

Since 1969 how complex is my 44-year prison journey ? To fully grasp this epic journey it is imperative that you wade through the volumes of relevant material and documents that is provided throughout the hereinafter collective written testimony that has been prepared for this very purpose.

It is abundantly clear that I had a hard life. With the advantage of distance and insight, I have experienced a lot over the past 44-years of my incarceration. Probably more than most of the men incarcerated. And like my horrifying *Viet Nam* experiences, I have experienced things while in prison that I wish I hadn't but, through it all, I have a success story in turning my life around through treatment opportunity that finally came into my troubled life in 1990 upon my Interstate Compact transfer to Lansing, Kansas in 1989.

BRIEF HISTORY:

In 1969 I was found to be a sex deviate in need of *Specialized Treatment*. Accordingly I was committed by the Court of Milwaukee, Wisconsin to the Waupun State Prison (WSP), under a Wisconsin Sex Crimes Law 959.(15), for an indeterminate 0 to 5 year commitment for Specialized Treatment for the crime charge of "Threat To Injury".

What this *Specialized Treatment* commitment means is the follow: That I would be incarcerated at the maximum security prison at Waupun, Wisconsin for a term of 0-5 years. At the end of each year served, I would go before a Special Review Board and they would determine whether or not I have received enough treatment to be paroled back into society. If a determination was made that I had not been successfully treated, then I would be denied a grant of parole for one year. And if I had not been successfully treated at the end of my five year commitment term, then I would be remanded back to the sentencing court for a trial to determine whether or not it was safe for me to return to society, or not. If the court had a finding that I had not been successfully treated, the court would then impose another five (5) year term under the Wisconsin Sex Crimes Law 959.(15) for further *Specialized Treatment*. In the event no adequate treatment was provided, then this process could be repeated every five years and go on indefinitely for the rest of my life. In a sense, this was a life sentence on the installment plan.

[See EXHIBIT " H " for the 22-page Social Service Record for 1969 TO 1978]

CATCH 22 SITUATION:

My first and foremost concern has always been focused on treatment. I did not want to be paroled at all until my sexual problems and/or until my problems in my daily life were resolved so I could live a full and productive life. For periods 1969-1978; my Social Service Record depicts that both lay and expert personnel at the Waupun State Prison did everything within their capacity to seek out the "*Specialized Treatment*" that my commitment under the Wisconsin Sex Crimes Law 959.(15) had called for.

I also did everything humanity possible to seek out adequate treatment opportunity for my dysfunctions in life. i.e., *I was willing to undergo chemical castration to alleviate my sexual addictive behavior. Also, in 1973 I returned to the sentencing court in Milwaukee and demanded that my commitment for Specialized Treatment be extended for an additional five year term.* How dedicated and sincere is this course of action...

This man's prison term was extended for an additional five years for Specialized Treatment. However, he was returned back to the same prison where it had already been determined that the treatment he required did not exist within the Wisconsin prison system.

By 1979 I had already served two consecutive five (5) year terms under my original 0 to 5 "indeterminate" commitment.

After a ten (10) year struggle and with no adequate treatment forthcoming, it would have been ludicrous for me to request a return to the sentencing court in Milwaukee, Wisconsin and request an additional five (5) year term for *Specialized Treatment* like I had done five years previously.

By 1979 I had by this time reached a critical point whereas I came to believe that the Specialized Treatment that I had so desperately cried out for, and what all those lay and expert staff personnel had so strongly recommended for me, well it was now my belief that this "*Specialized Treatment*" didn't exist at all. And I now moved on the logic that my dysfunctional life problems and/or my sexual deviate behavior would have to be alleviated by "will-power" alone.

IN RETROSPECT, I NOW KNOW THAT THIS WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO ACCOMPLISH:

In 1979 I was in fact *prematurely released* into the mainstream of society while I remained in a vicious deviate cycle and I was doomed to failure as my future depicts.

In 1986 I was sentenced to 59 years which is my current governing sentence. I was returned back to the same Waupun State Prison in Wisconsin that I knew from past experiences was blind to the causes, cure, and prevention of sex abuse.

In 1988 I attempted to escape from the Waupun State Prison (WSP). And as a result of this escape attempt the Wisconsin Department Of Corrections (DOC) decided that the Wisconsin prison system didn't have a secure prison to hold me and they decided to Interstate Compact me to the Lansing Correctional Facility (LCF) at Lansing, Kansas.

Even in tragedy there can be redemption and a flicker of hope. Yes, the unfortunate circumstances of only being guilty of being innocent of the correct crime charges is a miscarriage of justice in the highest degree. Yet there was some past sexual behavior issues that I still needed the intervention of treatment to deal with. And yes, my poor judgment and my unfortunate circumstances of my attempted escape from WSP is criminal. On-the-other-hand, this poor judgment in my behavior resulted in my redemption because had I remained in my sentencing state of Wisconsin, I would have remained trapped in my vicious cycle of instability, and I would not have received the "miracle treatment" that I have taken full advantage of upon my Interstate Compact Transfer from Wisconsin to Kansas in 1989.

PLEASE MAKE A THOROUGH REVIEW OF THE FOLLOWING FIVE PAGES FOR

THE CHANGING FACE OF INCARCERATION AND TREATMENT FOR RONNIE J. SCHMITT
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*WRITE WAY TO CHRIST...

THE CHANGING FACE OF INCARCERATION AND TREATMENT FOR RONNIE J. SCHMITT
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RECOVERY, A GIFT!! THE SEX ABUSE TREATMENT PROGRAM BECAME A PIVOTAL POINT IN MY LIFE:

Upon my compact transfer to Kansas in 1989, I discovered their *Sex Offender Treatment Program* (SOTP). Immediately I enrolled and signed a Program Agreement Contract for SOTP. In 1991 I successfully completed ten (10) months of SOTP. By SOTP using science and data accumulated quantitatively and qualitively, SOTP represented the absolute treatment I sought and/or what had been recommended by both lay and expert personnel as documented throughout my Clinical Service File. (See **PACKET 4**)

Upon completion of SOTP in 1991 I felt so blessed and I applaud the Kansas prison system for adopting a sex offender program that depicts the real story of the sex offender and the benefit of therapeutic relationships. So overwhelmed was I to finally find professional help for the sexual aggressor, I invested twenty-five (25) months in an arduous task to get prison referral to enroll in the now, 18 month Sex Abuse Treatment Program (SATP). In 1996 my perseverance finally paid off and I got prison administrative approval and I signed a new Program Agreement Contract for enrollment in SATP. (See **PACKET 5**)

In 1998 I successfully completed twenty (20) months of extensive SATP; consisting of 3½ hours a day, five days a week, over a 20 month period. I have also been able to painfully acknowledge how I was sexually abused as a child at the Mooseheart, Illinois orphanage.

