



"WELCOME BACK, CONGRESSMAN! THERE'S SOMEONE HERE WHO'S BEEN WAITING TO SEE YOU."

Signe Wilkinson — Mercury News

Letters to the editor

The Pride children aren't the only victims

It was nice to see a story in the Mercury News about children who were victimized by the lawlessness of the county welfare department. The county should have provided the Pride children the welfare payments to which they were legally entitled. To be eligible for welfare one doesn't need an address — one must be needy.

The Pride children are not the lone victims of the lawlessness of the Santa Clara County Department of Social Services (the poor refer it as the Department of Punitive Services). There are families with no food and no money who have to wait for a month or more

before they are even seen by welfare workers, when the law requires that they be seen and helped right away.

We think that Don Pride was one of the best fathers we have ever witnessed. He was willing to risk going back to jail to help his children, who were foodless and homeless because of being illegally denied welfare benefits.

And he did go back to jail. How about the welfare workers and their bosses who broke the law by not providing welfare benefits to the Pride children? Did they go to jail? No. They are still getting paid by the county to break the laws

governing the welfare system.

The people who send money to the Pride children should know that there are many families who are living in cars and children who have nothing to eat and their names are not always in the paper.

We condemn the Mercury News for returning contributions made to the Pride family because the father was an escapee. Those people mailed those checks for the Pride children. The money should have been put in a trust fund so they could reunite with their parents in due time.

— Kevin M. Aslanian
President, Welfare Recipients League

San Jose News

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Editorials

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