

The consequences of bad decisions...

XXXXXX's daughter is still with her dad. She reached puberty and has never been allowed to have a single private conversation with mum.

She has fought tooth and nail but the more mothers fight the more they are labelled "emotionally disturbed" and they are then seen by the department and the judge as the cause of emotional disturbance in the child. Bruce Perry's work (on the Internet) shows that trauma such as being snatched from primary caregivers, put into foster care, handed to a middle aged man who had no experience of single parenting and abuse would all contribute to brain damage, ie the brain doesn't develop normally. And yet when the child ended up in special ed the mother who seldom sees her was blamed. I was there! I sat in court and heard the judge being an outright bitch to the mother and smile sweetly at the father (who has HIV/AIDS) who obviously didn't use safe sex or the child wouldn't have been born, The judge also trivialised his crimes - and ignored the fact that he wouldn't be allowed to work with children in this state. (sex offences).

She misses school and the dept wont intervene because its "a family court matter"

The department writes threatening letters to the mother even though she has no control whatsoever. When she tried to use that to have the child removed from him, the school backed down and said the child was making good progress and they made special provision for her difficult circumstances. I took this to the Minister because they said that she was late every day because she had to spend the first hour with the principal in his office. Crap! If she is making good progress why did she need to see the principal daily ..and if she was seeing him daily why the hell didn't he give her her mark? The child was taken to hospital and the dad told the staff that the mother shouldn't be allowed to visit or receive any info.

The dept CEO says she cant do anything unless the child's life is at risk because its a FCA order. So caring for a sex offending man with AIDS doesnt put a child's life at risk?? I jumped up and down until the department had a review of

its inaction. And guess what, they got DHS to do the job and they only referred to the department's own papers without talking to the mother or the child.