

Joughin family participates in podcast to share their story of grief with students

The University of Toledo student's family is sharing their story of grief, nearly five years after Sierah Joughin's murder.



Author: Melissa Andrews Published: 1:18 AM EST March 5, 2021

TOLEDO, Ohio — The family of a University of Toledo business student who was murdered is participating in a podcast about her death. Sierah Joughin was 20 years old in 2016 when she was killed by a repeat violent offender.

Since that time, her family launched a non-profit, called Justice for Sierah, Inc. and was victorious in creating a violent offender registry in 2018.

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They're now using their story to educate students in grades 7-12 and college students about the grieving process. The podcast was written and emceed by Dr. Timothy Jordan, an expert in bereavement, grief, and mourning from the University of Toledo (UToledo).

"People will go through grief in their life and we can share our story of how we've turned a tragic event into something that's positively changing people's lives," said Joughin's aunt and President of Justice for Sierah, Tara Ice.

Dr. Jordan, professor of a course in Death and Dying in the School of Population Health, says he wants the podcast to show students how to cope with losses in their lives in a healthy way, no matter what those losses may be.

He says that students can grieve many different types of losses such as the loss of a loved one, a job, or the loss of a sports season due to the pandemic.

He hopes that all students, especially those in his Death and Dying course at UToledo, who may be of similar age to Joughin at the time of her killing, will feel a connection to her, her family, and see hope in the family's mourning process, now five years after her death.

To show the podcast to your class or group and to obtain a copy of the accompanying study guide, please contact Tara Ice: <u>tara@justiceforsierah.org</u>

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