

President Obama

We the undersigned would like to stop the Forced Outpatient Electroshock of Ray Sandford. Ray is a 55-year-old Minnesota resident who is regularly receiving "Involuntary Outpatient Maintenance Electroshock."

On most Wednesdays mornings for the past few months, Ray is woken up early in his room in his group facility called Victory House in Columbia Heights, Minnesota, adjacent to Minnesota. Under court order, he is administered involuntary electroshock.

He is escorted the 15 miles to Mercy Hospital. There he is put under anesthesia, electrodes are placed on his head, and he receives Electroconvulsive Therapy or ECT, also known as electroshock.

Like all other USA states, Minnesota has loopholes allowing citizens to receive electroshock over their expressed wishes.

Ray says the weekly forced electroshock is "scary as hell." He absolutely opposes having the procedure. He says it's causing poor memory for names such as of friends and his favorite niece.

"What am I supposed to do, run away?" Ray asks.

Involuntary outpatient electroshock (IOE) is part of a trend to bring the power of forced psychiatric procedures out into the community.

Your home is no longer your castle... it can become your ward. For example, most USA states have quietly passed laws allowing individuals living at home to be court ordered to take powerful psychiatric drugs against their will. It was only a matter of time until such outpatient coercion included electroshock.

Electroshock itself has made a comeback throughout the USA, and internationally, without adequate human rights protection.

Ray is receiving so-called "maintenance" ongoing weekly electroshock over his expressed wishes while living at home. Falsely believing "new improved" electroshock is safe, the mental health system is at times administering more than 100 "maintenance" electroshocks to a single individual over months and years.

This could happen to Ray. Even his mother, who is a retired nurse who used to administer involuntary electroshocks back in the 1950's, is concerned by the sheer number of forced shocks he has received.

Please stop this form of legal torture.

	Name	From	Comments
1.	Felice Eliscu	Platteville, WI	
2.	Kent Reedy	Reno, NV	Angry and depressed.
3.	Chris Taylor	Lawrence, KS	A loved one was "tricked" into ECT many years ago. There is really no scientific evidence that ECT actually works. ECT is torture. I don't want to see this happen to others.
4.	Paul Bruce-joy	London, United Kingdom	
5.	Margaret Parry	Hamilton, New Zealand	
6.	Christopher Heimarck	Dilworth, MN	
7.	Gianna Kali	Asheville, NC	
8.	marian merlino	fredonia, NY	Ray Sandford, of Victory House, Columbia Heights, Minnesota, Anoka County is forced to undergo ECT (shock Treatments) on an outpatient basis, every few weeks on Wednesday. Both Ray and his mother want these treatments to STOP! He is escorted, against his will, to Mercy Hospital, where several people are usually shocked throughout that morning. Who else but people labelled with mental illness, ondergo FORCED so-called medical treatments. His lawyer, Mr. Jon Duckstad, continues to do nothing about this, his guardians at Lutheran Social Services, continue to do nothing about this, Governor Pawlenty's Office continues to do nothing about this, various notified agencies in Minnesota, continue to do nothing about this. Many people in Minnesota are aware of this violation of human rights, yet they all continue to do nothing!
9.	Emer Byrne	Romford, United Kingdom	I think this goes against all human rights and is despicable.
10.	Jim Gottstein	Anchorage, AK	The forced electroshock of Ray is an outrage. For those that want to learn more about the (lack) of science behind electroshock and the great harm it causes, PsychRights has assembled the scientific research and posted it at http://psychrights.org/Research/Digest/Electroshock/electroshock.h How would you feel if this happened to you or a loved one?
11.	Anthony Connelly	Alexandria, KY	
12.	Metric Clay	Starkville, MS	
13.	Barbara Keiser	Collingswood, PA	This is terrorism and we must put an end to it.
14.	mary ellen maddock	cork, Ireland	
15.	Paula Spart	S Bend, IN	I think Ray's welfare should take precedence over the greed of the doctor operating the "electric chair" that is being used to "treat" Ray & many others against their will. (continues on next page)

	Name	From	Comments
15.	Paula Spart	S Bend, IN	<p><i>(continued from previous page)</i></p> <p>Also I feel that Ray and others should be allowed some other treatment options beside the ECT. I'd be very upset if this happened to me. In fact I personally know people who have undergone ECT. In fact one of them told me that they don't want to do any more on him because he'd lose his memory completely. In fact I just learned from a former roommate of his that he's in the state hospital now. I hope they don't shock him any more and make him into a complete zombie.</p>
16.	Marcel Francisco Javier Tier	Auckland, New Zealand	<p>There are other solutions instead of medications and bararic methods such as shock treatment. These methods cause much harm. People need to know this.</p>
17.	micy lynch	roanoke, VA	<p>every session more and more of the individual is destroyed....it's only a matter of time before this man is turned into a zombie, a nice quiet zombie, who will never be capable of caring for himself let alone gradually becoming more independent....forget about total selfcare....forget about not being supported by the government....definately forget about him being able to complain about the torture done to "improve" him....this must stop.....we will not stop fighting for ray to recieve humane living until his torture is stopped!!!!</p> <p>it has happened to me,only i was fool enough to believe them when i was told it was my best option.....i was supposed to get better and never get sick again....i needed more meds afterwards and also have quite a bit of braindamage.....i thank god i had less then 30 sessions....can't quite remember how manyit took years to recover and stop being a shell of a person.....i'm worse then i was before.....i refused to have maintance sessions.....it frightens me to think of what my life would be like if i hadn't</p>
18.	Claudia Tapia Guerrero	Morelos, Mexico	<p>Electroshock Therapy is absurd... it's proven to be obsolete.</p> <p>If Ray Stanford was my family member, I'd do anything to make his life better... and Electroshok Therapy wouldn't be an option!</p>
19.	Becky Perry	McLean, VA	<p>It is so hard to believe this is really happening. There is no way that people involved would approve of this treatment for their own family. I am so sorry and feel so powerless and guilty for not being able to protect Ray from absolute abuse for someone else's profit.</p> <p>I was diagnosed with depression in the 90's like millions of others. Those millions need to think about the fact that they are one step closer to this type of thing happening to them. You are labeled mentally ill, if you decide you no longer want to take pills everyday, your doctor may not like it and,</p> <p><i>(continues on next page)</i></p>

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19.	Becky Perry	McLean, VA	<i>(continued from previous page)</i> who knows... Think that's crazy? Test my theory; tell your doc that you see every few months for refills that you want to stop, see what happens.
20.	Dean Blehert	Reston, VA	The evidence for benefits from ect are entirely anecdotal. The main proponents of it benefit financially from its use. The evidence that it damages the brain are far stronger than the evidences of benefits. Even when "effective," the person who feels better afterwards soon feels worse than ever and needs more ect "treatments" and eventually is in extremely bad shape or dead. The "pro-ect" studies, rarely do follow-up and the frequent suicides and illnesses that follow shortly after ect are usually attributed to something other than ect by those who make money from selling the machines or delivering the shocks.
21.	Glenn Byrnes	Sylmar, CA	
22.	Stephen Lang	Toms River, NJ	Elektroshock treatment is a Barbaric Ritual that has absolutly no place in Modern Society! I would feel sick and totally Violated.
23.	JOSSIE ROSS	Quebec City- Canada, Canada	NO WAY, ELECTROSHOCKS ARE HARMFUL,STOP, NOW !!.....JOSSIE
24.	Elaina Van Hoy	Salem, VA	It's terrible. No one should be forced to endure this. NO ONE.
25.	Andrew Lipscomb	Boulder, CO	ECT is a controversial treatment; no doubt about that. My concern is not whether or not it is beneficial to Ray Sandford, but rather the fact that any treatment with potentially life-altering side-effects be forced for any person. Movies such as "Requiem for a Dream" provide a crude description of how ECT actually works, and are nowhere near accurate to modern standards. Nonetheless, there have been reported cases of severe memory loss.
26.	Jeannette Vos	HAMILTON, New Zealand	NO ONE should be FORCED to take electroshock treatment. We are no longer in the dark ages. The internet now gives everyone the opportunity to view inhumane practices such as this. Shock treatment is cruel, and is NOT answer to mental health problems. In fact, it makes matters worse. Many people have difficulty with memory later on in life when they get shock treatments. We really need to take a look at alternative treatments such as nourishing and cleansing our lives. On the physical level this means eating living foods, exercise, proper sleep. We can also do this socially, emotionally, and spiritually.
27.	Bill C	Kempton, Germany	
28.	Razvan V.	Brasov, Romania	
29.	Norm DeLisle	Leslie, MI	Ray needs a chance to recover from the brain insults he has suffered. Give hime that chance! Stop the ECT I would do everything I could to stop the ECT

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30.	Ralph Xx	Freeland, Germany	Evil does not get better by packing it in a box that says good!
31.	Nelson Grit	Grand Rapids, MI	
33.	Kathryn Wyeth	East Lansing, MI	I am outraged about forced Electorshock treatment. No one should be forced to receive "medical" treatment. So much for the land of the free.
34.	Nathaniel Wyeth	Bend, OR	
35.	John Smith	Ellenburg Dep, NY	
36.	Edel Behan	Dublin, Ireland	
37.	Alejandra Vega	Buenos Aires, Argentina	
38.	Lisa Eisen	Downingtown, PA	Stop this madness! Enforce the constitution!
39.	Patricia D♦z Garbarino	Colonia del Sacramento, Uruguay	
40.	catherine jester	Vancouver, Canada	
41.	George Zellios	Thessaloniki, Greece	terrible
42.	Betsy Dennis	Roanoke, VA	No one should be forced to undergo ECT, or any medical procedure or medication, no matter how good it is deemed for them. Today when society is supposedly more "enlightened" in welcoming people with disabilities into the general community, a backwards turn like this could undermine the entire ADA and/or other human rights legislation.
43.	Steve Dale	Frankston,victoria, Australia	
44.	Sue Clark-Wittenberg	Ottawa, Canada	Electroshock (ECT) is barbaric, torture, uenthical, and a crime against humanity. ECT always causes brain damage. Harold Sackeim did a study on ECT that proves this. See Breggin.com and see "Blog and News" to read the article called "Disturbing News for Patients and Shock Dcoters Alike. See intcamp.wordpress.com - The International Campaign to Ban Electroshock (ICBE) I had ECT against my will and was damaged by it. I suffer from permanent memory loss and have difficulty learning anything new. Electroshock is an atrocity. On my 5th ECT, my heart stopped and I had to be revived. Saw a person in a coma from ECT. ECT must be banned universally. 100,000 Americans get ECT yearly Worldwide, 1 to 2 million people get ECT yearly.

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45.	M van Rhyn	Hamilton, New Zealand	<p>Electrocuting a person's brain, the most important part of his/ her being, is a ridiculous and barbaric practice. How can anybody in his/ her right mind, even consider ECT damage to someone's brain to be at all beneficial? How can an injured brain function optimally? How can such a person live a normal, secure life if his brain cannot recall, retain or remember well anymore? Have you got any idea of the nagging fear, the sense of frustration and hopelessness that a victim like Ray has to endure every moment of his troubled life?</p> <p>If there is any trace of decency left in you, the torturers of poor Ray Sandford, stop this carnage at once! Leave the man alone! He does not want to be shocked and damaged anymore!</p>
46.	Lynda Harding	Bristol, United Kingdom	
47.	Frank Blankenship	Gainesville, FL	<p>Ray Sandford rights as an American citizen are being violated. It's time we put a stop to this kind of ridiculous and inhuman brutality directed against certain members of our community.</p> <p>What is happening with Ray is horrible. The only way Minnesota can do what Minnesota is doing to Ray is by sacrificing the Bill of Rights of the USA.</p>
48.	Cassandra Langevin	Jacksonville, FL	
49.	michael mitchell	thunder bay, Canada	<p>The blue-blooded SNAKES promoting BARBARIC TORTURE are EARNING a MASSIVE SHOCK UNTO THEMSELVES - CULT-ure SHOCK.</p> <p>ELITE LUCIFERIAN BLIDDLERS (BLINGED-DIDDLERS) are goin the way of the DRACONIANS ...</p>
50.	Rebecca Christie	Whitby, Canada	<p>This treatment is inhumane, and a gross violation of a person's rights. It needs to end now.</p>
51.	Jonathan Gold	Berkeley, CA	<p>40 years ago I thought that when the reports of the use of ECT were widely distributed that there would be a change. Now I am not sure whether people are as yet uninformed of the issue, or whether people are informed but find reasons to justify it or ignore it. I believe it is primitive, barbaric, unthinking knee-jerk quackery. But the point with Ray goes beyond that. If someone wants to allow their physician to treat them with what I hold are brutal methods, that is their choice to make, not mine. I support freedom in medical decision making. But to force someone to accept brutality under color of medicine is not worthy of a democratic society. Since we have a democratic system it is up to us to make sure such abuses as this one in Minnesota do not occur.</p>

