

In 1996 just a few months after my 16th bday, I was woken in the middle of the night in Tigard Oregon to 3 strangers at the end of my bed. Two males and one female. I was told to get out of bed, get dressed and that "we can do this the easy way or the hard way." I think I was pretty lucky. Friends I met at the program were handcuffed and hogtied. With my parents nowhere insight, I was scared and confused as to what was happening. So I complied. They held me by the arms and walked me down the stair case. I saw my parents by the front door. My mom crying and my dad and sister just standing there. There were no words spoken. I was placed in a car with the female in the back seat with me. We drove to Pdx and waited for our flight. Still no words spoken. When we landed I realized we had arrived in Las Vegas. We got into a car and drove the 2hrs to Laverkin Utah. I was still so scared and upset the the only conversation we had was my kidnappers asking me if I wanted a sandwich and I replied yes. They took me to Cross Creek Manor and dropped me off. They said they would be back to visit, but I never saw them again.

Cross Creek which was part of WWASP is now closed. Closed for the many lawsuits and abuse that all of us girls endured there. I went in at 16 and left at 18. There 22 months. I endured mental, emotional and verbal abuse daily. I was not able to speak to my parents and all my letters written home were read by staff. I wasn't able to tell anyone what was happening to myself or other girls there. I watched girls be physically abused/restrained every day and in isolation rooms for months at a time. I was in an isolation room for a few weeks. This was where you were locked in a room, couldn't talk to anyone, slept on the floor and stayed 24hrs a day. I was given an extremely high dose of medication for my ADHD where I was super high for an hour then a zombie the rest of the day. I watched other girls be forced to take medication. I would be in bed trying to sleep and hear screams in the hallway of the trailer we stayed in. One night I came out to see what was happen. As I peeked my head out, I saw a young girl be injected with medication. The screams stopped that night and there was nothing I could do to help in fear of that same thing would happening to me.

There are so many things that happened while I was there. So many details which would be pages long. The brainwashing cult like seminars based off Lifespring we had to go through or be punished and the tormenting "processes" the therapist would put us through every day. Many "therapists" there were unlicensed and did not have the qualifications to treat us.

It's been 22yrs since I have been out. Yes I am a successful business owner in Oregon, married mother of 2 kids (18&20) but I still deal with the lasting effects of what happened to me back then. I deal with anxiety, ptsd, emotional detachment, sleep disorder and nightmares of being kidnapped again in the middle of the night.

I've spoken to my parents recently about my kidnapping. My parents were referred to WWASP from a therapist at "The Children's Program" which is still operating today in Portland Oregon. They were given Info through "Teen Help" and decided to go with Cross Creek instead of a wilderness program which was offered as well. I believe Cross Creek had their own transport service. I know one of the males who kidnapped me also had a daughter currently in the program. They got a credit for participating in kidnappings and referring other children to these places to be abused. My parents said they were unaware of who was coming to get me it happened so fast. Unaware if the people taking me were licensed or even safe to be with.

I pray for change. I hope no other child has to go through what I did. That they don't have to be kidnapped in the middle of the night and taken to a "school" out of state that is unregulated and abusive. This has to stop.

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