

## Events in San Angelo

- We were told before we ever saw these women that they would not talk with us and that they were dressed “fancy” and had the best of everything. That they would only respond to us with “You will have to talk to my lawyer” This was an absolute lie and it was to “brain wash” MH to think like CPS. I never heard talk to my lawyer once while I sat and talked and played with the children. Everyone was polite and nice but very upset and confused.. They were gracious and tried very hard to not be afraid and nervous.
- We were also told to observe only and not to help. We were told we were surround by DPS and their were snipers on the buildings for out protection. Our badges were checked constantly by CPS to make sure we were not in the “wrong place”
- The women and children were placed in barracks built in 1800 with no air and no indoor plumbing, 80 women and children on cots side by side, even pregnant ladies
- Separated from older children (12 and up) and for days not even allow to wave at them across the open field- told they would never see them again if they continued to wave-threaten with jail for waving at them
- Constant reminders that the adult women were only guests and that they were not in charge of the children and what CPS did to them. They belonged to CPS now and they could talk, interrogate, separate and treat them any way they wanted. This included physical exams and x-rays without adult supervision.
- Not allowed to talk to the outside world
- Women were constantly lied to about where their children’s where and when they could see their lawyers and about when they would be reunited with their children
- No consideration for their diets so all the children had diarrhea for days
- No consideration for food,( meals served as late as 8pm, when these children were used to going to bed by them) clothing ( Only 1-2 sets of clothing) or cleaning of sheets and clothing- washers were brought but others had to do the washing-
- The more uncomfortable they were the more CPS thought they would talk
- We were told that if we interfered with any of the investigation we would be arrested and handcuffed and placed in jail- this was said often to MH workers
- There were no baby beds or high chairs for days and often our women had to go buy things for the women

- The entire MH support staff was “fired” the second week; we were sent home due to being “too compassionate”
- The children and women learned quickly who to trust and if you did not have a CPS badge they would talk with you
- After being removed the women stopped talking to CPS and we were “begged” to come back- when we returned we were told again to not interfere but “to do what we did best” . **THE WOMEN HUGGED US AND STARTED TALKING AGAIN.** Then they sent them all home with no children.
- The children were kept inside the arena for 23 hours a day
- They children arrived healthy and happy and left sick and crying
- Mothers and children were watched like they were criminals and every word or deed they did was written down by CPS
- CPS yelled at the children , would not allow the women to talk with their lawyers, deprived them of sleep and constantly accused them of things most of them did not understand
- Never once did I see a mother loose her temper, strike out at a child or discipline a child in an inappropriate manner.
- The last 2 days were the worst- over 100 State troopers surrounded these women and children, in the arena and they were told they were having all their children taken away from them and only the nursing mother’s could keep their children. They were then escorted to a bus by a CPS worker and a DPS officer.
- Again we were warned if we interfered or helped the women we would be arrested , placed in handcuffs and would go to jail.

I am thankful I was able to go and see all of this. Never in all my life, and I am one of the older ladies, have I been so ashamed of being a Texan and seeing what and how our government agencies treat people. Thank God for The Mental Health field, who have not forgotten what compassion looks like and still tries to help everyone. This must stop somewhere and somehow. This invasion of their property and the disruption of their lives could happen to anyone anytime if all power and authority is give to CPS. Remember this was an anonymous phone call.