

**DECLARATION UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY**  
**PURSUANT TO 28 USCA 1746**

I, \_\_\_\_\_ [Nick Schwamb]\_\_\_\_\_, declare and state as follows:

I was in the Elan School from December 2007 until June 2009.

I don't know how to put in words, my experience at the elan school... To me, almost everything that happened there was wrong, for example, many people including myself were blamed for things we didn't do. And were forced to be shot-down removed We were forced to sit down in a chair facing the corner of a room for weeks, and sometimes months on end, and not being allowed to talk to anyone but an assigned person that switched every hour. We were forced to be shot-down removed and scrubbing floors for months on end just because we wouldn't admit to something we didn't do or own something we didn't think was wrong. Everyone is eventually just forced to either admit to something they didn't do or just continue scrubbing floors or sitting in the corner. The thing that really pissed me off was how you couldn't even tell a joke without getting screamed at for it. The only thing anyone ever let you talk about was your feelings or someone else's feelings. No one but someone who has been to elan can imagine how miserable the environment makes you when you are there. When I think of Elan all that I can think of is how miserable I was there

1. Elan had 'general meetings': one kid would stand up in the front and center of the dining room while all kids would scream at them at once
2. Sometimes people would be stuck in the corners for weeks or months on end
3. My phone calls were listened to for 17 months

4. A lot of the staff would open our mail before we even read it and also my friend who tried to write me's letters were never given to me.

5. Staff never really talked to you outside of groups, the students were the people who supported each other.

6. If you tried to 'sign out' at 18 yrs old they would wait for days and sometimes weeks and wouldn't let you leave until they put you through hell.

7. There was usually a student being restrained once every couple of months, and it was always by other students never once have i seen or heard of a staff member restraining someone, they would just "oversee" it.

8. School was the easiest school I had ever been to, you had no homework except in a study hall on Fridays. we did have tests and quizzes though. Unfortunately, the lack of good school makes life difficult when you get out because the classes, since they switch every 5 months and 2 in the summer, did not have enough time to cover whole subjects like biology, chemistry and math. we would end the classes only knowing the most basic material. I myself had to be held back because i was only given 1 math course and no language my entire stay.

9. We were never allowed back in the dorms after we left.

10. you had to ask to use the bathroom, and it would sometimes take hours to get permission.

11. I didn't feel safe and taken care of if I had gotten sick. If i felt sick i was not allowed to stay in sick, the staff wouldn't let you go to bed unless you were violently vomiting.

12. i myself sometimes got 7 hours of sleep for a couple of weeks but many other people had to run on 3-5 hours sometimes because the staff wouldnt let them go to sleep after taking an SP or something because they "needed them on the floor"

13. we mostly didnt go outside all week except for gym for one hour on tuesdays. if the staff thought that the house did really well we may have been able to go out for a couple of hours on Sundays

14. ocassionally a student would flip and curse and scream at people making threats to everyone.

15. I felt threatened by the other students, ocassionally a student would flip and curse and scream at people making threats to everyone.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on  
November 14, 2009.

Nick Schwamb

[NAME OF DECLARANT]

SPECIAL NOTE: STATUTE DOES  
NOT REQUIRE NOTARY]