

January 16, 2012

Child Molester Menagerie: The Unexpected Fondle-park Effect.

An article in the Tuesday (01.10.12) USA TODAY entitled "Restrictions create sex offender clusters," by Donna Leinwand Leger, caught my angered attention. It would seem that the restrictions now being imposed upon individuals on the sex offender registry are forcing them to live in groups--creating an entirely new situation authorities now have to deal with: The Fondle-park Effect.

Regulations stemming from Megan's Laws (named after 7-year-old Megan Kanka, who was raped and murdered by a convicted sex offender/neighbor) prohibit those convicted of sexual crimes from living or being anywhere children usually are (e.g., schools, playgrounds, pools, YMCA, Chucky Cheese, or even their nephews bar mitzvah.)



Such regulations are considered "extra tuff" in the Southeastern U.S. or "Bible Belt" states, because for some reason the Bible-thumping area is bulging with more than its share of child molestations. The general religious association made is to put it on the Catholic--but the states in question are prominently Southern Baptist. And the laws are becoming strict as the public tires of case after case being brought to light. Such cases like 9-year-old Aliahna Lemmon just before Christmas, molested and dismembered with a hacksaw by 39-year-old Michael Plumador.

Plumador lived in a sex offender Fondle-park.

Cities such as Riverside and San Bernardino, California have attempted to break up the state-made clusters. However, it's a quandary, because in places like Orange County, Florida sex offenders are restricted from 99% of residential housing. So ... how do you prevent the creation of a Fondle-park when living space and job allowance is so sparce? The answer is you don't!

In my opinion--and I feel I must add here that "Fondle-park" is my own name for these so called never-never land cluster groups, if you'll forgive the pun--laws will continue to become more and more restrictive, on everyone. Some states require an offender to put a sign in their yard, a sticker on their car, and a GPS monitor on their ankle, all very understandable; but, if you're gonna get super-restrictive of an offender's living arrangements, there should be a solution to the problem on the table before the law is put into use. What I propose as a possible answer would be to create an offender community. The cluster cannot logically be avoided because the public simply doesn't want them on their streets with kids--provide offenders their own streets: A small area where no minors are even allowed to go, and offenders can be left in peace--or at least to their own devices.

I've met sex offenders blaming everyone but themselves, and trying to learn a foreign language to enable themselves to leave the U.S. (the country of their blame) to escape the registry. In 99.9997% these are simply delusions of their sick mind.

A lot of these societal derelicts have very little going for them other than just sitting back to watch the bricks grow older each day, some play cards, others watch TV (cartoons and children's shows, or, sports. Telemundo stays on in the hopes of seeing skin--despite the fact that maybe 2 out of every 200 inmates actually speak Spanish, and those 2 don't watch TV), Some read books (YA, Young Adult novels meant for teens, nothing heavy hitting or educational; coming of age and fantasy plots are the norm).

But out of every ten or so sex offenders, I have to say there is one trying to learn from his mistake, acknowledge his sickness, accept the seed he sowed, and learn to live a better life. The other nine, still seek to circumvent and search for legal loopholes in their restrictions.

Those out committing lewd acts against children (I meet a lot of offenders with 13-14-15-year-old victims that blame the child, child's parents, and the "unfair" law for their conviction and imprisonment.) must accept that they are now the recognized-caught-convicted-sex-offender with the "Child Molester" label indelibly stamped upon them. All they can do is try to live a conformed life, prove themselves worthy of society by never re-offending, or violating the imposed restrictions in any way.

When they took that child--13- or 14-year-old, or whatever they argue is "okay"--into bed, they made theirs.

What do you think?

States are scrambling for a solution to best serve everyone--the victims, the public, and the constitutional rights of the offenders. And yes they do still have rights....