

I am here to address this court to show support for my son [REDACTED] who was the victim of a horrible crime and for my wife, my daughter and my youngest son who all have been affected by this

I remember the first day my son started Kindergarten, he was so excited with his new lunch box and new backpack and I can remember telling him to be a good listener and to do good in school and above all to listen to his teacher. I guess that's why I have blamed myself and taken this so hard. I feel I let him down and feel like I was not there to protect him when I promised him since the day he was born that I would never let anyone hurt him. No parent should ever have to feel this way.

Usually we worry about whether our kids will be safe taking the bus whether or not they will get hurt on the playground or if another student is bullying them. We never thought he could or would be sexually abused by his teacher. Us being here today is proof that this can happen anywhere and at anytime and we need to start showing all sexual predators that they will be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law and that we will not stop until they are brought to justice.

Mr. Berresford has taken something from my son [REDACTED], myself and my family that can never be given back and I am up here today in hopes that this court will make sure that he never again is in a position to do this to any other child or their family.

Thank you for this opportunity to speak in front of this court.