

## Lorraine Reza

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**From:** le8ho5+164gvl4ard@guerrillamail.com  
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**To:** City\_Clerk  
**Subject:** Public Comment

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Dear City Council,

I am a college student submitting a regular public comment. After college I hope to go to law school and become a prosecutor. When I am not away at school, I am a Bakersfield resident. My parents watched the afternoon Board of Supervisors meeting this week and immediately called me.

I would like to share with you how the address data breach has personally impacted me. I was originally raised by my birth mother in Lancaster. My mother had a drug addiction and lived with an abusive boyfriend who began physically abusing my mother and I, often under the influence of drugs. When I was about 12, to escape the abuse I ran away from home.

To survive on the streets, I was forced to engage in sexual acts for money. I was treated like a piece of property to be bought, sold, and used. The terrible thing about that life, is it becomes very hard to escape. One day, I was rescued by an angel working behind the counter of a truck stop diner who notified the authorities. I never went back to my birth mother, she died from a drug overdose.

Instead I was adopted by two wonderful and loving parents that decided to make Bakersfield our home. Why do I tell you this? When my parents moved to Bakersfield, they believed our address would be kept private and not displayed online. We had no reason to notify Kern County or Bakersfield because home deeds aren't supposed to be posted on the internet.

They were shocked to find out after this week's supervisor's meeting that our address was still available on search engine with links to Bakersfield's website. And although the original document was not there, the text showing our name and address was still clearly visible in the search results. What would happen if guys from my former life showed up at my house? Or abducted me?

Kern County and the City of Bakersfield cannot wait for this to happen. They must be proactive and notify the families that had their information posted online. You cannot assume you aren't impacting our lives if you haven't seen our Safe at Home cards. House deeds were never supposed to be posted on the Internet in the first place.

Now I've reached out to the city manager, and his staff refer me to the city attorney's office. They either deny responsibility or refuse to return our calls. The problem with how the City of Bakersfield is that they are so worried about admitting their mistake that they aren't doing right by victims.

If you believe these are horrible crimes, then the only question Mr. Clegg, Mayor Goh, and Ms. Gennaro should be asking is "what is right for victims?" And if you start with that question, you come up with a very different response.

If you believe these crimes are horrible and should be prevented, then you must immediately notify all households impacted. The city and county should not assume they know everyone who is a victim. There are many of us who may have been victims in other jurisdictions, changed our names, or simply not contacted the city or the county notifying them we are a victim because there was no need to.

When I was adopted, I found comfort and recovery through counseling and faith. I was taught:

"You not only know what you should do, but you also desire to do the right things. It's not enough to just avoid doing wrong because you are afraid of getting caught or punished. When truly converted, you really want to choose the right."

If the council has a spiritual or moral compass, you cannot wait for victims to be victimized again. It is irresponsible, immoral, and wrong. You must notify people of their addresses that were posted online so they can protect themselves. Again, start by doing right for victims first. Thank you.

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