

Roberts SB374

Dear Senators and Representatives,

As a concerned Connecticut citizen, I'm submitting my thoughts on SB 374 for your attention. SB 374 is extremely detrimental to every child and family, and strikes at the core of mental health well-being.

It was about 25 years ago that I read a book about mental health and the German Holocaust. This chilling book hugely impacted my understanding of mental health through the years since then. The holocaust, which included euthanizing children, was not put in place in a day, but eventually was carried out in hours. Mental health played a big part in the holocaust which evolved through the legislative process, institutes of higher learning, and lives of professionals including pediatricians and psychiatrists. Psychiatrists sent people to the gas chambers for reasons as simple as a crooked nose.

It appears that Adam Lanza was a smart young man who reportedly had Asperger's syndrome and was obsessed with violent video games. In the wake of Sandy Hook, I suggest the following to you:

1. **THAT YOU WOULD FIRST EDUCATE YOURSELVES BY TAKING AN HONEST LOOK AT WHAT IS CAUSING THE AUTISM/ASPERGER'S EPIDEMIC.** To start, I refer you to Dr. Russell Blaylock, a well-known neurosurgeon, who has printed information on this at www.blaylockwellnesscenter.com. First click on "Literature", and then go to page 3 at the bottom to click "For More Information". Next click "Newsletter" for a list which includes Autism.
2. **THAT YOU WOULD TAKE CONCRETE STEPS TO OBTAIN TREATMENT INFORMATION THAT WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO FAMILIES DEALING WITH AUTISM.** I personally attended a public, two-hour, jam-packed, free lecture sponsored by Thyme & Season Natural Food Market in Hamden, Connecticut, in September 2009. The special lecture was title: Autism – Recovery is Possible. (Asperger's syndrome is an autism-like disorder, that is not associated with violence.) To be brief, included in the folder of information I received was a 40-page booklet titled "Autism: What the Experts Know" by Kristen Selby Gonzales who spoke that evening. This booklet explains that nine out of ten autism successes are due to diet. You can communicate with Kristin directly on facebook: kristinselbygonzales. Also, the other person who spoke that evening was Raun Kaufman, CEO of Autism Treatment Center of America in nearby Sheffield, Massachusetts. I highly recommend going to his website www.autismtreatmentcenter.org to begin learning about autism and its treatment – scroll down to #1 on his site for an introduction to The Son-Rise Program by Raun where there is a lot of information on a 30-minute video. Raun's parents were told by professionals that there was no help for him, but they didn't listen. He went on to graduate from Brown University and is now running the program his parents started.
3. **THAT YOU WOULD ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF VIOLENT VIDEO GAMES WHICH PROMOTE DESTRUCTIVE BEHAVIORS BECAUSE IT'S IMPERATIVE TO KEEP ALL SECOND AMENDMENT RIGHTS IN PLACE.** Law abiding gun owners and law enforcement officers upholding the Constitution should be listened to. We should be striving to prevent what causes violent behaviors because it's not the guns. Guns are for our protection.

In addition to the above, I feel very strongly that overload is being placed on every citizen through the education process which is causing much stress. Governor Malloy's promotion of preschool programs is

very alarming to me. There is plenty of time to teach the required basics in education in Kindergarten (1/2 day) through Grade 3. When I say plenty of time, I mean that if any child is struggling with any learning difficulties, there is plenty of time for teachers to correct these difficulties in K-3 without them falling behind. It's called efficiency.

We should be looking at true ways to help families. I stress that we do not need anymore ineffective, invasive, over-reaching, expensive government mental health programs. I believe SB 374 is not the answer to the mental health crises brought on by violent video games and urge you to oppose this bill.

Sincerely,

Janet Roberts
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