsey was warned to have no contact with the alleged victim. KWTX- News – June 13, 2018 –(Texas)
<https://is.gd/nzSxRT>

13. "Ex-worker guilty of attempted rape of disabled woman at center"

A former supervisor at a state-run center for people with developmental disabilities has been found guilty of trying to rape a client. A jury in Pierce County Superior Court found 62-year-old Terry Shepard guilty of second-degree attempted rape and indecent liberties on Wednesday. Shepard was accused of having sex with a 57-year-old developmentally disabled woman inside the facility in Buckley. The family also filed a \$10 million lawsuit against the State Department of Social and Health Services. – Q 13 Fox -b June 15, 2018 – Washington - <https://is.gd/daxMH6>

14. "Teen Girl with Disabilities Suffered a 'Slow Death' from Her Mother's Neglect, Authorities Allege"

Wisconsin mother stands accused of neglect after her 13-year-old daughter — whose rare medical condition left the girl unable to speak or walk — was discovered dead in their rotting home last year, according to multiple news outlets. On May 29, 2017, Brianna Gussert's body was found curled in her bed by Appleton authorities, according to the *Appleton Post-Crescent*. Brianna was wearing an old diaper that weighed 1.25 lbs and, investigators say they learned, she had apparently gone without care for days until she died. – People Crime – June 13, 2018 – (Wisconsin) <https://is.gd/Be06rc>

Guardianship

15. “Iowa man, wife accused of stealing \$200K from his disabled 90-year-old mother”

A Dubuque man and his wife have been accused of stealing more than \$200,000 from his 90-year-old mother. Her attorney did not immediately return a call Monday from The Associated Press. The records did not list the name of an attorney who could comment for Howard Derby. Court documents said Howard's disabled mother moved in with the couple and that he has been given power of attorney for her finances and medical needs. The documents said the Derbys took money from her accounts and used it to buy cars and pay for vacations, among other things. – The Des Moines Register – June 11, 2018 – (Iowa) <https://is.gd/uenTJ0>

LAWS & LEGISLATIONS

16. “Hundreds March to Capitol for Disability Rights”

Hundreds of people with disabilities and their allies marched to the State Capitol Thursday. They came together for the 14th annual Disability Capitol Action Day, which aims to advocate for disability rights. The group is fighting for bills making their way through the state legislature that they say would help those with disabilities and their families. Organizers say these events also help people with disabilities empower each other and find their voices. - Fox 40 – June 7, 2018 (California) <https://is.gd/tiQeBb>

17. “Hickenlooper authorizes study of treating autistic children with marijuana day after veto”

The day after Gov. John Hickenlooper vetoed a bill that would have made autism a condition that qualifies for medical marijuana, Lt. Gov. Donna Lynne signed an executive order calling for more research. Lynne signed the order because Hickenlooper was traveling Wednesday to give a speech in Detroit, his office said. – June 6, 2018 – The Gazette- (Colorado) <https://is.gd/BxHykI>

18. “ADAPT Protests Institutionalization Of People With Disabilities”

Well, ADAPT’s core issue is basically getting our people out of institutions. We want to create a world in which nobody’s forced into an institution that doesn’t want to be. But this one institution, the Judge Rotenberg Center, in Canton, Massachusetts, not only are these people institutionalized and put through a fairly rough behavioral program, that we oppose in general. But, one piece of the behavioral program still is, they strap electrodes to people’s bodies, up to four at a time. Wify Indianapolis – June 13, 2018 (Indianapolis) <https://is.gd/6rJnCS>

19. “Bill passage could help protect vulnerable adults”

The Oklahoma Legislature has passed a bill establishing the Commission on the Prevention of Abuse of Elderly and Vulnerable Adults. House Bill 3328 bill was signed into law last month by Gov. Mary Fallin. Rep. Marcus McEntire, R-Duncan, the bill’s author, said it is time Oklahoma begins looking into abuse and scams elderly adults face. “So what we’ve done is we’ve created a commission to look at

the laws concerning court-appointed guardianship of elders and vulnerable adults. And so, what we're trying to do is make sure that we can head off any kind of fraud that occurs in that relationship. And, of course, it's going to be much broader than that."-The Duncan Banner – June 9, 2018 – (Oklahoma)

