

## Son Down

I can't imagine my son down in a system  
designed to defeat him and suppress his freedoms  
Institutionalized injustice, treatment unfair  
and public defenders that don't even care.  
Sometimes it don't matter what's true and what's real  
The first thing they offer are plea bargain deals  
to lessen the time; agreements to cop it  
Our sons get railroaded and we need to stop it  
Are they being fed lies or given the truth  
They serve so many years that they outgrow their youth  
It happens so often and the courts just can't wait  
I don't want to see my son down to their fate  
If my son lost his freedom, it would cut like a knife  
or if he got locked up for the rest of his life  
I love my son and if I only make one vow,  
it's to fight for a change 'cause I can't let my son down

by Dorette Chapman