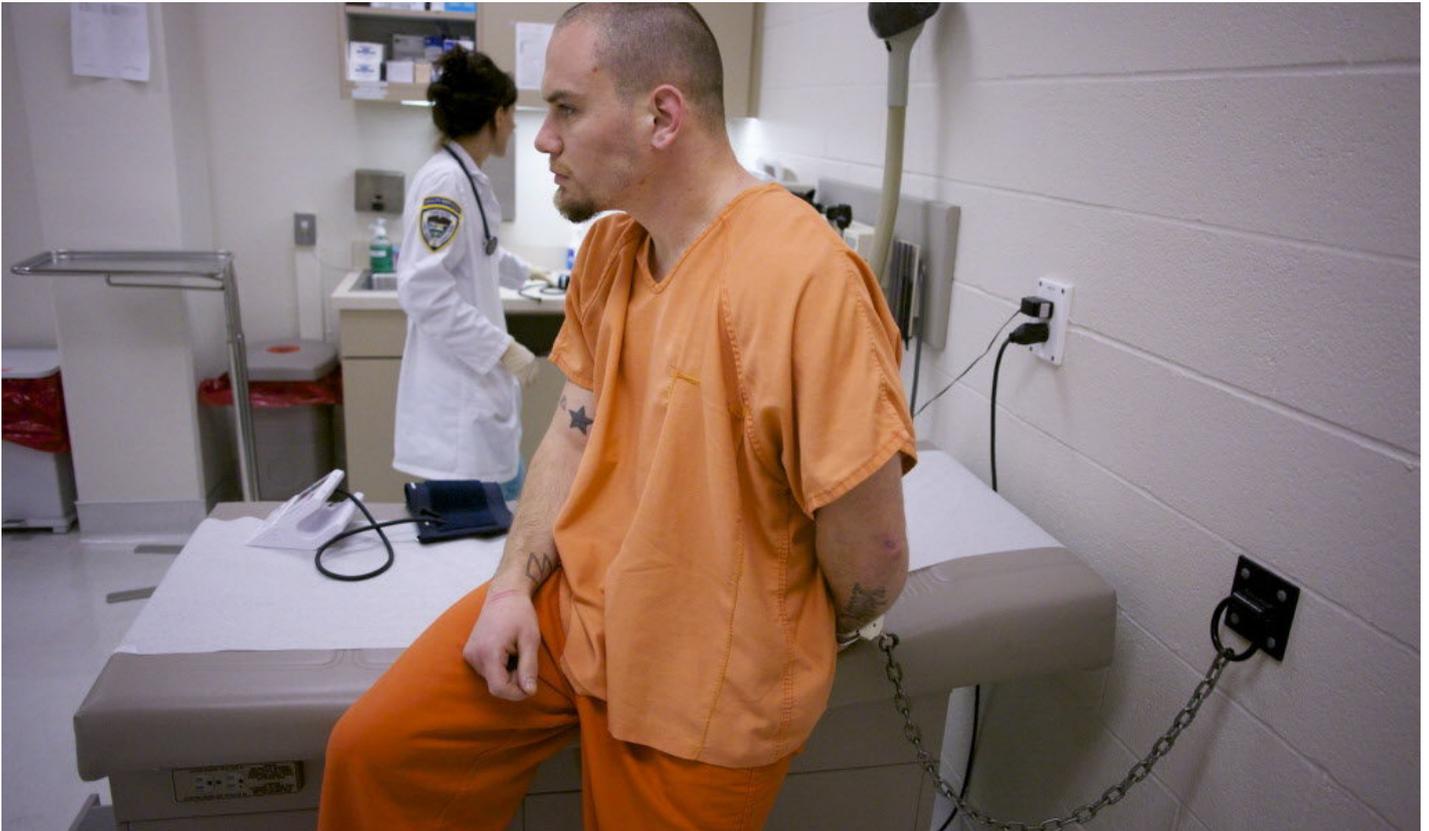


# WE ARE ALLOWING INMATES TO SUFFER WITH PAINFUL WITHDRAWALS IN U.S. JAILS

DELYNN TURNER



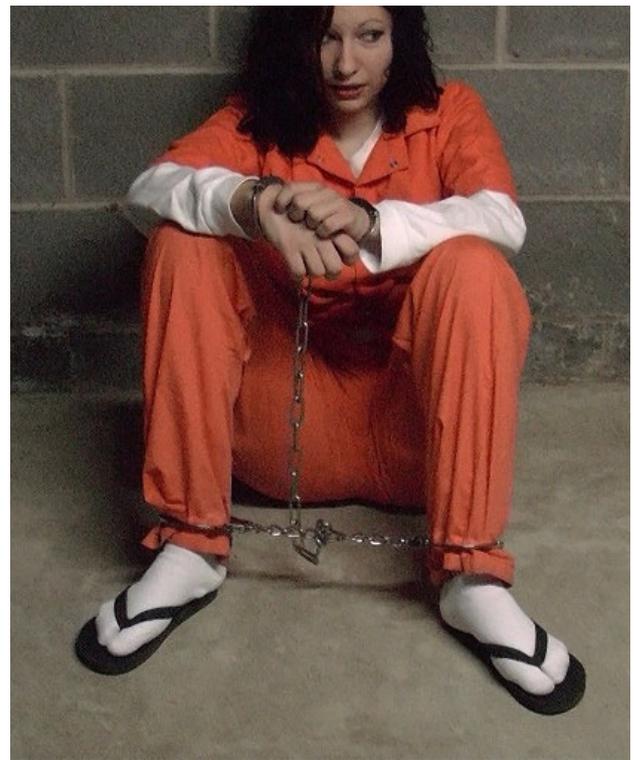
I want to first thank Chris Elkins, M.A., for his awesome article "The Opioid Epidemic", where his journalism writing gives the reader a glimpse into the history of how it all started taking you through the introduction of heroin, its era of pain, lobbying, marketing, prescribing, and the epidemic today of the damage that this drug has done to individuals, families and society as a whole. We have become a nation of pill poppers that virtually rely on drugs for almost everything in order to suppress feelings. The drugs prevent the individual from using logic and reasoning to challenge any irrational thinking. The overwhelmed and stress thus leaving the addicted person to feel anxiety/depression and other psychosomatic symptoms which I myself will equate to the Generation Me. Many of us may have a friend or relative part of the Opioid Epidemic. To many people are looking for instant success, entrepreneurship via internet, money and goals, high expectations that lead to let downs a bunch of negative thinking and empty feelings and pain. The addict seeks ways to fine tune their feelings and disturbing thoughts by suppressing them with drugs that lead to addiction from pills of all sorts now back to the heroin explosion in our country. The addict is looking for that first high and would do almost anything or commit crimes to money for purchase drugs.

What we are now witnessing is the toll that addiction has taking on our young people due to heartless big Pharma companies that started out with good intentions on treating pain with powerful narcotics that help many patients suffering with chronic pain. New Ideas to treat pain have become a money maker for the Pharmaceutical companies since 1996 have raked in over billions of dollars from the opioid crisis. In 2016 it was estimated that 52,898 Americans have died from overdose of opioid of heroin, OxyContin and Fentanyl combinations. The death toll climbed in 2017 to 64,070 as more people are now turning to heroin that is laced with fentanyl being made in laboratories in china and transported through various methods to the U.S. Many of these addicts are unaware that their drug of choice is laced and now have to depend on naloxone nasal spray (Narcan) to reverse the overdose. The Sackler family, Forbes richest families in America worth 14 billion dollars are owners of one of the largest opiate producing companies can be blamed for the Opioid Addiction Epidemic deluding doctors and patients about the potential for abuse and addiction. We hear about this family, but the media shields them from the public. We cannot continue to discount the addicted individual because they became addicted.

