

## **Yell Baby, Yell!**

True Story:

It was in the 80's—the 1980's. A warm, sunny day I spent with 2 of my friends at Marriott's Great America, in California.

While standing indoors, in one of the shops, I glanced outside at the crowd. It was a sea of people, moving in mostly two directions. There I saw a little boy, maybe three-years old, standing alone, crying, as the herds of people, none of whom seemed to notice him (he was literally barely above their knees in height).

All my life I have felt very protective of children, especially the littlest, most vulnerable. That whole swarm of people, and no one heard his distress.

I told the shopkeeper to phone Security because he was lost. I was going to bring him in.

"It'll take them half an hour to get here," she said. I was already out the door, focused on him so I didn't lose track. My greatest fear was that someone would grab him. His parents would never see him again.

I got to him, knelt down to his eye level.

"Are you lost?" I asked.  
He nodded.

"Did you see which way your parents went?"

He nodded and pointed.

"We're gonna get you to your parents right now," I told him.

I knew that if he had to wait half an hour, he'd be traumatized. I knew his parents would be losing their minds soon as they realized he was gone. I knew that there would be a report filed if Security had to PA system the entire park. I knew that was a last resort.

“Here’s what we’re gonna do,” I said. “I’m going to put you on my shoulders, and you’re going to scream for your mom, do you hear me?”

He nodded.

I put him on my shoulders.

“Yell, Baby, Yell!” I told him.

“MOM!” he yelled as we kept walking in the direction he pointed. “MOM!!!”

“Do you see her?” I asked.

“Yes!”

“Keep yelling. LOUDER!”

“MOM! MOM! MOM!”

Some distance ahead, I could hear a frantic mother yell “Where’s???”

“Yell Baby! Yell!”

He kept yelling. She and her husband saw him and headed in our direction, pushing against the tide of amusement park goers, none of whom seemed to notice.

She yelled to him, he yelled to her and we met up! She was pushing a stroller, her husband grabbed him off my shoulders, and knocked me down, flat on my butt.

“You’re welcome.” I said.

I had to laugh. I totally understood why he did that. Kids disappear in a split second. It is a parent’s worst nightmare. Somehow, both of them thought the other had him in tow, and neither did. Here was a total stranger, with his child on her shoulders, and their baby was screaming for his mom. I totally got it.

He didn't have time to think that no one stealing a child would put them on their shoulders and proceed to go right to them, wading through a crowd to reunite them.

*It was the panic of **Baby is GONE! I Hear my baby yelling! Someone has my baby!***

I totally got that. And I knew that if I reported the assault, they'd also be reported for losing their child and that could mean months of agencies looking into their parenting. They were already traumatized enough.

The Dad looked at me, a spark of confusion, embarrassment crossed over his face, but he wasn't big enough, at least not in that moment, his arm around the shoulders of his sobbing wife, relieved as they both were, to say "sorry".

He turned his family around and they melted into the crowd. The mother turned for a second to look at me as they were melting into the herd. I waved. There was nothing more I could do.

I wasn't expecting it. I was just glad that the little boy lost had been so quickly reunited with his family.

Helping children in crisis is risky. People may not understand what you are doing, and they may not have the capacity to find out. Emotions run high. Most people don't know what to do.

Security never showed up. At least not in the next half hour that my friends and I waited.

Helping a child who is in distress is a natural instinct for most Humans. It's what we do. We want them to be safe.

### **This Also Is True**

Sometimes we get knocked on our butt. Sometimes worse.

I have a letter from Tom Sullivan, who has endured more than his fair share of getting knocked down for doing his job, for helping to protect children, for trying to stop the corruption and the incompetence that leads, every year, to children who are trafficked, abused, raped, murdered, forgotten.

I am going to include his letter, a summary of events, recent events, ongoing events, and I want you to understand that he is being punished because he tried to help.