At my graduation, SATP coordinator Richard I. Kindall, M.S., told me that I was harder on myself over the past twenty months of SATP than the judge who sentenced me to 59 years. This was a powerful statement by Mr. Kindall. I also know how true of a statement it was.

Since 1991 I have never regretted incarceration because throughout that time I was involved in therapy or working toward it. I made progress in finding and taking control of issues in my life, and though I was not physically free, I don't feel my time was wasted. Life was going on and I was making great progress.

My experience is an example of how utilizing one's time — and being allowed to receive proper treatment programming — can make a sentence move well and seem worthwhile. It also shows what positive changes can occur when reasonable treatment opportunity is made available and literally do what the system is supposed to do — correct someone!

I would like to give thanks to my God for watching over me and getting me through the most difficult times and comforting me when I felt I had no where else to turn. I believe His hand had protected me many times and has allowed me to be able to be here today so that I can share this success story with you.

I also want to thank my God-fearing sister Judy and her church family, their prayers have been a constant source of comfort. I will always remember their kind words; "No matter what happens we want you to know that we're always praying for you." I don't think there is anything more powerful they could have told me during my moments of despair.

I believe my story is one of failure and success. It's a story about never giving up and it is about coming to grips with the fact that if my life were to get better I had to change. One of the hardest things for anyone to do in life is to accept complete responsibility for themselves.

RECOVERY, A GIFT !!!
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I have learned that sexual deviancy is a disease that cannot be cured. There is no way to definitively know whether a sex offender will recidivate. I have learned that sexual assault is an aggressive deviant behavior that results from the convergence of a number of complex factors. It can, however, be controlled and managed. Since 1990 I have been an active individual in treatment programs and I have found that my past sex offenses from exhibitionism to attempted rape created profound trauma and the treatment that I have received and invested in can reduce probability of additional victimization.

I discovered that my offending behavior was a huge part of my past lifestyle, not the whole thing. I built on the positive aspects of who I am, on my positive personality traits and qualities and this allowed me to stop playing the old negative self-talk tapes. I have discovered my authentic self of who I am without all the internal beliefs of who I am that in the past, outside sources was telling me who I should be or in my particular case, how I should act. Today I don't change myself to fit in or to please people. I have given myself permission to be myself — my authentic self. i.e. In the future I will go to the appropriate place to meet the kind of women I desire. In a target rich environment, not at bars.

I realize that I needed to make peace with the demon. I needed to understand that the demon was not a person, the demon was behavior. The psychological treatment I received in the Kansas prison system was vital. I am living proof that change can occur. And it came about because a treatment staff at the Lansing Kansas Correctional Facility was quite confrontive about my past inappropriate behavior was despicable and would not be tolerated again. And yet, that message was delivered in an atmosphere where I was shown respect as a person. Although I didn't see it at the time, I can now see that I began picking up the pieces of my broken personality and with respect, support and direction, found the confidence to be able to make it through a day, an hour, a minute — without ever considering the thought of abuse, much less acting on it.

When all was lost I had a chance to start again anew. *What a gift* indeed as I leave behind a life that was so blue. A life of running from pain that had no end. *What a gift* indeed as I became my best friend and oldest friend. Recovery is God's way of calling me back home. His gift is life, peace and hope. I have dealt with my deepest wounds.

The Kansas Sex Abuse Treatment Program (SATP) has successfully helped me to understand the origins of my aberration, manage and control my offending behaviors and avoid relapse. I believe that therapy after release is also vital. Newly learned skills must be employed and practiced if they are to be maintained. I think that it is also important for me to use my learning process "skills" outside the artificial institutional setting, and this can be accomplished if I can return to group therapy to address setbacks and frustrations in the community. Outpatient aftercare will also allow for continuous risk assessment while I adjust to a non-prison lifestyle. Accordingly, this would be an essential part of treatment which can not be accomplished in an institution.

My status and family involvement with the rehabilitive process will be indicative of success in not sexually reoffending. I have learned that reduction in risk is greatest when the program modules include acceptance of responsibility, controlling deviant sexual arousal, improving social competence, and development of a release prevention plan.

I HAVE A WORKABLE RELEASE PREVENTION PLAN IN PLACE

PLEASE SEE PACKET # 6 AND PACKET # 7
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Today I reiterate once again the strong language that depicts the opinions and recommendations of expert psychiatry staff, that were in the best position to give such testimony.

A. (Asher R. Pacht, PH D. Director; Clinical File, June 18, 1973, page 12)

Without intensive treatment this inmate will be in the same conditioin, or worse, when the issue of release must be faced in the future. Unquote:

B (Institutional Summary: Clinical File, June 11, 1973, Page 10)

In reviewing Mr. Schmidt's file, a number of questions arise in my mind as to just what the States goals are in trying to develop in this man an attitude which will make it possible for him to return to society without posing a threat. Unquote:

C. (Psychiatry Dictation, Clinical File, Richard Arensen, M.D., June 4, 1974, Page 16)

I further feel it would be therapeautic for Ron if the controversy which has been raging over the past several years could be settled once and for all. If it is not, and Ron is left with confusing and double-binding messages, this can only lead to destructive consequences. Unquote:

D. (Psychological Report, Clinical File, Richard McFall, Ph D., July 19, 1974, Page 18)

In a real sense, he is suffering from the unfortunate effects^{of} a deffusion of responsibility in the management of his case. Unquote:

In retrospect, what sense does it make to even have professional staff, and or, to have expert opinions and recommendations from intelligent minds, if their expertise is ignored by the system.

.....
In 1979, after serving a full ten (10) years on my original 0-5 year Indetermine sentence, and not being successful in my many attempts to bring treatment into my troubled life, I was not about to appeal back to the Milwaukee Court and request that my sentence be extended for an additional five (5) year term, like I had done back in 1973. This would have been ludicrous.

By 1979, I had come to the conclusion that the *Specialized Treatment* that I was originally committed for, actually never existed, anywhere, either within the prison system or out in society. I also believed that my sexual aberrations would have to be allevaited by itself, and or, be controled by will-power-alone. Today we all know that this is not possible.

In 1979 I had reached my mandatory release date (M.R.), and was released back into society. In 1986 I was arrested for my current crime charges and in 1987 I entered an *Alford Plea* to these crime charges, and was sentenced to a term of fifty-nine (59) years of incarceration.

