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HB
5/16/1

Dear Madam/Sir:

We have a 6 yr old grandson and his little sister is 4 yrs old. From the day they were born we have been their only babysitter. We would babysit every Monday, Wednesday and Friday while mom and dad were at work. We had them for sleepovers at our house almost every weekend. Our last year with them, 2008, they stayed at our home three out of four weekends a month. That same year our son asked that we purchase a home large enough for all of us to move in together.

January 2009 our son and his wife found a home in Ellington and on the third Sunday of January 2009 we (the grandparents) bid on that home and that Tuesday our bid was accepted. Tuesday night and Wednesday our son's behavior became quite irrational and our daughter in law's actions quite uncontrollable. I requested from our son that I please be allowed to prepare my own home for the realtor to show, therefore, being unable to babysit the next day and Friday. He completely lost it and called his father at work and told him that I should not do such a thing. That Friday night our son had our grandson call us at our home and this was the conversation: the child was crying uncontrollably and said: "Memere, daddy says that I can no longer see you and call you on the phone anymore. Why?" Like in previous mommy daddy questions I replied to our grandson: 'mommy and daddy are the boss; as soon as I have a chance I will speak with daddy'.

Our grandson was still crying uncontrollably...and then in the background our son screamed to our grandson: 'you did what you were told to do, now hang up the g---d--- phone'. Our grandson did not immediately hang up the phone, then our daughter in law repeated the same horrible statement and then the phone was hung up.

Hired a lawyer to represent us and through the lawyer it was reported to DCF our concerns for the grandchildrens safety and well-being; and also reported the non stop verbal abuse to the grandchildren and sometimes physical abuse. DCF really had no concern: examples: we need pictures of bruises, we can't take reports just from grandparents-we need other people reporting this, drugs in home do not matter, lack of food in home does not matter, adult son's comment "I get so angry that I could kill someone" irrelevant, our daughter in laws non maternal instinct...example every time she is left alone with the children one of them is harmed .

No one was there to speak for or protect these two young pre-school age children.
VERBAL/MENTAL ABUSE 'IS' AS SEVERE AS PHYSICAL ABUSE.....
and DCF refuses to acknowledge this.

Thank you.