**THE 2003 FALSE INFORMATION THAT CAME OUT OF THE U. S. SUPREME COURT**

(adapted from “The big lie about sex offenders” by Radley Balko, *The Washington Post*, March 9, 2017)

Because most people believe that people on the sex offense registry are more likely to re-offend than perpetrators of other types of crimes, we have allowed numerous, draconian laws to be passed that include severe restrictions on where they can live to GPS monitoring of their every move.

In 2003, the U. S. Supreme Court said that the risk of people on the sex offense registry re-offending (committing another sex crime) is “frightening and high”. That decision has been used in over 100 lower-court opinions, justifying laws that have banished registrants from many aspects of everyday life.

The U. S. Department of Justice followed every released person in 15 states who had been convicted of a sex offense and found a re-offense rate of 3.5% after three years.

Connecticut found a re-offense rate of 3.6% after five years.

Maine found a rate of 3.9%.

Alaska, Delaware, Iowa, and South Carolina found similar results: between 3.5 and 4 %.

“…removing support networks, making it more difficult to solicit help, limiting what they can do to earn a living and even limiting their ability to attend religious services makes recidivism more likely, not less.”

The barbaric sex offense registry laws are based on data that is FALSE.