



AFFECT NEWS

Sharing news and support for families

Registered charity no. 1097087

Jun 2017

Action For
Families Enduring
Criminal Trauma

www.affect.org.uk

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Join us at
our NEXT
MEETINGS

Saturdays 12pm

3rd June 2017

2nd Sept 2017

2nd Dec 2017

If you would like
to come please
reply to your
invitation and you
will be given
details.

These gatherings
are well worth
attending as you
will meet other
people who all
have loved ones
facing long
periods in
prison.



Welcome

AGM

Our Annual General meeting will be held on Saturday 8th July in Fareham. The meeting starts with lunch at 12.00pm.

You will be sent an invitation soon. Please come if you can. your support would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like to come to a meeting (Group Gathering) and have not got an invitation, please get in touch and you will be given some information. At these meetings you can talk, or simply listen, to people whose lives have been turned upside down by a crime someone else has committed; someone you love or someone you can no longer love. We all have different stories but many of us find it helpful to hear what others are going through and to know that we are not alone.

The Website

The website is now finished thanks to the hard work of Giovanna and Trevor. www.affect.org.uk

Through the eye's of a child.

The police raided our house to arrest my brother, but no-one was there- we got home to the house smashed up from the police raid. It was horrible. It's not a pleasant thing to find out about at all. It was in all the papers and on the news as well. They even put our address in, which was really out of order. It was really hard. I weren't sleeping, didn't know what was going on. It felt like it were a dream.

16 year old girl, brother in prison.

We miss him; we want him to know what we think of him. We have to let him know in case he does anything stupid-you know- suicide or that. Have to make sure he doesn't do anything like that. If he knows we love him and miss him he won't do anything like that.

Siblings aged 13 and 14, father in prison.

Visiting.

It makes you feel horrible, like you have done something too. They watch you and make you feel guilty just for being there. They search you and make you take your shoes off and you feel stupid and it's horrible. You don't get used to it. You sit here waiting for them to call you, and you feel ashamed.

14 year old girl, brother in prison.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Would you like to become a Trustee?

This involves attending meetings about 6 times a year and helping out with the running of AFFECT. We are a small friendly group and would welcome some help.

If you feel you would like to “give something back”, please contact us via one of the means on the front page.

Help raise funds for AFFECT!

Please contact

www.recycle4charity.co.uk for envelopes to send your used inkjet cartridges for recycling.

For each cartridge £1 goes to AFFECT.

You will need to enter the code:

AFFECT-C8627 to register

MY STORY..

Your chance to share your experiences.

A Mother's Story.

A distraught mother is talking to the writer of this piece.

I loved him so much. I could see him as a newborn baby, as a happy toddler; he had been no worse as an adolescent than any other teenager. What as this the police were telling me? Not my boy, my beloved son! They were mistaken.

Yesterday I was just a mother and grandmother, now I am the mother of a paedophile, a monster. There is no other thought in my brain, just this one terrible thing. I can't sleep, I can't think. If I get from one end of the day to the other it is an achievement.

Where did I go wrong? Was I too strict? Was I too lax? Was I wrong to divorce his father? Perhaps I should have put up with the black eyes.

Each day is the same, only one thought in my mind: total disbelief, total unreality. This thing is so enormous I feel it will blow my brain to pieces.

He is in a prison cell. how will he cope? Will the other men bully him? One hears such terrible things.

How about your other children?

Oh they're fine.

But how are they coping? This is their brother; this is bound to have an affect on them.

Oh my God. I have overlooked them.

The full story will appear on the website soon.

Thanks to everyone who has sent articles and information for the Newsletter. We are always interested in your suggestions for content, so if you'd like to share your story (or part of it), send in comments or useful tips or information please send it in via the contacts on the front page. Any contributions will appear with your first name only, or will be anonymous if you prefer.

The deadline for the next edition is August 15th 2017
(Please try and keep text to a max of 500 words if possible).

Please note the views expressed in this newsletter are those of the writer and are not necessarily those of the editor or of AFFECT.