

Dougald Miller

Wants to Speak

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT



PETER GOLDRING

Canada's weak judiciary is allowing psychopathic dangerous criminals, such as Leo Teskey, to return to the street to savagely repeat their crimes. This calls for a serious reconsideration for repeat violent offenders to automatically be given dangerous offender status. Technology may yet give hope to one of Teskey's victims—Dougald Miller.

old Dougald Miller, has since lain nearly comatose for close to five years in the Capital Care Norwood facility, unable to speak or move. The prognosis is that without significant assistance or intervention, he could remain in this state until he dies.

In November of 2000, Dougald Miller was brutally beaten beyond recognition and to the point of almost complete paralysis by Leo Teskey, fracturing his skull and ribs, ripping his ear and leaving him to die in his own blood. Leo Teskey, who at the time was on probation, was only charged with aggravated assault—not even with attempted murder. It was nearly five years later, in March of 2005, that Leo Teskey was finally declared to be a dangerous offender. This hearing commenced last

In March of 2005, in an Edmonton courtroom, Leo Teskey was finally declared to be a dangerous offender, and to the relief of many, will be jailed indefinitely. This decision was rendered after nearly twenty years of constant criminal behaviour by Teskey, during which Teskey was charged with 164 crimes and convicted 34 times, including a conviction for shooting a policeman in the back of the head and another for tearing the penis of a two year-old child. 9 of Teskey's 34 convictions involve crimes of violence. Released once again by the judiciary, Teskey's latest victim, 64 year



Member of Parliament Peter Goldring with Mrs. Miller, wife of Dougald Miller. Mrs. Miller rightfully wants justice for her husband and all victims.

fall, and ended up costing the taxpayers approximately \$1 million after some 12 medical professionals give evidence for and against declaring Teskey to be a dangerous offender.



Comparatively, Leo Teskey is the more fortunate of the two. Leo Teskey received a life sentence, but he is still able to appeal. Dougald Miller has no such possibility. Leo Teskey gave Dougald Miller a life sentence of near total disability,

from which there is no reprieve. As a caring society, we must do all that we can to give back to Dougald Miller at least some small amount of his past life that an uncaring justice system and Leo Teskey have so viciously taken away. Dougald Miller requires round-the-clock care, as well as



Dougald Miller, in better days, at his and Leslie's Edmonton home. Leslie is hoping that new technology will give Dougald the ability to speak again.

supplementary therapy, such as massage and reflexology, not covered by Capital Health. His aggrieved wife, Lesley Miller, struggled to pay these costs, amounting to \$1,500 per month, while the criminal Leo Teskey is actually taking taxpayer-paid university courses and working towards a bachelor's degree. This picture could not possibly be more wrong. The Miller family is in effect paying for the optimism of a university-educated future for Teskey, the very person who has sadistically denied Dougald Miller a future life at all.

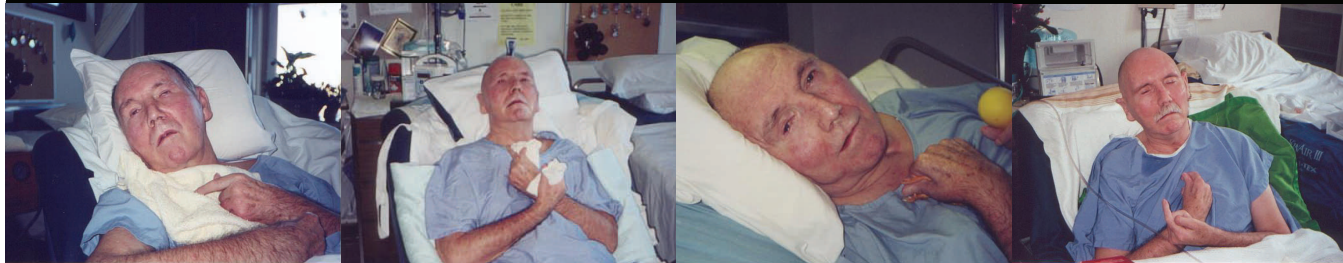
More and more, people are becoming increasingly tired of seeing the criminals receive taxpayer-paid favours and benefits and living

comfortably, while the pain of their victims and their victim's families continue indefinitely, and while the victims' families bear the crushing financial costs, silently and alone. In many cases, the public risk of horrendous outcomes

of statutory releases are quite predictable to reasonable persons with knowledge of the criminal's history. It is clear that serial, repeat violent offenders, regardless of whatever time they have served, should never be released. With respect to Leo Teskey, this principle should have been applied at a much earlier stage of

his life.

The justice system's negligent policy of releasing every criminal into society as soon as statutorily possible results in a sadistic game of Russian Roulette with the lives of an innocent public. We must demand better. In 1995, Leo Teskey was identified as being a psychopath. In fact, Teskey had one of the highest scores in testing for psychopathic behaviour—he was in the “top 5%” of all inmates and at the top of a three-point psychological scale as a pathological liar. In 1995, the first application to declare Leo Teskey a dangerous offender failed. Weapons convictions and 30-plus other convictions were not sufficient to



cause concerns to the judiciary, nor were the 130 or so other charges plea-bargained away. The court instead preferred to be influenced by a psychiatrist who testified that Teskey presented “a relatively low risk of violence-reoffence for the foreseeable future”, and by a Christian counsellor who spoke on Teskey’s behalf, asserting that Teskey had turned to Christ.