It is imperative that the interviewee read the 60 pages that depicts the "RECOLECTION OF THE CRIMINAL COMPLAINT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF." (ENDEX enclosed)

- Page 5-A -

.....
In 1985, after locating my 16 year old daughter *Lisa Lynn Ergeson*, my life revolved around and or, was focused on closing the ties between father and daughter. I also became a good father figure to Lisa's two younger sisters, Linda and Lita, and her brother Jerry. I had lived on the edge of life, and now I was ready to experience it fully by being a good role model, with my daughter Lisa being the most significance of importance for me.

Then in 1986 is when the lights went out in Georgia, and my "wrongful" arrest by the West Allis police department. Then the poor representation of legal defense coupled with a conspiracy to convict by the West Allis detectives who were investigating the crime charges.

I found myself in the physical dark hole of confinement, and felt myself sliding into the dark mental hole of despair. Unfortunately, prison restricts the very things that add meaning and worth to life. i.e., *Trusting relationships, close bond with family and loved ones, purposeful work and purpose to live.* I suffered from clinical depression - persistent sadness and H-O-P-E-L-E-S-S-N-E-S-S, far more severe than the common blues."

I prayed and asked God what sins am I being punished for in such a manner as this. I decided to commit suicide, and put my fate, in the hands of the Lord. (So this made all of my court matters moot, as far as I was concerned). After I was forced to live I was sentenced to 59 years of incarceration. Shortly thereafter, I was transported back to the same Waupun State Prison that I knew from past experiences, *was blind to the causes, cure, and prevention of sex abuse.* Most prisoners do not enter prison mentally ill. Yet prison harsh conditions can threaten anyone's emotional stability. I fought hard not to give in to hopelessness and mental deterioration. My coping skill of survival was focused on an escape plan. And as my distinguishing character trait's depict, i.e., perseverance, tenaciousness, and well organized with skills of articulation and thoroughness.

And here once again I utilized some perseverance and tenacity and came up with an ingenious escape plan that was so clever that it would make a good plot for the TV show "MISSION IMPOSSIBLE." If it had not been for one "cold" weld on a piece of construction, my escape plan would have been successful. The prison security people were amazed, shocked and embarrassed. After I gave them the details of my elaborate escape plan, they were so embarrassed that a directive came down from Division of Corrections in Madison, Wisconsin, stating that the State of Wisconsin didn't have the security to hold me. This wasn't a true statement. The high-tech new super-max prison at Portage, Wisconsin, with the double-fence, razor-wire and security camera's, etc. are difficult to breach. Not impossible, but better security than "four-wall" prisons. Since my escape plan took place during an annual three week "lock-down" where every inmate is confined to their cell while staff and guards work overtime for three weeks, doing a thorough search of every place and building, cell and inmates. i.e., two guards inspect every cell with a metal detector and mirror and have to sign off that each cell passed their security inspection. Well they missed two fifty-foot ropes, 3 1"x1" inch pieces of square tubing 18" inches long. Two bags of pepper used for dogs to-throw-off-tracking. Also 18 1/4" inch steel rods that threatened together. A piece of bar-stock 1/2"x2"x14" long. A dummy in my bed, while I was standing on a ledge of a window, and "outside" of the cell house, at midnight. So the directive to get me out of State I believe was more to do with their "embarrassment" in their own ludicrous security guards. They didn't even charge me with attempted escape. They didn't want any news coverage on it. I believe their line of thinking was probably like this. Here we have three shifts of both staff and guards working overtime every day for three weeks, and it cost us \$40,000 for the lock-down, and here is a cell full of contraband. How can this happen ??? They just wanted to hush the incident and the best way to suppress and cover-up their poor security would be to do away with the problem, me, and send me four or five states away from them.

After six months in solitary confinement, I was picked up from the Waupun State Prison by Interstate Compact transportation personnel, and they drove me to the Kansas Correctional Facility (LCF), at Lansing, Kansas. After a month in the Segregation Unit, I was released to the inmate population. However, even in tragedy there can be redemption and a flicker of hope. Yes, the unfortunate circumstances of only being guilty of being innocent of the current crime charges is a miscarriage of justice in the highest degree. Yet there was some past sexual behavior issues that still required the intervention of treatment. And yes, my unfortunate circumstances of my attempted escape from WSP is criminal. On-the-other-hand, this poor judgment in my behavior resulted in my redemption because had I remained in my sentencing state of Wisconsin, I would have remained trapped in a vicious cycle of instability. I reiterate, my malady could not be alleviated by itself.



INNOCENT

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT THE INTERVIEWEE READ THROUGH

PACKET # 5 AND PACKET # 6
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OPTIMISTIC

The treatment controversy that was raging over the first decade of my past 35-year incarceration was not resolved until I arrived at the Lansing Correctional Facility back in 1989. Alarmingly, my Interstate Compact transfer from Wisconsin to Kansas was based upon a security issue and not based on opportunity to take advantage of "treatment!"

Since my successful treatment in the Kansas prison system I raise one vital concern.

WHY I ASK ISN'T THE ISSUE OF TREATMENT LOOKED UPON AS BEING JUST AS IMPORTANT AS THE ISSUE OF SECURITY IS LOOKED UPON ?

In otherwords why didn't the Wisconsin Department Of Health And Social Services Interstate Compact me three decades or so ago to a state like Kansas for the purpose of getting treatment. Because if the Wisconsin DOC had yield to all those recommendations made by professional staff personnel at that time, the issue of security would never have become an issue.

And most significant and most frightening today is the fact that if I hadn't been denied adequate treatment during the first decade of my commitment under the Wisconsin 959.15 State Statute for *Specialized Treatment* and if the Wisconsin DOC had opted to the strong recommendations and Compacted me to a facility that had the specialized treatment that my particular case called for, like the Kansas Lansing Correctional Facility, then I would have been successfully treated for my sexual deviate behavior in the 1970's, like I have been in the 1990's up to the present time, and more specifically, I would not have had any more criminal behavior and/or no future victims after I had reached a behavior level deemed acceptable and safe to return to society through my extensive treatment in SOTP and SATP at the Kansas Lansing Correctional Facility (LCF).

After a review of the hereinto material, it should be abundantly clear that through treatment in the Kansas prison system, I have changed my whole style of being alive. Thus, I've been able to reach a behavior level deemed acceptable and safe to make a positive exit out of prison. To not agree and/or believe this logic would also say that the Kansas Sex Abuse Treatment Programming is not valid; and it would also have to dispute the Kansas Sex Abuse Treatment Statistics of less-than 1 percent recidivism rate of offenders returning back to prison.

1943 TO 1990

I was born dependent. Taught to be codependent. Worked hard. Learned to compete. Focused on self-improvement. Learned to live my life being who other people wanted me to be. And I can die without ever knowing who I am. That may be normal, but it certainly isn't healthy.

