

This sheet from the North Dakota Attorney General's Office, Bureau of Criminal Investigation, shows that Joseph Duncan was living in Fargo, ND. He was a sexual predator, and he had served a 20-year prison sentence for a first-degree rape. In 1980, he raped a 14-year-old boy at gunpoint, burned the victim, and made the victim believe he was going to be killed by firing the gun twice on empty chambers. And he went to prison.

In 2000, he was released from prison. He completed his full sentence, and was released without probation or parole. He went to live in North Dakota.

Again, I mentioned him in April of this year at a meeting simply because his name came up on an inquiry I did about who was living in Fargo, ND.

What I didn't know in April, when I mentioned Mr. Duncan, was that 1 month earlier he had been charged with molesting a 6-year-old boy at a playground in Detroit Lakes, MN. He appeared in court April 5 on those charges, a county judge set the bail at \$15,000, and Joseph Duncan was released, promising to stay in touch. Of course, he didn't. He promptly disappeared.

As we know from substantial media coverage in recent weeks, Joseph Duncan was subsequently arrested in Idaho for kidnapping 8-year-old Shasta Groene. Her brother, 9-year-old Dylan, was missing. Their family was murdered upon the abduction of these two young children. The remains of Dylan have now been located. Duncan has been charged with abducting and molesting both children and is also under investigation for the murder of Dylan and the parents.

It is so frustrating to be here talking about this. It is a breakdown in common sense. Martha Stewart was let out of a minimum security prison and was required to wear an electronic bracelet and, apparently, she still wears one at her home under the disposition of the court. But we have known violent sexual predators walking around this country with no such level of supervision.

I have been on the Senate floor many times talking about a bill I introduced called Dru's law. I have shown colleagues a picture of a young woman named Dru Sjodin, who was brutally murdered and whose alleged assailant is a man named Mr. Rodriguez.

Mr. Rodriguez was in prison for 23 years. He is a violent sexual predator. He was let out, even when he was judged to be a high risk for reoffending. We know that 70 percent of the time high-risk sexual predators are going to reoffend. In most cases, their next offense will be more violent. Mr. Rodriguez allegedly murdered Dru Sjodin. The evidence is very substantial. He was walking around with not much more than a "see you later" at the prison door, much like Joseph Duncan. Mr. Duncan had been convicted previously of violent sexual offenses, and then he was accused in April of

molesting a 6-year-old boy. What happens to him? He goes through a revolving door in the criminal justice system to be let out at \$15,000 bail. Martha Stewart is wearing that bracelet and this fellow is turned back out on \$15,000. Then this young girl named Shasta Groene is kidnapped with her brother Dylan and they were sexually molested. People are dead.

Dru's law, which I introduced well over a year ago, has been passed by the Senate once and didn't get through the House. Senator SPECTER and I and others have introduced it again, and my hope is very much that in the month of July we can get it through this Chamber and through the House and get it to the President for signature. It has three simple provisions: One, there should be a national registry of sex offenders, a national registry of sexual predators. This isn't rocket science. Somebody like this who rapes a 16-year-old boy at gunpoint needs to go on a sexual predator registry, and no matter where this person showed up in the criminal justice system, regardless of state lines, the public should be able to know that he is out there. We need a national registry of sexual predators.

Two, before a high-risk sexual predator is about to be released from prison, the local State's attorney must be notified in the event that they believe this person is so dangerous that they need to seek additional civil commitment. That must be the case.

And three, if, in fact, a high-risk sexual predator is released at the end of his term, there must be intensive monitoring by local governments. Once again, electronic monitoring bracelets are not just meant for Martha Stewart. They ought to be meant for very violent offenders like this who abduct and brutalize young children at gunpoint.

We can do much better. It is not only about Dylan and Shasta and Dru Sjodin; month after month, we read these stories.

Jessica Lunsford, 9 years old, Mark Lunsford's daughter, was abducted in February from her bedroom in her Florida home, and they found her body a month later. The crime was committed by a 46-year-old convicted sex offender with a 30-year history.

We know who these people are. They have been in the system before.

Sarah Michelle Lunde disappeared April 9 in Ruskin, south of Tampa, FL. David Onstott, a convicted sex offender who once had a relationship with the girl's mother, has confessed to killing her.

Jetseta Gage, of Cedar Rapids, IA, was abducted, sexually assaulted, and murdered. Roger Paul Bentley has been arrested for that crime. He is a convicted sex offender on Iowa's sex offender registry.

This has to stop. We know who these people are. Statistics tell us that over 70 percent of the violent sexual predators, when let out of prison, are going to reoffend. I am talking about type 3 sex offenders, judged to be at highest

risk, as Mr. Rodriguez was when he was let out of prison and then within 6 months allegedly murdered Dru Sjodin.

When psychologists and psychiatrists evaluate sexual predators to be the highest risk, we cannot any longer say goodbye, so long, good luck at the prison door. We cannot let that happen again. We have to begin protecting innocent people. There are too many children whose lives are being lost.

Again, this is not rocket science. We know what is happening here, and we know how to stop it. Mark Lunsford wrote to me after his daughter was murdered. He said:

If my daughter's death is going to have any meaning, it will be through your efforts strengthening existing laws, by making our streets safe for all children. My heart continues to break as I mourn the loss of my beautiful little girl. I do not want other families to suffer as mine has, and I believe your efforts will go far toward that important goal.

My hope is that Senator SPECTER and many others who have cosponsored this bill that I have introduced will help to pass Dru's Law once again through the Senate, and then work hard to get it through the House and to the President's desk for signature. It is long past the time this country has a national registry of sexual predators, violent sexual predators who all too often are getting away with murder.

HONORING OUR ARMED FORCES

DEATH OF PRIVATE FIRST CLASS ERIC PAUL WOODS

Mr. HAGEL, Mr. President, I rise to express my sympathy over the loss of Eric Paul Woods of Omaha, NE, a Private First Class medic in the U.S. Army. Private First Class Woods was killed by an explosion after stopping to save a wounded soldier on July 9 near Tal Afar in Iraq. He was 26 years old.

Private First Class Woods grew up in Urbandale, IA, and graduated from Urbandale High School in 1997. He moved to Omaha 5 years ago, joined the U.S. Army in April 2004 and was deployed to Iraq on March 8, 2005. Private First Class Woods was a member of G Troop, 2nd Squadron of the 3rd Army Cavalry, headquartered at Fort Carson, CO. Private First Class Woods will be remembered as a loyal soldier who had a strong sense of duty, honor, and love of country. Thousands of brave Americans like Private First Class Woods are currently serving in Iraq.

Private First Class Woods is survived by his wife, Jamie, and their 3-year-old son, Eric Scott, of Omaha, and his parents Charles and Jan Woods of Urbandale, IA. Our thoughts and prayers are with them at this difficult time. America is proud of Private First Class Woods' heroic service and mourns his loss.

I ask my colleagues to join me and all Americans in honoring PFC Eric Paul Woods.