



Time for Jessica's Law in Idaho

The Idaho Affiliate of the American Family Association

[Signup For Updates](#) | [Donate Online](#)

Monday, June 23, 2008

Bryan Fischer, Executive Director

IVA ACTION ALERT: CALL GOVERNOR OTTER TO URGE PASSAGE OF "JESSICA'S LAW" IN IDAHO

(Note: please forward this message to likeminded friends and family members around the state.)

According to the Associated Press, Bradley Stowell (below right), a 36-year-old man with a history of sexually abusing more than two dozen minors, has been released from prison and, according to Idaho's Sex Offender Registry, is now living in Boise at 1703 S. Jackson St., near the intersection of Overland Road and Roosevelt Street, one block east of the Hillcrest Country Club.

He was convicted in 1998 of the molestation of two brothers, who were attending a Boy Scout camp in eastern Idaho where Stowell was serving as a camp counselor. Although according to state law he could have – and should have – been sent away for up to 25 years, he was out of prison soon enough to violate his probation in 2005 (for viewing pornography and hanging around with children) and be sent back to a prison for a 2-to-14 year stretch. But he served just three years of that sentence, and was released despite the recommendation of a hearing officer that he is still a risk and should remain behind bars.

Last December, Stowell's hearing officer "strongly" recommended that Stowell be denied parole, and added these ominous words: "If Mr. Stowell is released into society, he will simply victimize more young and innocent children in Idaho. To protect the parents and children of Idaho, Mr. Stowell's continued incarceration remains vital."



As a side note, this tragic incident confirms that the Boy Scouts are absolutely right to "discriminate" against homosexuals who want to serve as Scout leaders. The rate of pedophilia

among homosexuals is up to sixteen times as high as among heterosexuals (homosexuals comprise just 3% of the population but are responsible for between 34% and 40% of all instances of child sexual abuse), and the BSA has a right and a responsibility to protect the young boys under its care from predatory adults.

If the Democrat Party, Boise Mayor David Bieter, Republican Sen. Tim Corder, and the Idaho Human Rights Commission have their way next year, another effort will be made to provide special protections on the basis of “sexual orientation” and “gender identity,” putting the Boy Scouts directly in the crosshairs of radical homosexual activists. If such a law passes, the BSA in Idaho will be hauled into court for making any effort to protect the young boys in their care from homosexual predators like Bradley Stowell.

Bottom line: Stowell has already been released from prison twice in less than a decade for committing unspeakable crimes against children.

As the father of the two Scouts said, “Three years in prison does not compensate for 10 years of molestation and terror.”

Idaho still does not have a mandatory minimum sentence for a first-time sex crime against a child. “Jessica’s Law” statutes (named for Jessica Lunsford, right, raped and murdered at age nine) in many states now impose a minimum 25-year sentence on any adult who is convicted for the first time of violating the sexual innocence of a child.



And as Stowell’s case illustrates, perpetrators are rarely caught and convicted for their first offense. Stowell himself admits that he had victimized two dozen other children before finally being caught and convicted. Each pedophile who receives his first conviction has almost certainly left a trail of other victims, damaged for life psychologically, emotionally, spiritually, and physically, in his wake.

But Idaho lawmakers, beginning with the governor, resist passing a Jessica’s Law in Idaho for one reason and one reason alone: money. The administration estimates it would cost \$279 million over the next 25 years to implement a Jessica’s Law here, primarily due to the need for more prison space.

But \$279 million is only slightly more than the \$240 million in increased funding the governor claims we need for just one year of road-building in the Gem State.

In other words, if just one year’s funding for roads is directed into the prison system, the Jessica’s Law funding issue will be largely resolved.

I remain convinced that most of Idaho’s moms and dads would gladly dodge potholes for an extra year to see their children protected from the likes of Bradley Stowell. And the parents of his next victims – and according to his hearing officer, there will be more – will be outraged that Idaho’s public officials cared more about pavement than kids.

Please call Governor Butch Otter today at (208) 334-2100 with a simple, courteous and firm message: “It’s time for Jessica’s Law in Idaho.” You may email him at

governor@gov.idaho.gov.

[Boy Scouts' molester out of prison, lives in Boise | Idaho Statesman](#)

[Central Sex Offender Registry - Bureau of Criminal Identification - Idaho State Police - Sex Offender Details](#)

If you value the work of the IVA in representing our values, please consider a gift to our work. You may do so [here](#). Together we can make Idaho the friendliest place in the world to raise a family! Thank you!

All Content Copyright Idaho Values Alliance © 2008. All rights reserved. Unauthorized Usage Prohibited.