

**For immediate release.**

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**HAVING KIDS CALLS ON GOVERNOR BROWN TO INVESTIGATE AND PROMOTE NEW LAW IN WAKE OF THIRTEEN KIDS SHACKLED AND TORTURED IN PERRIS, CA**

*Judicial order to prevent abuse key to fixing child abuse crisis*

**TUCSON, AZ** January 17, 2018 – Today the national child protection organization Having Kids called on Governor Brown, as well as the California Bureau of Children’s Justice, to investigate the “house of horrors” in Perris, California where parents apparently shackled and tortured up to thirteen children over an untold number of years. Under law, the state was ultimately responsible for the children, and Having Kids is asking the Governor to investigate the responsible agencies in Riverside County for having failed to protect these children.

To prevent this from happening again, Having Kids is also asking the Governor to work with California legislators to pass legislation that authorizes courts, in specialized cases, to issue orders preventing abusive and neglectful parents from having additional children. (For details, please see [havingkids.org/theproblem/](http://havingkids.org/theproblem/) and [havingkids.org/solution-fair-start-orders/](http://havingkids.org/solution-fair-start-orders/) )

Anne Green, Executive Director of Having Kids, had this to say: “Will such a law help the Turpin children? No. But it will mean beginning to take family planning and parenting seriously, so as to prevent more victims like the Turpin children.”

“It will reflect the simple and irrefutable principle that parents known to abuse and neglect children should not have more. If California takes its responsibility to protect children seriously, it will learn from the disaster of the Turpins and make necessary changes.”

In just the past year, [national statistics](#) estimate **1,670 to 1,740 children died from abuse and neglect**, despite underreporting. This means at least four children die every day from child abuse. The recent opioid crisis in the U.S. [has only accelerated the problem](#), with new foster care cases involving parents using drugs hitting the highest point in more than three decades of record-keeping, accounting for 92,000 children entering the system in 2016, according to data by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

For more information, please visit [HavingKids.org](http://HavingKids.org)

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**About Having Kids:** Having Kids promotes and protects every child’s right to a fair start in life by replacing parent-centered family planning models with the child-first Fair Start family planning model. For more information, please visit [HavingKids.org](http://HavingKids.org)