

I have been trying to collect data, about the numbers of our unsheltered neighbors, who have died, in Salem, since the advent of the tent ban in 12/2019, but the data is inaccessible. I have also been trying to help keep these people alive & well, since that time, solely because it is so wrong, to take away the last vestiges of protection, from the elements, from anyone & I do not want my grandchildren to think, we, as Americans, cast off any human as a throwaway, so I have seen a lot of death & injury in this last year. The only way we can understand the effects of bad policies, like the tent ban, is to have the data available. Otherwise, these types of bad policies, which are passive homicide, go unnoticed, unchanged & unpunished.

I first found a man, under a tarp, wet, cold, unable to stand or walk, crying for help. He lost his leg, from just above the knee, due to a blood clot, in his hip, from lying, cold, on hard concrete. He was not diabetic. As a matter of fact, he was quite healthy & strong, before this event, but has become thin & plagued with health problems, since, because he can no longer endure the rigors of unsheltered living, with both legs. He is only 59, & it does not look like he has much time left. I understand his demise, because I spent many hours in the hospital emergency room with him, saw how he fared after spending time with his family, & his demise after he took to living on the streets again. I have seen these events among many others & was horrified, by the death of a 60 year old, psychotic woman, who died, after being dumped on the streets, by Salem Hospital 13 times, between 10/25 & 12/9, the day of her death. When she was found, her core body temperature was 50° F & she could not be revived. Both her sister & I had given our phone numbers, to the hospital, in order to be there, if she was discharged, but the hospital ignored our pleas & simply left her on the street, to die. EMTALA complaints have been filed. I also attended a man, who WAS diabetic & unable to care for himself, until he chose to forfeit his life, rather than continue to suffer. But these are just the few, I can write about, in < 4001 characters. There are many, many more & they need to be accounted for. Anything less is collusion in passive homicide & it's up to you.