

April 9, 2001

Daniel Krieger
554 12th Street West
Owen Sound, Ontario. N4K-3V9

Mr. Bill Murdoch, M.P.P.
1047 2nd Ave. E.
Owen Sound, Ontario N4K 2H8

Dear Mr. Murdoch

RE: Abuse of children and taxpayers by provincially funded women's shelters

Attached is a copy of an article recently sent to me regarding the abuse of children and taxpayers by government funded women's shelters in Ontario. The article is called "Ontario's tax dollars at work destroying children."

The article provides graphic evidence as to the harm being done to innocent children as a result of the politics, policies and procedures of women's shelters here in Ontario. Of course, most of this abuse of children and families through the women's shelters is made possible with the financial support from the Province of Ontario. From newspaper stories and articles I have read, this type of abuse against children is not isolated and is happening every day to other children in this province. For your added information I have also attached a couple of the dozens of articles I have recently found on the subject of abuse of the women's shelter system by women who fraudulently abusing the system right here in Ontario.

I know, first hand, that abuse of children is going on because my own child was also abused in a similar fashion by the Nova Vita women's shelter here in Owen Sound. I remember vividly, last year, how my young daughter was screaming in terror as her vindictive and abusive mother forcefully dragged her back into the shelter and away by the loving father she wanted desperately to be with but was being forcefully kept from. Abuse of my daughter was done with the financial support of the Province of Ontario. I never have abused my wife nor was there ever a need for her to go to a women's shelter.

The attached articles and my own experience, provide further evidence to show that shelters have become a war bunker where vindictive women seeking revenge on their former husbands can break up their marriages, tear children away from fathers with impunity and cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars – all with the support of the Ontario Government. Women's shelters are being used to separate children from their fathers and to alienate children from their loving fathers. Many of those who operate these shelters hate men and get satisfaction in seeing another man's family get torn apart and destroyed. Newspaper reports indicate that many of those who work at shelters are lesbians who often sexually and emotionally prey and abuse the very women who come to the facilities.

Last year, my young wife decided after being married only a short while, that she wanted to return to the single lifestyle and to spend more time at the bars drinking and partying with her other welfare single mother friends. To achieve her goal she too, admitted herself into the local women's shelter here in Owen Sound. She had never been abused and unquestionable evidence shows that even she admitted that I was a good and loving father. For seven weeks the women's shelter aided and abetted my former wife to kidnap and keep my daughter hidden from me, thus depriving my daughter of contact with her

loving father. I did not even know where my wife and my daughter were during that time. Not one phone call was ever made to me from anyone.

No one at the shelter ever attempted to verify if my wife was abused. Nor did anyone at the shelter have the brains to think about the abuse they were subjecting upon my child by allowing this mother to break the law by kidnapping the child and to hide her in the shelter. Nobody at the shelter ever questioned that kidnapping of a child from another parent was wrong! They just supported the mother no questions asked. It seems like people at the shelter encourage women to break the law and it seems that the taxpayers of Ontario make this possible.

Prior to my wife abusing the women's shelter, we supported ourselves and cared for our child without government help and we were comfortable with what we had. Since my wife went to the women's shelter and got advice from the other women at this centre, the following has transpired.

- 1) My wife has now signed herself and my daughter up on welfare (which she seems to prefer) using the child as an additional source of free money. She is **on record** as not wanting to give up custody so as to be able to collect child support and welfare from the Province of Ontario.
- 2) My wife puts my child in daycare when I am more than willing and available to care for the child. Again, she does this because she does not want to risk her custody or welfare payments, so she must use daycare rather than allow another loving parent to have time with the child.
- 3) My wife continues to swear and act aggressively in the presence of my daughter. She has made threats against me with the police and courts not giving a damn.
- 4) My former wife smokes and exposes my daughter to second hand cigarette smoke. My daughter's clothes reek of cigarette smoke when I pick her up. Thanks to financial support from the Ontario government, my wife can support her pack a day cigarette habit and still have money to hire a babysitter while she goes to the local bar to drink and party using money provided to her by the Province of Ontario.
- 5) My former wife has tried to have me kicked out of the YMCA daycare where I was working as a volunteer parent. My wife wanted to minimize my contact with my daughter so as not to risk losing her welfare or support payments.
- 6) My wife has abused legal Aid (also funded by the taxpayers) in the same manner as she did the women's shelter. I have been told that women in the community know that if they go to the shelter that they will get legal aid and go to the front of the waiting list for subsidized housing. This is a great incentive to go the women's shelter and to make false allegations of abuse.

