

Titus House Newsletter

Titus House Ministries, PO Box 2376, Tijeras, NM 87059

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Alice Director of Titus House New Book

THE RESTING HUT written by Alice Benson Johnston is a historical novel. The characters are fictional but the events that challenged American missions in the Philippines are real. During the Vietnam War Americans were beloved heroes who liberated the country from Japan, but later Americans were often viewed as occupying forces. American missionaries have been caught in this perceptual shift. I recommend this



book to those considering a career as a missionary in SE Asia today. I also recommend this exciting book for Filipinos who have come to the "promised land of the US" and are perhaps homesick or disillusioned.

I was in the Philippines several times beginning with first grade before World War II, then as a missionary in the 50s and 60s. The places are real but the story line is fictional. If you are interested contact **Amazon** for a copy listed at \$9.99 or \$0.99 for an e-book. Let me have your feedback!

Court strikes Louisiana's 'Sex Offender' ID requirement

By KEVIN MCGILL, ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW ORLEANS — Louisiana's requirement that people convicted of certain sex crimes carry a state-issued ID card with the words "SEX OFFENDER" printed on it in orange capital letters is unconstitutional, the state's Supreme Court ruled Tuesday.

The 6-1 ruling upholds a decision by a state judge in Lafayette who last year threw out a charge filed against a man who altered his card to remove the label.

State attorneys had argued that the state had a legitimate interest in having the information on the ID card: to let law enforcement officers know the cardholder's criminal history.

But Justice James Genovese,



writing for the majority, said there are less restrictive ways to inform law enforcement than requiring someone to show the branded card every time they are required to produce a government ID.

"A symbol, code, or a letter designation would inform law enforcement that they are dealing with a sex offender and thereby reduce the unnecessary disclosure to others during everyday tasks," Genovese wrote.

He added that the state has a sex offend-

er registry and other methods of notifying the public without compelling the offender to repeatedly self-identify as one every time an ID must be produced.

"As Louisiana has not used the least restrictive means of advancing its otherwise compelling interest, the branded identification requirement is unconstitutional," Genovese wrote.

Justice William Crain dissented, arguing that the speech involved is the government's not the defendant's.

"The speaker is the government: the words are stamped by a governmental agency on a government-issued identification card in accordance with a government enacted statute," Crain wrote. "This is the embodiment of government speech."



There's a global movement of Facebook vigilantes who hunt pedophiles

By Hanna Kozłowska

Tony Blas is a plumber in his mid-thirties who lives in Queens, New York. He has two young daughters. In his spare time, he hunts for people who try to groom children online and lure them into sex.

We first met on a sweltering summer day. I suggested a pizzeria around the corner from Blas' house, but when I was sitting there waiting for him, I realized it might be uncomfortable to talk about pedophiles with children eating their slices at the next table.

We went to the park across the street, and sat on a bench.

"I could've stayed in there," Blas said. He didn't care that the other patrons might overhear details of our conversation.

I shouldn't have been surprised at his lack of discretion, since he regularly shares his work with his 40,000 followers on Facebook, via a page he founded called "Team Loyalty Makes You Family."

He is one of dozens of people around the world who've created communities on Facebook which—in the name of street justice—stage real-life

sting operations to name and shame people they suspect of being child abusers. They broadcast all of it live from their phones.

"Pedophile hunting" or "creep catching" via Facebook is a



con-

temporary version of a phenomenon as old as time: the humiliating act of public punishment. Criminologists even view it as a new expression of the town-square execution. But it's also clearly a product of its era, a messy amalgam of influences such as reality TV and tabloid culture, all amplified by the internet.

The hunters are responding to very real dangers lurking online. Drawing a child into sex can be as easy as an online chat, and child pornography has proliferated with the rise of the internet. It's not difficult for people to view the problem as a vast specter

hovering over children everywhere, even though (or perhaps because) accurate statistics on grooming are hard to come by.

