compelled inmates to clean toilets with their tongues. Done apparently in an organized and conspiratorial fashion, inmates were forced to choose between eating their food off of floors or providing sexual favors to guards." The abusers face a combined 23 state criminal charges. The FBI and U.S. Attorney are reportedly looking into civil rights violations connected to these cases.

Charges Filed in Florida Boot Camp Death

Seven former juvenile boot camp guards and a nurse were charged with aggravated manslaughter in the death of 14-year-old Martin Lee Anderson, who collapsed in the exercise yard at the Bay County sheriff's boot camp in Panama City, Florida on January 5, 2005. Anderson was beaten by guards who said he was uncooperative and refused to continue participating in boot camp intake exercises. Anderson's death was captured on videotape.

Initially, the medical examiner's autopsy claimed Anderson died of complications from sickle cell, a usually benign blood disorder in blacks. However, a second autopsy ruled Anderson suffocated due to the guards' actions. Anderson's death caused the state's top law enforcement officer to resign and the military-style boot camp's elimination. The Associated Press.

Deadly Restraint

Officers said Paul Choy, a 5' 4", fifteen-year-old, refused to comply with punishment for failing to finish a five-mile run (2-4-92). Choy was restrained by two staff members with a choke hold for ten minutes. When the officers released their hold, Choy was no longer breathing.

A nurse trained to identify signs of sexual assault observed injuries consistent with anal rape. "His was the first such case to come to my attention. Now, I've lost count of the number of children killed by suffocation in custodial settings. Yes, I said 'suffocation.' I know the preferred euphemism here is 'accidental restraint-related death.' But out of respect for the victims and for the English language, I opt to use the other word."

Blaming the victim, officials said, "Paul was too frail a boy for boot camp. He didn't have the 'athletic ability.' He should have been sent somewhere else. His 'accident' was the result of an unfortunate bureaucratic oversight. They miscalculated, sending a puny, little Asian kid to a camp designed for tough young thugs (niggers), who are inured to being knocked around--ones who would benefit from being marched and exercised to exhaustion and could safely bounce back from almost 'any amount of brutal treatment.'

Paul's demise was part of 'the window of loss,' similar to an egg in a large shipment to market. One must expect some breakage, particularly among the ones with prior defects. It's the price of doing business." Whenever the subject of young people dying violently in custodial settings make the news, which is becoming more frequent as larger numbers of them are funneled into that industry, there is a call for better trained staff, rather than examining the efficacy of the whole notion of punishment, particularly in isolated settings. See www.nospank.net/camps for more.

Texas: A Hellhole of Abuse By John Burl Smith

Morales v. Turman (1977), a federal lawsuit to reform Texas' juvenile detention system, as well as end the physical abuse of incarcerated youths, required observation monitors. According to monitor Steve Bercu, "Within days after we arrived, the culture inside the institutions reverted to what it was before. They were beating kids up, and doing bad things just like before. Texas' ingrained, entrenched, institutional culture, simply took over again."

On Tuesday (5-1-07), police went to 22 Texas Youth Commission (TYC) facilities and its headquarters in Austin to investigate claims that young inmates were sexually abused and that TYC officials covered it up. TYC houses about 2,700 youth ages 10 to 21. A 2005 investigation unearthed evidence that high-ranking officials at its West Texas State School in Pyote had repeated sexual contact with some of the 250 youth housed there.

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Charged with abuses dating from October 2004, the former assistant superintendent at TYC's West Texas State School was indicted on two counts of improper relationship with students and two counts of improper sexual activity with a person in custody. The former principal was indicted on one count of sexual assault, nine counts of improper sexual activity with a person in custody and nine counts of improper relationship between a student and an educator.

Amidst headlines of a crackdown on illegal sexual encounters between agency employees and their charges, a halfway house employee in Fort Worth, Texas was arrested (4-25-07) and accused of trying to entice a girl to perform oral sex. On April 30, health services auditors disclosed that a rape at a state youth lockup was not reported or followed up, along with myriads of other problems ranging from delayed treatment to lack of psychiatric care.

Then came this bomb shell, superintendent of the high-security juvenile prison, Evins Regional Juvenile Center in Edinburg, Texas was fired (4-29-07) amid allegations of inmate abuse. Texas continues to be a "hellhole of abuse" for youth even after Morales. State officials have opened 27 investigations into inmate complaints of abuse at Evins.

A US Attorney's report said that the prison's high levels of violence, overcrowding, and an inadequate number of guards violated inmates' constitutional rights. Inmate-on-inmate assaults were five times the national average for a comparable facility.