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52.	Robert Menzies	Burnaby, Canada	Minnesota's forced electroshock of Ray Sandford is a flagrant abuse of human rights which has brought the mental health and legal systems of Minnesota, and the United States more generally, into disrepute.
53.	Laura Ziegler	Plainfield, VT	After 60 years the safety and efficacy of electroshock remain unproven. The FDA continues to categorize electroshock machines as Class III (Premarket Approval). Continuing to force electroshock on Mr. Sanford over his repeated objections is an extreme violation of his bodily, psychological and spiritual integrity.
54.	angela bischoff	Toronto, Canada	
55.	Inez Kochius	Cambridge, Canada	
56.	Dianne Moore	Toronto, Canada	<p>I am against the forced treatment of any individual. I am especially against the forced administration of E.C.T. or Shock Treatment.</p> <p>When people are brain damaged, they are changed as people. Their personalities, their ability to relate to others, is altered. With every E.C.T. treatment a part of the person is stolen forever. When this is done against the will of the patient, this adds to a trauma, so overwhelming, that it is the stuff of horror films and nightmares.</p> <p>E.C.T. causes brain damage. That is it's known and understood medical effect. How is the State, then, not guilty of assault, when it forces anyone to submit to this brain damaging "treatment" against their will?</p> <p>How is it "good for" any human being to have their autonomy, dignity and human rights so overruled, defiled and destroyed?</p> <p>Please ask yourselves how you would feel if you were forced to suffer these brain damaging treatments which would permanently rob you of your memories. Who are we without our memories? Who would you be?</p> <p>We are our memories.</p> <p>Please ask yourself how you would like it if a loved one of yours were forced to undergo these E.C.T. assaults and suffer subsequent brain damage, personality changes and the deadening of their memory?</p> <p>You would be watching the person you love disappear. And if, throughout these "treatments", your loved one kept begging you to stop these E.C.T. assaults...how could you continue to participate in causing them this harm? How could you, with any heart, continue to willfully cause them deeply traumatic and irreparable damage to their very own, individual humanity? Against their will, how could you continue to administer forced E.C.T. and, as you damage their brain forever, tear away and blunt out their personalities, memories, humanity and their life, justify it? Our society is inhumane when it acts without compassion</p> <p><i>(continues on next page)</i></p>

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56.	Dianne Moore	Toronto, Canada	<p><i>(continued from previous page)</i></p> <p>and without heart toward another human being. When we stay silent, we are complicit.</p> <p>Who will speak up for you when the State decides to force your child to take medications, your spouse to undergo chemical lobotomy or for you to be subjected to forced E.C.T. "for your own good"?</p> <p>By the time the State gets to you, how many will be left to speak out?</p> <p>It happened in Germany in the 1930's. It is happening still. We must all be vigilant to protect the individual from the possibilities of abuse of power by Government or Institutional authorities. We must all raise our voices in protest when we see our fellow human beings being treated in a manner we would never allow our pets to endure. When a Government or an Institution starts to treat individuals in ways that are cruel, unusual and inhumane, we must all speak up to stop the abuses...before it is too late.</p> <p>This is why I am speaking up for Ray, today.</p> <p>To force E.C.T. on anyone is cruel and unusual and inhumane.</p> <p>We are, all of us, human, and therefore must be treated with the dignity which all humans are entitled to.</p> <p>We are, all of us, human, and, therefore, we are all entitled to our human rights.</p> <p>We are, all of us, entitled to have our human rights respected.</p> <p>Please respect Ray's dignity. Please respect Ray's human rights.</p> <p>Please stop forcing these E.C.T. assaults, which are slowly destroying him and damaging his brain...more and more with each "treatment".</p> <p>If it were you being forced to have these "treatments" I would speak out for you too...as one human being for another.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Dianne Moore</p>
57.	Susan Isadore	Silver Spring, MD	
58.	Nina Sprecher	Berkeley, CA	The man apparently still has enough brain left to know to protest against this brutality foisted upon him. Forced ECT is torture and should be illegal.
59.	Aaron Seymour	Prosser, WA	For more impact, add a personal comment here How would you feel if this happened to you or a loved one?
60.	Patrick Maycroft	Holland, MI	Live free or die trying! I plead the 5th

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61.	Nadia Wong	Nassau, Bahamas	I read this petition and the newspaper article in utter disbelief. I can somewhat understand a few ECTs to help him live a so called 'normal life' but Ray has had over 40 such treatments with pain and memory loss. He is not a criminal - even criminals are not treated in this manner. To me the treatment is worse than the illness! I would feel, like I feel now, utterly sad, helpless and distraught.
62.	Bonnie Briggs	Toronto, Canada	
63.	Cheryl Woodcock	Thompstontown, PA	As an LCSW I'm appalled. This is an old ineffective treatment. Why??? would you want to do this? Find a more humane and effective treatment for this individual.
64.	Andrea Hatala	Toronto, Canada	I do not believe that electroshock cures anyone. It is, infact, a form of torture. Maybe not giving people dignity is what makes society and individuals more sick.
65.	Jennifer Anderson	Regina, Canada	
66.	April Stein	Regina, Canada	To Whomever it may concern: ECT is wrong and a violation of many personal basic instincts. The common misconception is that it cures you; it makes you mentally healthy and strong. It does not. It wipes your memory of some of the good and bad things you remember in your life which help a person to become who they are. In essence, it does not cure you; it alters your mind and personality to better cope with what is already there. Many patients feel as if they lost their own self-worth along with their thinking processes. ECT kills so much in a person. It does not make you better; it makes you lost. I had it done years ago with the promise that I could be back home in no time with my children. I suffered from post-partum depression at this time. I soon learned that everything I had become, good and bad, was taken from me. I forgot almost everything from my own childhood, teenage years and my own children. I am loathe to say that any psychiatric treatment really works; I do not believe it does. This one has to be the most barbaric and backwards procedure of them all. There are better ways to help a person become un-depressed or un-psychotic.
67.	Anna Willats	Toronto, ON, Canada	
68.	Christine Robinson	Bronx, NY	One of the best indicators of our society's commitment to justice and equality is the way in which the most vulnerable members of our society are treated. There is no doubt in my mind after reviewing material regarding the effects of electroshock that Ray's forced treatment is destructive and unfair. A person experiencing emotional distress needs compassion, empathy, coping skills, someone to listen to him/her and most importantly someone to believe that their present challenges can be overcome. The relationship (continues on next page)

	Name	From	Comments
68.	Christine Robinson	Bronx, NY	<i>(continued from previous page)</i> between a patient and a psychiatrist should be a partnership invested in finding the most healthy means of securing recovery. This relationship should be characterized by mutual respect and trust. Patients are people too!
69.	Tom Olin	Waukesha, WI	There is no line between abuse and torture after one say no.
70.	Drea White	Toronto, Canada	Forced ECT is a crime against humanity.
71.	Suzanne Puckett	Loveland, OH	
72.	Susan Bernard	Los Angeles, CA	I believe that forced ECT is a true violation of human rights, and should never be allowed under any circumstances. I am appalled and stunned that this could happen in the United States.
73.	Vivian Vukojevich	Camarillo, CA	I am shocked to hear that forced electroshock is being done in the United States, where SUPPOSEDLY we have the constitutional right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. If this can be done to Ray Sandford, it could potentially be done to any citizen. Please end this now!
74.	Jami Lynch	Decatur, GA	I humble myself before this man's courage. This involuntary "treatment" is no different than a brutal rape.
75.	Steve Klein	Montreal, Canada	
76.	Zachary Fortenbaugh	Bellevue, WA	
77.	Brenda Johnson	Savannah, GA	This is disgusting, heartbreaking and should not be happening to anyone.
78.	Eric Roberts	Atlanta, GA	
79.	Jodie Fisher	Zumbrota, MN	Come on guys, it's time. Please take your head out of the "letter of the law" and look at the HUMAN who's life you are irrevocably affecting here. This is not about treatment, this is about_____ (you fill in the blank). Do not continue to allow this man to be used like this. It is time.
80.	Stephanie Mayes	Swainsboro, GA	Forcing a person to recieve shock treatment against their will is wrong. I am a mental health professional who works with severely mentally ill people, so I know what I'm talking about. Please stop shocking Ray Sanford.
81.	Jon Alva Murphy	Athens, GA	The doctors who are performing this are not at all in any way empathetic to this man's plight. He is being taken for a guinea pig. He has lost his rights to being a human being with rights. I very much oppose the actions of the medical profession performing this procedure! I would oppose any form of electric current being placed upon them if they (the patient) disagreed with the plan of the practitioner. This man is being abused and physically over-powered by the medical profession!

	Name	From	Comments
82.	Gabriele Caseti	Bergamo, Italy	
83.	Jan Olaf Ellefsen	Oslo, Norway	
84.	Andrew White	Clareville, Canada	
85.	VALENTINA GASPARATO	ROMA, Italy	IN THE NAME OF HUMAN RIGHTS STOP IT! IF THIS WOULD HAPPEN TO A MEMBER OF MY FAMILY I THINK THAT I COULD DO a-n-y-t-h-i-n-g TO STOP IT!
86.	Judith Haire	Kent, United Kingdom	As a survivor of electro shock I feel passionately that its involuntary use must be stopped This has happened to me
87.	Cynthia Pinsonnault	Houston, TX	
88.	Sabrina Branwood	Rochdale, United Kingdom	Human life is far to valuable to take the risk and people, Doctors as much as anybody should know that. Its horrifying that they still subject people to this kind of treatment, but forced treatment thats far worse!!! I rather die than let somebody i love go through that.
89.	Wendy Corcos	Northridge, CA	
90.	Robert Lawrason	Clearwater, FL	This is in violation of the Bill of Rights which you have taken an oath to protect.
91.	Robert Georgius	Sunland, CA	Dear President Obama, Years ago I did a research paper on the effectiveness of Electro Convulsive Therapy. Starting with the premise that this was an safe and effective technique it didn't take long to learn that the exact opposite was true. It is useless and dangerous under any conditions; with no benefit to the patient whatsoever.
92.	Hege Orefellen	Norway, Norway	Stop the forced electroshock of Ray Sanford. Stop the human rights violations of all forced electroshock.
93.	Jaclyn Horton	Winona, MN	
94.	Shaun Cain	Atlanta, GA	Ray should have the right to deny this therapy if it is not part of his overall program for wellness. The court should take a look at the benefit--is there any increase in his quality of life. If not then they should be stopped with out question.
95.	Donna Silva	Atlanta, GA	
96.	Amy Bookbinder	Leeds, MA	Civil and human rights belong to everyone, under our constitution, including those labeled and mis-labeled by those annointed with the power, sadly, to do that. I admire President Obama's public statements regarding racism in the USA. It is time for him and others to address grievances, injustices, and inhumanity to those violated in horrific ways by forced drugging and psychiatric "treatment," through rampant ableism and lack of REGULATION of the pharmaceutical industry.