<https://is.gd/zSTiBC>

20. Advocates for Disabled Warn Against AMA's Softening Opposition to Physician-Assisted Suicide

The American Medical Association's decision this week to reconsider its long-standing opposition to assisted suicide doesn't sit well with some advocates for the disabled. The AMA voted Monday by a margin of 56 percent to 44 percent to continue studying the issue, though without reaffirming that its current policy opposing assisted suicide would remain in place. The Daily Signal – June 14, 2018 -

<https://is.gd/DBwe3w>

STUDIES & STATISTICS

21. "IS SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAILING ITS MOST VULNERABLE INMATE POPULATION"

The DRC team had set out to create a broad report on conditions in San Diego County Jail. Once the research began, however, there was one particular data point that jumped out at her: "When we first went in, we were looking at solitary confinement and use of force, but also at accessibility for wheelchairs, deaf people, that sort of thing," Cervenak says. "But what stuck out to us in San Diego was the high suicide rate." After years of research, their **report** finally published in April of 2018. Pacific Standard - June 11, 2018 (California) <https://is.gd/8WAJw6>

22. "Autistic people at greater risk of becoming homeless – new research"

Many autistic people, given the right support, live full and satisfying lives. Unfortunately, such support is often lacking, and many autistic adults struggle to find sustainable employment and housing. My colleagues Alasdair Churchard,

Morag Ryder, Andrew Greenhill and I thought that this might make them more at risk of becoming homeless. And that's what we found in a new study.- The Conversation- June 12, 2018 – (England) <https://is.gd/nTa0BF>

IMPROVED SUPPORTS

23. Elementary principal reprimanded for special-education failures”

Juana Briones Elementary School Principal Tom Jacobowsky, who announced this spring he plans to return to teaching, was reprimanded in January for leadership failures that led the district to being out of compliance with special-education regulations. A Jan. 18 letter from Chief Academic Officer of Elementary Education Barbara Harris, released under a Public Records Act request, states that Jacobowsky did not properly address a staff vacancy, impacting support services and mandated instructional minutes for special-education students at Juana Briones.- Palo Alto – June 14, 2018- (California) <https://is.gd/AQtUBB>

24. “The Problem with Labeling Evil as Mental Illness”

Mental illness is something one suffers and deals with in their own life; it does not inherently bring others down. The mentally ill person can be a mother who battles severe depression while packing lunch for her kids or a father that struggles with bipolar disorder and seeks help through his psychiatrist. It's something one person struggles with, not something that a person projects onto others, especially in instances where adults harm children. Let's call those instances what they are: evil, not mental illness. - The Observer- June 9, 2018- (California) - <https://is.gd/5sijky>

25. Adult Abuse Awareness Month Calls Attention to Vulnerable Population”

Abuse of adults may take on numerous forms, including physical, emotional or sexual abuse, self-neglect or neglect by a caregiver and financial exploitation. In FY 2018, the Kansas Department for Children and Families (DCF) has received approximately 16,468 calls regarding abuse and neglect of this vulnerable

population, and more than 7,300 investigations have been assigned.- June 6, 2018
– WIBW News (Kansas) <https://is.gd/7zLFsq>

26. “Request for Proposal for elder, vulnerable adult abuse prevention services”

The Aging & Adult Services Agency, under the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, has issued a Request for Proposal for elder and vulnerable adult abuse prevention services. Eligible applicants include government and educational organizations, public, nonprofit and faith-based entities and American Indian Tribes that provide prevention services to populations at risk of elder or vulnerable adult abuse. MDHHS works to ensure all people at risk for elder or vulnerable adult abuse have access to prevention services and that survivors have access to a range of resources. - WJMN -June 7, 2018 – (Michigan) <https://is.gd/pjErVo>

27. “Hammer Residences, law firm seek to increase awareness of sexual assault against people with intellectual disabilities”

People with intellectual disabilities are assaulted at a higher rate than general population. In the United States, people with intellectual disabilities are assaulted at a rate seven times higher than the general population. In an effort to increase awareness and ultimately help lower this statistic, which comes from Department of Justice data that was reported earlier this year by NPR, Minneapolis-based Noaker Law Firm has partnered with Wayzata-based nonprofit Hammer Residences, which provides housing and services to more than 1,500 adults and children with developmental disabilities and runs 37 residential care homes and 10 apartment programs around the metro. Sun Sailor- June 14, 2018 – (Minneapolis) <https://is.gd/iLUUWg>