The Province on Ontario can be truly proud to know that it has spent lots of the taxpayer's money in supporting this woman's campaign of abuse, including abuse of our child.

I wrote to the women's shelter here in Owen Sound about my concerns and to advice them how my wife had misled and lied to them. I had irrefutable evidence to show that she had lied to them and deceived them. Were staff at the shelter concerned? No! In fact they did not even bother to respond to my letter as they likely knew what I told them to be the truth. To think that these shelters are funded with millions of dollars without accountability is beyond belief!

It is my belief, and I am sure that many taxpayers support this view, that women's shelters are doing everything they can to promote their agenda in order to increase their funding and to maintain their jobs. It is quite clear to me that these shelters bring in women, no matter whether they are abused or not, in order to inflate their figures so that they can ask for more money from the government. They put money

and their personal agenda ahead of the best interest of children. Some of the things that women's shelters are doing which is WRONG include:

- 1) Allowing women to use shelter facilities, even when they are not abused or at risk or when they have other places that they can go to, such as family or friends.
- 2) Providing support letters which help women mislead the court without checking to see what the real truth is. These support letters are often used to help a abusive mother keep custody of children that she may in fact be abusing.
- 3) Hiding abuse of children by their mothers while in shelters. Recent testimony regarding the baby's death in the Toronto shelter show this to be the case.
- 4) Give legal advice to women intended to further stir up conflict and emotions in the family which ultimately destroys the family in many cases.
- 5) Allowing women to keep children separated from fathers, which only causes more frustration and possible risk to the mothers as well as emotional harm to the children.

Although women's shelters can serve a purpose in some situations where there is confirmed abuse, the lack of accountability and the history of working against children and fathers must be corrected. If the province really wanted to save money and get people off dependency on welfare I would suggest the following changes.

- 1) That only women in situations where abuse has been **confirmed** within two to three days be allowed to use shelter facilities. That any woman who comes to a shelter must be willing to have her spouse immediately charged with abuse. This will eliminate many of the cases where shelters are being used by women for a free ride at taxpayer expense.
- 2) That the dispensing of legal advice by biased shelter staff be stopped. This will help reduce the conflict in families created as a result of the advice that many of the women who run these shelter give. Most of those who give advice are working based on an agenda to break up the family and destroy the father, not help fix the problem and save taxpayers money.
- 3) Staff at the shelter should contain a balance of people from the community, not just those whose view is biased against fathers. Volunteers from the community should include people from the community, local churches, etc.. Other parents from the community from normally functioning and intact families should be on staff at all times.
- 4) That the child's relationship with the other parent be protected and that until such time as matters are decided in a court of law, that a child's relationship with the other parent not be interfered with just because the mother has come to the shelter.
- 5) If a parent with children who is applying for welfare and there is another parent that is not on welfare, that the capabilities and willingness of both parents be assessed through a formal review process. If one of the parents is willing to raise the children without depending on welfare and is able to show that they can provide for the children's welfare, then they should be given the responsibility of being given primary care for the children. I can assure you that should the government implement this policy that the Province would see a big drop in the number of mothers collecting welfare. These single mothers would either return to work or make the decision to make their marriages work. In my own situation, my wife would be back working and would spend less time at the bars if she knew that I would be given our daughter should she not be able to get off welfare.
- 6) That a thorough background check be made of all women entering a shelter to see if they have any history of child abuse against their children or former spouses.
- 7) That a team from the community be assigned to contact the other parent to obtain information from the other parent. As it now stands, shelter are intentionally turning a blind eye to this information as quite often their client may not look so good once the other side tells their side of the story.

- 8) That woman who are caught lying to gain entry to a shelter or who lie to staff while staying there be barred from use of the facility and charged a monetary fee for the services used.
- 9) That women be moved as quickly as possible to homes in the community to get the women and children in the care and under the influence of other normal families in the community.

If the province was to implement the above suggestions, I am confident that abuse of women's shelters would be greatly reduced and the Ontario government would save millions, if not hundreds of millions of dollars. Implementation of item #5 alone would result in a significant drop in the welfare roles and new applications right across the province. As it now stands there is a clear incentive for mothers to go on welfare. Custody of children means cash to them.

