

Good Afternoon,

I have shared my families experience many times, for the safety of our children and their mental health I will share it again. Mental Health is directly connected to a child's sense of physical and emotional safety

Below my testimony there are links existing movements concerning child safety and protection.

I have been a single mother since the death of my husband (1996) I raised two daughters through College and Graduate School alone.

2006 - Mary Anne Bojko resigned her Teaching position at Windsor High School (CT) and became employed as a Teacher/Coach for the "**second**" time at East Hartford High School, located in East Hartford CT.

September 2006 - Teacher/Coach Mary Anne Bojko began coaching my daughter on the East Hartford High School Girls Swim Team.

October 2006 - I reported Mary Anne Bojko for abusing her authority and my daughter to the Administration of East Hartford High School. I attempted to create an avenue of communication to support and protect my children that avenue was not allowed and the complaint went completely ignored.

August 2007 - Teacher/Coach Mary Anne Bojko was arrested and convicted for reckless driving but still legally allowed to remain employed Teaching and Coaching in the Public Schools. Court: Manchester

December 2007 - East Hartford/Glastonbury State Legislator Attorney Christopher Stone filed a lawsuit against me for libel on behalf of Teacher/Coach Mary Ann Bojko.

January 2008 - I opened a blog to find help and protection from retaliation for myself and my two daughters.

September 2008 - Teacher/Coach Mary Anne Bojko was again arrested and convicted this time for Driving Under the Influence but still legally allowed to remain employed Teaching and Coaching in the Public Schools. Court: Norwich East Hartford/Glastonbury State Legislator Stone defended that case but failed to mention this conviction and the reckless driving conviction at the trial against me. Instead he raved about what a "great" teacher and citizen Mary Anne Bojko was with generational ties to the Educational Community.

May 2009 - East Hartford/Glastonbury State Legislator Attorney Christopher Stone for Teacher/Coach Mary Anne Bojko won his case against me.

April 2010 - Teacher Mary Anne Bojko was arrested and convicted for the third time, another for Driving Under the Influence but still legally allowed to remain employed Teaching and Coaching in the Public Schools. Court: Manchester

Mary Anne Bojko is still a fully employed Teacher in the East Hartford Middle School and considered in "good standing" with the CT SDE. If Teacher/Coach Mary Anne Bojko had a valid claim the Union would have provided her with an Attorney which they did not. Mary Anne Bojko hired a long standing award winning State Legislator to represent her and together they worked very hard to hide her background as did the schools.

My initial complaint concerning this Teacher was that she was dangerous and although I was persecuted in a Connecticut Court for using the word "dangerous" I would like to point out there is no greater danger to our communities than reckless driving or driving under the influence.

We must question our own values concerning the safety of our children.

Let me be perfectly clear when I say I think I can speak for all parents who "assume" that the people who teach their children on a daily basis have clean backgrounds.

The laws that allow Teachers to remain Teachers even with arrests and convictions in their background have to change.

A law that states that an Administration cannot be allowed to request or accept a resignation from a Teacher in exchange for quietly hiding their background and/or ineffectiveness so they can be passed from school to school has to be created. This is an epidemic in our schools across the entire nation, is harming our children, their well being and mental health.

At this time there is no statistical information on this subject matter, CT SDE does not compile it. In addition CT SDE does not even lawfully require a Teacher or Educational employee to report their own arrests and convictions. The only background check is done when they become Certified initially. In Pennsylvania legislation was passed in 2011 to get a current background check on all teachers and educational employees.

At this time in Connecticut that which we do not know can harm our children.

The CT DOC has very strict disqualification hiring guidelines created in 1998. A teacher with arrests and convictions that can be certified, hired or remain employed by the CT State Department of Education near our children could be completely disqualified and/or prohibited from employment within the CT DOC (prison system). We have to ask ourselves...do we value the security of our prisoners more than the security of our children?

You cannot allow the security of our children to be left up to chance any longer.

Stop Educator Sexual Abuse, Misconduct and Exploitation

- [**Our Schools Must Be Safe Havens**](#)
- [**Passing the Trash**](#)
- [**Taking Responsibility**](#)
- [**Support S.E.S.A.M.E. | Support Senate Bill 46**](#)
- [**Testimony of Roy E. Bell**](#)

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Respectfully,
Laurie Ann Lima