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To: [DOJ: Commission on Law Enforcement Accountability](#)
Subject: Police Accountability and Transparency
Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 6:15:42 PM

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To Whom it May Concern:

My interest in this matter follows from observing three criminal cases involving juveniles in which I believe that juveniles have had their raw testimony altered or manipulated by police detectives in charge of the investigations. The three cases I have observed are:

NH v Griffin Furlotte
NH v Foad Afshar
NH v Owen Labrie

In the case of all three, there is evidence that minors have been manipulated by police detectives, victims advocates or administrators in positions of authority and their original narratives have been altered or tampered with to support the interests of the police departments or DA.

There are not enough protections in place to prevent police detectives, school/college administrators or public officials from bullying or coercing children or young adults into making false statements.

NH v Griffin Furlotte: November 2019: His teenage girlfriend testified:

"For months, I was jerked around by the staff at Pembroke Academy, local police and officials involved with the investigation," she said. "I was manipulated, lied to, kept in the dark and force fed enumerated versions of events that supposedly happened between griffin and I."

<https://www.wmur.com/article/stitch-girl-raises-money-for-black-lives-matter/33014386>

NH v Foad Afshar (eventually overturned) indicates that the 12 year old boy may have been manipulated by Police Detectives in order to help the State prosecute:

<https://newrepublic.com/article/152305/who-to-believe-sexual-assault>

<https://www.concordmonitor.com/Foad-Afshar-Supreme-Court-decision-20818716>

NH v Owen Labrie in which 15 year old Chessy Prout's original statement in discovery of "I have never said he raped me" became "I was raped, I was violated" after police detective (who per Chessy's memoir told her to "not worry about the details", to "not discuss" with anyone, not even her mom, what had happened) Julie Curtin and Victims Advocate Laura L Dunn Esq got involved. She writes in her memoir that she never questioned the police's instructions and "agreed to make a statement" which is quite different from volunteering a complaint.

Chessy Prout admitted under cross examination that she had told police originally that there would be no way for Owen Labrie to believe that she was not having a good time because she

was laughing and giggling. Further, in this case the police detective Julie Curtin admitted under cross examination that she had tried to force a statement from the defendant without offering him Miranda rights.

There is other evidence in NH v Owen Labrie to support the argument that Concord PD engaged in other misconduct including making false statements on sworn affidavit & doctoring material evidence.

For example:

SANE nurse testified that there were “No Lacerations” and yet the Police Sworn Affidavit stated that there was “a laceration consistent with penetration having occurred” indicating that the police had altered the SANE nurse’s report. Further the police department labeled the bag containing the underwear for DNA testing as “Aggravated felonious sexual assault” despite the fact that Chessy Prout had not complained of rape, had stated that she never claimed rape. Additionally, as per Katie Swango’s (State Lab technician) the DNA sample that included Semen/Sperm could not be attributable to Owen Labrie because it contained the DNA of 3 or more contributors.

"the DNA sample attributable to semen/sperm could not be said to have included Mr. Labrie because the DNA of three or more individuals was noted. TT. Day 5, pp. 809-810.
<https://blog.simplejustice.us/2016/04/08/owen-labrie-will-not-go-down-quietly-nor-should-he/>

Sexual Assault is serious but the welfare of children is a serious issue as well. Manipulating or bullying children to serve an agenda to prosecute should not be acceptable conduct. It carries with it a life-time of guilt for those who realize at a later date that they have been manipulated. Children are particularly vulnerable because in general, in the presence of adults in positions of authority, they will say what is needed to please the adult (and to make their feeling that they might be guilty go away). They are easy targets for coercion. Their voices often silenced and their testimony replaced with a narrative that serves the police and the State. I believe there needs to be a review of sexual assault training policies. “Trauma informed” should not be the result of “trauma implanted” by detectives and yet there are instances where the records show that is what has happened with the help of police detectives.

A possible solution would be to following the Oregon Parent Child Representation Program which works with defendants and state witnesses.

As any social worker who works with foster kids will be able to vouch, listening to what the child is really saying is key to getting the appropriate charges, prosecution and punishment correct. Silencing children’s voices leads to life long trauma and can be potential reasons for suicide, mental illness, drug or alcoholic abuse, loneliness and depression.

Thank you for your time.

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