And, after you read his summary, think of the abuses happening to children at the border. Children being unnecessarily abused, tortured, raped and dying in the custody of an agency that answers to no one, and no agency oversees them. Because the agencies that are supposed to protect the children have been protecting the corrupt, harassing, threatening an attacking the whistle-blowers, for over a decade.

You're seeing it play out, under our noses, right now, but it's passed over for whatever lesser squirrels the "News" media chooses to chase in their chatty formats where banter replaces facts, opinions rendered by factless morons, become the grist that grinds uneducated minds into a sludge of mindless fears, all of which justify treating people as sub humans, as "animals", as "vermin"... all tactics used by Hitler to create the worst Crimes Against Humanity, the world has ever seen.

The corruption in the system back then, made possible the decades of national disgrace that Germany had to claw its way out of. It's now becoming our disgrace.

A corrupt system protects the corrupt. It places the weak and the weak-minded in high places to ensure that the corruption isn't stopped. We have, throughout our system, corruption in just about every agency. Political appointments of the weak and the weak minded insure it will only get worse, until we stop it or until other nations stop it for us, and we fall into the disgrace that has been a stain on Germany ever since WWII.

Remember: Our Fathers, Grandfathers, Mothers, Grandmothers, Uncles & Aunts all fought on the Right Side of that war. We are on the Wrong Side of the next war if we don't clean up the corruption, oust the weak and the

weak-minded, and hold accountable, those who have betrayed us as a Nation, as a Society, and everything we claimed to stand for, back when we were heroes.

Our Nation, Our Society starts where all great nations start: With our Children. If we don't protect the children, we don't protect the Future—our future.

And our children are not safe in a society that protects the corrupt and attacks the Whistle Blowers. You cannot protect the Lie and hide the Truth forever, but you can do a world of damage in the meantime.

We'll get back to the murders soon enough. They're still going on. Especially in Indian Country, because the corruption has been allowed to thrive where the people have been the most disempowered, and where the agencies answer to no one.

### **Follow The Bouncing Ball**

The abuses that we allow in Indian Country don't stay in Indian Country. The pollution spreads. Don't for a minute think that this is not benefiting people at the very top of the food chain: The top government officials, the ones running these agencies, year after year, and those who fail to do their job and enforce the laws that are supposed to protect us all.

If Indians are not protected, no one is. If corporations are not held accountable for the damage they do in Indian Country, they're not held accountable anywhere. See how that works?

Being allowed to abuse asylum seekers, immigrants, and to make policies and practices that are deliberately cruel. Newborns torn from their mother's breast, and deliberately trafficked through the system that destroys paperwork so the children can't be found and reunited with their parents... isn't something new. They did that at Spirit Lake. They got away with it. Now Immigrants & Asylum Seekers. Who's next? No consequences for these abuses means the abusers push the boundaries even more.

Well, better get onto that summary from Sullivan. It's just the tip of the iceberg.

And rest assured, I will post and re post this summary from time to time, in case someone forgets.

### **Child Sexual Abuse Crisis at DHHS -- by Thomas F. Sullivan**

*The last few weeks have seen many stories about the inability of the Indian Health Service (an agency within DHHS) to manage the behavior of sexual predator pediatrician, Dr Weber. working on several reservations. Claims have been made that factual complaints about this man's behavior were ignored by agency leadership for more than 20 years.*

*The Secretary of DHHS announced his request to the Inspector General to investigate this situation. No date has been established for the IG to report back the results of his investigation.*

*In my experience the child sexual abuse problems in Indian Country are epidemic. What does that mean? Let me explain what I have been told from communities all across Indian Country - places like Wolf Point, MT, St. Michael, ND, Cherry Creek, SD, Fort Washakie, WY, Kyle, SD, Pablo, MT, Hays, MT, Eagle Butte, SD, and many other communities too numerous to name. I have been told by residents of one of these communities, "Our child protection staff have been investigating every reported case of child sexual abuse/statutory rape on our reservation, using rigorous standards and have confirmed, on average, two cases of child sexual abuse for every week during the last 10 years."*