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97.	Vasso Tragoudi	Ilion, Greece	such actions violates human rights and doesn't do any good to the health of people, we can see that despite what psychiatrists says.
98.	John B Fleming	Glendale, CA	
99.	Davy Freedman	Hastings, NY	Electroshock is a brutal, damaging torture procedure. When you use it on someone, whether or not they want it, you are violating their human rights - it can ruin their body, brain and life. Stop electroshock now.
100.	Tom Wroblewski	Manorville, NY	
101.	Arnold Lockwood	Chicago, IL	Wow, this is so awful. It almost seems to awful to confront but we have to DO something. Words CANNOT describe how I would feel if this happened to a loved one. Actually, it did, my uncle had this done to him when he was a teenager, it completely ruined parts of his life.
102.	George Prall	Birmingham, United Kingdom	Electroshock Treatment has no scientifically proven benefit. Noone has had their health improved by Electroshock Treatment. Many have been harmed by Electroshock Treatment. Some have been turned into vegetables. Some have been killed by Electroshock Treatment. It is a violation of a person's Basic Human Rights. It is similar to the treatment of unwanted minorities by Nazi Germany.
103.	kelly staples	topsham, ME	This is just wrong - this is a form of torture! This is a slippery slope we need to stop now!
104.	Abdul Maalik Aka Japheth Makana	Nairobi, Kenya	ECT's amount to torture and violates numerous international instruments. The convention on the rights of persons with disabilities reinforces this. Ray has a right to refuse treatment and opt for alternative treatment that doesn't alter his brain structure and cause degenerating damage... Respect his right to legal capacity... his inherent right to self determine... I will feel violated because I am protected by the UN CRPD and it's a legal binding document.
105.	Laura Borst	Houston, TX	Electroshock causes brain damage. Some dissident psychiatrists actually oppose it for this reason. One of those psychiatrists is Peter Breggin(www.breggin.com). Electroshock causes memory loss and reduces cognitive abilities. Electroshock is disproportionately used on the elderly and on women, people whom society has had a history of devaluing. Electroshock was developed by Ugo Cerletti, a psychiatrist who was practicing in Fascist Italy. Therefore, electroshock has a connection with fascism. Fascists often want to damage people to make them more easily controlled. If this happened to me or a loved one, I would be (continues on next page)

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105.	Laura Borst	Houston, TX	<p><i>(continued from previous page)</i></p> <p>distressed because electroshock causes damage, often permanent. I would fear a lifetime of being made dependent on the repressive institution that perpetrated that repressive act. I would likely lose many of my positive memories.</p>
106.	Jim Howard	San Jose, CA	<p>This is cruelty, plain and simple. Any positive effect it might have is grossly outdone by the harm caused. Is it any wonder that shooting electricity through a human body is used as an effective method of both torture and death? Don't pretend that this is anything less than abuse - stop electro-shock NOW.</p>
107.	Pamela G B	Atlanta, GA	<p>This is horrific! How can we still be forcing people through this barbaric treatment. We are so ready to label someone w/a mental disease simply because they operate outside popular opinion and conformity. One day we will find that these people, whom we are torturing, are simply living on a different level than the rest of us. This doesn't make them crazy. It actually makes us the crazy ones for allowing this treatment to continue. Once the world was thought of as flat and the earth was the center of the Universe. One day we will be saying the same type of thing about these treatments that DON'T work. Anyone see 60 minutes last night? Totally destroyed a brilliant man. We need to stop distroyng that wich we don't understand. We are destroying a lot of brilliance that could be our answer....Namaste! Pamela</p> <p>I'm not one that can be forced to do anything, so to have someone force treatment on me would definately trigger behavior that would be deemed by the psychiatric community as anti-social and/or not conforming to that which society sees as normal. Namaste! Pamela</p>
108.	cathy wintersgill	LEEDS, United Kingdom	
109.	Judson Femine	North Bergen, NJ	<p>The people wont tolarate sham prtices of "mental health" Psychiatry do'snt know anything about curing people of their ails. Thet practice barbaric "treatments" Solely for profit, without consideration of the well being of the person</p>
110.	Real Laplaine	Buffalo, NY	<p>Ban electro shock. It is NOT a therapy. It is a brutal pseudo torture technique used to bring people into such a vegetative condition that the psychiatric community can then lay claim to having "treated" the person. If the US government condones shock treatment as "therapy", then a .44 caliber bullet to the head or a fork shoved into one's eyeball is about equivalent. It's time for our political powers to stop dancing around this issue. I challenge ANY figure out there, including the psychiatrists themselves to put the electrodes on their skull and turn up the juice. Exactly -</p> <p><i>(continues on next page)</i></p>

	Name	From	Comments
110.	Real Laplaine	Buffalo, NY	<i>(continued from previous page)</i> NEVER. That's why it's cruel and inhumane. Wake up. People are not going to tolerate this much longer.
111.	Joseph Chase II	Houston, TX	Electroshock is Barbaric. the shrinks don't have a fricking clue what they are doing, they are in the pocket of big pharma & their dope makes things worse. Another step closer to fascist America.
112.	Ulla Nissinen	Helsinki, Finland	
113.	Monica Formenti	merate, Italy	
114.	Gerald L Bliss	Asheville, NC	
115.	George Williams	Burbank, CA	Thi is a shameful part of American history. Simply barbaric and disgraceful. It must stop NOW!
116.	Adam Howell	Durango, CO	Nobody should be forced to take psychotropic drugs or electroshock treatment for any reason. Children should especially not be given psychotropic drugs against their will.
117.	Delores Jankovich	Overland Park, KS	Today's Mental Health System acts as a police force against our most vulnerable people. Shock has made a big comeback and is of huge concern Shock creates permanent brain damage and further traumatizes an already traumatized person. Such treatment is a travesty and scourge upon our people and our country. A loved one of mine has had forced drugging, just as devastating as shock in a different way. Forced drugging is considered torture (and it stated so by the UN). We need to get rid of coercive treatment, especially torture such as shock and forced drugging. We are supposed to be a civilized country but the way we treat our most vulnerable does not attest to that.
118.	Heather Cherry	San Francisco, CA	Please honor Mr. Sandford's human right to decline medical treatment. Involuntary electroshock is a human rights violation. Just as I may decline a particular treatment for cancer or diabetes, so may he decline this barbaric "treatment" for depression.
119.	Hana-li Pendery	Clearwater, FL	
120.	Barbara Taylor	Sunland, CA	PLEASE STOP THIS BARBARIC AND CRIMINAL ACT!
121.	M Martinez	Arcadia, CA	This is criminal. I've know people who tell me the pain they went through. There are alternative ways of helping people to heal themselves. Would you want someone you love to go through this ordeal?
122.	Milena Ferreira	Burbank, CA	Please do not take away the very rights this country was founded upon. I would be very upset that we had been stripped of our constitutional rights and Human Rights and would be fighting to get these back.

	Name	From	Comments
131.	sheila Zarb-Harper, PH.D.	Fairfield, CA	
132.	amanda rogers	sylmar, CA	This is against his Human Rights How would you feel if this happened to you or a loved one?
133.	Linda Batdorf	Clearwater, FL	
134.	Frederique carillo	monrovia, CA	Electroshock itself has made a comeback throughout the USA, and internationally, without adequate human rights protection. This is outrageous and so disgusting!
135.	Richard Gardner	Clearwater, FL	I can't believe individuals have no say on what is done to their own bodies. This is not Germany. This is the US.
136.	Cyndi Gabelein	Lynnwood, WA	This is ghastly. You can refuse life saving treatment like food and water, but you can not refuse brain damaging ♦treatments♦ that have no purpose but to make you more ♦manageable♦. How can this happen in America?
137.	Marg Morris	Keilor East, Australia	Nobody should be forced to take psychotropic drugs or electroshock treatment for any reason. Words CANNOT describe how I would feel if this happened to a loved one.
138.	Stephen Boykin	Tujunga, CA	I am outraged that this type of "treatment" is being used in our modern world. This is Barbaric. ELECTROSHOCK! It's Gross!! They actually put electrodes on the sides of your head and blast you. Can you imagine how horrible that must feel. This is not ok and not only should this occurrence of be ceased, but it should be outlawed.
139.	Tom Sherman	Sunland, CA	Let those who think it somehow makes people better to pass a few thousand volts through their brain lie down and have their turn. If no, then they have no right to subject another to this barbarism. You probably wouldn't have to think very hard or very long about this issue if it were your spouse on the table.
140.	Shellie Benton	Valencia, CA	
141.	David Levitt	Parker, CO	electroshock treatment is a barbaric treatment and should not be tolerated! It needs to be outlawed!
142.	Marilyn Trudell	Glendale, CA	This is inhumane to do such a thing to a man. Please stop this barbaric action, it is horrific!
143.	Pam Joy	Purcellville, VA	
144.	Christopher Palmer	East Sandwich, MA	
145.	N. Sollitt	Los Angeles, CA	American citizen's need to have the right to choose or not choose their mental health services. Forced electroshocking is contrary to basic human rights and must be outlawed. Forced psychiatric drugging needs to be outlawed as well for the same reasons.

	Name	From	Comments
146.	Monica Berndt	Los Angeles, CA	There are many ways to address a mental or spiritual condition -- but NOT electroshock. PLEASE STOP this madness!
147.	Barbara Anne	Cathedral City, CA	Those individuals who are bent on destroying this man and his memory must fear what he knows and could tell others. OR, they somehow have much to gain by the destruction they are wreaking upon his mind, body and soul--and can get what they want in no other way because it is ill gotten. Or both...
148.	Sunja Ackerman	Los Angeles, CA	Electro Shock is not to be condoned. It is mental murder. It is brutal and implemented by those more insane than their hapless victim. You have to be insane to be willing to administer such torture and destruction. I would never condone such degrading treatment on anyone. It never helps. It only destroys.
149.	Robert Belcastro	Burbank, CA	I have not see ANY evidence that electroshock improved anyone's life. I have only see it rob a person of his/her liveliness! With only debilitation as its end result, using this treatment on any human being is barbaric and should be immediately stopped and the victims of it compensated fully.
150.	Paul Huth	San Marcos, CA	I thought this was the land of the free.
151.	Cindy Oleck	Paoli, PA	I have seen the horror of electric shock; I wouldn't want anyone or anything to have to suffer this abuse It has happened to people I know and they have died much sooner than they should have. I would fight tooth & nail to prevent this from happening to me or a loved one
152.	Lucy Cole	Los Angeles, CA	My father had electric shock. Subsequently he begged my mother, "Don't ever let them do that to me again!" He died less than a year later.
153.	Trevor Davis	Los Angeles, CA	Not Okay. Please educate yourself on the destructiveness of Electroshock treatment and stop the forced shocking of involuntary patients
154.	Steve Perry	Clearwater, FL	
155.	Lisa Pezzella	San Diego, CA	This is NOT a treatment! it kills & never has once made anyone better, it's savage & discusting.
156.	Paula Ellenburg	Belleair, FL	Do Not Continue Electroshock on this man. Do not Electroshock this man.
157.	Bruce Will	San Marcos, CA	
158.	Bill Owen	Austin, TX	
159.	Michelle Hod	Clearwater, FL	Stop all electroshock and now. How would you feel if this happened to you or a loved one?

	Name	From	Comments
160.	Irene P. Mele	Clearwater, FL	<p>Dear Mr. President,</p> <p>You must know that this is a violent and most inhuman proceedure. This has been done to control BLACKS in Africa, so they could be worked to death in diamond mines and other mines.</p> <p>I am so outraged to know you support such activity. Please stop this now!!!!</p> <p>How would I feel? My fiance died of an heart attack at age 32 after 15 electroshock treatments. I have never gotten over such a tragedy for him and his family.</p>
161.	Ricky Buchanan	Balaclava, Australia	
162.	Michal Toftness	L-A, CA	No more electric shocks!!!!it is killing people.
163.	Sylvie Gagner	Montrose, CA	<p>Please stop this inhuman electroshock so-called "treatment" on this poor guy right away! How would you feel if that would be done to you or your loved one? Would you agree to be "treated" that way? So, please, respect this being like you would like to be respected. Give him a chance! Treat him the way YOU would like to be treated... and stop the electroshock immediately!</p>
164.	Stacy Walker	Lafayette, IN	
165.	Barry Watson	Los Angeles, CA	<p>This inhuman touture pretending to be medical treatment must be stopped. What is wrong with you people that you allow this to continue? It violates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights! Shame on you! Shame! Shame! Shame!</p>
166.	Tamar Held	Clearwater, FL	<p>Electroshock is so incredibly barbaric it is amazing that any civilized person would remotely consider it! It is something that belongs in the Dark Ages, if anywhere. Cruelty and destruction of a human being is something that every single</p> <p>one of us decent souls need to fight to end NOW.</p>
167.	Paul Hoban	San Dimas, CA	
168.	Carolina Terzi	Sunland, CA	Please stop this abuse!
169.	JoJo Zawawi	Glendale, CA	<p>This is OUTRAGEOUS. It violates the very essence of human rights AND the U.S. Constitution. It is evil. I am astounded to find such practices going on in this country. I thought this type of enforced torture, without rights, only happened in communist or fascist regimes. How totally horrible for Ray to have his life ruined, and to have to experience such incredible and constant pain and horror. How absolutely horrifying.</p> <p>HORRIFIED.</p>
170.	Martha Reilly	Berkeley, CA	<p>This is against out constitutional rights. Self-determination and soveriegnty over our own health care decisions is our right.</p> <p>If this happened to me, hopefully I would be able to feel something. This doesn't help us take responsibility for our</p> <p><i>(continues on next page)</i></p>

