

Hello! Thank you so much for this second hearing, I truly appreciate it so much.

My name is Siara Akers and I am here to support Erin's law. I have so many reasons why this law should pass and know so many little girls who could've used this law last year but I'm going to just name a few.

Last year my daughter was a first grade student at Clearcreek Elementary in Springboro. Each week she asked me for a note to skip out on gym class and complained of leg pains and my husband and I continued to tell her it was growing pains. At one point she so aggressively begged I took her out of school and took her to the doctors for said leg pain. She specifically asked our pediatrician for a gym note to which he denied saying it was growing pains. This is heart wrenching. None of us picked up on her discomfort.

In March parents were called in one by one watching the gym teacher act very inappropriately with their 6/7 year old daughter on video surveillance. Imagine this. Imagine sitting in a police station and watching your child get molested through a video and there's not a thing you can do about it. In court I watched one little girl reaching for other girl's arms to try to pull herself away from the abuse.

These girls never ever told. They were so manipulated by someone they trusted. One finally casually said something to her mom and that stopped the whole thing. When she told her mom she wasn't even telling on the action, she was thrilled that it was her day to get attention, this is how manipulated these children were. 88 plus little girls and hundreds of parents affected by one teacher.

Imagine if they would've been educated. If one day they had a 30 minute presentation where one of them said "hey wait a second, Mr. Hopkins does that." That's all it would've taken and so many little lives would be changed right now.

As a victim myself, I feel almost certain to say that if you would put a group of child sexual abuse victims in a room and asked them what could've helped their outcome or changed their outcome I can almost certain say education would've helped me. Unfortunately my best friend who was abused with me committed suicide years later and I can promise that if she had help, if we told sooner, if we knew better, she would be here.

We teach our children fire drills, tornado drills, active shooter drills, but your child is more likely to be sexually abused than being in any of those. We teach our kids to look both ways before crossing the street, but your child is more likely to be molested than get hit by a car.

For every dark road my children travel down I'll be behind them with a flash light. I may not be able to stop everything but if I can prevent it before it happens, you'll see me there. My light is shining bright for my child, I hope yours is for the rest of the children of Ohio.

I pray you get deep in your heart how much this means to me and many others and we can move forward with this law. Imagine what this could do for the abused children coming out of this stay at home order. You could give them and so many others the power to have a voice.

After some quick and easy research I thought I'd list the chairman just a few of the children that Erin's Law presentations have saved. These children came forward after listening to the 30 minute presentations at their schools and found their voices. I provided the links in case you would like to go back and read them.

Alabama Man

February 2020

Crossville man charged with sexual abuse of a child after school presentation

https://whnt.com/news/northeast-alabama/crossville-man-charged-with-sexual-abuse-of-a-child/?fbclid=IwAR3oUrgS2zQ_NxZINR3zOYBHsh9J_soXqLgJZuPSGDuitOy6ZAANEoa3-Rc

Nebraska

February 2020

Testimony underway in sexual assault trial after child came forward from a school presentation

https://www.starherald.com/news/local_news/testimony-underway-in-sexual-assault-trial/article_82300808-2e07-5bab-b670-6c5f06ed2a2b.html?fbclid=IwAR2e6JxHk4VRgL93RAAtQ5JcV2vWKhITM2TmTrRa1SHllrd3wqzFgz_eqQwk

Missouri

January 2020

Missouri man sentence to 30 years for assault after child told a teacher from a school presentation

https://www.kansascity.com/news/local/crime/article239199513.html?fbclid=IwAR2f6n_91ekl8wxY3j5H2q1zmKocjiUjNa-wsgqq4zUAd2046mk3bRT2iAE

Michigan

January 2020

10 years for assaulting a 10 year old.

https://www.thealpennews.com/news/local-news/2020/01/man-gets-10-years-for-assaulting-8-year-old/?fbclid=IwAR0mSiLvTqUzCWsiv0xUbMerBswngU-sOggyShLZ3JImWwEG_72wwbRj0hw

Indiana

December 2019

Man arrested after years of abuse

https://www.14news.com/2019/11/23/affidavit-man-arrested-child-molestation-after-years-abuse/?fbclid=IwAR3wWPvcyYRpExLMmkuzZRHGH-kBZ20ZI_PeLk_yggivv9NsopKB500ibis

Indiana

October 2019

Girl Reported Sexual Abuse After Attending Body Safety Program at school

https://www.nwitimes.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/girl-reports-sex-abuse-after-attending-body-safety-program-chesterton/article_f0fe800f-65e5-595e-b1be-8fa7559280fe.html?fbclid=IwAR3bGiQNTXctwXizA5uck_y5CbbAFI3d_aBfAVgoKVUq_jlrxCNXY3tinoM

Indiana

October 2019

School Program About Reporting Abuse Leads to Child Molestation Arrest

https://www.courierpress.com/story/news/local/2019/10/29/boonville-man-charged-child-molesting-after-student-tells-teacher/2500763001/?fbclid=IwAR3Q7iK7Mb_EOW8bFCfDz7_GN0rlg6wvU4b9Ys37dsp83ASvanlOndOlnZY

