

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a letter bearing witness to the harassment that I, Tara Polizzi, endured from the Child Protection Agency.

In 1988, my family lived in Windham, New York. While we were there, my stepbrother, Charles Lake, III, and my stepsister, Rebecca Lake, had started living with us full time, not just visiting, as was the case in previous years. I remember being interviewed by a woman named Penelope Fromer, we knew her by the name, Penny. She interviewed us at school and also at home. She asked questions concerning our living conditions at home and also she asked about my parents doing drugs.

The interview in Windham sticks in my mind the most because there were police officers involved. The police officers searched our house while we were being interviewed. I remember wondering why they were there and wondering if we had done anything wrong for this to happen. I also remember wondering why they kept asking the same questions that they had before and when they were going to leave us alone. That was the same day that they took Charles and Rebecca away. We did not see them much after that until we were adults.

This was not the first time we had been interviewed this way in our lives. I remember being interviewed once in Palenville, New York and another time in Saugerties, New York. All of these times, the allegations were dropped because there was nothing wrong, and there was nothing going on, as was proven and stated time and time again, but they still followed us from town to town. As a child, I often wondered why they kept coming to the schools and pulling us out of classes and recesses to ask us the same questions over and over again. I felt humiliated, ashamed, punished and the feeling that something was wrong with us.

I personally feel that this was done out of malice and not for the protection of us. I have always felt that Charles Lake Jr., my step-father, was a good father. He has always been there for the whole family and treated me, my sister and brother as well as his adopted daughter, Tiffany as his own children. Charlie and Rebecca have always been viewed as part of the family and as brother and sister. The tearing apart of our family was emotionally taxing and has affected us through the years. We are a family and we were torn apart for no reason.

Sincerely,



Tara Polizzi

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