	Name	From	Comments
170.	Martha Reilly	Berkeley, CA	<i>(continued from previous page)</i> actions. If this happened to a loved one, I would be terrified about the health effects and the loss of cognitive functioning caused by a damaging procedure.
171.	Mel Powell	Sherman Oaks, CA	
172.	Ron Unger	Eugene, OR	This forced treatment is making huge profits for a few people - and is clearly unnecessary when someone can speak out as clearly against it as Ray does!
173.	Adam Bahat	North Hollywood, CA	
174.	Fred Hall	Plaistow, NH	Electro-shock is brutal and is criminal when used against the will of any living being!
175.	Loretta Walsh	Los Angeles, CA	I can't believe in this day and age that you are still living in the dark ages. STOP with this witch hunt.It only kills his spirit.
176.	Kimberly Coco	sylmar, CA	
177.	Alan Eames	No. Hollywood, CA	It was Edmund Burke, a British statesman, who, around the time of the Declaration of Independence coined the phrase "all that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men (and women implied) to do nothing." Spread the word about this petition so that others you know can do something. There should be 300 million signatures on this petition.
178.	Tobie Greenberg	Clearwater, FL	
179.	Sybil Warren	Perth, Australia	
180.	Howard Bernstein	Los Angeles, CA	This gross and utterly criminal abuse of human rights must stop now!!
181.	S Smith	Pasadena, CA	\$25,000 per treatment????!!! What happened to basic human rights? Somebody's making a killing at taxpayers' expense!!! And for such an inhumane treatment which offers no benefits - only damage. Give some to the psychiatrists!
182.	Charles Capen	Studio City, CA	This is a gross human rights violation. As one of the countries leading the charge against these types of atrocities, we should set the example. I would be appalled if this happened to a loved one. It would be a sad remark on our society, one reflecting a desire to be run by authoritarianism if we allowed this to happen.
183.	Marian B. Goldstein	Hornbaek, Denmark	
184.	Vico Terzi	Casina, Italy	Psychiatric treatment is a barbarism palmed out as "cure". Can there be anything more sly?

	Name	From	Comments
185.	David Hall	Hollywood, CA	I find it hard to believe that this primitive, so-called therapy is still condoned. It is so damaging to people and yet a big money maker so it continues to be used. I saw my Aunt die after shock treatments.
186.	Debbie Victor	Glendale, CA	This is barbaric! No one should be forced against their will to be given shock treatments! What's this country coming to?
187.	Sally Prothers	Orangevale, CA	Dear Pres. Obama, please respect Ray's right to choose his own mental health treatment. It is unconscionable that the govt. would decide what treatment someone should receive, against the person's own wishes. Would you want your daughters or wife treated in this manner?
188.	Gail Gallegos	Carmichael, CA	
189.	Kate Torres	Los Angeles, CA	Electroshock therapy is NOT therapy, nor does it have any therapeutic benefit. This is torture and is a violation of this man's human rights.
190.	Mandy Lawrence	Dunstable, United Kingdom	I think it is an infringement of a person's human rights that they are forced to have Electro Convulsive Treatment. My father had Electro Convulsive Treatment in the past and it did nothing to improve his mental state.
191.	Anita Pepi	LA, CA	This is an appalling violation of human rights and must be stopped.
192.	Dorthe McDaniel	Palm Harbor, FL	Electroshock is the most barbaric, gruesome and inhumane treatment, ever. It should to totally banned. Please make sure that it is banned as it makes a person a human vegetable. If that would ever happen to any of my family memberts I would sue whoever would do such a barbaric thing. I would do whaever it takes to prevent electroshock to any of my family members.
193.	Jeremy Smart	Ashbury, NSW, Australia	This is a human rights abuse, and is horrible. Extremely concerned.
194.	Nelsen Adelard	McComb, MS	For more impact, add a personal comment here How would you feel if this happened to you or a loved one?
195.	Louen Graham	Clearwater, FL	If electro-shock is so good, why don't we see the psychiatrists receiving the shocks?
196.	maurizio duso	mason vicentino, Italy	Please take action to stop forced-electro-shock or Ray Sandford!! This is Torture in The United States!!!!
197.	Richard Ellison	Falls Church, VA	
198.	rick s. hill	rochester, NY	
199.	Karen Schaedel	Lafayette, LA	Disgusting method of torturing... stop it now!
200.	Aris Kourkoulos	Athens, Greece	
201.	Wendy Bolt	Burbank, CA	

	Name	From	Comments
202.	Kara Smith	Athens, TX	
203.	Nancy Pontius	Tucson, AZ	Electroshock against his will is a human rights violation!
204.	Bella Ceruza	Blackburn, Australia	Nobody should get forced electric shocks. If this was threatened to a loved one of mine, I would prevent it at any cost.
205.	Johanna Fiore	Culver City, AR	This is immoral behavior. How would the "therapists" react to this type of "treatment" done to their own family members. I doubt any would find it acceptable. This country no longer condones torture. We should no longer condone this barbaric practice. How would you feel if this happened to you or a loved one?
206.	Linda Howe	Belmont, MA	I would be outraged if someone in my family received endless electric shock treatments, and the power to order them or stop them was out of my hands. Why isn't the agency responsible for Ray's treatment being examined by a disinterested third party? Ray is not a criminal, nor is he violent. Why isn't his wish to stop these treatments being honored?
207.	Ron Moorby	Oldham, United Kingdom	
208.	Matthew Morrissey	San Francisco, CA	
209.	Michael Nass	Marlborough, CT	
210.	Viki ps	glyfada, Greece	
211.	Jon von Gunten	Tujunga, CA	The sock doc should be willing to subject his/her family to the same shocks with the same frequency...if they are so "harmless."
212.	Robert Sauvayre-Tarlow	East Boothbay, ME	
213.	David Dewey	Burbank, CA	Electroshock can only cause disability and devastating brain damage. it is barbaric and evil not theraputic. This is worse than capital punishment. Destroying his mind and leaving him alive is cruel and inhuman. I would flee this country to save anyone I know from this torture if I could. I think the judge should have to experience it before he can order it.
214.	mark smalley	stafford, United Kingdom	
215.	Andrew Buckle	watford, United Kingdom	
216.	June Rosenberry	Van Nuys, CA	Please stop this torture. If it is not torture, then how about we do it to you?
217.	James Huntington-Meath	Chapel Hill, NC	It's indecent to force a person to receive electro-shock therapy. It violates the individual's human rights.
218.	Alberto Rinaldi	Stuttgart, Germany	

	Name	From	Comments
219.	Michael Dewey	Littleton, MA	Nobody should be forced to take a med they do not want. No govt has any right to take away Man's to live as he wishes.
220.	Pier Luigi Contini	Pasadena, CA	
221.	Bob Toftness	Los Angeles, CA	This is an abuse which kills people and Should be stop now !!!
222.	antonino giuffrida	capoterra, Italy	
223.	Y S	Minneapolis, MN	How would you feel if this happened to you or a loved one?I was shocked because it should've happened in a civilized country where claims human right and democracy.
224.	Juan Salas	South Gate, CA	Every person should have the right to refuse intrusive and damaging"treatment",not intended to help him but to reduce His capabilities,nobody should have the right to destroye ,damper or other wise mess with another person mind.please stop the forced ECT on Ray Sanford
225.	Billy R.	Carlow, Ireland	
226.	Maria Monet-Walicki	Philadelphia, PA	The mandatory electro-shocking of this man only serves to degrade him, and is not helping anyone. Electroshock "treatment" is barbaric. What is being done to him is much worse than what has been done with terrorists connected with the 9/11 attack and those actions have been deemed unconscionable and have been ordered to be ceased. Please help this man to be able to live out his life in relative peace, instead of torturing him every week. Please make these people stop forcibly electro-shocking him now.
227.	kristy Davis	Canton, MI	
228.	John Shong	Fairchild, WI	In the state of Wisconsin I do not think this is legal. If it is - it should not be. The patient should be able to have a choice in treatment options. Please listen to Ray's requests in regard to what is acceptable for him. Going down this road of involuntary procedures being administered is very scary to me. This does not make me think that America is the home of the free. It makes me think of the Nazi regime and other political nightmares throughout history!
229.	Angelo Avlonitis	Astoria, NY	
230.	teresa wiles	alexandria, VA	This is torture!!!!
231.	jAYNE alcock	bristol, United Kingdom	Please, please stop this torture of a man in his own home. I cant even begin to imagine - the scenario is horrific.
232.	Niki Fradelakis	astoria, NY	
233.	Mark Eccles	Montreal, Canada	Ray is not a criminal. Even a criminal would have a choice, he is less than a criminal, and has committed no crime. The psychiatrist should be investigated for punishing his-her patients rather than treating them.

	Name	From	Comments
234.	Annette Mathis	Los Angeles, CA	I can't believe that we are still practicing such an archaic method that obviously does not work. The only thing it does is mask the true problem. How about looking at the reason why someone has problems. The only things electro shock treatment does is make a person not there. This is a lazy way of hadling this problem. If this happened to one of my family members I would be very shocked and upset. I would not allow something like this to happen.
235.	Lora Mengucci	Salt Lake City, UT	What a barbaric method of dealing with an individual. Shock Treatment should be abolished. Or maybe it should be put to use on the individuals who prescribe it. It is such foul way of dealing with a human being. Blasting their brain with electricity. It does not help, it destroys. Interesting that there are surgeons who work to prevent brain injury and then you have those who are creating brain injury. Something is very wrong when the "mental industry," is allowed to use this.
236.	Richard Petteruti	Cranston, RI	
237.	Patrick Lusey	Artesia, CA	I protest strongly to the forced application of electric shock, which is a practice that has been proven to create major problems, including permanent loss of memory. There are many other alternatives of therapy available.
238.	Isidor Cankar	Maribor, Slovenia	Stop the Forced Electroshock of Ray Sandford!!!!!!
239.	Maira Neuman	West Sacramento, CA	This is disgusting!
240.	Charlene Reeves	Brunswick, GA	
241.	Wayne Hanson	Sacramento, CA	Electroshock? You have to be kidding. A guy with a fried brain is pretty docile, if that's the objective. Ray Sandford, good luck man, you're going to need it!
242.	Dave Kear	Rancho Cordova, CA	If it's so safe, I think the psychiatrists who order this, should have it done on them.
243.	andrew austin	taftville, CT	this is an injustice that needs to be stopped. i hope to never find out.
245.	Danette Jammer	Yardley, PA	No one should be forced to have electric shock treatment.IT is barbaric and NOT safe. Neither are the drugs the doctors push on their patients. These drugs are proving to be NOT safe long term and the drugs are also used for off label, NOT SAFE !!! I am sick of the companies hiding all the real dangerous side affects from the drugs they make. Let us be happy, sad, even depressed. It too will pass. STOP trying to pass laws that will hurt us. Doctors stop and think before you believe everything a hug/rich company tries to sell you.

	Name	From	Comments
246.	Jeffrey Anderson	Newcastle, CA	You heard us once. Please hear us again. Torture is not allowed in the US. This, whether recognized as such or not, is somehow "legalized" torture. This is not a medical practice and its results are NOT curative. They are destructive.
247.	Dave Silva	SAN PEDRO, CA	
248.	Barbara Wright	Rocklin, CA	
249.	Dan Baltzell	Harpers Ferry, WV	A vulgar and archaic practice used reminiscent of dungeons and shackles which must cease if humanity is ever to evolve.
250.	Rosemary Straney	Oneonta, NY	
251.	Sierra Pencille	Tempe, AZ	
252.	Nick Cobb	San Marcos, TX	It's amazing that most states wont allow people to take their own lives, but will instead allow something so awful as this to take place. Forcing painful treatment on patients? Ridiculous. This doesn't sound like the America I read about in my history books.
253.	Valerie Jaffe	Glenn Heights, TX	
254.	Laurel Temple	Tigard, OR	
255.	Angelica Haycook	South Point, OH	Many states have done away with the death penalty and some have chosen only a specific death penalty to administer because they consider others cruel and unusual punishment. Would this not also be considered cruel and unusual punishment? I would never allow such a thing to happen to a family member of mine.
256.	Vanaheim Group	Withheld, Australia	
257.	Al Galves	Las Cruces, NM	
258.	Patrick Spruill	Plano, TX	Electroshock hurts people, wipes out some of their memory, impairs their cognitive ability. And it doesn't help in any way other than dulling the person so they can't feel their emotions as exquisitely as they could before. What more do you have to know? Also has a high relapse rate.
259.	Bill Simpson	Largo, FL	
			As someone thas received ECT, I can tell you ECT is barbaric and senseless. Anyone that administers ECT should be arrested and put in jail for crimes against humanity.
			This is absolutely unbelievable that a man can be electroshocked in his own home. This is just one step closer to a slave state. Can anyone anywhere show that electroshock is actually therapudic? I sincerely doubt it. Shocking someone's brain does not work. Let's eliminate it completely before more die.