South Carolina

October 2019

School Program on Reporting Abuse Leads to Arrest of Green Sea Man

https://wpde.com/news/local/hcpd-school-lesson-on-abuse-leads-to-arrest-of-green-sea-man?fbclid=IwAR3859cdNQZWU5BdFg7YwC_rBb8Mo199WYT33YE0JBEr4stE1rYI8Na5MrQ

Illinois

October 2019

Former Algonquin Based Teacher Gets 112 Year Sentence for Child Sexual Abuse

https://www.nwherald.com/2019/10/18/former-algonquin-based-school-district-300-teacher-gets-112-year-sentence-for-child-sex-assault/au8n3x3/?utm_medium=NWHFacebook&utm_source=Facebook&fbclid=IwAR3Mv_23fMvar703Omfaqtvg0Vxhl2xqBSLrWkAXiydOTRte5GyV7J

Pennsylvania

April 2019

School Presentation leads to Arrest of Man Suspected of Child Abuse

https://www.wtae.com/article/school-presentation-leads-to-arrest-of-man-suspected-of-child-abuse/27116733?fbclid=IwAR2ttSJkiJSqV_8fxHjBlpddUzkdeVNjsidUe7M0KGFFAeiGsbx3EbAyyvlsCg

Indiana

January 2019

Anderson Couple Arrested After Body Safety Talk

https://www.heraldbulletin.com/news/local_news/anderson-couple-arrested-after-body-safety-talk-at-apa/article_4c52b042-1b86-11e9-a02e-ef66abb8fba9.html?fbclid=IwAR0SUNFhNN91ERNi47mb0u_Zhc4d4GXoQGkK5DZM4kiAYacwIjEhd2vOsCg

Oregon

December 2018

After Cop Gives Talk at Portland School Girl Confides she has Been Abused.

<https://www.oregonlive.com//news/2018/12/after-cop-gives-talk-at-portland-school-girl-confides-shes-been-raped.html>

South Carolina

February 28, 2018

South Carolina man 25 years in prison after 4th grader discloses sexual abuse during presentation

<http://www.wyff4.com/article/sex-offender-told-victims-their-parents-wouldnt-love-them-if-they-reported-abuse-ag-says/18924739>

Maryland

August 2017

Maryland Teacher sentenced to 48 years in prison for molesting several students over 15 years. 12 year old reported abuse during Erin's Law presentation.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/local/education/he-was-warned-about-getting-too-close-to-students-but-this-maryland-teacher-was-allowed-to-stay-in-the-classroom/2017/08/25/5ac2ad76-7bbe-11e7-a669-b400c5c7e1cc_story.html?utm_term=.e491f5634992

Illinois

February 2017

Illinois Police arrested 54-year-old Timothy Zielinski. They say he sexually abused a family member who came forward about her abuse, just hours after going through Erin's Law.

<http://www.wifr.com/content/news/Body-safety-classes-helping-to-change-lives-414126323.html>

South Carolina

July 2017

Hilton Man Accused of Sexual Conduct with 10 year old.

<http://www.islandpacket.com/news/local/crime/article161764238.html?fbclid=IwAR04ZtW1jFnXKrd8Xf4SoWCKOgnA-NOu2UBujaMgr4kG5sQe0fdaZ0FCLgE>

Virginia

March 2017

Virginia Three adults arrested after school district taught personal body safety.

<http://www.fox5dc.com/news/local-news/elementary-school-sexual-abuse-prevention-program-helps-lead-to-arrest-of-prince-william-county-man>

Virginia

October 2016

Two kids report sexual abuse after viewing educational video in Virginia School

https://wjla.com/news/local/2-kids-report-sexual-abuse-after-viewing-educational-video-in-va-school?fbclid=IwAR01fhQpmqJSeHVLfuoz-LPG_0gC-DjThr4LUdWlzZkywAJeiSnEP7rAjSc

Illinois

November 2016

Illinois man held on 2.5 million bond for Arlington Heights man charged with sexual abuse.

<http://www.dailyherald.com/article/20160520/news/160529807/>

Wisconsin

November 2016

Former Wisconsin corrections officer accused of assault boy.

Wisconsin man arrested for sexual abuse after boy reported he was abused to teacher after he watched a video on what to do if you are being abused.

<http://www.wisn.com/article/former-waukesha-corrections-officer-accused-of-assaulting-boy/6318607>

Illinois

September 2016

Child Reported Abuse After Program at School

http://thetelegraph.com/news/90089/testimony-child-reported-abuse-after-watching-program-at-school?fbclid=IwAR0LdlaONt9dZzq_5n8hX71dpT2pngOR4MvKQ8-37kgMZgCnYIVPpsPbZ4

Illinois

August 2016

Lisle man sentenced to 40 years in prison for sexually abusing girlfriend's daughter from age of 3-7yrs old. Girl told her teacher immediately after being taught Erin's Law.

<http://www.fox32chicago.com/news/crime/lisle-man-gets-40-years-for-for-sexually-assaulting-young-girl>

Alabama

May 2015

9-year-old comes forward about sexual abuse after school presentation.

<https://www.waff.com/story/29157044/police-9-year-old-comes-forward-about-sexual-abuse-after-school-presentation/>

South Carolina

January 2014

Lesson on good touch bad touch leads to arrest.

<https://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/class-lesson-good-touch-bad-touch-leads-arrests-article-1.1571452>

Thank you so much for your time.