28. “As kids increasingly move to group homes in Spokane, school officials see a need for increased mental health services”

More than five years ago, Luae Benlitifah decided he wanted to open a group home for kids with disabilities or behavior issues. He knew it needed to be located

where they could access the resources they need. But the home also needed to be where the cost of living was low. That ruled out the Seattle area, he says. Instead, he chose to open a home in Spokane. "For me to help kids get resources, and for their educational needs, it's a lot easier and it's very beneficial for them [in Spokane]," Benlitifah says.- Inlander- June 14, 2018- (Washington) <https://is.gd/OaKU60>

INTERNATIONAL

29. Martin James Cooper jailed for 20 years over 'horrific' sexual abuse of eight children"

A MAN who sexually abused eight vulnerable children up to four decades ago when he ran a home for wards of the State has been jailed for 20 years over his "horrific" crimes. Martin James Cooper, 66, and his wife Nancy were cottage parents at Warminda Hostel in East Victoria Park when he subjected his young victims to sickening physical and sexual assaults between 1978 and 1983. After a four-week District Court trial, Cooper was last week found guilty of 30 sexual offences against four boys and four girls aged between 11 and 16, including six counts of rape. – Perth Now- June 8, 2018 (Australia) <https://is.gd/kNnBXu>

30. "Families with autistic children are set to experience more hardship as the NDIS move to backtest children with the condition."

Children who have already been diagnosed as autistic and had their funding needs assessed will be tested again, with the process to be repeated twice a year. Tim Stevenson is the father of two girls, nine-year-old Alexandra and seven-year-old Katherina, who both have low-functioning autism. Tim tells Ben Fordham the proposed tests are bound to take a toll on families already under pressure. "If you're diagnosed as autistic, you're autistic. It doesn't change, you've got a diagnosis. To get that originally is a nightmare. 2GB Radio – June 13, 2018 (Australia) <https://is.gd/NvFmiJ>

31. "Good news from province for families with autistic children"

Culture Minister Ricardo Miranda announced Friday a \$1.25-million grant to Children's Autism Services of Edmonton to support its purchase of a facility in south Edmonton. The purchase and renovations will cost \$3.3 million, with CASE providing \$1.95 million from its capital campaign and private financing. The facility will help about 200 families in the city and northern Alberta with services and support. Edmonton Sun- June 8, 2018 (Canada) <https://is.gd/6HEe12>

32. Group home worker found guilty of abusing three disabled women
Besides residing at the same Lunenburg County group home and being sexually abused by the same man, the three young females had one other thing in common. Each of them has a mental disability. Their abuser, Glen Hawkins, 45, of Branch LaHave, pleaded guilty to three charges of sexual exploitation of a person with a disability late last month in Bridgewater Supreme Court. He is scheduled to be sentenced Oct. 3. According to court records, the offences occurred between March 2015 and January 2016. – Herald News- June 15, 2018 – (Canada) <https://is.gd/JNrtel>

33. "Chilean diocese opens investigation of priest accused of sexual abuse"

The Diocese of Linares in Chile confirmed Wednesday the receipt of a complaint of alleged sexual abuse by Father Germán Cáceres Fuentes. The diocese explained in a June 6 statement that a preliminary investigation has begun and Cáceres has been removed from ministry until the decision of the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith is obtained. It was also determined that the priest has the obligation to remain in the diocese and be available when required "within the next 48 hours for any proceedings" of the investigation. - Catholic News Agency- June 9, 2018 – (Chile) <https://is.gd/rzRLLb>

34. Call of handicapped heard loud and clear at cinemas

UA Cinemas has introduced listening kits to people with hearing impairments so they can enjoy a proper cinematic experience. The kits are part of a wireless transmission system allowing users to clearly hear the movie's dialogue and soundtrack. Composed of a receiver and "T" hook, the kit receives signals from the theater and turns sounds from the movie into electromagnetic signals. As users put the "T" hook on their ear, the signals can be received by their own hearing aid. The Standard- June 11, 2018 -China <https://is.gd/CNgDqy>

35. "Residents shocked after 2 autistic children found locked up naked in Suez"

