

# Father Suspects Brainwashing Made Son Fear Drug Program

BY JIM ROHRER

Betavia Bureau Chief

LOVELAND—"I don't know what happened, but something did. Call it brainwashing, but I cry now when I see the difference in my son. He was happy and loving before, and now he acts afraid of us."

Walter "Jack" Wynne, father of a 14-year-old Loveland boy who was allegedly stolen from his custody Saturday night by six persons driving a rented van, said Thursday his son's removal from the Straight Inc. drug rehabilitation center in Milford by the boy's mother was against the boy's wishes and suggested his son has been "brainwashed or deprogrammed" into a fear of Straight.

The youth, who has been placed in the temporary custody of his mother, Patricia Wynne of Loveland, was last admitted in a private vehicle and removed from the drug program. The Wynnes were divorced in April.

custody of his son, but by an agreement reached in Warren County Domestic Relations Court, Patricia Wynne has custody for the next two months.

From Saturday night, when the youth was taken from Wynne's driveway, until the court settlement Tuesday, Wynne said, "somebody just had to have worked him over to make him so scared and angry."

The incident Saturday was witnessed by several neighbors, who reported that the youth resisted. A panel truck rented in Patricia Wynne's name was used in the incident.

As part of the settlement Tuesday, Wynne dropped child-stealing charges against his former wife.

Patricia Wynne denied the abduction and claimed her son "was pulled" from the Straight program. She has also denied that her son was deprogrammed or brainwashed.

Sunday," she said. "He was out in the open air, exercising his muscles. We had a lot of talking to do, but he was not brainwashed. He's scared of Straight, and he wanted out."

She also denied that her son had a drug problem, although she did admit he had been expelled from Loveland High School several times for smoking cigarettes.

Wynne said his son did have a chronic drug problem, liked the Straight program, and was making progress.

"No matter what my former wife said, she did sign for him to start the Straight program," he said. "Then she wouldn't go to any of the 'rap' sessions. What came out was that he had been abusing marijuana and beer for more than six years, and that he had tried all kinds of other drugs."

Wynne's present wife, Lois Wynne, said allegations that her stepson wanted back with his mother because he couldn't get along with his stepmother arose

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Staff Writer

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Walter “Jack” Wynne, father of a 14-year-old Loveland boy who was allegedly stolen from his custody Saturday night by six persons driving a rented van, said Thursday his son's removal from the Straight Inc. drug rehabilitation center in Milford by the boy's mother was against the boy's wishes, and suggested his son has been “brainwashed or deprogrammed” into a fear of Straight.

The youth, who has been placed in the temporary custody of his mother, Patricia Wynne of Manville, has been enrolled in a public school and removed from the drug program. The Wynnes were divorced in April.

Wynne said he was told by an acquaintance involved in Western County Superior Court, Patricia Wynne has custody for the next two months.

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She also denied that her son had a drug problem, although she did admit he had been expelled from Loveland High School several times for smoking marijuana.

Wynne said his son did have a chronic drug problem, joined the Straight program and was making progress.

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UNTIL TUESDAY, Wynne had

“HE SPENT the day with me

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# DRUG

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because she had discovered his drug habit in the year the youth lived with her and his father.

"I WAS getting close to the problem," she said. "The school officials told us over and over we had to crack down on him. He was stealing, he wasn't doing homework, he was coming home late at night. He was also selling things from here to purchase drugs."

The Straight program, Wynne said, had made vast improvements in his son's behavior.

"This is why I say something had to happen to him over the weekend," he said. "We were re-

turning from Straight Saturday night when we pulled into the driveway and he was stolen. He loved the program, and he wanted to do well so he could join the staff there someday. His attitude had improved 100%, and he was ready to start school again."

When his son returned Wednesday night to pick up some personal items, Wynne said, the youth wouldn't even enter the house. "He apparently believes Straight will kidnap him," Wynne said. "Straight doesn't do those kinds of things. Somebody has him scared."

WYNNE SAID that in Straight sessions his son admitted to having taken drugs since he was eight years old. "I want more for him than stealing, and drugs, and missing school," he said.