	Name	From	Comments
260.	Tom Brown	SACRAMENTO, CA	My mother and brother were turned into people we never were able to recognize as being normal after receiving such treatments and finally died as a result of such treatments in their lives that turned from hope into apathy.
261.	Lisa Green	Roseville, CA	This is unbelievable. A perfect example of man's inhumanity to man. To the judge who arrogantly thinks it's okay to play God with someone else's life, I ask, "How do you sleep at night?" Probably by taking plenty of medications yourself to block out any sense of concern or responsibility for the irreversible harm you've inflicted on this person's existence. I suspect you're also on the take from the psychiatric and pharmaceutical industries. You will be investigated, as will any others committing such atrocities. You might want to wise up. Laws that take away the right to refuse "treatment" might just come back around to you. You are not above the law. But you are abusing it.
262.	Saurabh Shukul	Iowa City, IA	This is an outright travesty.. no crime or purported "disease" deserves torture and mind erasing, which is what this thinly veiled "treatment" of electroshock is. This is not a communist or Nazi country, the people will not stand for things like this for long. Outraged.
263.	Irene Guntensperger	Upper Marlboro, MD	This is absolutely shocking. Just imagine that would happen to you. There is no conclusive evidence that electric shock therapy is aiding the mental state of a person. Quite to the contrary. I have seen people turn into vegetables and suffer from a lot of headache. Why are we tolerating this as an acceptable cure and allow it to be forced on an individual? If this would happen to a loved one I would be all over it to get that stopped. I believe it would be better for a person to be physically restrained than to have their brains unreversably damaged.
264.	Lisa Doughty	Davis, CA	Power of choice is one of the true freedoms of the individual. To force someone against his will to have treatment such as electroshock is a violation of his personal liberty, to say nothing of his mental health. Have you ever known someone who has been electric shocked? They lose parts of their memory and become more and more zombie like. I know you want to help the underprivileged and at risk individuals, then help stop this type of mental treatment.
265.	Eugenia Dillard	Pasadena, CA	This is such an outrage against personal human rights that I can hardly believe it. The idea of this happening to anyone, let alone anyone I know, is completely shocking.

	Name	From	Comments
267.	Stephen Nichols	Los Angeles, CA	<p>Electroshock of any person on this planet is a barbarism and a crime against that person.</p> <p>There is no value or benefit to the person or to society in this practice. On the contrary, condoning electroshock is akin to condoning cannibalism.</p> <p>Electroshock provenly lengthens recovery times, when done in a hospital. It markedly shortens the expected life span, as well as destroying any possibility of the victim's ability to contribute to society.</p> <p>Electroshock and any promotor or practitioner of electroshock should be fully banned in every country on this planet.</p>
268.	Edith Shokes	Atlanta, GA	<p>Ray is a human being. It would be a blessing if he were treated as one. Please stop this inhumane treatment immediately.</p>
269.	devin jarvis	naugatuck, CT	<p>this is far to barbaric to continue it needs to stop</p>
270.	Andrew Alt	Northfield, MN	<p>Sometimes it seems animals and pets have more rights than humans are receiving. Forced ECT is unacceptable. How would you feel if this happened to you or a loved one?</p>
271.	Melissa Rowthorn	Warkworth, New Zealand	<p>This is inhumane and barbaric and can only exist in a system where awareness of the power imbalance and respect for individuals is so distorted that torture, forced suffering, and long term harm can mascardade as health care.</p> <p>Harmed by those that are supposed to be offering healing solutions.</p>
272.	Amy Wilson	Newborough, Australia	<p>Babaric, evil treatment hidden by fake advocacy. Major echoes of Nazi Germany here, and I'm afraid the US has sunk further down in my opinion of it.</p> <p>Violently angry, disgusted, tormented, and trapped.</p>
273.	Kazuo Thow	Santa Rosa, CA	<p>"Setting a bad precedent" doesn't begin to cover the costs of policy which lets this happen.</p>
274.	Alan Haggard	San Diego, CA	
275.	Glenn Swenson	Carmichael, CA	<p>Electric shock "therapy" is a very intrusive form of "treatment" that is really just a slower method of lobotomy. Nobody should be forced to receive this "treatment" against their will!</p> <p>I remember seeing a psychiatrist on a television talk show receive an offer to be paid \$10,000 for receiving just one electric shock "treatment" and he wouldn't do it.</p>
276.	Carl Watts	Tujunga, CA	<p>This barbaric treatment is not a cure. What evidence is there it's working? NONE. Neither the courts nor anyone else has the right to TORTURE any person. If you did this to a dog, YOU'D GO TO JAIL!</p> <p>You know I've got 9 grandchildren. If you ever did this to one of them and I'm still alive, that would not be pretty. I (continues on next page)</p>

	Name	From	Comments
276.	Carl Watts	Tujunga, CA	<i>(continued from previous page)</i> bet if your grandchildren were treated this way, you'd do everything in your power to stop the torture.
277.	Gary Watts	Christchurch, New Zealand	This form of treatment is inhumane and also barbaric. Also it has been proved to be totally ineffective. Guess there will possibly be an extensive court case in the future for your unacceptable actions.
278.	GORDON LYEW	BIRMINGHAM, United Kingdom	
279.	Daniel Hazen	Albany, NY	This Human Rights violation must end.
280.	sheri eva culver	barnstaple, United Kingdom	In the name of god and/or human decency Please Please Please stop this torture...I know first hand the terror and destruction of forced psychiatric treatment and have amny, many peers who have also suffered this torment in the name of 'It's for your own good.' I've been injected and sedated against my will and it is HORRIFIC. You can only understand the degree of the horror if you have experienced it...this is 2009...how much longer will these torments be used before Psychiatry wakes up and asks "O my God What were we thinking?"
281.	Leah Harris	washington, DC	Every person of conscience needs to speak out against this issue and we will not stop until Ray has his body, mind, and spirit back. We will not stand for the human rights abuses of our sisters and brothers. Every person of conscience needs to speak out against this issue and we will not stop until Ray has his body, mind, and spirit back.
282.	Laureen Downes	Scarborough, United Kingdom	This is barbaric, please stop this now.
283.	Lizzie Walker	Hull, United Kingdom	I wish I were more shocked by the forced electroshock treatment, but sadly these things go on far more than I would hope for. By carrying out this procedure, the staff involved are giving us another example of why no-one should trust psychiatric services - they aren't doing their own cause any favours. Have pity.
284.	Anna Stavropoulou	Athens, Greece	
285.	Bruce Cambigue	Clearwater, FL	Every other country is banning or restricting electroshock as too dangerous and damaging. This is a barbaric practice.
286.	Dorothy Dundas	NEWTON, MA	As someone who barely survived forced, barbaric electroshocks as a teenager, I feel strongly that this inhumane "treatment" should be banned throughout the world.

	Name	From	Comments
287.	Rachel Waddingham	London, United Kingdom	This is a human rights issue. The use of ECT is controversial at best, even medical professionals don't agree on it's effectiveness. There is plenty of evidence, however, on the damage it can cause. There are ALWAYS alternatives, and forced ECT should never be one of them.
288.	Neal Fox	Coconut Creek, FL	ECT is no different than getting hit in the head with a baseball bat. Except with ECT there are no outward scars. This is NOT treatment. It is torture.
289.	Holly O'Neal	Garner, NC	
290.	Gabrielle Arnold	Langnau, Switzerland	This is unbelievable! Any use of Electroshock should be stopped, this is barbaric.
291.	Stephanie Orlando	Albany, NY	No one should be forced to have a procedure that damages the brain and steals memories.
292.	Sarah Baker	Tremont, IL	
293.	art warshawsky	wonder lake i, IL	
294.	elliot eliscu	tucson, AZ	
295.	Paul Clark	Sunland, CA	"First, do no harm". ETC Destroys brain function, tissue and any chance of future mental health. Regular beatings with a 2x4 does less damage and is cheaper.
296.	Tom Burpee	LA, CA	Stop the forced electro shock of anyone including Ray Sanford. It is an evil and unworkable brutality posing as therapy. No one should have to undergo such a ridiculously sinister procedure.
297.	Lubna Ibrahim	Amman, Jordan	
298.	Kenneth Bengtsson	Minneapolis, MN	Every person that I have spoken with who has received ECT has severe memory issues. ECT is not a treatment, it is torture and it needs to stop. Give Ray back his life before it's erased.
299.	Mary Tinat	Sacramento, CA	The forced ECT of Ray Sandford must stop. It is a violation of his rights as an American Citizen.
300.	Familie Rens,Hanke	Hildesheim, Germany	top this barbaric this is Horror!!!
301.	Moni Anonym	Wolfsburg, Germany	
302.	Tracey Simek	Sacramento, CA	I am horrified that this type of criminal abuse (electric shock) is being allowed to continue. Please put a stop to this barbaric procedure. It should be outlawed immediately.
303.	Richard Gobel, D.C.	Fairbury, NE	The IOE Ray is forced to receive is an extreme example of the quashing of freedom of choice. The "freedom to choose" is at the foundation of the rights of free people everywhere, and it is being taken away, a little at a time, until eventually we all will become prisoners of a socialist government. The time has come to end this barbaric practice. Ray...I love you, man!

	Name	From	Comments
304.	Alicia Clarke	Altadena, CA	This is barbaric. This will not cure anyone but just make them quiet. You are covering up whatever is really going on with this individual so that he can never get true help. This would never happen to anyone on my watch!
305.	Kirk Thomas	Sylmar, CA	Anyone who supports such a practice ought to have their head examined, then be given the same treatment. It is brutal and ineffective.
306.	Andrew Langerman	brandon, FL	This is insane and needs to stop
307.	Chrissie Pearlman	Clearwater, FL	
308.	Steven Cyzner	Austin, TX	
309.	emily walet	dunedin, FL	please stop this insanity! this is barbarism. there is no proof that electroshock works to mentally benefit anyone except the people who make money on it. All it does is damage the person to the degree that he can't function. Why don't you go in for a little shock? It is a technique for killing people and a clever way for psychiatrists to make gobs of money. get out of the 14th century where this kind of treatment was the rule of the day. Just plain ole torture.
310.	Laurie Burpee	LA, CA	Electroshock is so wrong in itself - it is totally disgusting but to do it on someone involuntarily is just outrageous. This is sick and should be against the law.
311.	Gretchen Gillette	Reading, PA	
312.	Chris Meyer	LOS ANGELES, CA	This is a barbaric way to "treat" anyone - including animals. It is NOT what we stand for in this great country of ours.
313.	Thomas Dainat	Fair Oaks, CA	I can't believe this is still going on. The Governor has been written to on this several times. Those administering this torture should be criminally charged for gross violations of Human Rights.
314.	AMBER REESE	CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA	This is horrifying! This man has the right to self-determination!
315.	Ryan Reese	CITRUS HEIGHTS, CA	
316.	Maureen Gobel	Fairbury, NE	What is this? Russia? This needs to be stopped in every state that has such a law. Better yet, make every legislator who voted for it and the governors who signed it into law go through one of these sessions and see how they like it.
317.	MICHELLE WARD	CONWAY, SC	I'm certain that by now they, the Inquisitioners, know that they're not helping Ray or anyone like him. I thought mandatory education in History, Science, and Religion/Social Studies taught us something...could it be that the Inquisitioner is uneducated or on drugs? Or, is it that they're greedy, money hungry and attention starved? I mean how could anyone be so ignorant that they would violate the unalienable right of another and damage, (continues on next page)

