

Dear committees and representatives of the CT assembly,

I mourned with Newtown where so many children both those with and without mental disabilities were harmed. I did so with the added pain in CT of knowing that a hate crime in 2009 which killed a friend of my friends was excused as an anti-Semitic action by the body of segregation surrounding people like me with mental disabilities that is forced upon us without our permission and contrary to our people's advocacy in the United Nations.

Segregate laws forced on you based on one's disability and not crime is nothing less than an apartheid of law which denies equal justice as well as equal rights. I am April Fawn Scheller and as well as having been adjudicated as psychiatrically disabled am also a local advocate who has been calling for the repeal of the insanity defense for violence and sex crimes who has lectured both at Wesleyan University, and at CUNY Graduate Center in NYC, both times at the invitation of my peers with disabilities. I give you a link to my Wesleyan lecture:

<http://wesleying.org/2012/03/26/the-sense-of-sensitivity-a-madpride-presentation/>

I implore you to not create today any more laws of force in legislative form because this would merely widen the scope of the problems our people already have in facing and advocating for the overturn of that judicial injustice. Crucial rights are denied to us as peaceable citizens and our voices are suppressed by the industry surrounding the treatment of activists who are dissidents in protest of this system of excusing hate. Instead investigate how CT may lead in advocating the restoral of legal status by urging the federal government to ratify the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities which in restoring our rights of legal status allows us accountability before the law, this would prevent the incidence of more hate crimes and acts of terror such as the Newtown and Giffords shootings from being excused by law and promoted in the media to those would be disgruntled killers as an act that society merely excuses and spreads the alleged reasons for en masse.

Nothing about the NICS database, the discriminatory outpatient commitment laws like Kendra's Law in NY, or the profiling of persons by disability... the forensic alleged science that profiles by our minority status, has ever resolved the true issue of how mass murders have gone repeatedly excused and the perpetrators treated to fame if one pleads or presents oneself as insane. Self preservation seems not to drive these crimes as many rights are denied by mental health status but this inequality does serve the promotion of the killer's agenda upon one's society by the court and media spectacle that advertizes their manifestos and lives during the months and years to follow mass killings. Help law abiding citizens with disabilities end the system of force that reinforces these crimes. We may have not lost so very many people if only society had been led in such a manner of equality.

Thank you.

April Fawn Scheller

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