

Statement: Christa Dubill

SB 385

It was February 2016. I was in the grocery store when I stopped to check a recipe on my phone. At that moment, I caught a man taking video up my skirt with his phone. I confronted him. He was arrested. I wasn't sure about taking part in a trial until I learned another woman had caught him doing the same thing several years earlier but didn't have enough evidence to get him charged.

I shared my story publicly to raise awareness. I had others reach out to me sharing their stories. I heard from teenage girls. I heard from parents of teenage girls. I heard from mothers who had similar experiences of being recorded without their knowledge.

I learned from the district attorney's office how prevalent this sort of thing is. How often they see it. How tiny the cameras have gotten - and how hidden.

I was a news reporter and anchor for 20 years. Covered dozens of stories about this kind of thing happening.

A man convicted of purposefully going to a convenience store near a catholic school. He'd go before school, at lunch, and after school when the store was full of girls in skirts. He'd crouch behind them to tie his shoe, place his phone on the floor directly behind the girls in skirts - his phone recording directly up their skirts.

A man caught in a makeup store recording up a very young girls clothing. Another shopper - an unrelated mom - is the one who confronted the guy.

A man convicted of putting his phone on a floor of dressing room to secretly record the girl in the dressing room next to him undressing. When police found him, there were more than a hundred images on his phone of girls and women in many different dressing rooms across many different cities in several states.

The same man walked out of court on probation and the very next day was arrested for doing the same thing to a teenage girl in another dressing room.

Secret recordings in rental properties.

Secret recordings in showers.

Secret recordings in locker rooms at gyms.

Currently, no matter their age - 13, 39 or 42 - a person can record them without their knowledge in a state of undress or fully nude, and the state law in Kansas categorizes the act as similar to wiretapping a landline phone.

This law needs changed. SB 385 needs to pass.