The direct and indirect social and economic problems caused by the women's shelters and welfare fraud that is associated with cases originating at the women's shelter is costing the Province of Ontario hundreds of millions of dollars. This in turn is reducing the productivity of our province and making us less competitive and making Ontario a less desirable place to live.

Start cleaning up the abuse by the women's shelters in this province and we truly will be putting Ontario on a course to make it a better place to live for families. As it stands now the rights of many children and fathers have been violated by the involvement of women's shelters. It is about time for this abuse of children and families to be stopped.

Your comments and views on the contents of this letter would be greatly appreciated. I will be collecting and analyzing the responses gathered and passing my summary on to organizations and members of the media who may be interested in what members of the legislature have to say.

Should you wish to review the wealth of undisputable evidence I have in my possession which will support my claims in this letter about how my daughter continues to be abused by her mother since the family court in Owen Sound gave primary care to this mother, I would be pleased to show my evidence. The evidence shows that the Province of Ontario is helping to support the abuse of my daughter. My daughter has been forced on to welfare for no reason, other than to be used as a source of revenue for my former wife. I find this totally unacceptable and an abuse of my daughter as well as taxpayers. I also feel that my former wife and myself would not be in the difficult position we both find ourselves in today if it was not for the shelter poisoning her mind and the ease of obtaining free welfare and drug benefits to lure her away from the family and into welfare dependency where only "me" is what counts.

It's about time we cleaned up these women's shelters once and for all for the benefit of all children and families in our province. We have many other priorities such as education and health care where money can be put to better use.