VERSUS PRESENT DATE AND TIME 2007

I was born dependent. Taught to be codependent. Learned self-acceptance. Learned that I am the person I was conditioned to be. Began to change myself. Invested in more treatment. And grew to be the person I was inspired to become. And I will die knowing that in some small way the world is a better place because I was born. That may not be normal, but it's healthy.

Now we come to the most vital matter before us today. In a nutshell, my real important concern is the following issue:

At the time of my initial commitment in 1969 to the Wisconsin Department of Health and Social Services, pursuant to Subsection (6) of Section 959.15 of the Sex Crimes Law Statutes for *Specialized Treatment*:

As stated in my Social Service File for 1969-78, I had opposed my release from prison prior to the intervention and/or having the benefit of therapeutic treatment for my deviate behavior and/or therapy for my numerous dysfunctional life problems.

Yet I was eventually released from under the control of the Special Review Board despite the fact that I had been denied adequate treatment and remained in a vicious deviate cycle.

NO TREATMENT VERSUS COST FOR TREATMENT
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The Wisconsin DOC decided that the cost of providing adequate treatment in the prison system was too cost effective, so they opt to oppose getting adequate treatment in their prison system. This of course was done at the expense of offenders like myself who are highly motivated for treatment and receptive to extensive treatment. And this negative stand that was taken by prison officials created a high cost from the high recidivism of repeated offenders returning to prison because they never received adequate treatment while they were in prison.

ISSUE 1: I was prematurely released for the first time in 1979 when I should not have been released before treatment, and I myself had opposed my own release.

ISSUE 2: And now today. After having been successfully treatment in the Kansas prison system between 1990 and the present date and time, I embrace my release and I look with eagerness and anticipation to the future that I have mapped out for myself through all my hard work. My release would be permanent.

However, my Parole Commissioner in 2001 and again in 2005 denied me the quality of life that all of my hard work and self-betterment is suppose to bring me. My Parole Commissioner has recommended a "lot" of "punishment" for me in my future.

This warehousing of me for the purpose of punishment is at a critical stage of my recovery when all of my programming is fresh in my mind-set and all and is counterproductive to my short and long terms goal setting that must be put on hold until (she) my Parole Commissioner measure of punishment has been satisfied.

How does my Parole Commissioner measure success ?

And more importantly, how does she measure "punishment" ???

It is difficult to develop metrics to measure punishment. I would like to know if my Parole Commissioner measures punishment on a different scale than the rest of the world.

The fact is my Parole Commissioner doesn't even have a rudimentary understanding of the "PUNISHMENT" that I have endured and/or experienced over the past 44 years of my incarceration. The fact is I have been severely punished my entire life in one way or another.

The following examples depict some of the physical and mental punishment factors that most prominently are imprinted in my minds eye as being severe punishment...

In 2006, inmate Larry Shingleton through fraudulent activity scamed \$2000.00 from me via, my sister Judy in New York. Then to remove me from the scene of his criminal activity, this con-man lied to I&I when he told them that I was planning to escape. Thus, I was placed in segregation under "Other-Security-Risk" (OSR) long-term lockdown 24-7 solitary Confinement at LCF pending investigation and then I was sent to the El Dorado Facility (EDCF).

[SEE EXHIBIT " 1 " FOR THE REST OF THE PAUL HARVEY NEWS STORY]

The temperature was over 100 degrees in my 8' x 10' foot cell with no fan or ventilation. I experienced continous loud noise from the 200 irate inmates in the segregation unit. i.e., banging on steel walls, loud yelling with no relief 24-7. I put toilet-paper into my ears and my fingers into my ears in my attempt to shutout the unbearable noise.

My cell had a steel bed with a thin mattress, a sink and toilet. I was given a three-inch pencil with no eraser and later only the "insert" stem of an ink pen with no plastic case.

An irate inmate celled next to me put urine and feces in a carton of milk and let this sit in the hot 100+ heat for days. Then he threw this carton of bacterium substance agent out of his cell and against the wall directly in front of our cells. The smell was unbearable. Most inmates celled in the area started throwing-up and gagging, and choking and retch from nausea. It took most of the day for porters to clean up the retch smell and they used some strong bleach which also made it difficult to breathe. The odon was so powerful that this smell effected prisoners who were housed on the opposite side of the cell house.

A few days later another inmate started his mattress on fire and dangerous chemical gases filled the segregation building. I soaked a bed sheet in water and put the wet sheet over my head and over the toilet while flushing it in which brought in a little fresh air that I could breathe. Yet this was not enough to stop the harsh choking smoke from the heavy toxic smoke. Guards brought in big fans but this only blew smoke around.

Weeks later, an irate prisoner, in a fit of rage, ripped his steel cabinet off the wall and he kept smashing it forcefully against the front bars of his cell. Guards in full riot-gear and gasmask came and shot Israelian "mace" known as "dust" into his cell to contain this out-of-control prisoner. They rushed in on him and shocked him with electric shields and shackled him. The mace agent effected every inmate celled in the area and finally we were shackled and taken to an outside fenced in area to recover from this powerful "dust" agent.

There are suicide attempts and some successful suicides. The movie "One Flew Over The Kuckucknest" could have been filmed at the Lansing segregation facility.

*I found myself trapped in a downward spiral of human decency, and I fought hard not to give in to "hopelessness" and "mental deterioration". I found this most difficult as I found myself in the physical dark hole of prison confinement, sliding into complete despair. I had suicidal thoughts, ~~for when the pain of my life overrides the joy to the point that joy no longer exist, then the desire of death is on my mind.~~ I was not able to eat for days and when I was finally able to succumb to sleep, I had hideous dreams. Upon waking-up, I felt something precious and irretrievable dying inside myself forever. *As deep in my heart I felt that I would never see my family ever again.**

If at the time I had a gracious way to die (euthanize myself) I would be dead already. I had contemplated my own death. It looked so bleak for me. I was slowly dying inside. The last greatest act of stupidity in my life that I refer to as the -zero-moment- the moment of no return was fast approaching. It was all terrifying, awesomely real. I prayed to God and I asked God what sins I had committed to deserve such "punishment" as this. Being alone made it harder and harder not to die. I had come to terms of my death in four stages; depression, confusion, anger, and finally acceptance.

My logic was, when I die, I will be free. I wouldn't have to deal with pain anymore.

**MAKE NO MISTAKE ABOUT IT
THE PHYSICAL PAIN AND MENTAL ANGUISH I EXPERIENCED WAS
CRUEL AND UNUSUAL PUNISHMENT...**

On May 2, 1992 I received severe trauma to my head that was inflicted by an inmate, Billy Benson . In what was suppose to be a friendly game of handball this irate inmate who was a big man who could bench press 400 lbs., was a man who wasn't able to control his anger and had a short fuse, and hated to lose at handball. After I had beat him in a game of handball this irate inmate went over to the weight pit and got a 1" inch dia. curl-bar four foot long, and during my next game he came up from behind me and he cracked me in the back of my head with a vertical-butt-stroke at full force. Other inmates told me later that he stood over me in a big pool-of-blood to make sure no one came to my rescue. Everyone thought that this inmate had killed me, and Billy Benson probably thought that he had killed me also.

