

My name is Christopher Moran. I've been on the sex offender list since I guess 2005 or 2006. I'm not sure if it goes by Charge or conviction. I was convicted of a computer crime. I believe it was called illegal use of the internet. I've had struggles with mental health and addiction. I also had a few other incidents with the law involving drugs and alcohol. I've since gotten my life back together though and haven't been in any trouble since 2011. I have a pretty good job and a house and all that stuff.

I'm writing because I feel like there really needs to be some change to these laws. I understand that its not realistic to get rid of the law completely. But I think there needs to be better regulations on who is required to register and who should be public and how long you should be required to stay on the list. Other people have been showing you the numbers. The recidivism rates are extremely low. Being on this list causes a lot of anxiety,pain,and embarrassment.

I think it was last May I was in the state police station to register. There were actually a couple of other people there to do the same thing at that time. I saw a younger man walk in with what could have been his father or grandfather. He looked like he was barely 18. Sitting in a waiting chair I overheard that he was there to register as well and my heart just sank. Im 35 years old and I was 21 when I got in trouble. It made me think about all the struggles I went through in my life, having to think about the ways my life was affected by this list. Getting out of jail after 15 months 3 of which were at a rehabilitation program for my offense and to help get me ready to be home again. But that's not the end of the road. Now for 25 years I'm on this list. I can't live by the school. I can't go near the school. How do you have a relationship with someone? How do you explain a mistake like that and when? How can I date someone with kids knowing I'm on this list? What kinds of career opportunities are there for someone like me out there? What's my family gonna think? I have nieces and nephews, will I be able to see them? Or is that the point of it is to make people feel like leper's who are to be stoned in public and stay in their houses and be hermits. I could see how I used drugs to try to cope with it all because that's how I knew how. Now everyone's situation is different and I have no idea what this kids situation is. Did he touch his little sister inappropriately? Did he rape someone? Did he have underage photos? Did he talk inappropriate online? That's where the list should come into play.

There should be people assigned to each case that decides what the punishment is. Courts don't know the people that are getting in trouble. It's just another face of thousands. What they see is what's written in the paper in front of them and what they see standing in front of them. They have no idea about anyone really.

My crime involved the computer. Keep in mind I'm not making up any excuses for what I did. Being a millennial I kind of caught the technology wave as it moved along. In school I was more of a shy kid and it was hard to talk to girls. But when I discovered chat rooms I found a way that I could kind of hide my identity in a way and not be so shy and be able to open up more. So I found it easier to meet women. Where I made the mistake was getting obsessive about being lonely sometimes and just wanting to meet anyone to have a connection with. And when you add drugs and alcohol to the mix you are bound to make even dumber decisions. Which I did. So I found my self in the trouble that I did. But I'm glad that I got in trouble because it did make me understand what I did and what I did was wrong and I deserved to be punished for it. But the way this list is set up is not the way to continue to do things.

Whether things change or not I'm gonna get off this list. I'm not a CSC case. The 25 years was included in my sentence. I don't think my time could be changed. I'm more concerned about someone else in my position. Like the 18 year old kid I saw at the police station. There are so many factors that should play a part in all this. Not just oh he committed a sex crime put him on the list forever. There are jail programs and prison programs for these offenders. There's counseling that they can get. There are rehabilitation programs getting out of jail or prison. There's usually probation/parole periods just like everyone else but with stricter guidelines. Through all of that isn't there a way to better judge a persons length on the list?

Just like the neighbor or the guy down the street that could have been convicted of murder, some of us just made an honest mistake and misjudgment in choices, whatever the circumstances. They used the wrong brain when making a decision or could have been intoxicated even. That murderer isn't on a list that's whole purpose in society is to look down on a group of people and continue to punish them past their debt. They just want the chance to try to live a normal life like anybody else not worrying about who knows what about your past and whether my neighbors want to let their kids outside to play when I'm out there because I'm the boogey man.