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Subject: Response – tuw7

tuw7

June 19, 2019

Hi Evy,

I can understand your frustration with Senator Schnachtner's response to your overtures. They see your husband differently than you do. In their eyes, he's a pedophile who hasn't acted on his impulses yet. You see him as someone with a technology addiction. I think that the truth lies somewhere in between those 2 extremes. Had John merely had a technology addiction, he would be playing video games constantly or getting fixated on Google Earth or something like that. He chose to view kiddie porn. Many people believe that he is just as responsible as the people who took the photos because without people to view the photos, those children may not have been subjected to that exploitation. Until the political climate changes, people in prison for sex crimes will get very little consideration from elected officials.

However, that does not mean you should give up. It takes dedicated determined people to change things. We need more people involved in the criminal justice system. For too many years, citizens have sat back and let politicians do whatever they want without holding them accountable. The Mass Incarceration Movement would not have happened had it not been for the apathy of citizens who didn't care because "it won't affect me". I felt the same way in 1984 because even though I had been in prison once before, my lawbreaking days were over. Little did I suspect that I could be sent to prison for life for a crime I was not guilty of. The court system turned into a travesty while my back was turned. Right wing ideologues hijacked the criminal justice system and I'm still paying the price for not being a vigilant protector of our rights. And now it's too late because no one listens to a prisoner proclaiming his innocence, especially one with a prior criminal record.

Well, Evy, I hope you succeed in all you are trying to do. I haven't seen John lately. He hasn't been in the meditation group the last couple of times. I hope he's okay.

Harlan