News You Use When Kids Get Life

In 1992, the US ratified the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which requires that juvenile imprisonment focus on rehabilitation. However, the US reserved the right to sentence juveniles to life without

parole in extreme cases involving the most hardened of criminals.

According to Human Rights Watch and Amnesty International, more than 2,000 inmates are currently serving life without parole in the US for crimes committed when they were juveniles. Worldwide, the US is one of the only countries that allows children under 18 to be sentenced to life without parole. Figures reported by the UN' Convention on the Rights of the Child show only 12 juveniles are serving such sentences outside the US.

In When Kids Get Life, FRONTLINE producer Ofra Bikel (The O.J. Verdict, Innocence Lost) profiles five individuals sentenced to life without parole as juveniles in Colorado, an early pioneer in juvenile justice that focused on rehabilitation rather than punishment. According to Bikel, the focus on rehabilitation took a sharp turn in the late 1980s and 1990s, when violent crimes by young offenders increased and attracted enormous press coverage. In response, legislators nationwide clamped down. The Colorado General Assembly eliminated the possibility of parole for life sentences and expanded the power of district attorneys to treat juveniles as adults.

For more on the young men sentenced to live without parole, their victims and the ongoing debate on juvenile justice and the harsh punishments meted out to youthful offenders, visit www.pbs.org, where you can view the video When Kids Get Life.

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DOC Secretary Michael Moore

State Torture & Abuse in Florida, USA Here are the people to contact to Stop The Abuse!

IMPORTANT! Please email the CCADP copies of any correspondences you send to or receive from any of those listed below on this matter. info@ccadp.org

CONTACT THE GOVERNMENT OF FLORIDA & THE FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Governor Jeb Bush The Capitol Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001 USA

e-mail: mailto:fl governor@eog.state.fl.us

Phone: 850/488-4441 Fax: 850/487-0801

Lt. Governor Frank T. Brogan The Capitol Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001 USA

e-mail: mailto:fl_ltgov@eog.state.fl.us

Phone: 850/488-4711 Fax: 850/921-6114

Michael W. Moore -Secretary to the Florida Department of Corrections moore.michael@mail.dc.state.fl.us

CENTRAL OFFICE 2601 Blair Stone Road Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2500 (850) 488-5021

Secretary's Office Michael W. Moore, Secretary (850)488-7480 Michael D. Wolfe, Deputy Secretary (850)488-7860 Inspector General (850)488-9265

Write The Prison Warden

Ask that he immediately look into this matter with his staff and that he respond to you about steps he is taking to discipline staff and ensure inmate safety.

Union Correctional Institution Bradley D. Carter, Warden P.O. Box 221 Raiford, Florida 32083-0221 USA

Phone: (904) 431-2000 (SC 831-2000)

Fax: (904) 431-2010

Michael D. Wolfe is deputy secretary of the Florida:

Department of Corrections. wolfe.mike@mail.dc.state.fl.us

Mr. Wolfe has a bachelor's degree in criminology and corrections from Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas.

Celeste Kemp - Bureau Chief (850) 488-0094 kemp.celeste@mail.dc.state.fl.us

Office of General Counsel

Bureau of Inmate Grievance Appeals

The Bureau of Inmate Grievance Appeals is responsible for providing inmates with a channel for the administrative settlement of legitimate complaints. All grievances are reviewed, evaluated, appropriately investigated, and responded to.

Fred Schuknecht 850-488-9265 Inspector General mailto:Schuknecht.fred@mail.dc.state.fl.us

Office of Inspector General

The Office of the Inspector General, under the direction of Inspector General Fred Schuknecht, is responsible for criminal and internal affairs investigations, operational reviews, internal audits and safety and risk management programs.

More: Office of the Inspector General...

Edward Sobach sobach.edward@mail.dc.state.fl.us

Bureau Chief (850) 488-2102 Bureau of State Investigations

The Bureau of State Investigations directs a network of state-certified inspectors who conduct criminal, administrative and internal affairs investigations at prisons, work release centers and other department facilities throughout the state. Criminal findings are presented to State Attorney's Offices for prosecution.

Jerry Chesnutt - (850) 410-4271 Office of the Inspector General - Bureau of Internal Audit

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chesnutt.jerry@mail.dc.state.fl.us

The Bureau of Internal Audit oversees two distinct work units. The Operational Review Section coordinates reviews encompassing all major work functions at more than 100 field locations statewide. These reviews enhance accountability and compliance with executive, legislative and agency mandates affecting prisons, probation offices and work release centers.