Yours truly,

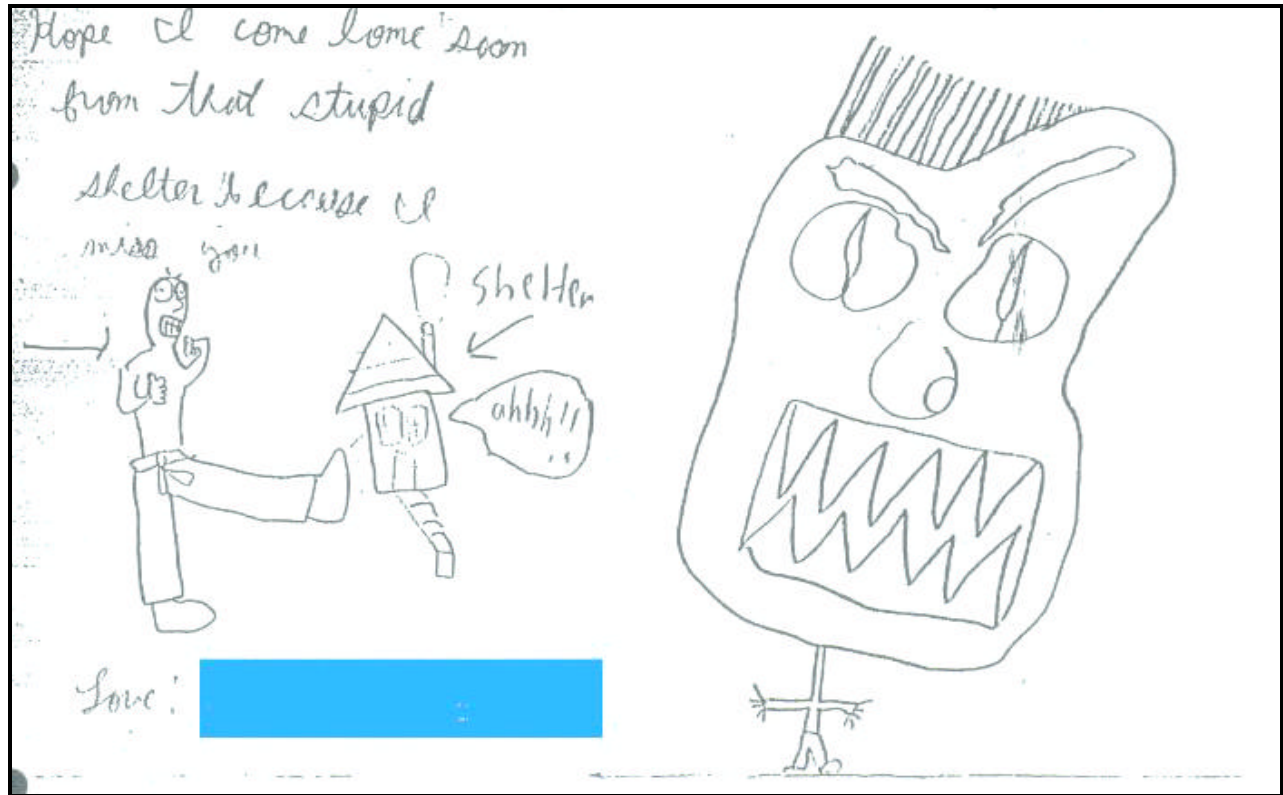


Daniel Krieger

cc: various members of provincial parliament
various news media

Attachments

Your Ontario Tax Dollars at work destroying children



Government funded women's shelters actually help some mothers to abuse the system and abuse their children as well.

The picture above was drawn by an 11-year-old boy from the province of Ontario, Canada. This boy drew this picture of himself being angry and kicking the women's shelter where his mother, with the help of the police and the biased family courts had forced him to go to against his wishes. In the message on the picture, the boy says how much he misses his father and that he can't wait to get home from what he calls a "stupid" shelter.

Just prior to being forced to enter the shelter, the mother lied and deceived the court in obtaining an ex-parte order by claiming that her husband was abusive. She did not tell the court of her extensive history of child abuse against her two children prior to court. The court just took the mother's lies and deceptions as fact and by doing so, used the power of the state (the province of Ontario in this case) to destroy this boy as well as his loving father. All of course paid for by the taxpayers of Ontario.

At 11, this boy was taken away forcibly by the police and taken to a women's shelter at the insistence

of his vindictive, angry and abusive mother who was trying to get her son away from the positive influences of his loving and supportive father. Witnesses at the scene reported seeing the boy literally having his hands pried off the door knob as he was forced out of his father's home at the insistence of the mother with the help of the police. The police officer reported that the boy did not want to leave the father's home to go with the mother.

At the time that the boy was removed forcefully from his home, the mother had a extensive documented history of child abuse on record with the Children's Aid Society and on at least one occasion prior to this drawing being made, the boy had been removed from the mother's care by court order and put in foster care for physically beating this same boy on numerous occasions. The father had never abused the children. The court would not send the child back to his father's loving home with older siblings even though that is what the child wanted.

After this young boy's forceful detention in the women's shelter, the boy told family members about how all of the woman in the shelter had these meetings at night and spoke badly of fathers and during

meetings in the shelter, planned how they were going to have the fathers thrown in jail. The same mother, in yet another incident attacked her other daughter with a butcher knife (incident recorded on tape). This boy told how he was beaten and hit by his mother while in the women's shelter but that his mother did it when her abuse of him would not be seen.

The boy pleaded to speak to the judge and wanted to tell about the abuse but the Children's Aid Society and the authorities would not listen or help him. There were even tape recordings of him getting beaten up by the mother but neither the police nor the Children's Aid took any action. The boy was so angry one time at his mother that he smashed his fist through a stained glass French door at the family home out of frustration and anger against his mother.

By the age of 13, in less than two years, the boy gave in to this mother's constant pressure and abuse and became completely alienated from his father to the point where the boy would run away if he ever saw his father in a public place. Another younger sibling reported witnessing the mother smashing this boy in the face with her fist just for mentioning to his mother that he wanted to go back to his father's home when he was about 14 years of age.

The outcome - 5 years after this drawing was made

In 1999, the boy was caught by the high school he was attending after threats and hate against other persons were found posted on the internet and the postings were traced back to his desktop computer at his school during his computer class time.

In the summer of 2000, when the boy was 16 years of age, the same police force who forcefully put the child into the woman's shelter years earlier, after acting on a tip regarding a break and enter at a neighbour's home, searched the single mother's home and found a gun in the boy's bedroom. It was seized by police and removed from the mother's home. Other children in the home stated that mom knew about the gun but permitted her son to keep it in the home.

In the summer of 2000, the father caught sight of his son by accident in a major department store. Even though the boy was now over 16 years of age, he was so ashamed of himself and what his mother had done to alienate him that he ran away from his father, likely the only man who truly loved this child. This boy was unable to deal with the situation and lacked the important life skills to handle the situation as a young adult. Under the abusive and controlling environment of the mother with the support of the courts to suppress

this boy, the boy had become totally alienated from his father by his mother.

