

Heartless Backup

TV-30

Audio	Back up
<p>Gretchen: I just didn't think it would happen to me. I was drugged and raped.</p> <p>VO: Under Mayor Sarah Palin, women like Gretchen were forced to pay up to \$1200 for the emergency exams used to prosecute their attackers. [on screen: Charged rape victims for exams Source: CNN, September 22, 2008]</p> <p>VO: In the Senate, John McCain voted against legislation to protect women from these same heartless policies. [on screen: Voted to let governments charge rape victims Source: Congressional Record, August 25, 1994]</p>	<p>According to CNN, "Alaska Gov. Sarah Palin's hometown required women to pay for their own rape examinations while she was mayor, a practice her police chief fought to keep as late as 2000.... (Former Alaska State Rep Eric Croft) said victims' advocates suggested he introduce legislation as a way to shame cities into changing their practice, and Wasilla resisted." [CNN, 9/22/08; http://www.cnn.com/2008/POLITICS/09/21/palin.rape.exams/index.html?iref=newssearch]</p> <p>According to the AP, "Lawmakers became involved in 2000 when reports began coming in that police departments were charging sexual assault victims for the kits and the forensic exams, which cost from \$300 to \$1,200 at the time." [AP, 9/11/08; http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5jfTm-bOoREGIDJnQXYG9I2CDN-wQD934TN907]</p> <p>The New York Times reports, "Eric Croft, a former Democratic state lawmaker who sponsored the corrective legislation, believes that Wasilla's mayor knew what was going on. (She does seem to have paid heed to every other detail of town life, including what books were on the library's shelves.) The local hospital did the billing, but it was the town that set the policy, Mr. Croft noted. That policy was reflected in budget documents that Ms. Palin signed." [New York Times, 9/25/08; http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/26/opinion/26fri4.html?em]</p> <p>The New York Times reports, "The rape-kit controversy is a troubling matter. The insult to rape victims is obvious. So is the sexism inherent in singling them out to foot the bill for investigating their own case. And the main result of billing rape victims is to protect their attackers by discouraging women from reporting sexual assaults That's why when Senator Joseph Biden, the Democratic vice-presidential nominee, drafted the 1994 Violence Against Women Act, he included provisions to make states ineligible for federal grant money if they charged rape victims</p>

<p>Gretchen: That is something to me that's unthinkable. It scares me to death.</p> <p>VO: Planned Parenthood Action Fund is responsible for the content of this advertising and urges you to get the facts. [on screen: Planned Parenthood Action Fund Vote No on John McCain www.plannedparenthoodaction.org Planned Parenthood Action Fund is responsible for the content of this advertising, Paid for by the Planned Parenthood Action Fund. www.plannedparenthoodaction.org Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.]</p>	<p>for exams and the kits containing the medical supplies needed to conduct them. (Senator John McCain, Ms. Palin's running mate, voted against Mr. Biden's initiative, and his name has not been among the long list of co-sponsors each time the act has been renewed.)" [New York Times, 9/25/08; http://www.nytimes.com/2008/09/26/opinion/26fri4.html?em]</p> <p>US Senate Roll Call Vote 295, 8/25/94 http://www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_call_lists/roll_call_vote_cfm.cfm?congress=103&session=2&vote=00295</p>
--	--