However, the good Lord wasn't ready for me in heaven at this time and I survived this severe trauma to head. But not without suffering the results of two devastating disabilities.

Since 1992 I have suffered the loss of my sense of taste and smell. These two disabilities are life-long disabilities and another form of "punishment"...

For over four decades I have been severely "punished" with bouts of *flash-backs and night-marish dreams* incur from my *Viet Nam* combat experiences. I suffer from **Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)**. i.e., Although my *Viet Nam* odyssey ended over four decades ago, at least in the physical sense, it has continued for many decades with psychic and spiritual wounds far deeper and much more disabling than those carried home in my baggage from those rice paddies and jungles of *Viet Nam*. The gash in my body healed, but it will take a far longer river of time to wash away the haunting presence that was more than a memory that *Nam* had inflicted on my spirit and soul. *Viet Nam* clung to my emotional side, a unsurpassing reality and exiling the rest of my life to empty absurdity.

I've been instrumental in getting approval for numerous Incarcerated Veterans Support Groups (IVSG) in the prison systems over the past 44 years. Alarmingly, there is no PTSD psychotherapy in the prison system to help war veterans deal with their war malady.

CASE AND POINT: How can my Parole Commissioner fit her equation of "punishment" into the whole epic *Viet Nam* experiences about mayhem, death, destruction, about life and friendship, integrity, honor, and stress-management—all tried and tested in an extreme way, that my psychotropic medication that I take can't eliminate by itself.

All said and done, this lack of concern for war veterans fits in the equation as "punishment"...

I have 3 sisters and 2 brothers that I've not seen but for a few hours since I returned from *Viet Nam* some four decades ago. I have eight nieces and eight nephews that were born after I went to prison in 1969, who have grown-up to adults, and now have grown children of their own. I only have pictures of them and information about them by letter, and have never actually met any of my extended family. Our father Roger died in a car accident in 1950 and our mother Edna had abandon her six children and this resulted in us six children going to *the Child City and Loyal Order of the Moose, Mooseheart, Illinois*. I was the only sibling of six to ever contact our mother in the early 90's, and I was writing to my mother up to the day that she died of colon cancer in 1998.

My 3 sisters and 2 brothers went to our mothers funeral in New York. It was at this time we discovered that we had two-step-sisters, *Sandy* and *Judy*, and two-step-brothers, *Tim* and *Bill*. There is no greater cause for me today then the one that will take me home. However, if the "punishment" phase of my prison term can not be satisfied to the content of my Parole Commissioner, then closing the ties between me and my extended family will remain on hold until we meet in heaven.

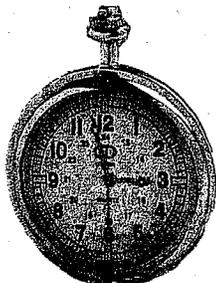
Ronnie James Schmitt D.O.B. 10-13-43

To Date 1969 To 2016

From age 26 To age 72

Fourty-four (44) years of incarceration

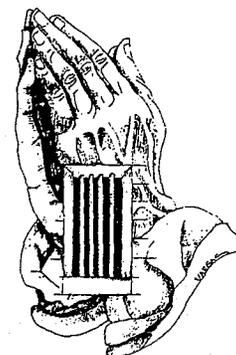
MY LIFE HAS NOT BELONGED TO ME IN ~~36~~⁴⁴ YEARS



GOD HAS ALL
THE TIME
BUT I DON'T
*** * ****

A WONDERFUL THOUGHT

*While sitting around with deep
frowns on my face
Spreading real gloom all over the place
With moans and groans about
all that I see
I made an anstonishing discovery
I realized that I was a victim of me
A key realization that helped me see
A truly amazing reality
That by just changing me
I can change what I see*



I have reached a behavior level deemed acceptable and safe to return to society. I feel so blessed that I have been able to grow and mature so much. I look with eagerness and anticipation to the future. I pray that I may always possess the integrity, the courage, and the strength to keep myself unshackled, to remain offense free and a citadel of freedom, and God willing, in free society I will spend the rest of my days and standing as a beacon... of hope for society. I wish to spend what quality years that I have left on this earth getting reunited with my family back in my home state of New York that I have been seperated from since my return from Viet Nam in the early 60s. This is my wish, my goal, and my daily prayer.

LIFE AFTER:

MY PURSUIT OF KNOWLEDGE MOVES FOREVER FORWARD...

Ronnie James Schmitt



INCARCERATION

Treatment has always been my first and foremost concern. (See PACKET's #4, #5, #6 & #7)

Now I will speak on issue (B) stated above: (Requesting Kansas "courtesy" hearing)

Here again, I have available for review a huge volume of paper-work that resulted from the system's lackadaisical reaction to this and many other such important issues raised. To allow controsery to exist harbors bad attitude, animosity, and feeds into my fever of having thoughts to end my life; thus creates a irredeemable situation incapable of remedy. The key to unlocking the door to my past is in resolving problems when they occur, this in fact spares me a world of misery: *A good beginning cometh a good end...*

Well the system was not at all compassionate to my feelings and they in fact attempted to derail my self-betterment goals at every opportunity. Here again is a perfect example of their handy work on my mind as they tried to prevent me from resolving important issues.

Between 2001 and 2005, I attempted to get DOC approval for a Kansas "courtesy" hearing. I am not aware of the criteria used by officials for approving such a "courtesy" hearing as an Interstate Compact Transfer. However, I assume that one important element of this decision making process, would be the fact that the Kansas prison system, had been my primary treatment facility over the previous sixteen (16) years, therefore, they would be in the best position to give the most reliable opinions and recommendations based upon their findings, and or, their experiences and expertise, as a Kansas Parole Board panel.

As the huge paper-trail depicts, this issue raged-on for years, without being resolved. And as in the previous issues stated below, that I raised over the years since 1989. i.e.,

1. The request in 1993-94 to get DOC approval to be evaluated on the "treatability" issue:
2. In 1995-96, my 25-month struggle to get DOC approval to make a second pass through SATP:
3. The request in 2001-2005, to get DOC approval to get transferred back to Wisconsin: and,
4. In this particular case, between 2001-2005, to have a Kansas "courtesy" hearing approved:

The Wisconsin system would put "responsibility" of decision making onto my receiving state of Kansas. Then the Kansas system would in turn, put that same responsibility back onto the sending state of Wisconsin. This would result in a stalemate, and I would remain stuck and be unable to move forward, and focus on more promising and future goals, etc.

