

Speare's sentence fair?

Judge William Speare recently suspended a 10-year prison sentence for a Billings man who pleaded guilty to sexual assault charges. In this particular case, Ron Williams (reported in the March 21 Gazette) admitted to molesting a young girl for four years. The girl was approximately nine years old when the abuse began.

After pleading guilty to felony sexual assault charges, all he got was a verbal reprimand from Speare. Williams only has to spend 15 nights in jail on work-release and pay for the victim's and his own counseling, but does Speare's sentencing seem fair punishment when the child was abused for four years of her young life?

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