

How Even Your Faith Can't Help You Keep Your Kids if You are Convicted of Child Neglect

Date: June 10, 2011 9:10 AM

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Tags: [arrested](#), [child custody](#), [child neglect](#), [crime](#), [criminal defense](#), [criminal defense lawyer](#), [palm beach county](#)

Permalink: <http://bit.ly/IF1E5n>

According to an article in WPTV News, a Riviera Beach couple was arrested Wednesday night for child neglect, after allegedly telling police that they live life in God and don't need to work despite not having any money to feed their toddler.

Claire Justin, 28, and Neil Vilain, 41, are being held at the Palm Beach County Jail in lieu of \$3,000 bond on [charges of child neglect](#).

This morning, Palm Beach County Circuit Judge Ted S. Booras ordered they have no contact with their 3-year-old child, who was placed in the custody of her maternal grandmother by the state Department of Children and Families, police said.

When the officer spoke with Justin and Vilain, they said they believe that "the way most people live is evil," according to the report. They added that neither of them works, their condo is in foreclosure and that their electricity was turned off two days prior. They also said that despite not paying the bill, their water was still running. To survive, Justin steals a nutritional supplement from Walmart every day for the toddler, and chips and water for the couple, the report says.

"The two apparently believe that the 'normal' American lifestyle is evil and that they need to live with minimal items to survive," the deputy stated in the report. "Neil (Vilain) says he lives day-to-day and does not think about the future of the family. He says he leaves that in the hands of God."

Child Neglect Criminal Defense

There is no excuse for neglecting your child, whether it is because of your faith or your financial situation, you can always ask for help. If you have been [charged with child neglect](#), you need to ask for help from a criminal defense lawyer. The law does not take too kindly to people who harm their children, especially if the harm comes from parents who just aren't paying attention. Have your [criminal defense lawyer](#) explain exactly what might happen to you throughout the process and you can team up and devise a defense strategy that might

give you a chance to keep your child.

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