Both my sentencing state of Wisconsin and my receiving state of Kansas are guilty of pawning off important issues on one another. This lack of being accountable in taking responsibility, to help resolve important issues, has been very detrimental in so many ways.

In 2004 I first discovered that since 1990 the Wisconsin parole board went from having a 3-panel parole board, to a 1-panel parole commissioner.

In 2004 I first discovered that I was entitled to request to have a "telephone" conference parole board hearing between my Wisconsin parole commissioner, and myself.

Why I ask did it take the system fourteen (14) years to advise me of this important information. Take note that I went through the arduous task to put together nine (9) identical PACKETS of seven (7) individual "PACKETS", one for each 3-panel board member in both Wisconsin and Kansas to review. I invested so much time and cost in this daunting task out of consideration for both parole boards so that it would save them time in passing each individual packet, back-and-forth, between one-another.

Ultimately, all of my devoted efforts were in vain, since I was eventually denied a Kansas courtesy hearing, and since Wisconsin now had a one panel parole Commissioner. So now I have six extra sets of seven (7) individual (identical) "PACKETS", on hand. They are in fact, identical to the seven individual "PACKETS" that are made available to this interviewee at this time.

This painstaking task was coupled by the fact that the Wisconsin parole Commissioner had refused to make a review of the contents of these seven individual packets of vital information. It cost me another \$10.00 in postage to mail this input to them for my July 2005 parole hearing. My parole Commissioner returned the box of seven individual packets to me.

JULY 2005: MY SECOND AND 19TH YEAR PAROLE COMMISSIONER HEARING IS HELD:

In July 2005, I had my "telephone" conference parole board hearing. It lasted about ten minutes. From the very start of our conversation it became quite clear to me that a final decision had already been decided upon by my Parole Commissioner prior to my hearing when she stated to me the following:

Quote: Mr. Schmitt, I am not going to sugar-coat anything here. I expect a lot of punishment from you. I mean a lot of punishment. Her harsh words gave me a sick feeling in the pit of my stomach and turned me inside-out. I briefly elaborated on all of the remarkable accomplishments as well as the awesome changes I had made, that I had in fact changed my whole style of being alive. I sat there secretly bleeding, waiting, anticipating her next vindictive words. She broke through my moment of silence, her scaple tongue unmercifully, piercing my heart, as she stated; Mr. Schmitt, I am quite satisfied with your treatment aspects of your incarceration however, treatment isn't the only element that I must consider. Punishment is a factor, and I expect a "lot" more punishment for you. Unquote: She concluded the hearing by saying that she gave me a four year defer and that my next hearing would be in July 2009. These words sealed my fate. She had just re-sentenced me to life in prison and I knew that I would die in prison without my success story being known to anyone.

That was a real slap-in-the-face for me. Especially after she refused to make a review of the vital input that I had mailed to my parole commissioner to condider. What this negative response told me, along with all of my past negative responses from the system over the past 19 years, is this. That the system has no intentions of ever granting me a parole and I will die in prison. What is most frightening to me at the moment, today, is that those people back in my sentencing state of Wisconsin, or those people who are in charge - for the most part really don't care if I ever return to society a productive member. I find this very sad.

In retrospect, I have come to the disappointing conclusion that I am "INVISIBLE" to all of my prison contacts. It also gives validation to my strong suspicion that there exist a conspiracy in my particular case. I know for a fact that a conspiracy existed between two or more detectives on the West Allis police department who investigated the criminal charges in 1986. And who made sure that the DNA evidence that could exonerate me of the crime charges, they made sure that this DNA was destroyed, prior to their retirement in 1989. I also have reason to believe that my defense attorney was also involved to some degree in a conspiracy to convict. This lead to my motivation to enter a *Alford Plea*, and my decision at that time to commit suicide.

I don't know how far the level of conspiracy went up the system. I do know that they are more likely to parole a man who is actually guilty of the crime charges, than paroling a man who is innocent of the crime charges, and yet convicted as an innocent individual. Because they are afraid that if they parole a man who was wrongfully convicted, this man might be revengeful and retaliate against those who intentionally conspired against him to convict him.

My *Alford Plea* does not constitute a plea of guilt. It is only saying that the defendant is not entering a guilty plea, but if he went to trial he is likely to be convicted of the crime charges against him. Since I know for a fact that the West Allis detectives had entered false evidence against me. And I had reason to believe that my lawyer had sold-me-out.

With no money to invest in a good attroney. With no support from anyone, anywhere. Well I decided to put my affairs in order with my daughter and give her all of my possessions and my tax refund in April of 1987, and after that I attempted suicide. My last thoughts before the pills took effect, was the precious thoughts of my beloved daughter *Lisa Lynn Ergeson*.

NOW AFTER ALL MY HARDSHIPS, I AM BEING DENIED THE QUALITY OF LIFE

THAT THESE CHANGES ARE SUPPOSE TO BRING

****** ***** ***** *** ***** ** *******

After four decades of incarceration, I have seen many prisoners returning to society who are angry, alienated, and largely unprepared to lead honest and productive lives. And this is not a wise investment for taxpayers. Over the past three decades I have been overwhelmed by the bureaucratic red tape and jargon displayed at every level of the system. When the prison administration suppresses individual such as myself from self-improvement, when it denies adequate treatment, when there is growing frustration, when there is a belief that nothing within the system responds to injustice, then we are all at risk.

Now today, over two decades after Dr. Schubert had circumvented the system by removing the systems obligation to provide treatment to those in dire need of *Specialized Treatment*. Today public outrage and political pressure demands a solution to the prevention of sexual abuse. Current medical knowledge supports the idea that inappropriate sexual behavior is often the result of psychological disorder and one that is treatable. Treatment and rehabilitation is what is needed.

And new legislation was enacted to bring adequate treatment into the prison system. If Dr. Schubert was alive today, do you think he would oppose such legislation, like he did back in the mid-70s. The long term consequences from Dr. Schubert's actions is at my expense and has been counterproductive to my rehabilitation. It is not a very good investment for the taxpayers, who are essentially unaware that such fundamental wrong exist within the system. While at the same time these same people highly recommend behavior betterment on a political format to the public taxpayers, or is it better said, as political damagouery.

And then came Megan's Law, and other new laws, that were based more on revenge and anger, then common sense and logic. Certain individuals focused on the philephilia and the despicable and horrific crimes against our children. I myself have doubts about the child molesters being amenable to treatment. However, many people had blinders on and they categorized all sex offenders together, and this hinders those like myself who are potentially receptive to treatment.