*I heard that report in October, 2004 from Ms. Patricia McGeshick, an enrolled member of the Assiniboine Sioux Nation, Fort Peck, MT and the long term Executive Director of its' Family Violence Resource Center. I was shocked. I was even more shocked to experience the stonewalling of my agency's leaders whenever I proposed minimal steps to begin addressing and stopping the epidemic of child sexual abuse Ms. McGeshick and her staff had documented.*

*It is now 2019, four years since Ms. McGeshick's untimely death, 15 years since my first report to the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) leadership about the extraordinary level of child sexual abuse at Fort Peck. The epidemic continues there.*

*Mike Tilus, an IHS psychologist forced to retire from IHS in December, 2018. On August 9, 2018 Dr. Tilus, working at Fort Peck wrote, "I see a lot of suicidal patients here ....and an extremely high history of child sexual abuse - the highest I have seen on any reservation."*

*Based on Dr. Tilus' message I believe that Fort Peck is in the midst of its 25th year of investigating every reported case of child sexual abuse/statutory rape, using rigorous standards, and confirming, on average 2 cases of child sexual abuse for every week in those 25 years.*

*On the Rosebud and Pine Ridge Reservations their child protection staffs have been following the same drill as at Fort Peck and confirming on each of these reservations on average 2 and 1/2 cases of child sexual abuse per week for every week during the last 10 years.*

*When I forwarded these facts to the ACF leadership about these and other reservations their reaction initially was silence and inaction. Later they lied, saying, "Conditions for American Indian kids (on this reservation or on every reservation) are improving"; "have never been better."*

*I would have been delighted if these claims were true. But my sources from all across Indian Country nationally, enrolled tribal members, Tribal Elders, Tribal employees spoke of a different reality, "Conditions have never been worse", "Those higher-ups who got your reports did nothing to protect our kids."*

*My sources were threatened, fired from any tribal employment and ostracized. Anyone caught speaking to them were threatened with violence, loss of their children and firebombing of their homes at midnight. One of my sources was almost killed in a combine harvester fire. The state Fire Marshall said it was arson. It was attempted murder.*

*I was libeled and slandered. That continues to this day. My ability to do my job as Regional Administrator was limited by that leadership, preventing all of my travel into Indian Country and requiring all facts to be stripped from any speech I was asked to deliver. My Denver apartment was broken into twice. Paperwork was reviewed and some removed. Some money was taken. One ACF staff member working in Denver was told by his Washington, DC boss, "I understand you are friendly with Tom Sullivan. That will not help your career". I was forced to retire under threat of being fired after a lengthy career noted for accomplishment, my integrity and my ability to work with anyone. The lies told about me persist to this day from that leadership.*

*People who I considered some of the finest, most dedicated employees I have ever worked with are being selectively removed with little or no cause.*

*All of this is occurring because I took phone calls from American Indian reservations, listened to stories of unchecked abuse in these remote, politically powerless communities, confirmed the accuracy of their accounts and tried to assist these citizens. I was stonewalled by ACF leadership.*

*More importantly the predator class discovered they had allies at the highest levels in DHHS, allies who would protect them. I have never been able to discover how these lazy, corrupt bureaucrats have profited from their silence and inaction.*

*Because of their silence and inaction:*

- 1. Today hundreds of American Indian children will be raped;*
- 2. Some of them will attempt suicide;*
- 3. Some of them will complete;*
- 4. Tomorrow that cycle will repeat itself;*

5. *This pattern will continue until the Secretary publicly acknowledges the harm done by this past silence and inaction and clearly states that the failure to protect any child from abuse is a firing offense and means it.*
  
6. *The Secretary must also commit DHHS to establishing a Blue Ribbon Panel to investigate past failures to protect children, and make recommendations to prevent future failures. American Indians and others who have been demanding answers for these failures for years must lead this Panel.*

*Thomas F. Sullivan  
(Redacted Phone Number)*