

**Written testimony of Marlene Moore, a resident living in a nursing home,  
and read at the public forum by Sally Petrone, State Long Term Care  
Ombudsman**

The worst thing about living in a nursing home is that you lose your freedom and people don't think you know your own mind. For 60 years I managed my own life and as soon as I entered a nursing home they told me that I was not capable of that any more. I can't even go outside the building without signing a release and then only after an argument. I'm not even allowed to go down the men's hallway to talk to them.

Nothing is done at my convenience or when I wish to. Everything is done at their convenience. It doesn't matter if I'm waiting for someone to answer my call light or getting my dinner order. My favorite thing to say when someone wants something and can't get it is "What do you expect, it's a nursing home."

Nobody knows what I want or cares about it because they will be gone in a couple of weeks. The nurses don't bother to learn about me and even though I try to teach them, they aren't around long enough to get it down. Without my Ombudsman I could never get anything done. I don't call him unless I have the same problem a couple of times. But, sometimes that's the only way I can get things fixed.

On the other hand, it's snowing outside and I'm not underneath a bridge. It's why I eventually had to move in. I had to give up everything I own and almost all my belongings, but hey, it's a nursing home.

Marlene Moore  
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