With all the negative scrutiny about the sex offender, there needs to be a positive story revealed. Without stories like my own, the argument that therapy doesn't work will continue to be emphasized loudly. The Kansas treatment program for the sexual aggressors is a excellent program, and I feel should be the first stop for treatment. Even inmates not convicted for sexual behavior, would benefit greatly from such programming.

i.e., Although I am not guilty of my 1986 crime charges, my past sexual deviant behavior prior to 1986 called for treatment. And besides, if I didn't enroll in the Kansas Sex Abuse Treatment Program (SATP), this would have been contrary to the principals that I stood on and had cried out so adamantly for over the first decade of my incarceration.

One of the criteria for SATP participation is having to admit guilt to the crime charges. If an inmate voices his innocents he is immediately terminated from the program. He is then transferred to a maximum facility, and reduced to Level I Status. He lost all amenities, as colored TV, stereo radio, hot pot, and is only allowed to spend \$10.00 a month at canteen. I was aware of this prior to signing my binding contract to enroll and complete SATP. The benfit of this programming was more important to me than voices my innocents at the time.

For the past seventeen (17) years since my arrival from Wisconsin to Kansas, I have studied and worked hard to understand what I had done with harsh observation and personal integrity. I have found that there is absolute incentive to keep working toward improvement. Today, I challenge this interviewee, and anyone else, to find any other incarcerated individual who has worked on themself as hard as myself. i.e., I reiterate SATP Coordinator Richard I. Kindall, and I quote what he stated at my graduation from SATP back in 1996:

Mr. Kendall said that I was harder on myself over the previous 20-months in SATP than the judge had been on me when he sentenced me to 59 years in Prison. I know how true of a statement this was, because I have really applied myself to the fullest possible limits.

I have in fact taken the initiative to learn about my behavior that got me where I am. I have dissected the emotions that led to my actions and found ways to take control of these feelings. I put myself in the place of my victims, considering their feelings are what I caused. I now realize all the people affected by my behavior, not just my specific victims. I've shared my life with those important to me. Now I share this same life with you today. I have broken my cycle of isolation and secrecy. I have much more self-esteem, and it is noticed by others. I actually like what I see in the mirror, more so than ever before. This change did not happen overnight, nor was it without internal resistance. But I have found, if sought, it can, and does occur."

I hope that you can see that if someone makes mistakes in their young life, that change, *true change*, is not only feasible, but can in many unheard of cases, such as my own, does take place. My own life is testimony to the possibility of change. I was literally bursting with energy and excitement in my drive to find myself and free myself from old behaviors. I have the power to change major aspects of my life as I struggle towards a more authentic existence. I discovered that growth is a lifelong adventure and not a fixed point at which I will arrive at. It has become a process for me rather than a goal or an end. I feel a need to repair what can be repaired by becoming socially productive and responsible - this is a very difficult challenge in a prison setting.

My biggest regret from my July 2005 Parole Commissioner hearing is the fact that my Parole Commissioner will never really know about my success story because she has refused to make a thorough review of material(s) that depict my success story. She has put blinders on and won't look at the big picture, but only looks at my past criminal history that is depicted on paper. She isn't aware of the "*treatability*" issue that was in controversy for over two decades. She is unaware of the true extent of my struggles over the past three decades. She has a success story right here in Kansas, but she won't see it because she is more concerned about keeping me segregated from their system in the State of Wisconsin, then using my success story as a good example for other prisoners to follow and learn from.

Each week for the past six months or so I have been watching a weekly program on TV called; "**PAROLE BOARD**", and it depicts parole board hearings from across the nation. For the most part they are three or five panel boards. From keen observation I conclude that if I had opportunity to present myself before these other State Parole Boards, I would receive a grant of parole at this date and time. I was able to observe what these parole board members considered in their decision making. I also was able to determine which inmates would likely get a defer by how they presented themselves and by how much work they invested toward their rehabilitation and self-improvement goals in respect to what got them to prison. With these inmates being able to make a personal appearance before their parole board, with *eye-to-eye* contact, and good communication between board member and inmate, it was easy to see who was deceptive and manipulative, and who was sincere and honest. When the board saw true change in a prisoner, with a good parole plan in place, he was paroled. They earned a parole even with a violent past history or lengthy sentence. I believe if I went before the Kansas parole board and if they had the authority to grant me a parole, based on personal changes that I have made and my accomplishments, that they would all vote to grant me a parole, and they would feel confident that my exit from prison would be permanent.

I observed that Wisconsin Parole Board Hearings are conducted quite differently than most other State Parole Board hearings. i.e., Most have at least a 3-panel board. Other State Parole Boards conduct a more thorough hearing by making a thorough review of any and all of the "input" that the inmate brings to their hearing for review and discussion. From my observation of other state parole board hearings, when an inmate did well in his institutional programming, his parole board panel commended the inmate. On-the-otherhand, when he did poorly, he was so advised.

My Parole Commissioner did not give my parole board hearing input no more than a glance at the very least, and she refused to review the most relevant and vital material that was provided for review and consideration. My Parole Commissioner appeared to focus on my past criminal history from a decade ago and back. She paid very little attention to my remarkable accomplishments and positive changes that I have made since I entered the Kansas prison system in 1989.

After having gone full circle in the treatment controversy, and after having reached a behavior level deemed acceptable and safe to return to society without posing a threat, although my Parole Commissioner was satisfied with my successful completion of the treatment phase of my sentence, she felt that a "lot" more "punishment" was called for for me.

In other words, I will be warehoused for many more years in an already overcrowded prison population, and remain a burden to the taxpayers. This is in oppose to being paroled and being an asset to society after my recovery and drastic changes that I have made.

I left my telephone conferance hearing in July with the feeling that my parole commissioner resented the fact that the Kansas prison system happen to be better suited for rehabilitation and treatment purposes. In a nutshell, I have lost confidence in a system that I am now more qualified today to give constructive feedback on, then the people who are - for the most part - in charge.

no apologies necessary in work
** ***** ** ****



APOLOGETIC

This letter depicts a topic which is difficult to address, no matter which way you look at it. There is a growing movement in the United States to brand an exponentially-growing number of individuals with the label *sex offender*, and then to turn them into pariahs, and in my particular case, keeping them incarcerated, even after successful treatment has occurred, I am kept from your minds and hearts. As a survivor and in my final phase of my recovery as an ex-sex offender, I promote the benefits of intelligent and compassionate treatment for victims and offenders, I am increasingly struck by a profound contradiction.