Residents of a neighborhood in Suez city were shocked on Friday by terrifying screams that were coming from two autistic children who were locked up by their father in an unclean apartment, and were found completely naked. The children used to live with their father, who was divorced by their mother after many problems that led both parents to report to police stations several times. – Egypt Today – June 17, 2018 – (Egypt) <https://is.gd/jXFYac>

36. "Sharp increase in autistic children excluded in England, charity says"

The number of autistic children excluded from schools in England has dramatically increased over the past seven years, a charity says. The rise has been most sharp in the northwest of England, where the number of exclusions has doubled since 2011. Every part of England has also seen significant increases. The research by the charity Ambitious about Autism found 4,485 children who are on the autism spectrum were excluded either permanently or for a fixed period in 2015/16. – June 7, 2018- Sky News- (England) <https://is.gd/Bkqgq9>

37. "Former Great Barrington school employee in court"

A former employee of the Eagleton School in Great Barrington was back in Berkshire Superior Court Wednesday. James Yeaman, 64, of Lee admitted the facts of his case were sufficient to find him guilty of assault and battery on a disabled person and intimidation of a witness. Yeaman was ordered to stay out of trouble for a year, perform 20 hours of community service and pay \$500 in court

costs. The Eagleton School closed in 2016 after the state revoked its license. Yeaman had worked there from 2013 to 2015 as program director. He was among about two-dozen employees accused of abuse at the residential treatment center for boys with emotional and behavioral problems. Channel 13 News- June 13, 2018 (England) <https://is.gd/T9KLgE>

38. HP fails to implement disability law

The ambitious Disability Law enacted by the Parliament in December, 2016 has not been implemented in Himachal Pradesh as the state government has not framed rules even after the lapse of eight months after deadline. Pointing out this, disability rights activist and Umang Foundation chairman, Ajay Srivastava has written a letter to Chief Minister, Jai Ram Thakur, demanding immediate action. He alleged that thousands of disabled persons, including Thalassemic children, and those suffering from deaf-blindness, autism, cerebral palsy, speech impairment, mental illness, hemophilia, intellectual disability and leprosy cured etc in Himachal have been deprived of their right by the bureaucracy. – Statesman News Service – June 11, 2018 – (India) <https://is.gd/evdzQQ>

39. “Man kills sister’s mentally challenged kids in Hyderabad, wanted to relieve her from suffering”

Hyderabad Police arrested on Saturday a man who allegedly strangled to death his 12-year-old mentally disabled niece and nephew and told investigators he committed the crime to relieve his sister of the “hardship” of looking after the twins. The police said that the parents of the twins had refused to file a formal complaint against Mallikarjuna Reddy, saying he was a “nice person” and that they did not want him to be arrested. – Hindustan Times- June 16, 2018 –(India) <https://is.gd/8w9cdF>

40. "Politics and People with Disabilities: How the law remains a barrier against democracy"

While political parties appeal to other marginalised groups, the disability sector has been largely left out. Usha Kiran Naik, or Kiran as he is popularly known, wants to contest in the next municipal elections in Chikballapur, Karnataka. Kiran had contracted polio at the age of three and is a wheelchair user. He has also prepared 10 other people with disabilities - three women and seven men - to contest in the next village panchayat elections in Chikballapur. Kiran, 32, has been an activist in Chikballapur for the last 10 years, working with women with disabilities and people with HIV. - The News Minute – June 15, 2018- India <https://is.gd/deuze9>

41. "Man with cerebral palsy assaulted on Marco Island, police say"

An Orlando man faces charges that he assaulted a man with cerebral palsy at a Marco Island restaurant on Saturday, according to the Marco Island Police Department. Terrel Jay Olson, 31, was charged with abuse, aggravated abuse and neglect of an elderly person or disabled adult and booked into the Naples Jail Center. – That Summer Feeling- June 10, 2018 – (Naples) <https://is.gd/vRZ92w>

42. "HC reduces jail term of rapist, says enough to deter him from 'sexual adventurism'"

The Delhi High Court has upheld the rape conviction of a man who had married a disabled woman without disclosing his existing first marriage, but reduced the life term given to him by a trial court to seven years. It said the lesser sentence would be "sufficient to deter him from indulging in such sexual adventurism in future". – Business Standard- June 7, 2018 – New Delhi - <https://is.gd/LL8AxL>

43. "German, U.S. envoys advocate passage of disability rights bill"

