

Daughtry responds

Actions, for which I have accepted responsibility and made heartfelt apologies on a multitude of occasions, have consequences. In response, my family and I patiently endured a lengthy investigation conducted by the Florida Department of Children and Families upon notification of allegations of child abuse in connection with my former job teaching at Sarasota Military Academy.

Public school teachers invest countless hours and frequently exhaust personal finances on children who are often neglected physically and emotionally. We are charged with incompetence when traditionally underperforming children fail to meet academic standards, yet are rarely credited when the majority succeed. Our public education system has forcefully ejected Jesus Christ our Savior and enabled the opinions of undisciplined children to supersede character development.

It is poignant to note that, for over 1,720 people to voluntarily render aid of an educator who society prematurely condemned for conduct unbecoming, is a rather phenomenal outpouring of unconditional support. In exchange for their kindness, they are mistakenly labeled cyberbullies by some of my critics. I am often asked, "What if that was your son being yelled at?" My response is clear, concise and consistent. In the event he mirrored the behavior of a student, conveniently not filmed, the teacher's response would merely serve as an appetizer.

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