

1. UNTRUTH—SHOCKS AND OTHER MAJOR AVERSIVES ARE ONLY USED RARELY.

TRUTH: Based on former staff reports, non-verbal students are often shocked 20 to 30 times per day with the same devices seen used on Andre McCollins on video shown recently on Fox News and CNN. Some students become so injured (with burns and scabs all over their bodies), that they have had to have their devices removed for 4 to 5 weeks to allow their skin to heal up. JRC staff would refer to these as ‘GED vacations.’

2. UNTRUTH—THE BEHAVIORS OF JRC’S STUDENTS ARE SO SEVERE THAT ELECTRIC SHOCKS SAVE THEIR LIVES.

TRUTH: Students are shocked for minor behaviors (e.g., closing one’s eyes, nagging, swearing, refusing to take off one’s jacket, etc.). Students with severe behaviors are not unique to JRC. Students all over the world have similar challenges and are supported without shock. JRC staff are rarely ever allowed to try the well-researched methods discussed in peer-reviewed journals.

3. UNTRUTH—THE SHOCK DEVICES ARE APPROVED BY THE FDA AND ARE THEREFORE PROVEN TO BE SAFE.

TRUTH: The GED Shock devices have not been FDA ‘approved.’ Only days ago, the JRC removed that claim from their website after falsely advertising it since 1994.

4. UNTRUTH—JRC’S SKIN SHOCK APPROACH IS BASED ON SCIENTIFIC STUDIES PUBLISHED IN CREDIBLE PEER-REVIEW JOURNALS

TRUTH: A director of research at Yale University stated on CNN’s Anderson Cooper 360 that he and his partner could not find any peer-reviewed studies in any credible sources that supported the use of JRC’s methods.

5. UNTRUTH—JRC HAS ALWAYS HAD A TEAM OF LICENSED PSYCHOLOGISTS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING SHOCK PROCEDURE BEHAVIORAL PLANS.

Truth: At one point, JRC was fined large sums of money after it was discovered that many psychologists were not licensed as the center had claimed for decades.

6. UNTRUTH—JUDGES KNOW AND APPROVE ALL INDIVIDUAL BEHAVIORS FOR WHICH STUDENTS ARE SHOCKED.

TRUTH: Although a judge is always responsible for approving the use of GED shocks for a particular student, blanket permissions are then given which allow JRC to add and delete behaviors for which students are shocked without going back before a judge.

7. UNTRUTH—PARENTS GIVE AN INFORMED CONSENT PRIOR TO THEIR CHILDREN BEING APPROVED FOR SHOCKS.

TRUTH: Cheryl McCollins testified that she had no idea that the JRC tortured and abused students until she saw her son, Andre, on video tied up and shocked 31 times for refusing to take off his jacket. Parents may never know their non-verbal child was shocked for standing up without permission to give staff a hug, to ask to go to the bathroom, or in reaction to another student getting shocked next to them, and many other reasons for which loving parents would never give consent.



Just one of Andre’s burns following his ordeal at JRC.

TOP 7 Judge Rotenberg Center Untruths