Germany Ambassador to Nigeria, Dietmar Kreuzel, wants the Federal Government to consider the passage of disability rights bill. He made the call yesterday in

Abuja at the international albinism awareness celebration with the theme: “shinning light to the world.” Kreusel said albinos and people with disabilities in Nigeria have suffered untold neglect from government and other sectors. – The Guardian- June 15, 2018 – (Nigeria) <https://is.gd/kW4uKM>

44. “Political participation of disabled people urged”

A report on the rights of People with Disability (PWDs) has requested the government, political parties and concerned institutions to pass subsidiary legislation for the electoral rights of the PWDs, ensuring that an enabling environment is provided for them to cast their vote. It also asked relevant authorities to allocate some special seats for PWDs in national, provincial and local government system, so as to enable political participation of PWDs, and explore possible ways this can be done. The Express Tribune- June 10, 2018 – (Pakistan) <https://is.gd/LI4vNS>

45. “Portugal app empowers disabled to win better access to buildings”

Fed up with the obstacle course of Lisbon’s narrow footways and stairs in doorways, wheelchair user Ricardo Teixeira has taken matters into his own hands, giving disabled people the chance to fight back and instantly report violations via a phone app. Developed together with Portugal’s disability charity Salvador Association, +Acesso is believed to be the world’s first application allowing users to file official complaints against public buildings and businesses that do not meet accessibility laws. The digital entrepreneur, a tetraplegic since the age of 18, came up with the idea a year ago after a disappointing experience during his wedding anniversary party at a restaurant, which advertised itself as being accessible.- Reuters – June 16, 2018 – (Portugal) <https://is.gd/6NEAIO>

46. “Learner diagnosed with ADHD and Aspergers finally placed after 18 months”

The Western Cape Education Department says it's managed to place a child who has been out of school for the past 18 months. Veronique Hughes son Kasey is diagnosed with Aspergers and ADHD and has been searching for a school that can

support his needs. The department acknowledged it's facing challenges of budget constraints and a shortage of space for children with special needs but confirmed Kasey has been placed and will be starting school from next term. – Cape Talk – June 7, 2018- (South Africa) <https://is.gd/zUzLu0>

47. “First school for autistic girls to open in Tehran”

The lack of a specific school for girl students suffering autism in Tehran was one of the important issues for the organization, Mohsen Ghafourian said, ILNA reported on Sunday. Currently, students with autism are studying at 25 public schools and 15 private schools, he stated. One of the best schools for children suffering autism, equipped with the standards facilities in Iran, has been set up in Ahvaz province, southern Iran, and the second one is under construction, he remarked, adding that some autism schools are under construction in other provinces, including Qazvin, Kermanshah, and Khorasan Razavi.- Tehran Times – June 10, 2018- (Tehran) <https://is.gd/98vy5M>

48. “A man with Down's syndrome was tied to a chair and kept awake by banging pots The abuse was done by a care home boss's wife”

An adult care home manager has been removed from the Register of Social Care Workers after allowing vulnerable residents to be put in unwarranted risk of harm. A three-day Social Care Wales Fitness To Practise panel was held at the Mercure Hotel in Llansamlet, Swansea where Ashley Bowen faced seven counts including accusations of ill-treatment. Mr Bowen, who managed the now-closed St James Care Home in Swansea, failed to prevent a member of staff, his wife, Maria Baltazar, mistreating a man with Down's Syndrome. The victim had his chair tied to a table - effectively trapping him - before loud metal objects were banged next to him to keep him awake. - Wales Online – June 15, 2018 – (United Kingdom)- <https://is.gd/VEGqQw>

MISCELLANEOUS

49. "In more than 200 cases, the agency has recently reworked agreements"

Some up to two years old struck with school districts and universities to satisfy allegations related to accessibility of school websites and other online educational materials. - Disability Scoop – June 7, 2018- (Michigan) <https://is.gd/wUZcbS>

50. "Brooklyn Judge Denies Uber's Bid to Arbitrate Disabled Rider's Case"

In a ruling that advocates say could open Uber Technologies Inc. up to additional litigation over providing service to disabled people, a New York state court judge in Brooklyn found that the ride-sharing company's arbitration clause was too ambiguous to move a disabled woman's suit against the company into arbitration. The New York Law Journal- June 7, 2018 (New York) <https://is.gd/YKLFtd>