	Name	From	Comments
317.	MICHELLE WARD	CONWAY, SC	<p><i>(continued from previous page)</i></p> <p>degrade, destroy, defile the body of another...disrespect and dishonor another...to do something to someone against their will, to harm another, and to know what the risks are, to know what the side effects and consequences are, etc.??? They apparently enjoy causing nothing but harm to others...perhaps they're just prejudice or racist -- yeah, maybe that's what it is. Obviously, their goal is to destroy Ray's ability to remember anything at all...he wont be able to testify against them when he's finally liberated and avenged. They will have Ray on a leash...coercing him and/or bribing him to say or do whatever they want. They will go so far as to have an actor pretend to be Ray and say "Thank you...ECT is blessed treatment"...if Ray's not then already retarded enough to say something for a penny, a cookie, a phone call, and a walk in the park! How sickening that they think they can put Ray on exhibit and allow anyone entrance to his body -- I bet they charge a fee or would if they could...would probably give Ray the money even without him knowing where it came from! The Inquisitioners think that they can help themselves to Ray's body -- against his will -- and give anyone else permission to do the same...they actually believe that they have some kind of <i>*Right*</i> to do this! Ain't that something??? I feel like puking!</p> <p>If this happened to a loved one or to myself...I would feel helpless, trapped, violated, defiled, dishonored, disrespected, devalued, in pain, disgusted. I would probably think about taking the law into my own hands if not think about suicide -- if I couldn't elope to a safe zone/"underground railroad". I would also be <i>*very*</i> outraged...would be having -- you know -- NORMAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL <i>*HUMAN*</i> FEELINGS that no one is supposed to be punished for. JUSTIFIABLE <i>*HUMAN*</i> BEHAVIOUR THAT ISN'T SUPPOSED TO BE TWISTED AROUND AND USED AGAINST ANYONE AS A SYMPTOM OF SOME -- GREEDY AND IGNORANT VILLAN'S OPINION OF -- MENTAL ILLNESS!!! Of course, I'm already outraged and disgusted that this is being done to complete strangers (as you can see)...especially, in the year 2009 and here in "The Land Of The Free And Home Of The Brave". Here where we're taught "Keep Your Hands To Yourself!" and "No Means No!".</p>
318.	Ali Shaw	Canyon Country, CA	<p>Dear President Obama,</p> <p>Please stop this barbaric act of violence against defenseless patients. I am in the medical field and Psychiatric electroshock is nothing less than torture.</p>
319.	Christine Dillon	Wayzata, MN	<p>Wow, I'm "shocked." Didn't even believe this was possible. Needs to be stopped -- PERIOD!</p>
320.	robert rootenberg	los Angeles, CA	

	Name	From	Comments
321.	Robert Batchelder	Tallahassee, FL	I am against this process for constitutional reasons for people who are otherwise free to live on their own. I would not want this to be done to me or anyone in my family and don't believe it is at all therapeutic but rather detrimental over an extended period of time.
322.	Janet Grenslitt	Fair Oaks, CA	
323.	Molly Hogan	Rohnert Park, CA	As a Registered Nurse, I have observed the effects of electroshock. It causes memory loss and confusion. It is not a humane or effective way to deal with people who act differently from current societal values. Ray Sandford is pleading to have this involuntary torture end. How can this be allowed to go on? Aren't there laws against torture? Is psychiatry exempt? Can anyone's home be invaded, the resident forcibly removed and taken for torture? This is what is happening to Ray!
324.	K Thompson	Sydney, Australia	
325.	Katherine Imislund-Clarke	Santa Fe, NM	Please get Ray off this hook! This is a tragedy. Something like this did happen to a loved one and it permanently damaged his brain. The grief is terrible.
326.	geo lukats	glendale, WI	Stop the torture...for God's sake...we are not in the middle ages...barbaric treatment...is this another bailout treatment... I would ...icccccccccccccc...
327.	Suzanne Firlotte	Altadena, CA	
328.	Michael McManus	Royal Oak, MI	In the name of compassion and morality this forced treatment must stop.
329.	Duane Sherry	Dallas, TX	This is criminal, and it needs to stop. There will come a time, in the not-so-distant future when those in psychiatry who commit these kinds of crimes will go to prison. History will not be kind, and history will be arriving sooner, rather than later. Duane
330.	Dario Busco	Monteforte Irpinio, Italy	
331.	Sonia heard	bideford, United Kingdom	I have worked in mental health for many years & have not seen much improvement for people undergoing continual shock treatment. short & long term often have zombi effects on people with no lasting improvement. To take away people's rights, whatever their mental state is unforgivable. to inflict "treatment" on someone who is in a different place to the rest of society is unimaginable. most mental health problems arise from actions of childhood mistreatment of some kind. find the cause first. this costs time & money.
332.	Pru Sly	London, United Kingdom	

	Name	From	Comments
333.	Robin Ballou	Takoma Park, MD	How can this be happening? I just don't understand. Bringing awareness to this and other situations like it and standing up for those who don't have a voice can stop this.
334.	Linda Smith	St, Augustine, FL	To Whomever is spearheading this forced ECT, I wish the same upon you one day. What goes around, comes around. Karma's a bitch and you should rot on hell for torturing Ray.
335.	Gracelyn Guyol	Stonington, CT	ETC damages the brain and having to undergo such a procedure every two weeks is the equivalent of torture from which he may never recover. Gracelyn Guyol, Author Healing Depression & Bipolar Disorder Without Drugs
336.	joasok mikaoj	kristiansand, Norway	they tried to talk me in to the same, just because i did not trust them. i would give them their own medicine.
337.	Nicole Webster	Clearwater, FL	
338.	William Thomas Fawcett	Machynlleth Powys, United Kingdom	I absolutely abhor the practice of Ellectric shock treatments and especialy when it is without the consent of the patient. there is also the matter of the frequency that the shocks are being given. A great deal of irepareable damage can and will be done to the brain and the nervouse system of the individual. It is Pittifull and discusting that in this age of technology and medical advancement that such unsafe and Draconian messures are taken against a persons will. Totally inhumain and unacceptable May God have mercy on you who authorise these obscene Punishments. (What has the person done to warrant being punished in such a way) becoming ill happens to us all.
339.	Irene Haglund-Minken	Los Angeles, CA	Please stop this violation of human rights. This is not okay! Just plesae stop it! He doesn't want it!
340.	kris wirth	Hailey, ID	The right to life,liberty.....
341.	Myra Scrabeck	Farmers Branch, TX	This is a travesty. How can this be happening in this country??? We have no right to force this man to endure this kind of inhumane treatment and then to do it without any due process. The man has a right to protect himself from psychiatric intervention that will affect the way his brain functions. My heart goes out to him and I implore you to protect him from further suffering!
342.	Nancy Burke	Evanston, IL	
343.	Norse King	Colfax, ND	Seems like such doctors need a dose of their own electo-medicine.
344.	Ayra Bella	Minneapolis, MN	No one should ever be forced to get these horrible electoshocks! What kind of barbaric age are we living in? This proves that we are still in the dark ages, regardless of whatever "technology" has been discovered in present (continues on next page)

	Name	From	Comments
344.	Ayra Bella	Minneapolis, MN	<p><i>(continued from previous page)</i></p> <p>times. Only truly unenlightened people would ever consider this to be any sort of beneficial "medical treatment" or have any benefit whatsoever to anyone!</p> <p>This HAS happened to a very very close loved one of mine, and it is the most horrible thing to do to someone, especially against their will. Even if they're "crayz" or not in their "right state of mind," it should NEVER be allowed. I think the people who are in charge of deciding these things and administering this crap should be required to undergo the "treatment" as well and then let's see if they still advocate it!</p>
345.	Steven Carter	Stockton, CA	Stop the brutality of Psychiatry NOW!
346.	Cindy Wilson	Clearwater, FL	Would the folks who do this to people like Ray, like it done to themselves?
347.	Mark Glasstetter	clearwater, FL	
348.	Guillom Hines	clearwater, FL	This is absolutely disgusting. Has this world really come to a police state? What gives them the right?
349.	Valora Abbett	Clearwater, FL	<p>I am very much against this! I know someone who received this supposed therapy and her life was practically ruined because of it.</p> <p>I mean getting struck with lightning or being electrocuted can kill you, so how is this a therapy? Doesn't really make sense if you really look at it does it?</p>
350.	Teresa Boettner	clearwater, FL	This is totally unacceptable and must stop!
351.	Geebin Flores	Clearwater, FL	
352.	Eli Goldenberg	dunedin, FL	I've read about many cases and the only conclusion is that it's a barbaric action. I don't know a single doctor that would do it to themselves or loved ones unless they enjoy pain.
353.	Tiffany Mortimer	Clearwater, FL	
354.	Debbie Ullman	Clearwater, FL	What "law" is being used here? I would go to my state rep, the governor and the press and demand help and get as much coverage as possible to bring this to the attention of the public and get a public outcry against it. Also the hospital and doctor need to be sued.
355.	Nathaniel Jessup	clearwater, FL	If it can be done to one, it can be done to another. If it can be done to another it can be done to others. If it can be done to others it can be done to you.
356.	Nico van den Berg	Manhattan Beach, CA	What is the conservator or court trying to achieve by giving Ray electroshocks? A Golden Rule of virtue is "Don't do unto others that you don't want them to do to you." so why are we doing this? It does not serve any purpose. Ray doesn't become better with electroshocks, he becomes worse and it will eventually kill him. STOP THE SHOCKS RIGHT NOW AS IT IS INHUMAN.

	Name	From	Comments
357.	Anthony Heald	Largo, FL	
358.	Anthony Wyatt	Toledo, OH	
359.	Peter Prinsen	Vught, Netherlands	Dear President Obama, Please stop this barbaric act of violence against defenceless patients. Psychiatric electroshock is nothing less than torture.
360.	Orly Moshe	Clearwater, FL	Please stop the modern time cannibalism.
361.	Ed Marsh	Escondido,, CA	
362.	amanda calderon	clearwater, FL	
363.	Jim Olson	clearwater, FL	It is rather not sane to disguise destruction as help. If you have ever been momentarily been shocked by a household item or tool you will notice it was an unpleasant, painful experience. OK, so sit down and we will double the voltage, apply it directly to your head and leave the machine on for a few minutes or so. You call that humane or help? The Russians used it as torture, the American Doctors use it to destroy lives and to make profit. Our tax money should not be spent on this barbarity to our own citizens. This needs to stop now. If you feel it should continue then by all means take a seat and we can wire you to the machine.
364.	Meredith Kirby	Portland, OR	
365.	Gil Goldenberg	dunedin, FL	I don't agree with that form of treatment, it's the same thing as killing the person you are trying to treat. I would be very disappointed and I would do everything in my power to make sure that it would never happen again to anyone.
366.	Lile Milenkovska	Skopje, Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Republic Of	If electroshock was a safe "treatment," I would like to see a psychiatrist that gives it to people get subjected to it, but they never do that, now do they? Man is not an animal, as psychiatry says, and man has all his Human Rights on his side, so this terrible "treatment" needs to be stopped RIGHT NOW!!!
367.	Lyn Marino	Holsworthy, United Kingdom	We do not live in a police stateyet!! My understanding is that this is a violation of human rights and puts me in mind of Nazi tactics. More openness, honesty and explanations are needed to justify such actions. Obviously if it was forced it would be against my wishes. Are such steps necessary to safeguard oneself or others ? How can such treatment be justified ? One hopes that this petition gets some answers and in the meantime such procedures should be stopped until the general public have explanations.
368.	Linda Burnip	Claverdon, United Kingdom	This is appalling in the 21st century and electric shock treatment does not work, it simply destroys people's brains and memory

	Name	From	Comments
369.	Dalit Bar	cw, FL	
370.	Melissa Bradshaw	Dunedin, FL	This is a horrible situation and I'm sure you could not imagine this happening to you or a loved one of yours. Please stop this immediately.
371.	Maurizio Brancaleoni	Aprilia, Italy	I simply think everyone should sign this petition. I'm from Italy but I really felt like I had to contribute.
372.	Ruth Eckles	Bahama, NC	
373.	Leonard Roy Frank	San Francisco, CA	ECT = Electroconvulsive Torture Horrible!
374.	Richard Tim Clark	Vancouver, WA	This is terrible, please stop!!
375.	Alex Woolery	Portland, OR	
376.	Tocara Hess	Cobb, WI	This is an example of perverse ideology, that such extreme methods are still being used on humans or any creatures for that matter. We must move forward and embrace updated forms of treatment and resist any cruel or unusual practices within our community and accross the country. This will send a logical and more humanitarian example to other nations.
377.	Jessica Straub	High Level, Canada	
378.	Rhonda Palm	New Effington, SD	This is an appalling siutation and I would be outraged if involuntary Outpatient Maintenance Electroshock treatment was forced on a loved one of mine living with a mental illness. Something has to change and I hope this petition changes that and persons living with mental illness have control over their own treatment and can refuse any treatment.
379.	Lisa McGaffney	Rothestay, United Kingdom	For more impact, add a personal comment here How would you feel if this happened to you or a loved one? Appalled. My mother suffers from a serious mental illness and i would be incredibly concerned if this happened in the uk. The audacity of these states to pass this law quietly clearly knows no bounds.
380.	Molly Hauck, Ph.D.	Kensington, MD	
381.	Tammy Campbell	Pensacola, FL	
382.	Heather Smith	clearwater, FL	ECT is horrible. IOE is worse - it is INVOLUNTARY. Any form of ect should be outlawed. .
383.	Barbara Olson	clearwater, FL	This is dictatorship, not real care. It is known how devastating the effects are of electroshock treatment as well as the psychotropic drugs,which are handed out like candy. This has to change and it has to change now before it's too late and the population has given up all personal rights.
384.	Jennifer Gardner	Melbourne, FL	