But using social media to name and shame potential offenders is deeply problematic. It has led to a number of suicides in several countries. The hunters' efforts can unravel into violence. They can be counterproductive, endangering ongoing investigations, and the evidence obtained from stings is legally shaky. The hunters harness social networks like Facebook to unleash the all-powerful ostracism of the universally abhorred figure of the child abuser, but they might not have all the facts and context. They have little regard for due process or expectations of privacy. The stings, live-streamed to an engaged audience, become a spectacle, a form of entertainment—a twisted consequence of Facebook's mission to foster online communities.

NARSOL has its own social media platform

NARSOL now has its own social media site at <https://connections.narsol.org>. Connections has the look and feel of Facebook and is intended to provide a way for

people on the registry to socially interact. If you are craving social interaction with a group of people who understand what you have to deal with, this platform may be perfect for you!

And feel free to invite sympathetic friends and family members. (**Connections continue on page 3**)



News of the World suspends name-and-shame campaign The Guardian



The News of the World has announced it will "suspend" its controversial name-and-shame campaign, and will instead continue to promote the implementation of new child protection legislation.

In a statement, the newspaper said it would continue its "For Sarah" campaign, named after murdered schoolgirl Sarah Payne, by campaigning for a public register of sex offenders.

The newspaper's reversal comes after a string of vigilante attacks on men either named or mistakenly identified as those named by the campaign, and sustained criticism of the campaign by police and child protection groups.

A statement from Sarah's parents, Sara and Michael Payne, was read out at the News of the World press conference in London. The statement read: "We support the discontinuing of the News of the World campaign.

"Sarah's Law will give back power to parents to enable them to protect their children. This debate was long overdue and we look forward to hearing the Home Secretary's response to this decision."

The paper, which aimed to name 150 paedophiles, condemned vigilante action throughout the campaign. Its deci-

sion comes after a fifth man became the latest target of vigilante violence.

Surrey police said malicious letters were sent to a man with the same name as a convicted paedophile identified in the News of the World on July 30. Several neighbours living near Gerald Baker, 66, of Onslow Village, near Guildford, received the letter telling them he was the man identified by the paper.

The letter claimed to be from an organisation called Antimatter who said they provided "a service to the community by investigating and identifying anti-social behaviour", a Surrey police spokeswoman said.

On Wednesday, Michael Horgan, 55, became the innocent victim of the same group after it sent 500 similar letters to his neighbours.

Police had to provide both men with overnight protection as well as leaflet-

ing their neighbours to make it clear they were the victims of mistaken identity.

Last night, more than 150 people rioted outside the Portsmouth flat of convicted paedophile Victor Burnett, who was also named in the newspaper's campaign. During the three hours of violence which left a policeman in hospital, Mr Burnett's flat was stoned, a car outside was overturned and set on fire, and a brick was thrown into the face of a policeman.

The newspaper had claimed Burnett was not listed on the Sex Offenders Register because he offended before the law came into force, and was still a threat to children.

However, local police, who condemned the violence, stated they were fully aware of his activities and his whereabouts. Hampshire Police's deputy chief constable, Ian Readhead, said: "The vast majority of people on the streets of Paulsgrove last night were not concerned parents.

"They were people using the current debate over sex offenders as an excuse to carry out active disorder and violence."

Connections

Connections is a place to share your day-to-day experiences, such as your favorite joke, your amazing accomplishments, recent events (happy or sad), or just your current philosophy of life. Like any social media site, you will find people you agree with and people you disagree with. You can choose to friend or unfriend people, or even block people. The administrators have set up basic rules of courtesy, and there is a strict age requirement (must be 18 or older).

This is a site for sharing and socializing.

For about one more week, you can join the site without an invitation. After that, the site will be locked and joining will require an invitation from someone already on the site. (This is to keep people out who only want to join in order to cause trouble!)

To join, simply to go <https://connections.narsol.org/>

[rg/](https://connections.narsol.org/) and sign up. It's simple and it's free. If you are able and you have the time to engage in a little virtual social interaction, you might want to give it a try.

Just remember **if you are required to register your social media screen names or sites**, you will need to register this one too. Questions or concerns about the site should be directed to NARSOL or the site administrators.