To this day, the boy has had no other contact with his father, extended family and step siblings who he once had a warm, loving relationship with. The boy also broke off all of his relationships with his friends at school and their parents as the other kids and their parents knew a how good a parent the father really was. The mother, after 5 years of separation still will not communicate with the father and continues to act in a hostile and aggressive manner against the father and all extended family members.

As a result of hostile parenting and without the benefit and support of two loving parents, this young boy now carries the anger of the past inside of him. He now lacks the necessary life skills to become a productive member of society and to be a good father himself one day. The mother could never teach the boy how to treat others with respect as she did not wish him to act with respect, nor did she demonstrate it herself.

This boy's fear of meeting his father or his former school friends by accident in public will always haunt him and his fear of his mother will be a controlling factor for many years ahead in his life. He himself will likely grow up with little respect for the system and may in time, become the next perpetrator of domestic violence in his own home. The anger he now carries inside him may be transmitted to his future spouse and the cycle of violence may continue on for yet another generation. Statistics show that children raised by single mothers in a hostile environment do not fare well in society.

Had the court system intervened early and taken steps to control the mother's hostile-aggressive parenting and ensured that the father was allowed to influence the child with his more positive parenting skills, chances are that this boy's father could have protected this boy from the abuse and given him a much brighter future than he now faces.

The biased, anti-father attitude of the family courts and many of the shelters have clearly failed to protect this child, just as they are failing to protect many, many other children in similar abusive situations.

So the next time you see a sign that says "Your Ontario Tax Dollars at Work", then think of this child and his other siblings who were destroyed using your tax dollars. The Province of Ontario can be proud that it has helped fund the destruction of this child and his family. We will pay even more in the years to come as a result of this boy's exposure to his mother's hate.

ONTARIO TAXPAYER WATCH REPORT

Published by the Ontario Citizen's Free Press - By the Citizens and for the Citizens of Ontario

HALTON WOMEN'S SHELTER EXPOSED!

Burlington, Ontario

A former resident of the Halton Women's shelter in Burlington, Ontario has come forth with the horror story of her experience at this shelter.

Helen, whose name has been changed out of fear that her family could receive threats from sympathizers to the shelter movement, indicated that the public and the taxpayers should be aware of the horrors going on at the shelter. She indicated that money is being squandered and facilities misused by those who stay there.

Based on her six week stay at the shelter in 1997, she felt that the shelter was largely being used as a free hostel for women with emotional problems and who were looking for free handouts and a free place to stay while they were angry against their partners.

"During my six week stay at the shelter, I met only one other resident who I felt was what most people would consider a decent mother. The rest of the women definitely had serious emotional problems. It didn't take any doctor to see that they were dysfunctional parents. They were terrible mothers who likely were a significant cause of the problems that landed them there in the first place. I believe that many of the women were not physically abused and out of anger wanted a break just like I did. I was not physically abused"

Helen explained the circumstances leading up to her stay at the shelter. She said that it all started when she and her husband were having a heated argument at home. Although they both yelled and screamed at each other, there was no physical violence.

"I was angry and just wanted to get out of the house and get some space. My husband did not want me to leave, so out of anger I called the police. Not once did

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This publication is intended to bring to the attention of the public, abuses of our system and the failure of the government to prevent such abuses. Many of these abuses often result in the devastation of children and families in our community at great expense to the taxpayers. If you have a story to tell then contact the Rev. Dorian Baxter, national chairman of the National Association for public and private accountability (NAPPA) at 416-410-4115

I ever fear or even think that my husband would hurt me. He has never hit me or touched me, not ever.

"When the Halton Regional police came, I told them that I could stay at my mother's house, but the police told me no. They pressured me into believing that I had to go to the shelter and that I had no other choice. Once at the shelter, the staff pressured me and just took over by telling me what do. You kind of get swept away by the system.

"In hindsight, I now see that the whole system is geared to get the father charged with an offense and to make the mother look like the victim. Even though my husband never hit me, the police still laid charges. I refused to go to court as I did not want to see my husband branded a criminal for having a verbal altercation in which we both were involved.

"Once in the shelter, I felt stuck until I got my own place", said Helen. Helen also indicated that the system offered no help to mend problems. Charging the father and then going after him seemed to be the main goal of the system.

Continued on page 2

Helen said that although staying at the shelter would have been a horror story for most normal mothers, to those in there, the shelter is a place where you could get a vacation from your financial responsibilities.