One thing needs to be made perfectly clear. There is no need to apologize for assisting those who have sexually offended, in order to prevent future abuse. When it is known that about 90% of sexual abuse is committed by those who know the victims, doesn't it make sense to help the offending person to get the necessary counseling and self-help programming to keep his/her life in control and make sure there is not another victim? Recent studies show high success rates for those who have offended and have received therapy in gaining control of their life and staying offense free. *"It is not wrong or irresponsible to love someone who is a sex offender.* I reiterate that current medical knowledge supports the idea that inappropriate sexual behavior is often the result of a psychological disorder and one that is treatable." Being supportive to those who offend is not admitting to being "soft" on what they have done. Assisting and guiding those who have offended and gained control does not make a therapist, counselor, pastor or news media person someone who "coddles sex offenders.

It must be understood that, with rare exceptions (putting pedopiles in a class by itself), those who act out sexually in an inappropriate manner are not "evil." Many say they are sick," spitting out the word with contempt; yet, society needs to protect itself from such people, and to the extent that offenders know right from wrong, hold them accountable for their actions. But that is no way a sufficient response. People with serious physical illnesses rarely chose to be sick and certainly did not invent their illness. But neither can they usually cure themselves. They need medical help, compassion and prayer. It is no different with mental disorders except for one thing: people in that class often deny that there is anything wrong with them. Again, that does not make them evil. They are just exhibiting a common system of a treatable disorder.

The field of sex abuse has been overtaken with media hype and hysteria. It also has seriously found its way into lawmaker's agendas throughout the nation. It can be seen that much policy being passed has a curious look to it as political grandstand and posture for their fearful constituency. Many lawmakers, finding political favor with this highly volatile subject, gain public approval to "keep their cities and streets safe." Sadly there are people in this field, who like any tragic circumstances, have become opportunists. Some appear so often in the public that one could even call them a predator in reverse.

If there were a true desire to help prevent sexual abuse, there would be an elimination of hysteria, contempt, vindictiveness and exclusion, and instead a serious drive to get to the bottom of what causes this disorder to occur in the first place. Americans tend to need an enemy, some one to beat up on verbally and intellectually. Just go back in history and look at various examples of this. Those who commit crimes in general, and especially those with a sexual charge, are easy pickings to be listed as the "worst of the worst." This message has sold well. Unfortunately, it is a sham. The real goal should be the prevention of all sexual abuse victims, not the creation of a sub-class that can be exploited for political gain.

Speaking of selling, the business of sex in this country is at an all-time high. It finds itself in mainstream advertising and media — in television programming, movies, music, and advertisements. It is easy to see that sex sells. With so much being pounded into everyone's psyche, one would think this nation would be more capable of openly having positive dialogue with his or her loved ones about sex and sexuality. Truth of the matter is that this country is a very confused nation sexually. It is no wonder there is so much sexual exploitation. Yet, the person like myself who is charged and convicted is the only one condemned.

This is a land wherein all but a tiny minority of the citizens claim to be Christian. Let me see, what is the basic Christianity? Isn't its basis built on the Son of God coming to earth and giving His life in redemption for all our mistakes? Isn't Christianity built on repentance AND forgiveness? How many churches show a serious willingness to address sexual abuse issues? Very few!

When there is ample information and studies that show the gruesome, high-profile cases that evolved several times in 2005 represent but a minute fraction of sex offenses, it becomes apparent that the fear factor is being used to enhance the passage of legislation and fuels the direction of the media, leading to the current hysteria.

Let's be honest. Unless sexual abuse has been something you or your family experiences on a close level, you won't comprehend all that has occurred and you can easily accept the rationale for extreme punishment, tracking laws, and the heavy dose of media hype. Those in the field of advocacy and education, more often than not, have gotten involved because they have lived out first-hand what occurred to them or a family member or good friend.

I've been working in this for over four decades, and especially since 1990. It has been my honor to meet some wonderful people during this time, and I continue to gain some new friends and acquaintances. Some of the acquaintances, associations and relationships have become life-long friends, closer than some of my family members. I have gained control of my life, thanks to a good counseling program and hard work. The support structure that I have in place is much of the reason for my success. **It works, folks!** And I am proud of it. And I don't have to apologize for it. Nor should you or anyone else in the field of sexual abuse prevention.



Just like three decades ago, here again today, I don't believe in the decision making ways of my Parole Commissioner. i.e., They denied me adequate treatment at that time. And after the Kansas system took up that responsibility, and after reaching a behavior level deemed acceptable and safe to return to society in 2005, I am told that further punishment is due. Not just a little more punishment but a substantial amount of punishment on top of the 34+ years that I have already experienced as punishment. Talk about putting the carriage in front of the horse, this is as backwards as can be demonstrated. I feel like I have been re-sentenced for all my self-improvement goals that I have accomplished over the years. I reiterate, *why am I being denied the quality of life that these changes are suppose to bring?* I believe that the truth behind my Parole Commissioners decision making is just another attempt to silence me from exposing their mismanagement of my particular case. And to keep me shackled in the state of Kansas is also based on this same belief.

Please don't let my success story go to my grave with me...

THIS IS WHERE THE INTERVIEWEE AND THE NEWS MEDIA CAN COME INTO PLAY:

**** ** ***** ** ***** ** ***** ** ***** ** ***** ** ***** ** *****

2009:

At your convenience, and after you have taken the time to digest the issues that I felt compelled to expound upon. I would ask that you put together a full documentary depicting my 44+ years of incarceration. I would suggest that you be especially mindful of the many *blunders* made by the system, and the mismanagement in my particular case, and the miscarriage-of-justice that resulted from the system's wrong-doings. etc. To let society know how I fell through the cracks of their system.

I know that the news media is a powerful resource. I also know and realize that the news media can bring adverse results or become detrimental to a person, and or, subject matter. And the sex offender as a topic is a very sensitive subject to the public point-of-view.

However, I believe that sex abuse is a healthy subject, and a valid sex offender program is effective. I think it is vital for every segment of society to get involved with the sex abuse problem. It is important for me to know the concerns of the community and what I can do to help myself and each other in our most difficult struggles.

Today I have an astronomical amount of knowledge to share with others. The people who tell the story the best are the ones like myself who have lived in the trenches of prison life, and have experienced it first hand, and who have found ways to successfully control their lives. I am giving you the opportunity to let society and the taxpayers know how their hard earned money is being wasted in their prison systems.

*Why I ask does tragedy always happen before intervention and before people get involved?
Why I ask can't the intervention come first ?*

I realize that a subject matter must be newsworthy to get high ratings. Hopefully the issues that I am compelled to share with you will be news worthy enough to get good ratings. It should open some eyes, and hopefully some heads will roll, and some positive changes will result from this daunting task, and from it, everyone will benefit.



CONFIDENT



Admirably,

Ronnie H. Schmitt