	Name	From	Comments
385.	Dianne Corlett	Minnetonka, MN	Remember. ECT is a PR performance for 1 reason: Money. Do not forget this. It could cost you your brain.
386.	Melinda Johnon	Saint Johns, MI	
387.	Steven Morgan	Montpelier, VT	
388.	margaret hernandez	Fort Worth, TX	
389.	Susan LaRue	Farmington, MO	
390.	Brittany (BadPsych) n/a	Broward, FL	ECT is very barbaric and it shouldn't even be used in today's society. I feel that it's a violation to human rights to force people have to a procedure that they decline to want. Whatever happen to consent? I'm sure poor Ray doesn't consent to this form of treatment. Stop this nonsense. How many more people have to be tortured to a brain damaging procedure in order to stop this act? Psychiatrists only do this because they can collect more money from the tax payers (yes it effects not only the inmate but it effects the tax payers as well) and to private insurance companies? Abolish ECT!
391.	Christian Jacobsen	Palm Harbor, FL	Such Barbary should have been outlawed long ago. There is absolutely no evidence of any kind that would show any positive affect and in fact causes irreversible damage. This is torture pure and simple and only the insane would condone its use. This would never be allowed to happen to one of my loved ones, and in fact it would be concidered equal to a criminal attacking, and would be dealt with as such.
392.	Gregory J. Strasburg	Sioux Falls, SD	
393.	Jamie Drilling	Des Moines, IA	Bipolar disorder is very treatable by the new atypical antipsychotics and other medicines, in addition to the more usual lithium and valproate. The side-effects of ECT, especially when given over a long period of time, are too hard on the body and brain and outweigh any benefit. If I weren't terrified everyone would think it was a manifestation of my illness I would run away and change my name - and the feeling of betrayal would be worst of all, when I had asked for help weth bipolar disorder or another illness and had fewer rights with my health care and civil liberties than I would have had I committed a felony.
394.	Gerry Howell	St.John's, Canada	
395.	Llew Taylor	New Castle, PA	
396.	Teresa Rayner	bolton Lancashire, United Kingdom	
397.	Heather Rochford	Portville, NY	
398.	dostana Ijusic	ny, NY	

	Name	From	Comments
399.	gene gross	Belleair, FL	This is unconstitutional and an outrage How would you feel if this was happening to a friend or loved one??
400.	vince mudie	ladybank, fife, United Kingdom	Let ray decide whether or not to have the treatment. I would be outraged
401.	Tim Brown	Bellevue, KY	
402.	Janna Trevisanut	El Segundo, CA	Electroconvulsive "therapy" must be banned absolutely and completely. It matters not whether it is voluntary or involuntary, although the barbarism of involuntary application matches the Dark Ages in its rank obscenity.
403.	Rick Harlow	Williamston, NC	THESE ARE NOT MY WORDS, BUT ARE FROM THE JOURNAL OF NEUROPSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY The Cognitive Effects of Electroconvulsive Therapy in Community Settings NIMH-funded research study published in the January 2007 issue of Neuropsychopharmacology Author and primary investigator: Harold Sackeim Funding: NIMH grants #35636, Affective and Cognitive Consequences of ECT, funded since 1981 for a total of approximately ten million dollars so far (grant has been renewed through 2009) #59069, ECT Practices in Community Settings—Evaluating Outcomes, funded since 1999 for a total of approximately 3.5 million dollars so far Summary: After 25 years and millions of dollars of federal funding to research the adverse cognitive effects of ECT—25 years in which not one single longterm followup study was ever published—self-proclaimed “world expert” on ECT Harold Sackeim has now reversed his position, admitting that ECT routinely causes permanent memory loss and deficits in cognitive abilities. His new study—the first to be published in which he followed patients as long as six months, and one of his only studies to use controls—validates a generation of patient reports of permanent iatrogenic disability, and disproves Sackeim’s previously published claims that these reports were simply symptoms of mental illness. Other findings: there is no evidence that ECT increases intelligence, as Sackeim has previously claimed; and women are much more likely than men to experience severe permanent amnesia. Significance: Harold Sackeim has been called the Pope of ECT, and for good reason. He’s published more on ECT than anyone in the world, has received more money to research it than anyone in the world, and is the author of the American Psychiatric Association’s patient information statement and consent forms, which are used by most hospitals in America. Through his writing, teaching, testimony—and positions on peer review, editorial, and (continues on next page)

	Name	From	Comments
403.	Rick Harlow	Williamston, NC	<p><i>(continued from previous page)</i></p> <p>funding boards, including NIMH grant review panels—he has more influence on what the profession and the public believe about ECT than anyone in the world. What Harold says goes.</p> <p>Conclusion: This study could have been done at any point in the past 25 years. If it had, a generation of patients could have been warned of the likelihood of permanent significant memory and cognitive deficits before, instead of finding out after, ECT. In fact, there is evidence—from Harold's own statements—that over the years he has in fact conducted studies following up ECT patients for a long as five years...but never published the results. Why not? Why did it take 25 years and over ten million dollars to validate what patients have been saying all along? In other words: What did Harold know, when did he know it, and why wasn't it revealed?</p> <p>Quotable quote from the study: This study provides the first evidence in a large, prospective sample that the adverse cognitive effects can persist for an extended period, and that they characterize routine treatment with ECT in community settings.</p> <p>How would you feel if this happened to you or a loved one?</p>
404.	Keith Jarvis	Sun Valley, CA	ECT is barbaric, destruction and is a punishment more than a therapy. Destroying the human mind to heal it a ridiculous rationale and should be banned altogether.
405.	Kristie Wittry	Denver, CO	
406.	Linda Mears	Chatsworth, CA	
407.	Naomi Fox	Coconut Creek, FL	No one should be forced to take medication or endure cruel mistreatment (electroshock, lobotomies), or even undergo mandatory mental "health" screenings. This is a violation of human and civil rights.
408.	Amy Jensen	Chatsworth, CA	<p>A) No one should be "forced" into a treatment.</p> <p>B) Has sending electricity through someones brain been proved to be useful in any way? Except to turn someone into a mindless drone?</p> <p>I would rather die than have this happen to me. Honestly, I would rather take a bullet in the head than go through a slow numbing torture like this, regardless of any crime. It would be less destructive to that person on a spiritual level to just put a bullet in their head. Anyone who supports this is an animal or is themselves a horrid criminal.</p> <p>The person ordering this and administering this should try getting 100s of "treatments".</p>
409.	Marie Cassidy	Glendale, CA	
410.	RoAnne Chaney	East Lansing, MI	

	Name	From	Comments
411.	Gary Jordan	Los Angeles, CA	This practice is barbaric. Blood letting was less cruel. How can any rational person believe that passing high voltage through living tissue is going to help? Ever get a shock from an AC outlet? Did you feel better? Of course not! This practice should be banned internationally and the criminals using it jailed. They are monsters praying on helpless and confused people. Lastly, a state that forces a person into this bogus "treatment" has already attained "police state" status. Does 1984 ring a bell?
412.	Charles Mears	Chatsworth, CA	Involuntary psychiatric treatment is a form of barbarism. It is time to stop it now.
413.	Albert Paul Shroyer, Jr.	Pleasant Hill, CA	This brutal torture must stop!
414.	Graham Joy	Clearwater, FL	<p>This proceedure has been proven not to work all over the world. I know I worked in one of the so called best psychiatric hospitals (Maudsley Hospital/Institute of Psychiarty, London)and saw a young male teen being carried out of an ECT room by two male nurses foaming at the mouth.</p> <p>To force a person to have such treatment again his consent is not only wrong but barbaric and is a terrible statement about our culture.</p> <p>I would not be happy at all if this were to happen to one of my family.</p>
415.	Gayle Rego	Sylmar, CA	This is a travesty that people are forced to receive electric shock which has been proven to cause great harm to the patient. This is not help - it is criminal - people should have the right to deny being electroshocked!
416.	Mikhail Mentschukoff	Chicago, IL	
417.	Mary Kay Parodi	burbank, CA	<p>I am writing to let you know that I disagree with the forced electroshock of any human being for whatever reason. This action is suppressive and criminal.</p> <p>I would never allow this to happen to a loved one. I would block it and actually never let it get to that point in my family. Electroshock is brutal and criminal and needs to be banned.</p>
418.	Will Hall	Portland, OR	I am against forced electroconvulsive therapy (ECT) and also in favor of abolishing ECT. People interested in this issue should read Linda Andre's book and visit www.ect.org .
419.	Lourdes Marlene Patino	Isidro Fabela, Mexico	
420.	Constant Wanham	Everett, MA	

	Name	From	Comments
421.	sue whitney	Los Angeles, CA	It is barbaric and disgusting. This kills, leaves permanent brain damage and does no one any good except make psychiatry richer! It is extremely painful and belongs in the dark ages. Should be banned permanently!
422.	William Hammond	Estancia, NM	
423.	Michael Gable	San Jose, CA	Electric brain shock is torture. Anyone who believes otherwise should volunteer for himself or herself for "treatment." Not even an advocate will volunteer for such a hideous procedure even while vehemently touting its use on others. Any such person who would advocate it is a deviant or an idiot. We are not an Orwellian society. Yet. But anyone comparing the practice of forced electric shock to the structure of society in the novel "1984" would be hard pressed to make a distinction. Government: Stop fooling around with citizen liberties, stop taking bribes from drug companies and Psychiatric interests and stop blithely passing secret legislation to the detriment of this and future generations. Your position is one of good faith. Act on it. Electric brain shock is torture. Anyone who believes otherwise should volunteer for himself or herself for "treatment." Not even an advocate will volunteer for such a hideous procedure even while vehemently touting its use on others. Any such person who would advocate it is a deviant or an idiot. We are not an Orwellian society. Yet. But anyone comparing the practice of forced electric shock to the structure of society in the novel "1984" would be hard pressed to make a distinction. Government: Stop fooling around with citizen liberties, stop taking bribes from drug companies and Psychiatric interests and stop blithely passing secret legislation to the detriment of this and future generations. Your position is one of good faith. Act on it.
424.	Viktoria Johansson	Uppsala, Sweden	
425.	Darrell Penner	Surrey, Canada	Even if there is a need to occasionally enforce people with some psychiatric conditions to take their medication because they might be a danger to themselves or others, it seems like there is a greater need for second and even third opinions of independent third parties. Given that Ray Sanford's Mother is opposed to his ongoing maintenance electro-convulsive therapy and she has worked in the field, there seems to be something wrong with the checks and balances that need to be in place. An aside -- this has nothing to do with R. Sanford's case as I think he is being done wrong. I could not find unbiased information on the procedure when I looked for it. I could only find information either from the companies selling the machines or from groups who were trying to get the (continues on next page)

