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Prescription opioids were never the cause of the overdose crisis. It always was and still is the illegal drugs used by addicts. Please refer to your own charts in Wonder.

The CDC has made it legal and even put into place rules that have been used to inflict extreme torture on the disabled community who are the only patients with chronic pain. I never thought I'd see Americans being tortured by government here in the US, especially our Veterans who became disabled when they fought to defend our country and our freedoms. Once the DEA and DOJ began weaponizing the CDC's "guidelines" against the doctors and pharmacies they scared all of them away from treating pain. Which has taken away the freedoms of life, liberty and happiness.

Patients who suffer from chronic pain have tried every alternative before doctors prescribed opioids and that was years before the government decided they have the right to get between the patient and doctors.

Chronic pain patients are now stigmatized, belittled, red flagged as problem patients, now considered to be addicted to pain medicine rather than their bodies are dependant on them to have quality of life.

When you are disabled by pain it means that you have high pain levels 24/7. Every single day you feel that extreme pain that is too painful to get out of bed, to shower, to cook food, to clean house, to grocery shop let alone do anything else. Without opioids patients begin to deteriorate mentally because pain overrides your every thought. You can no longer take care of yourself. You become bedridden, isolated and jailed in your home. You lose friends because you have to back out of plans that were made and can no longer make plans. Your family gets tired of your "complaining" when they invite you to holidays and you are physically unable.

Some turn to street drugs out of necessity and become the people the government loves to take care of. Some get so depressed living this way they just give up. They commit suicide.

Even with the changes you made in 2023 trying to correct the overuse of the 2016 guidelines the doctors refuse to start treating patients ethically again because they're all scared of the DEA and DOJ.

This madness just needs to stop. Stop punishing the pain patient.

Our government entities have lost focus and have completely failed Americans in your war on drugs.

Remove every single rule or guidelines regarding prescribing opioids. Advise physicians, patients, DOA and DOJ that this will return prescribing back between the physicians and their patients completely.

PS...Prohibition never worked on alcohol.