

February 2, 2016
“Ultimately”?

Every time I read the articles about those refugee kids being handed over to abusers and trafficked, literally into the abyss to where in Florida alone, thousands of children have gone missing & ACF, and HHS, and State Authorities all get busy shrugging their shoulders, I wonder how they can live with themselves.

“The minor, who had endured a sexual assault in her home country, was forced to have sex with her sponsor. She appealed to a post-release services provider for help and was ultimately removed by Child Protective Services.”

The story of that 16-year old girl who was essentially forced into a sexual relationship with her ‘sponsor’, and the story says that after she notified the agencies (who knows how many times?) she was ‘ultimately’ removed...

And that sticks in my craw. “Ultimately”? Seriously? Not “Immediately”? Define “Ultimately” in this case if you will. I know of a case where a 13-year old girl who has been reporting that she was being raped by a registered sex offender friend of her mother’s on the rez, is being ignored for over 2 years now. Maybe three years? When will she be “ultimately” removed to safety? Or does it not count because she’s in Indian Country?

How long did that refugee child have to wait before “Ultimately” being removed from the predator? How long will the 13, now 15 or 16-year old girl have to wait before “ultimately” the predator in her nightmares no longer has unlimited access to her?

I just need to know because I thought the idea of protecting children meant that they would be “immediately” taken to safety, not “Ultimately”.

“Ultimately” in the case of the refugee girl meant around a year. But in Indian Country, on Spirit Lake Nation Reservation, “Ultimately removed to safety” has yet to happen for that one girl, and for hundreds more children who are being actively ignored by the same ACF and HHS that seemed to think they could just ‘skip’ processing the guardians to whom they gave custody of refugee children. They “Skipped” fingerprinting, so we don’t really know who they are. They “skipped” criminal background checks so that meant “they’d fall through the cracks” << My all time favorite deflection of responsibility uttered by agencies after every tragedy for the past 50 years...

It’s apparent now that there are no ‘cracks’. Cracks would require a foundation to have weak points and could be mended with patching. There is no foundation under these kids. Not for the kids in Indian Country, not for the Refugee kids and not for the kids in the system anywhere that the ACF, HHS decide to ignore reports of failures as they have ignored the 13 Mandated Reports for going on 4 years now, regarding Spirit Lake alone.

It has to be clear that the reason these agencies are failing these kids is not by accident, but by design. The heads of these agencies are by far the most corrupt or the most incompetent, and it has been that way for decades, getting worse with each new administration, replacing the previous politically paid off hack with their new politically paid off hack who also has no qualifications to hold any position so critical to the safety of children.

You know why they skipped the qualifying round on the sponsors for the Refugee kids? Because they don't even vet the heads of their agencies or their deputies.

Those kids were shoveled into the snake pits and thousands have disappeared and McMullen can only think about how many ways she can cover her own ass. She has politically powerful friends so she will never worry about keeping her job.

She doesn't like that her massive incompetence is showing right now, but it won't be long and the media will look elsewhere for ratings and clicks. It is Political Circus Season and these kids will be forgotten as 'old news' in a week or less.

You'll see them later, the ones that survive. They'll be on the streets, publicly suffering their addictions, alcoholism, cycles of violence and abuse written all over them. You'll think they chose to be that way. They failed.

You'll know most of them will be filling up those for-profit prisons, another politically connected industry that depends on failed kids to become inmates so they can bill the State and Federal Governments billions for their upkeep, while treating them worse than factory farm animals.

You'll hear of their crimes and be glad they are where they are. They failed.

But the truth is staring right at you right now: They are being failed--- by US.

Every time we let McMullen and the rest of them slide on these horror stories of agency incompetence and failure, we are FAILING those kids and we are creating the failures they become.

So, at least now you know "How they got that way".

We could change all this, for them and for us. But it takes involvement. Get involved.

You know where to find me.

~Cat