	Name	From	Comments
425.	Darrell Penner	Surrey, Canada	<p><i>(continued from previous page)</i></p> <p>treatment stopped. How can one make a decision about whether someone should be getting this treatment without unbiased information? I did not know that I could 100% trust the information from the people who were wanting it banned... likewise I could not 100% trust the manufacturer. Normally I would post my name in the open, but to do so might lead to problems of a professional nature. IE being judged for things that have not happened or taken place. I worry because I know of folk who might be candidates for such a treatment regime. For all I know, at some time I might be and without someone to speak for me with authority, who could I turn to? The politicians can not "practise medicine without a license" and determine medical care procedures and even with health care professionals, there needs to be checks and balances.</p>
426.	charlotte murton	Ilford, United Kingdom	
427.	Melissa Hudson	pickens, SC	I didnt know this was still done!
429.	Shara Rabich	Claxton, GA	
430.	Karen wagner	Hemitage, TN	<p>I am a registered nurse and moved to Tennessee over a year ago--I lived in Texas for 18 years and worked in several psychiatric units part-time over those years. One facility did a few ECT treatments. I the mid-90's I went to Austin and received some research material on ECT from one of the legislative offices. Texas had some legislative monitoring at that time.</p> <p>When I took a job in the psychiatric unit of a large downtown Nashville hospital almost a year ago- May, 2008, I was shocked at the number of ECT treatments that were being done in that facility. The people who worked there were hardened and unemotional to the people who had this procedure done. It was all I could do to work the time period that I did in that place. Please read my personal account below.</p> <p>I know how I would feel because it happened to me over 30years ago.</p> <p>I was in my early 30's and my experience was spiritually based. I became a Christian with very little knowledge of the scriptures and spiritual warfare. I had a pastor who had been in a denominational church for many years but was new to some spiritual things. My husband had grown up in church but had very little knowledge at that time. Because they were not equipped to help me spiritually, I was taken to the psychiatric unit of the hospital I worked in. Because I was in a battle in my mind, very fearful and talking about God, the devil and demonic things, I was diagnosed as psychotic and given a choice of being tied down or taking a</p> <p><i>(continues on next page)</i></p>

	Name	From	Comments
430.	Karen wagner	Hemitage, TN	<p><i>(continued from previous page)</i></p> <p>shot of Haldol, the wonderful antipsychotic of that day. After taking that medication, I had a most horrible experience in my soul and finally went to sleep. When I woke up I was no longer in a battle but became very sad and withdrawn having not even those closest to me for me. I was at the mercy of an ungodly system and with several medications to control me, fell into the trap of the ECT being the suggested treatment when the load of medications did not help my depression. I can tell much more of what I have learned over the years, but that is for further writing.</p> <p>I was spiritually set free from this "depression" approximately 7 months after being "locked up". It was over Easter weekend that</p> <p>God in his mercy showed us in a small prayer group that I had unforgiveness toward a brother for something he had done to me in my childhood. And when that was dealt on that good Friday, 3 days later on the Monday morning after Easter I awoke with the "dark cloud" over me gone . In a very short time I went back to my part-time job at the hospital and have worked for many more years in the profession. I did not have the permanent cognitive impairments that some people have, and I give thanks to the mercy of God and the power of prayer over me to for healing and recovery.</p> <p>I WANT TO SEE SOMETHING DONE TO SEVERELY LIMIT OR STOP THIS PRACTICE IN MY LIFETIME.</p> <p>You must get to the root of depression and a very high percentage of people have bitterness and unforgiveness--even the doctors who are doing their ECT treatments will agree but do not try to get them the spiritual-emotional help they need. They just give them the medications and the shock treatments because the insurance companies pay for it and it good money for them.</p> <p>Sincerely, Karen Wagner</p>
431.	Jerry Gillman	chicago, IL	
432.	Chris Dubey	Middletown, CT	
433.	Nadene Rehnby	Vancouver, Canada	
434.	april keel	gardena, CA	
435.	Yana Yatkovskaya	Chatsworth, CA	Yana Yatkovskaya Electroshock kills!
436.	Annthea Whittaker	Montreal, Canada	No one should be administered any sort of medical attention against their will. Human determinancy over one`s selfhood is very important. <i>(continues on next page)</i>

	Name	From	Comments
436.	Annthea Whittaker	Montreal, Canada	<i>(continued from previous page)</i> Terrible and I am really glad there is a group standing up against this.
437.	Birgit Bratseth	5417 Stord, Norway	
438.	Ari R. Kolman	Kettleby, Canada	Electroshock is not safe hello!!!!!!!!!!!!!! WHY IS THIS STILL HAPPENING!!! What's wrong with the Government allowing this to happen here.. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I Beg all Intelligent and Responsible People to Please Stop Letting This Happen STILL.. How can you when your kids and your friend's kids and your kids kids and your kids friends kids and so forth; Need you to stand up and take action daily for their own safety.. WE'VE GOT TO STOP THE MADNESS AND IT STARTS WITH GOVERNMENTS ALLOWING THESE TERRIBLE THINGS TO HAPPEN!! .. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. Give the Electroshock treatments to Ex President Bush and his administration, as well as all the other Corrupt Polititions, and Animal Abusers out there... LEAVE THE GOOD PEOPLE ALONE ALREADY!!!! I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted. I'm sickened and disgusted.
439.	stan cavers	Sammamish, WA	For more impact, add a personal comment here How would you feel if this happened to you or a loved one?
440.	Hans Lisowski	Lodinghausen, Germany	
441.	Donna Gillman	Platteville, WI	Stop this now!
442.	karen sasaki	Sandy, UT	This is outrageous... NO (O\$) ONE should harm or be making a profit with enforced electroshock. Where are the human rights here? This occurred in my family as a result of a doctor's advice... with disastrous results -- lifelong drug habits (to avoid the recurring side effects) and they were NEVER restored to a state of good health! Mankind needs relief not punishment.
443.	George Davis	new york, NY	

	Name	From	Comments
444.	Dorothy Caruso	Costa Mesa, CA	Ray Sanford is living a nightmare close to what the Jews in the Holocaust did under Josef Mengele, who tortured innocent people who had committed no crime but carried out the torture because it benefited the doctor.
445.	Susan Weimer	Buffalo, NY	I am a retired Liscened Social Worker employed by the NYS OMH. I have witnessed the devestaing effects of psychotropic drugs and electo shock therapy. I have gone as far as testyfyng in court on behalf of a patient refusing ECT. I was severely reprimanded by administration for doing so and told that MHLS "is our adversary. In the future you will refrain from assisting this adversary in any way shape or manner". I simply responded that human rights as a whole is an "ethical" issue. I am bound by the ethics of my profession to advocate for and protect the human rights of my patients. I continued as a strong and, at times, "powerful" advocate though out my NYS OMH years of employment, dispite ongoing attempts to "break my spirit". When I accepted the PROVIDER-RECOVERY AWARD, I acknowleged that, "Yes I am a rebel, a rebel with a cause. My spirit will never be broken!" ECT must be abolished. The "medical Model" itself promotes and condones "cruel and unuusal punishment"....the ultimate corrupt "conspiracy of silence".
446.	Richard Schmaltz	Knoxville, TN	I have known Ray for many years. I have never known him to be harmful to himself or others. If they did it to me it would probably kill me. If I had no way to increase my health through treatment I would rather die. If no one could help me die, I feel I would help myself die. At \$25000 a treatment there must be thousands of alternatives which would cost less and work as well. Yhe issue isn't that ther eis no money to help Ray . . .The issue is who gets it. What benifit is his doctors saying he receives from the treatment? Do his Records show him to be "getting better"? or worse?
447.	Chelsea Habighorst	Holiday, FL	Government control, dont let them do this! inhumane!
448.	Lucienne Lane	New York, NY	
449.	Michael Terkelsen	hov, Denmark	
450.	ahmed m	Bradford, United Kingdom	Stop this... maybe is Ray today but 2morrow is you or your family members. man it didt happen already in 1999, visit freeabdulle.info
451.	Latifa Ring	Houston, TX	This is happening because of Adult Guardianships in America that can strip a human being of all of their civil rights ! They cannot even deny getting electro shock therapy !!! What have we come to in this Country where you can lose (continues on next page)

	Name	From	Comments
451.	Latifa Ring	Houston, TX	<p><i>(continued from previous page)</i></p> <p>all you rights and be shocked against your will ??? Shame on America for deny people their civil and constitutional rights in guardianship. Sign our Petition to stop Guardianship Abuse and Elder Abuse ! http://www.thepetitionsite.com/2/stop-elder-abuse-and-guardianshi</p>
452.	Alek Shapiro	Quincy, MA	
453.	MaryAnn Strauch	Thornton, CO	<p>Freedom and justice for all??? Involuntary ECT is not personal freedom; ECT is not justice, it is punishment. Why has this barbaric practice not been condemned and relegated to the ranks of other out-dated modes of controlling other peoples' behavior? If a person is not a danger to themself or society-at-large, then leave them alone and let them decide what "treatment" they want, if any. Who let the people in the middle of the bell curve get to decide what to do to the people at the ends of the spectrum?</p>
454.	Tatiana Costa	Sao Paulo, Brazil	
455.	Yusuf AHmed	København, Denmark	<p>free Ray Sandford free Ray Sandford</p>
456.	Suzanne Puckett	Loveland, OH	
457.	Deya Harney	Langley, Canada	
458.	Cheryl Richard	San Francisco, CA	<p>Forced electroshock and forced drugging are human rights abuses, the people involved in this should be criminally prosecuted. The thought of this happening to me or a loved one is nightmarish.</p>
459.	Michael Haan	Tacoma, WA	<p>Up to the point that a national consensus was formed regarding recovery from mental illness, it might have been somewhat understandable that forced treatment of any kind was "reasonable". However, since we have now discovered that recovery and resiliency work best outside of forced treatment and with the implementation of "self-direction" it makes absolutely no sense whatsoever to be forcing anyone on any kind of treatment against their will. The shocking of Mr. Sandford's brain is unnecessary, damaging, and needs to stop. An Assistant Attorney General named Malcolm Ross in the State of Washington has essentially hijacked the judiciary with his idea of forced treatment. I have not seen my former wife for almost seven years so that they can continue to force her on the very neuroleptics which have already damaged without my objecting presence. The extent of this is so profound that the Courts go along with anything this guy says even if her life is going to be cut by 25 years and she would have been more likely to recover if <i>(continues on next page)</i></p>

	Name	From	Comments
459.	Michael Haan	Tacoma, WA	<i>(continued from previous page)</i> they had helped her come off the toxic drugs. Having someone's loved one taken to be put to death in a chemical environment is so horrible I will probably never get over it.
460.	Lynne Jones	Burke, VA	Forced " Electroshock Therapy" is a crime against humanity! If this happened to me or one of my family members I would be devastated.
461.	Tim Harris	New Rochelle, NY	The people is the system have proved themselves many times over to be too ignorant and ill and corrupt to have the power to do this to anyone. That's the sad truth. Shouldn't you fight for basic human rights for all and fight against Americans being sold like sheep at a slaughter house? Because that's what's happening. Now, what are you going to do about it?
462.	Nebiahlia Anderson	Bosque Farms, NM	
463.	Holly Bonner	Nashville, TN	
464.	David Oaks	Eugene, OR	See more info about the Ray Sandford campaign at www.mindfreedom.org/ray
465.	ron stemetzki	pennsauken, NJ	
466.	Glenn Levy	Wilmette, IL	
467.	Sue Muscate	Rochester, NY	Every patient deserves a second opinion regarding his care, his medicine, and his treatments. One can't take away recourse for change and individual rights without destroying the individual and the nation that he inhabits.
468.	Rebeckah Neer	Joliet, IL	I Suffer From Bipolar Disorder II And Depression And I Sympathize Deeply With Mr. Sandford. I Have Had My Own Mistreatment From A Psychiatrist And It Should Never Be Tolerated! Just Because We May Have A Mental Disorder Does NOT Mean We Cannot Have Control Of Our Rights! A Person Has The Right To Their Own Medical Advocacy And If Not Then A Proper, Trustworthy Licensed Medical Advocate Or Family Member Or Friend Should Have Partial Shared Control So Abuse Does Not Happen Anymore! This Has Happened To My Grandmother Many, Many Years Ago, Shock Therapy, Etc. And To Learn It Is Still Going On Sickens Me To No End! We Are Not Guinea Pigs Nor Experiments! We Are Not Just Another Case File And Number! We Are Human Beings With Thoughts And Feelings And Emotions And RIGHTS! Trees Have More Rights Than We Do, Ridiculous!
469.	Marty Evans	Vandalia, IL	
470.	david lanier	salt lake city, UT	

	Name	From	Comments
471.	Melissa Hollander	New York, NY	<p>I'm 26 years old and had my first hospitalization at 17, which led to me being diagnosed as depressed...over the next 9 years, I've also received a diagnosis of bipolar disorder and borderline personality disorder (which I currently have). I've been on more meds than I can count, from Lithium which led to me shaking like someone who has Parkinson's disease, to Risperdal which caused me to lactate. I CANNOT possibly imagine what someone who experiences ECT goes thru. To me, it's extremely inhumane!!!</p> <p>I would feel angry, betrayed, and hopeless.</p>
472.	Tiffany Light	Lehighton, PA	<p>How can this be happening to people in the "land of the free" forced electroshock therapy is cruel and unusual. Words cannot express the damage this does to someone.</p>