

**THE SCALDING OF DAVID BRADY
"24 Hour Care At The Gulag"**

by: Timothy J. Muise
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David Brady is 84 years old and has spent 46 years in prison. No one ever asks "When is enough enough?" They just keep these dying old men in their cages. In Mr. Brady's case he is wheelchair bound; a wheelchair he cannot push himself. To keep an 84 year old man in prison for 46 years, no matter his crime, displays brightly the failure of our criminal justice system. It also says so much more about our core value system. We must look at ourselves when we read of such "punishment" and ask "to what end does it serve?" The tragedy of David Brady does not end there.

David Brady is housed in what they call the Assisted Daily Living unit here at the state prison in Shirley, Massachusetts. This unit is run by a long-standing deputy superintendent who is known for her heavy-handed, abusive treatment. The men in the ADL live in a long hallway shaped corridor which holds 16 beds and three TV sets to be shared. Last Wednesday David Brady thought he would watch the news at noontime. One of the mentally ill prisoners he is forced to live with, forced by that abusive deputy who cared not-at-all about screening for suitability, did not want the news on the TV. Mr. Brady persisted, from his wheelchair, and a verbal argument ensued. A few minutes later the mentally ill patient threw a pitcher of scalding hot water in David Brady's face. No guards in sight, no security cameras monitoring these dying prisoners, no "companions" as this deputy likes to call her workers; and no chance for an 84 year old man to defend himself from being scalded.

David Brady needs someone to advocate for him. When I have advocated for other men in the prison hospital who were being abused, the superintendent of the prison wrote me assuring me that the men were "receiving 24 hour care" and their needs were being seen to. This "24 hour care" allowed David Brady to have scalding hot water thrown in his face. This 24 hour care allowed for the mentally ill to be housed with the weak and infirm. This 24 hour care is managed by a deputy who takes pen and paper away from dying old men if they don't heed her warnings to follow her rules; this way they cannot advocate for themselves. The great correctional abuser places her jackboot across the throat of the octogenarian. People are resistant to my

brutal accusations, to my naming names and telling hard truths, but I must do so. For too long these abusers have been able to distort the truth, to make false claims that men like David Brady are still "dangerous" and need to remain locked up in a cage. The truth is sometimes very ugly.

David Brady sits in his wheelchair, in a dirty pair of jeans and dirty shirt as the laundry in the gulag does not clean clothes unless you "pay" someone to clean them, unable to push himself, and nursing festering boils on his face from the scalding. Deputy Karen DiNardo sees his dirty clothes while she asks him about the "incident" and says nothing. She sees an 84 year old man, scalded, and cares not to help him seek release. Her gulag is forever. Her scalding will come in hell.

David Brady will not ask, so I ask: "When is enough enough?" When will you contact your legislator and ask that compassionate medical release for prisoners be implemented? When will you disavow the abuse of the gulag jailer and seek to refresh our kind and caring nature as a free people? Look in the mirror; the day is today!

Timothy J. Muise, W66927
MCI Shirley, P.O. Box 1218
Shirley, MA 01464-1218