



Betty Rotting

Betty Rotting, a great-grandmother of seven, was 73 in December 2006. She was being transported by AMR Northwest, from Kaiser Permanente Sunnyside Medical Center to Providence St. Vincent Medical Center for heart surgery. EMT paramedic of 16 years, Lannie Haszard was in charge of her care and transport.

Vulnerable and alone with Haszard, Betty was unable to fight back when he lifted her gown and began groping her. Haszard then pretended as if one of the wires monitoring her had come loose, and began groping her further. Betty remembers trying to kick him away but was strapped onto a gurney. Once at the hospital, Betty immediately told Al, her husband, and the nurse attending to her. She was told there was no time to make an official report because she needed to be prepped for surgery. Al, in great despair, felt helpless and took off running after the ambulance trying to catch Haszard himself. They had to delay her surgery and sent her home.

After she was released, Betty told her son, a former paramedic and probation officer, about the incident. He was outraged and complained directly to AMR's Operating Manager, who he knew personally. The manager promised Betty's son he'd check right into it and call him back. But that call never came. A year passed and while watching the evening news, Betty saw a report about Haszard assaulting another victim, Royshekka Herring. She felt victimized all over again. She remembers screaming "Oh my god, that's him! They never stopped him!" It wasn't until her lawyers pursued a case on behalf of Betty and five other victims, was it discovered that AMR never investigated Haszard, nor did they contact the police. They simply brushed off the complaints.

In August 2008, Haszard plead guilty and was sentenced to five years in prison for sexually assaulting these female patients. To this day, Betty still has nightmares that she's "trying to get away from him." She says it is still "imbedded in her brain" and that it still feels "ugly." Betty is very proud, however, that out of her horrific experience came some positive change. Because of her case and those of the other victims, AMR changed the design of their ambulances, permanently removing the wall between the driver and the EMT/patient area in back so the driver can see all that is going on in the back of the ambulance.

In a separate case, an Oregon jury awarded 29 year old Royshekka Herring \$3.25 million from AMR after a month-long trial in Multnomah County Circuit Court. The jury determined she was a vulnerable victim and found that AMR Northwest and its parent company were grossly negligent for failing to act to keep Haszard from escorting Herring to the hospital after receiving many complaints about Haszard sexually assaulting women patients.

A total of 35 women came forward saying Haszard had assaulted them while they were trapped in the back of an ambulance with him.



Max Woodbury

Many years ago, Max Woodbury was a field geologist right out of college stationed at an environmental cleanup site installing a water pipe for a vehicle decontamination pad. A portion of the pipe installation occurred above an underground walkway and required an elevated work platform in order to perform the task. While dismantling the platform and pulling a sheet of plywood, he fell from 11 feet up, onto his head and into the underground workwell below. Because he was wearing a construction hard hat, the force from the fall went straight to his neck, shattering the third through the seventh vertebrae in his cervical spine rendering him a C-6 quadriplegic with no function or sensation below his shoulders.

Under Oregon's workplace safety rules, employers and contractors, such as this general contractor, involved in high risk occupations have a responsibility to take whatever means necessary to ensure their workers' safety including providing a harness system or rail/scaffolding fall protection system to insulate workers from such falls.

This general contractor cut corners and didn't provide these basic safety measures or safety training for its workers.

When Max arrived at the trauma center, the instant swelling from his broken bones created a feeling that his legs and arms were floating. He was told by the doctors the feeling would dissipate and he would never walk again or be able to use the restroom naturally. His spinal cord injury affects his parasympathetic nervous system, meaning he can't regulate temperature in his body. He can't naturally perspire when it's warm and is susceptible to heat stroke. When it's cold, it takes an excruciating long time for him to warm up. Max no longer has a working trunk or abdominal muscles so he can't sneeze or cough with any force, leaving him highly susceptible to pneumonia.

His life was turned upside down because of the carelessness of the general contractor. With all of the changes his injury created, he had to relearn every aspect of his life, big and small. Activities like flossing his teeth and feeding himself took months before he figured out a workable method. Even after all this time, his morning routine typically takes three to four hours to complete just to begin his work day. He has caregivers to assist in his morning routine so he can focus his energies on the rest of his day. He works half-time in an office environment. Gone are the days of being out in the field.

Max is now 44 years old, is married and a father of three children. When hearing about the Horton decision, Max was outraged that this decision put an arbitrary, one size fits all cap on justice and would have a profoundly negative effect on other injured workers.



Jon Anderson

Jon Anderson is a 54-year-old father of three and a dedicated research chemist at Intel for over 20 years. He is also a survivor of childhood sexual abuse at the hands of his trusted Boy Scout troop leader while attending Whittaker Middle School in NE Portland. He is one of far too many people who suffered in shame and silence, while decade after decade, an array of authorities quietly shielded scoutmasters and others accused of molesting children.

Proof of the Scout's institutional knowledge of the abuse was discovered in 2012 when the Oregon Supreme Court ordered the release of 1,200 internal files (approximately 20,000 pages of documents) that the Boy Scouts of America tried to keep from public view. Dubbed the "perversion files," the documents detail how from 1965 to 1985, Scout troop leaders and volunteers who were known to have sexually abused children were allowed to continue to work with children. It was common practice that rather than prosecuting the abusers, the Scouts simply allowed the predators to move along to new troops, to molest new victims.

That's what happened to Jon. His troop leader, Steven Terry Hill, had been a known problem in the San Francisco Bay area, so the Scouts transferred him to Portland, where he abused 11 Portland boys in the mid-70's.