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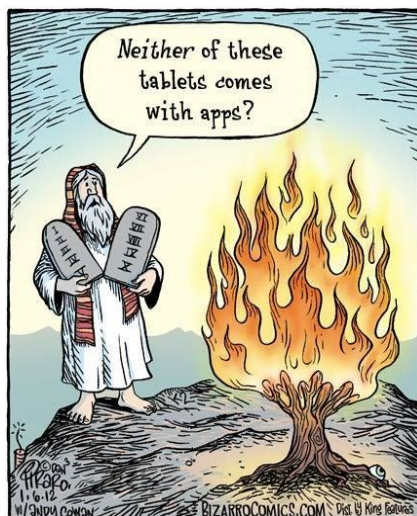
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We're on the Web
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Hebrew 13:3 - Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

Remember if you change your address you need to let us know if you want to continue to receive this newsletter



IN TIMES OF TROUBLE

Have you ever wondered why in times of trouble as a child of God why He has brought you here? We get letters from people questioning the same thing while they are in prison as an innocent person. Then we get other letter from those who own up to their sin and now look for a change in the Lord.

As an innocent person, (we are all guilty before the Lord) we first should say He has brought me here. It is by His will I am in this difficult place. In this I will rest.

Next, we must trust Him that He will keep me here in His love and give me grace in this trial to behave as His child.

Then, He will make the testing a blessing, teaching me the lessons He intends for me to learn, and working in me the grace He intends to give.

Last, In His good time He can bring me out again- how and when He knows.

Let me take a look at my own life. I was wrongly convicted to a sex crime against my four boys. I was sentenced to 105 years in prison, 80 of it was suspended, out of the

25 left I did 14 years in prison because of good-time.

I knew God, but boy did I have many messed up things going on in my life. While in prison I got closer to God and realized He brought me here to teach me a few things. I soon became a chaplain's aide and was blessed with many Christian and other faiths as friends.

Next, He kept me in His love and grace. I was in charge with my own office/room where I handed out religious books and greeting cards. While in prison, I went to school and learned how to use a computer.

Lastly, after I was released from prison my wife Alice and I started Titus House Ministries, which you all know, deal with those who have been convicted of a sex crime. Working in the ministry, I can see how God has formed me. My computer skills for the newsletter is because of prison. God is still dealing with me today but I know I am a trusting child of God. I am saying in times of trouble "I AM HERE" by God's appointment, I am here in His care, I am here Under His Training and lastly it is for a time.

"And call upon me in the day of trouble: I will deliver thee, and thou shalt glorify me". Psalm 50:15

THANKSGIVING THOUGHTS FROM ALICE

- This year lots of special events have been eliminated or down sized. Even the famous Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta was greatly minimized. Events that do happen do not allow visitors. Most of us are either fearful of catching a terrible sickness or complaining about wearing a stupid mask. Paul, the apostle, in II Corinthians says, "I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely and been exposed to death again and again...I was beaten with rods, I was stoned and I was shipwrecked ...in danger from rivers, from bandits...danger in the city" and on he continues with the miseries and dangers of his life. Then as he continues with his tale of woe he finally declares: "I

delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships and in persecutions and difficulties. For when I am weak then I am strong." I urge you to read II Corinthians 12 and take in what Paul's life as a faithful Christian was composed of. What miseries do I have today? Car won't start, what I ordered turned out to be wrong, forgot a relative's birthday, forgot to read the recipe of a new dish I wanted to try and no one cared for the result! When I am tempted to feel sorry for myself, when I can't remember something really important like one of my children's birthdays, then I beat myself up, run around trying to fix things. What did I begin with? Thanksgiving? Oh, yes, there must be something to be thankful about! I am thankful for living 91 years and knowing the Lord since my early teens.



Circle of Concern

Circle of Concern is aimed at breaking down isolation and fear by providing a safe place for registrants and their loved ones to get together, build community, and learn ways to step out and take charge of their lives and overcome the stigma

they face. The Circle of Concern is a group of concerned registered citizens, family and friends that meet together on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We are meeting this month on November 15, 2020 at 3 pm—5 pm. Please bring your facemask.. We meet at Foothills Fel-

lowship Church, corner of Tramway and Candelaria on the far east side of Albuquerque. We encourage and try to help each other. It is a safe place to share our strengths and struggles. We hope you will join us. If you are planning to attend call Don at (505) 315-7940.