**families are left to deal with the psychological trauma that not only comes with losing a child in this manner, but it could have been prevented if more treatment funding is allocated to treatment in the prison system.**

**BY DELYNN TURNER**

what is happening here in the richest country in the world is heartless and shameful. Many of these addicts are and are not coming from poverty but all walks of life. Drug addiction does not discriminate. As prescription pills prescriptions are decreasing, cheap prices of heroin are on the rise. DEA crackdowns and over 60 cities have pending or settled lawsuits against the pharma manufacturers for misleading marketing practices. Many of our addicts have comorbidity diagnosis meaning that they may also suffer with mental illness. This article concentrates more on the groups of addicts that are whining up in the prison systems mainly due to minor crimes stemming from their addictions. There are 2/3 of the jail population of inmates entering the jails addicted and receiving no medical attention from personnel staff and some are dying on cots or floors from addiction withdrawal. Once detained the addicts body began to experience withdrawal symptoms that consists of nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, sweating, anxiety, insomnia, poor appetite, racing heart, hallucinations, delirium tremors, strokes and panic and heart attacks. If these symptoms are not addressed, the addict can and die.



***"Our large prison systems and private jails is not fully equipped with the medical staff to handle the influx of addicts***

Numerous death in prisons are occurring in the county jails. If Taylor Tabor who died in Adams County jail on May 25 parents had any inkling that their though love tactics would mean that they will never ever again get to set their eyes on their handsome young 25-year-old son, I am more than certain that they would have paid his 300.00 bail. Taylor who needed rehabilitation and not thrown in jail left behind a wife and a 5-year-old son. Maybe parents of young kids that are addicts today are not educated on the withdrawals that happen to the body when the drug is not present. Taylors body suffered dehydration due to constant vomiting and diarrhea. The body goes into a shock and begins the detox system that can be very severe and began as quickly as 8 hours without the opiate or benzodiazepines in the body. Not only are they dying from the withdrawal, but they are also committing suicide due to the pain from the withdrawal.