

Support for Senate Bill 259: AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CONNECTICUT SENTENCING COMMISSION REGARDING THE ENHANCED PENALTY FOR THE SALE OR POSSESSION OF DRUGS NEAR SCHOOLS, DAY CARE CENTERS AND PUBLIC HOUSING PROJECTS.

My name is Cindy Day. I am presently residing back in my hometown of New Milford, CT. This is my testimonial of growing up with sentencing for drug sales in Drug Free School Zones. I wish I was able to attend the expected PUBLIC HEARING, as I cannot I due ever so hope that this testimonial will help in the reconstruction of DRUG FREE SCHOOL ZONES.

For those of you in Hartford that are not familiar with New Milford, allow me to stress to you the closest town, prominently of diversified racial classes, is Danbury, CT.

I grew up in New Milford that had 4 families of African American families, 3 of which lived further down the road I lived on. Never was there an issue of race with families. To this day, we are still in contact and I would offer my last breath to many of my “friends of color.” We grew up together, laughed together and experimented together. As the adult years reached us, there definitely was the appearance of racial profiling.

As mentioned above, Danbury was the place to find our “experiments”. There was no “gateway” except curiosity and a location. Danbury is a city that has many DAY CARE facilities which lie within the current DRUG FREE SCHOOL ZONES.

I obtained so many lessons from the friends that I met on the path to experimentation. These new friends, for the most part, were GOOD PEOPLE just trying to support their families, wanting to add income to low income families as the State of CT couldn't.

I have witnessed many families, LOVING FAMILIES, torn apart due to incarceration not rehabilitation. When I mention rehabilitation, I do not ALWAYS mean for the person but certainly ALWAYS for the way that the State of CONNECTION handles these situations.

As a single guardian of 4 nephews, I found CARING FAMILIES to care for my nephews whom I value like gold. I wouldn't place them in harms way for a moment. My love for family is too great. I have witnessed families with the exact values of my be destroyed due to ZONING LAWS.

Please I beg of all you sitting at the legislative court today, to realize the VALUE OF FAMILY right along side of the force that urges so many to provide. Where one lives should not make incarceration a “label.”

Either reduced the zoning or provide the proper alternative to incarceration.

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