Next, Hill started a driving school and adventure club so he could attract new victims. In 1979, the Scouts sued Hill in order to prevent him from portraying his adventure club as associated with the Scouts, but it wasn't until 1988 that the Scouts opened an "ineligible volunteer" file on Hill — meaning he was officially no longer allowed to work with Scouts. Hill was finally convicted in 1991 of sexually abusing youth. The Scouts never reported him to authorities. He served about 20 years in prison and was released in April 2011. He is reported to still reside in Portland.

Jon continues to work with a therapist today. And even with ample access to support and a loving family, this intelligent, well-spoken, gregarious man tried to take his own life, just a year ago, despite his unwavering love for his beautiful daughters. The "monster" still haunts him, even as he works through his traumatic memories and bravely takes a stand for all other victims of abuse.

Cases like Jon's hold the negligent organization accountable for the abuse, the cover-up and the impact on the victims and our community. The cumulative impact helps change the behavior of big institutions in our society. These civil cases force organizations to make systematic changes to stop sweeping predators under the carpet at the expense of children whose lives are forever changed. The *Horton* decision threatens to upend access to justice for survivor like Jon and all Oregonians whose lives have been forever changed by the actions of others.



Erin Vance

It's been 6 years since the unbelievable happened to Erin Vance, but she still deals with the repercussions every day. She was waking up from a minor surgery at Mid-Columbia Medical Center, (MCMC) when she realized her doctor was using her hand to touch himself. She remembers him kissing her on the lips while she was waking from sedation.

"I had no control over what he was doing and he manipulated my hand to rub him," Erin recalls, explaining she's now scared of doctors and hospitals. "It makes me scared to even go to my regular doctor. I have to tamp down that panic whenever it comes up."

Similar horrors happened to at least 12 incapacitated women before Erin's abuser, Dr. Fred Field, a former anesthesiologist, was arrested in late July 2011.

Erin was overcome by "This deep sickness, like shame and embarrassment and nausea and panic ... How did this happen? That's not possible."

But only through individual police investigations were lawyers able to piece together this horrific pattern of sexual abuse of multiple patients that had been going on for years with cover-up's and denials by the hospital administration and staff members.

Erin is proud that her case and the cases of the other brave victims brought about institutional change within the medical center to focus on patient safety and to shine a bright light on this medical community's willingness to conceal and look the other way when a medical professional does something so horrific.



Brenda Tracy

In June 1998, Brenda Tracy was a 24-year old single mother of two young boys living near Salem, Oregon. One night, Brenda and her friend Karmen went to a small gathering at Karmen's boyfriend's apartment, which he shared with an Oregon State defensive back. Also in attendance were another OSU football player, a high school recruit, and a junior college player on probation for armed robbery. Although she could not know it at the time, that night would change Brenda's life forever.

Shortly after arriving at the apartment, Brenda was given a small glass of what she was told was gin and orange juice; after just a few sips, Brenda abruptly slipped into unconsciousness. The next thing she knew, she awoke to find a player raping her and others cheering him on. She was drugged and repeatedly raped by four men. The gang rape lasted over six hours, during which Brenda drifted in and out of consciousness, begging them to stop. However, no one stepped in to save her.

It's been almost 20 years since her brutal, life-changing attack, yet Brenda can still remember how she awoke to the smell of dried vomit in her hair and the feeling of the food crumbs that left indentations on her skin as she lay face down on the apartment floor. She felt like a piece of garbage someone tossed away; like an animal, she was branded, never to forget the callous and congratulatory manner of each man as they took turns raping her.

After reporting the gang-rape to the police and enduring an invasive sexual assault examination, Brenda's rapists were booked and charged. Immediately, the college community backlash began: after two weeks being bombarded with open ridicule and death threats, and after being told that successful prosecution was unlikely because the gang-rape was a "he-said-she-said" case, Brenda agreed to drop charges against her attackers.

In hindsight, Brenda wishes she hadn't dropped the charges, but at the time, she "felt dead inside" and simply wanted to slip away. After the charges were dropped, Brenda reported the gang rape to Oregon State University, hoping that the football players who attacked her would at least be held accountable on campus if not by the criminal justice system. Years later, Brenda would learn that the OSU players received only a one-game suspension for the gang-rape. As their coach, Mike Riley, told reporters at the time: "These are really good guys who made a bad choice."

The following years were hard. Like many victims of sexual assault and rape, Brenda contemplated suicide; the rape and the failure of the system to support her sent her into a tailspin of depression and regret. Slowly and deliberately, however, Brenda built herself back up. After 16 years, Brenda finally began to regain her self-worth, end her silence and speak her truth. On November 14, 2014, through an in-depth article by Oregonian reporter John Canzano, Brenda told her story in explicit and heartbreaking detail. She finally exposed her rapists, naming them and insisting on being identified herself. It was her game-changing moment.

Fast forward to today: Brenda is a nationally known and honored advocate combatting violence and sexual assault on campuses across the country. She has found the courage and voice to stand up against deep and long-standing institutional cover-ups of athlete violence on both the collegiate and professional level. She's even had the steel to sit on a panel next to NFL "All-Pro" running back and wife batterer Ray Rice, who was caught on video-camera knocking his wife out cold in a casino elevator.

Brenda knows that without having these difficult conversations and having the courage to stand up to institutions that protect their profits and players over victims, there will never be meaningful change for survivors of sexual assault in America. In Oregon, Brenda is lending her voice, once again, as part of the Restore Justice for Survivors Coalition, to ensure victims of sexual assault and injury have access to justice – the very least they deserve – when big institutions fail to make their safety a priority.