Helen stated that many children at the shelter were being exposed to an abusive environment and that the shelter was no place for children to be living in. Some of the things she witnessed were:

- One night, a little girl cried for a long time looking for her mother. When Helen tried to locate the mother, she found that the mother had left the shelter to go drinking at a local bar.
- Mothers were staying up late at night without putting their children to bed at an appropriate time. At night, women could be heard yelling at their kids. Someone could come barging into your room without notice.
- Women fought over use of the two phone lines. They spent hours at a time on the phone while the children were just left to run around unattended.
- Fights by women over donations. The more aggressive women were first to push their way to the donation and got what they wanted while others waited in pecking line.
- Children being hurt while playing while inattentive mothers and staff were busy doing other things
- One woman at the facility had a drug problem. The mother did not take care of the baby properly. Half the time the mother left her child with others expecting them to babysit. Eventually, CAS was called in and the baby taken away from the mother.

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DO YOU KNOW THAT SHELTERS ARE BEING USED AS A WEAPON AGAINST GOOD LOVING DADS?

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Residency at a shelter is often used by mothers to gain the sympathy of the court in a custody battle by making the mother look like an innocent and poor victim. Usually the courts assume that those living in shelters are abused.

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The Halton Women's shelter has issued letters to the court for mothers who have a documented history with the CAS for child abuse. In one case, a vindictive and angry mother who attacked her own daughter with a butcher knife and chasing her out of the house was given a letter from the Halton Women's shelter stating that she was an excellent mother. The purpose was to get the court to persecute the father. As a result, this mother continues to abuse the children and the non-custodial parent is powerless to stop the abuse of the children!

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**PLEASE HELP STOP ABUSE
OF OUR CHILDREN & FAMILIES**

Most of us know of someone in our community whose family has been ravaged by our Family Court system. False allegations, lies, deception, and poor judges are literally destroying the children of divorced families. Please copy this report and pass it on to as many of your friends, neighbours, relatives and co-workers as possible. It is only through awareness in our community of knowing the truth about how our family court system is being abused that the destruction of innocent families will be stopped. Call, write and fax your member of Provincial Parliament and demand that he or she support government initiatives to stop the waste of taxpayer's money.

- Swearing. Most of the women and shelter staff used foul language in the presence of the children.
- Staff and residents spent a lot of time father-bashing and degrading men in the presence of the children. Helen said that she thought that it is terrible for children to be exposed to this type of hate.

Helen said that she tried to stay with her son at night but that other women actually made fun of her for going to bed so early. While Helen got up in the morning to care for her son, many of the other women could not be bothered to get up, and instead, they slept while their kids ran around screaming.

Helen described how she felt that shelter staff were very biased against men. She said that all the staff were abused themselves and told residents of their personal abuse stories. The whole environment was unbalanced and cult-like. On one hand it may have been good for other abused people to help you but that the bias was so deep that it was fostering hate against the children's fathers.

In closing, Helen stated, "It was a terrible place. Not the environment where children should be.... not even the women."

Why do shelters have a policy that excludes civically minded men from volunteering their time? Why do activities have to remain behind a "veil of secrecy"? Is it so that they can conceal the father-bashing and abuse of children that goes on behind the closed doors of the shelters?

**Is this how you want your tax dollars spent?
Call your local Member of Parliament and local
Municipal representative and tell them that you
want the abuse of tax dollars and the break up of
families by shelters stopped!**

ONTARIO TAXPAYER WATCH REPORT

Published by the Ontario Citizen's Free Press - By the Citizens and for the Citizens of Ontario

Denise House women's shelter EXPOSED!

Emotional abuse from staff at shelter far worse than in her married relationship says former shelter resident.

Oshawa, Ontario

A former resident of Denise House Women's Shelter in Durham, Ontario, has come forth with another real-life story of her own experience at this women's shelter.

Her story adds yet another chapter to the ever-growing book of sagas associated with the corruption and abuse by women's shelters from across Ontario.

The former resident, Barbara, whose name has been changed out of fear of reprisals, indicated that the public and the taxpayers must be made aware of the horrors going on at the shelter.

Based on her five-week stay at the shelter late in 1998, she felt that the shelter was a horrible place that was full of corruption, anger and more abuse.

She referred to conditions at Denise House as living in a "sea of angry women" where women were feeding off of each other's anger and frustration.

