August 17th 2019

Slapping The Elderly

"A ruler who lacks understanding is a great oppressor..."
Proverbs 28:16

Stop me if you've heard this incident before: A man here at USP Tucson is doing his time, and has his family visit him. His 75-year old mother and 80-year old father fly over 2000 miles to visit their son.

The son here at USP Tucson, has been fighting for an appeal, to get his sentence reduced. He admits his guilt to a charge, but the Public Defender bailed out on him, leaving him to do life for a charge that should have only been 5 years.

So this inmate works hard to get back in court, and in the meanwhile, to show the courts that he is a productive man, takes numerous classes while at USP Tucon. The man, in the last 5 years in the prison, has never gotten in trouble. He's your "model inmate".

So, his parents come on Saturday to visit, and immediately at the door, two prison officers demand they stand against the wall, with their arms out, so they can frisk them.

"Whatcha got in your pocket Granny", says one officer, plunging his hand in her pocket. "Its just our car keys," she says. "Well you can't keep those," the officer says, "You people might try to help these criminals".

The parents, feeling humiliated, refrain from arguing, because they came this far to see their son. Soon they are told to sit near to officer's podium, and await for their son to arrive at the visitation room.

The parents waited — from 8am to 9:30, before the father went to inquire about their son. "Just sit and wait Grandpa," said one of the officers. "He'll get here when he's called." The father then asks,

"But we've been here an hour and a half". The officer replies, "You can leave if you want". The father, frustrated, goes back to his seat and waits.

At 9:45 am, the son finally shows, and the parents ask what took so long. "They just called me 10 minutes ago" he says.

"Son, we've been waiting since 8:00" says the mother.

The son is furious, knowing the two visitation officers had everything to do with it, but the parents begged their son to simply let it go, and enjoy the time they had.

The visit goes fairly well, until the two officers get loud, making it hard for the parents to conversate with their son. The father then rises, and goes to the podium, to ask if they could move to another seat, away from the podium, and the noise.

"This is USP Tucson, not your house. If you dont like it, tell your son he shoulda never got locked up." coldly says one of the officers.

The son hears the disrespectful remarks, and rises to defend his father.

"Sit down or I'll slap both of you to the floor!" says the officer, standing up and boldly stating his threat. The son loses his temper, and argues with the officers. The Visitation officers call the duty Lieutenant, and tell him that the three threatened them. The son is immediately taken out, and the parents told to depart, while the officers laugh at the elderly couple.

"Don't worry about your son, old timers", said one officer as the two parents sadly left USP Tucson, "we got something real nice for him".

The son was put in Special Housing for 60 days, under a false "threatning an officer" charge...

A week later, he was found beaten in his cell.... with a broken leg...

So ask yourself, what if this was <u>your</u> loved ones ____