C.J. Drake - Director - Bureau of Public Affairs

850 488-0420 Drake.cj@mail.dc.state.fl.us

The Bureau of Public Affairs is responsible for educating the public about the mission, goals and operations of the department. Public Affairs staff respond to requests for information from state and national media, as well as the general public.

William O Monroe - Florida's Auditor General see: http://www.state.fl.us/audgen/

The Auditor General is the instrument by which accountability of government is reported to the Legislature and citizens of the State of Florida. The Auditor General makes audits of State agencies, district school boards, district boards of

trustees of community colleges, and selected other entities.

Phone Number: (850) 488-5534 Fax Number: (850) 488-6975

Address: 111 West Madison Street

Claude Denson Pepper Bldg. Tallahassee, FL 32399-1450

E-mail Address: flaudgen@aud.state.fl.us

Vargas.Louis@mail.dc.state.fl.us

Lou A Vargas-General Counsel-(850)488-2326

The Office of General Counsel provides legal advice to the department heads and staff regarding personnel matters, rule promulgation, bids, contracts, sentence structure, early release, gain time, public records, subpoenas and legislation. This office also represents the department in judicial and administrative tribunals, and provides training to staff.

CONTACT ORGANIZATIONS AND ASK FOR THEIR HELP!

ACLU Florida

ACLU of Florida 3000 Biscayne Blvd. Suite 215 Miami, FL - 33137 USA Phone: (305) 576-2336

General ACLU e-mail: aclufl@aclufl.org

Complain Form: http://www.aclufl.org/complaint_process.html

ACLU National Prison Project 1875 Connecticut Ave. NW #410 Washington, D.C. 20009

phone: 202-234-4830 fax: 202-234-4890

Human Rights Watch

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350 Fifth Avenue, 34th Floor New York, NY 10118-3299 USA

Tel: 1-(212) 290-4700, Fax: 1-(212) 736-1300 email: hrwnyc@hrw.org

Or Email the California office of Human Rights Watch at: hrwla@hrw.org
Or Email the U.K Human Rights Watch at: hrwatchuk@gn.apc.org

Or Email the Belgium Human Rights Watch at: hrwatcheu@gn.apc.org

NAACP

NAACP National Headquarters 4805 Mt. Hope Drive Baltimore, Md. 21215 USA

Telephone: (410) 358-8900

Information Hotline: (410) 521-4939 Kweisi Mfume, president and CEO Fax: (410) 486-9255

Chairman's Office: (410) 486-9135

ACT/UP New York Prison Issues Committee

135 W, 29th Street New York NY 10001

Anarchist Black Cross DC / Love & Rage Prison Abolition Working Group

Box 77432

Washington DC 20013 phone: 202-728-3899

email: ms272c@gwuvm.gwu.edu

National Alliance Against Racism & Political Repression

11 John St. #702 New York NY 10038 phone: 212-406-3330

National Campaign to Stop Control Unit Prisons -- East

972 Broad St., 6th. FI Newark NJ 07102 phone: 201-643-3192

fax: 201-643-8924

email: 103137.3272@compuserve.com

CONTACT THE MEDIA!

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Florida:

Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel: kfranck@sun-sentinel.com Jacksonville Florida Times - Union: jaxstaff@jacksonville.com

The Miami Herald: Email Florida News Dept Email investigations dept Letter to Editor

The Orlando Sentinel: sdoyle@orlandosentinel.comfeedback@mysentinel.com

Palm Beach News: pb metro@pbpost.com St. Petersburg Times floridian@SPTimes.com Tampa Tribune: Ifletcher@tampatrib.com

Boca Raton News: Fill out their email form by clicking here

Union Correctional Institution

Bradley D. Carter, Warden

P.O. Box 221

Raiford, Florida 32083-0221

(904) 431-2000

Fax: (904) 431-2010

SC 831-2000

Florida State Prison

James V. Crosby, Jr., Warden

P.O. Box 747

Starke, Florida 32091-0747

(904) 964-8125

SC 836-1011

Fax: (904) 368-2732

WC: (904) 964-8125

Return to the ABUSES AT FLORIDA PRISONS HOMEPAGE



CANADIAN COALITION AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY ccadp.org DEATH ROW - ONLINE

The CCADP offers free webpages to over 500 Death Row Prisoners Contact us for more information.

info@ccadp.org



"The Eyes Of The World Are Watching Now"

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Canadian Coalition Against the Death Penalty

info@ccadp.org

This page is maintained and updated by Dave Parkinson and Tracy Lamourie