Barbara said that being in an environment where there was so much hate and anger actually made things worse for the women, as well as for any children brought there.

She said that staff did not provide that much real support, and seemed more concerned about breaking up families and spreading hate of men than providing help to women.

Barb said that she had heard from residents that some staff members were lesbians and had made sexual advances towards some of the residents.

Staff had a segregated and private area that residents were not allowed to go into. It was a much nicer part of the residence. She said that residents were treated as

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"dogs" by an elitist and arrogant staff, who manipulated and controlled those at the facility with their abuse of power.

Shelter staff were themselves abused women who seemed to have a hatred for all men. They had serious problems caused by their own unresolved anger.

Barbara stated that many children at the shelter were being exposed to an abusive environment and that the shelter was no place for children to live in. Some comments and observations made by Barb included:

- One 19 year-old-resident went outside of the shelter 11:30 at night with her 6 month old baby dressed only in a sleeper, so that she could meet her boyfriend and neck with him outside. She was already pregnant again by another man.
- Residents were allowed to take small children outside of the shelter at night, past what good parents would consider the children's bedtime.
- One mother tried to leave the shelter to go into Toronto and just left her child unattended in the

crib. Luckily, she was caught by other residents and forced to stay behind. Nothing was done to report this.

- Shelter staff and residents hid what was going on inside the shelter so that the public's perception of the shelter would not be damaged.
- Many of the mothers smoked at the shelter.
- There was greed by staff and residents over donations intended for the shelter. These donations were taken by staff and residents for their personal profit. Shelter staff picked through the donations keeping the most favorable donations for themselves and leaving the residents with leftovers.
- Some residents were actually carting off carloads of donations, likely to locations outside of the shelter. Barb felt that one woman was "milking the system."
- One woman was being physically chased and harassed by staff and was scared, yet when she turned to another resident for help, she was ordered to get away from her and told that she could only talk to staff.
- Phones seemed to be tapped. There was a lot of clicking on the line and sometimes breathing could be heard. Residents suspected that staff was listening in on private conversations.
- Most of the women, including shelter staff, used foul language and degraded fathers in the presence of the children.
- Shelter staff encouraged the break-up of families "down to the very core." Not one thought was given to counseling or other remedies to keep families together.
- There was a terrible waste of food. A cook came

into the shelter to cook for residents every night. Pots and pots of food would be thrown out.

- Staff would not eat with residents but rather in their own private area.
- The environment was unbalanced and biased against men. One young boy asked one time "why are there no daddies here?" The environment was fostering hate against the children's fathers.

Barbara said that shelters could be made much better if they were operated by people who based operation of the shelter on sound business principles rather than on hatred towards men and the breakup of families.

She stated that the women running the shelter were controlling and manipulative and were now nothing but abusers themselves of the women residents.

She said that caring people from the community such as from churches or businesses should be running the shelter, not angry women.

Barbara said that kids, especially those in the shelter, need some paternal balance. She said that fathers should be part of the process so that kids could see good male role models. Having kids in an environment where abusive language is used and negative comments about men in general are made, only ends up further harming them.

In closing, Barbara stated, "Denise house was a terrible place. The public really doesn't know what is going on inside there but should know.

"I suffered more emotional abuse being at the shelter than I ever did in my marriage. Even my husband had more respect for me than shelter staff."

"This is definitely not the place for kids to be," she said.

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DO YOU KNOW THAT SHELTERS ARE BEING USED AS A WEAPON AGAINST GOOD LOVING DADS?

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Mothers, to gain the sympathy of the court in a custody battle, often use residency at a shelter to gain an advantage over their spouses. This usually works because the courts assume that those living in shelters are abused. It helps present them as innocent and poor victims.

The Halton Women's Shelter has issued letters to the court for mothers who have a documented history of child abuse with the CAS. In one case, a vindictive and angry mother who attacked her own daughter with a butcher knife and chased her out of the house was given a letter from the Halton Women's Shelter stating that she was a wonderful mother. The purpose was to get the court to harshly prosecute the father. As a result, this mother continues to abuse the children and the non-custodial parent is powerless to stop it!

Why do shelters have a policy that excludes civic-minded men from volunteering their time? Why do activities at women's shelters have to remain behind a "veil of secrecy"?

Is this how you want your tax dollars and donations being used?

Call your local Member of Parliament and local Municipal representative and tell them that you want the abuse of tax dollars and the break up of families by shelters stopped!