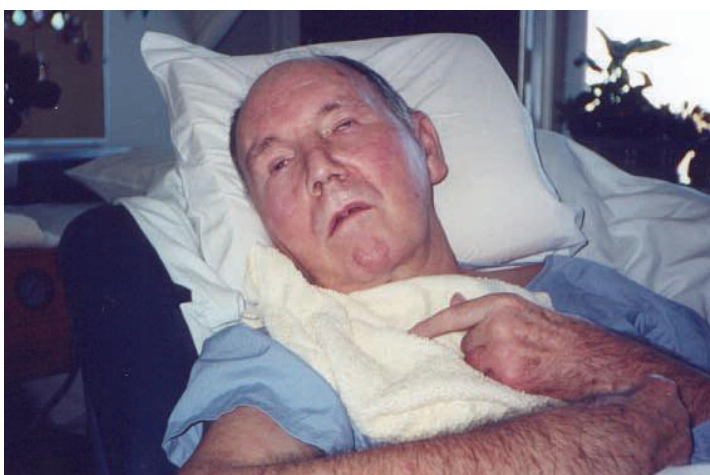
Despite the clear evidence that Teskey was a dangerous psychopath and a repeat offender, Teskey’s lawyer at the time, said that he

was surprised that a dangerous offender application had even been considered. After all, Teskey himself had spoken assuring the judge: “I did a lot of learning in (the Remand Centre) and I’m just looking forward to continuing on what I’m doing out there in public.” At the same time, Teskey shed tears for the benefit of the kindly judge. Talk about blind justice! If the judge had researched Teskey’s earlier public statements, she would have realized that he said the same thing after being found not guilty of attempted murder of a police officer. At that time, in 1989, Teskey stated that he had “learned a lot since I’ve been in jail and I’m sorry for what happened.” Obviously,

what Teskey learned in jail was how to effectively con the judiciary.

Surely it should have been very obvious to anyone eight to ten years ago that Leo Teskey

could never again be released from custody. This is why the government owes a responsibility to Teskey’s victims for the damage that Teskey has caused. Lesley Miller, Dougald Miller’s wife, should not have to pay for his care, his supplementary treatment or any additional technologies that might make his life in any



Dougald Miller, victim of ‘justice’ gone awry: A justice system that has failed both him and many other victims in Canada.

way easier. In fact, the federal justice system, which administers the Criminal Code of Canada in collaboration with the provinces, caused the Miller family grievous harm through blatant irresponsibility in the Teskey case, liberally promoting prisoners’ rights, rather than public rights and public safety. Accordingly, the federal government should be liable for the Millers’ pain and suffering. Leo Teskey did not escape from jail. Instead, he was callously released, putting the public at risk.

The first instance of a repeat conviction for a violent crime should automatically trigger permanent jail time for the likes of Teskey. The onus would then be put on the criminal to ap-

peal for release, while staying locked up until the process is complete. After all, if the offender has two or more court convictions for violent offences, this would confirm their status beyond a doubt as being potentially dangerous. Surely, this "Teskey run-around" cannot continue to happen. Repeat, serial, violent offenders must be kept off our streets, forever. Our justice system must start acting justly, not unfairly giving "criminals' rights" precedence over citizens' rights of security. The much-heralded 1982 Charter of Rights should secure citizens' rights to safety from irresponsible dangerous offender releases.

Society has the responsibility to help to make Dougald Miller's life a bit better after the justice system so callously let him down. Dougald Miller can only communicate with his eyes, and through cries. He cannot speak or move to any significant degree. There is technology available through U.S.-based Eye Tech Digital Systems (www.eyetechds.com) that might enable Dougald Miller to use his eyes to speak again, by using his eyes to communicate through a computer. Mrs. Miller had to find out about this technology on her own, but unfortunately it doesn't appear that government is prepared to offer assistance with the estimated cost of \$25,000.

Update: Leslie Miller is determined to help her husband speak again and to raise awareness of the problems with the judiciary. If you wish to help with Leslie Miller with her cause, please call her at 472-0644, or write her at 6748—165 Ave, Edmonton AB T5Z 3M6.

9111 - 118th Ave.
Edmonton, AB T5B OT9
(780) 495-3261
Fax: 495-5142

Web Site:
www.petergoldring.ca
Email:
goldrp1@parl.gc.ca

411 Justice Bldg.
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6
(613) 992-3821
Fax: 992-6898

This brochure series is intended to highlight special issues that Member of Parliament, Peter Goldring, has been involved in. If you wish to comment, please take a moment to fill out the survey below, write or call to the address above.

Your Opinion Matters...

Question #1 Should repeat violent offenders automatically receive the dangerous offender status upon conviction?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Question #2 Should the Government of Canada be held accountable to ensuring sentencing is appropriate to protect public safety?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comments: _____

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____
Postal Code: _____
Telephone: _____



Peter Goldring
Member of Parliament
Edmonton East
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6