

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

Submitted: March 4, 2006

Re: "Social Workers Told: 'What You Do Matters'"  
By Bill Osinski  
March 4, 2006

As a former foster parent for the Gwinnett County Department of Family and Children Services (DFACS), I am disappointed to read agency director Lisa Lariscy's admission that Gwinnett County DFACS was in "crisis mode" two years ago.

During my criminal trial for nine counts of child molestation involving six of my former foster children, DFACS made no such admission of any "crisis" when accused of mismanagement and corruption. Former agency director Ken Duke, who preceded Lariscy, claimed his agency ran flawlessly, though he "retired" from his role allowing Lariscy to replace him. Instead of retiring, Duke later served in a reassigned capacity with the Georgia Department of Human Resources, who commonly moves its employees around within the system to avoid embarrassing blame.

In your article, Lariscy said "Bring us more good foster parents." I encourage anyone who might consider fostering children for Gwinnett County DFACS to contact me first.

Erik A. Cooper  
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