February 28, 2018

House Committee on Corrections and Juvenile Justice

HB2739

Proponent testimony: Edward Runyan

Aly-Zay Law

During our childhood we are learning and growing into what is around us. We are growing strong and learning rights and wrongs from our family and friends. The one thing in life is that we can't change our sexual wants which are learned very young. Most people don't act out in fear of what others will think, it's the ones that do and hurt others we need to be afraid of. I support this bill, in favor of juveniles that commit a sexual act upon another should be required to report and be monitored without concealment.

In our case and the reason that I'm here in Topeka today is because a such act was done by a Keith Hawkins when he was 12 years old. Hawkins was convicted of aggravated indecent liberties with a minor on several occasions. Was released early and was able to walk among us.

Which under the law the court shall keep the records from the public to help protect the future of the criminal.

On Aug 7, 2017 my daughter and granddaughter were murdered by Keith Hawkins. He was invited by Alyssa which she knew Hawkins from friends and Hawkins was needing a place to crash for the night. Around 9pm that evening the three were in the apt talking until Alyssa needed to put 4-year-old Zaylynn to bed, then shortly leaving Hawkins in the front room to crash on the couch while Alyssa went to bed around 930pm. Hawkins from his own admittance went into Zaylynns room and for what reason is still unclear. Alyssa walked in either found her dying or she was already dead we don't know, but Hawkins then beat Alyssa to death. There was semen on Alyssa leg.

Alyssa and Hawkins met at a few parties, and they had mutual friends and the night in question Hawkins reached out to his friends and needed a place to crash on Facebook. So being a friend in that circle Alyssa offered her place.

Most of us are guilty of trusting our friend's judgments and if they bring someone into your circle than they must be OK. Alyssa thought the same thing.

So, we have friends and we hold our circle of friends to protect us from the outside elements, and do you feel that one of our friends would have gotten wind that Hawkins was a sex offender, how long do you think he would be allowed into your house or accepted? So, Hawkins circle would have been very small,

Now let's back up, do you think that Alyssa would have let a man convicted of sexual act on kids especially an act of aggravated sexual indecent liberties with a child into her house or even close to her 4-year-old daughter? NOWAY

My girls are gone because no one knew about Hawkins past and allowed him to walk among Us, to protect Hawkins reputation and future. What about the innocents out there would are not aware and we blame them for not doing background checks. well in this matter no one would have known!

This bill is very important to our family and to my girls who suffered at the hands of this sex offender, it was the courts responsibly to protect the innocent, not to protect the criminal's future. With the new revised bill, it will make sure that the convicted are red flagged, so society can make their own choice to either accept this person around their family or not. This bill will give the innocent a chance when befriending someone.

We must trust in people and in small towns its very important. Again, please consider this bill for we as the people have the right to know.

We elect our judges and our State Representatives to protect us, keep us informed.

