

Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

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Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2025.

In relation to Domestic and family violence and the safety of the community I would like to submit

1. We live in an undisciplined society, that has been brought about due in part to the failure of parents to discipline their children. A lot of this has been brought about by governments and others who should know better. We have psychiatrists and others advocating that children should not be smacked, and making false claims that this is detrimental to children and that there is no evidence to suggest otherwise. I would suggest that the fact that we have in this day and age when less people smack children an avalanche of violence, bullying and stand over tactics from children staring the community in the face should be evidence enough.

The reports of psychiatrists who were associated with the young man who stabbed a number of women in particular in Sydney is hardly a reference for their profession.

We have constant reporting on the news about people abusing teachers and retail staff, and an increase in road rage. Older folk with better behaviour standards than younger generations are forced to have medicals every year to maintain their driving licences, when the majority of accidents reported on the news are caused by tailgating overtired truck drivers often obviously not concentrating on their job and impatient undisciplined young people. It would be far better to require more frequent medicals and assessments of people who actually do cause accidents. That should cost the taxpayer less.

In relation to the abuse of teachers and retail staff it does need to be said that a lot of retail workers these days do not know their products, companies often keep people waiting on the phone for an hour or more when the people waiting have other important things to

get on with in their limited time schedules and where a teacher is responsible for a class there does need to be more accountability than there is, however there is no need for abuse. I suggest that those who abuse teachers and retail staff are impatient people who have never learned discipline and probably were not smacked when they were young.

If children are permitted to get away with standing over and bullying others when they are young they are very unlikely to do anything different as they get older, and what actually happens is that violence unchecked leads to more severe violence. That is so obvious you would have to be blind not to observe it.

I have lived long enough to have lived in a time when the majority of parents smacked their children and trouble from children was minimal to now when few parents smack their children and violence goes largely unchecked and the fact that the government is having this enquiry should be evidence enough of that fact.

In recent times I have had parents who do smack their children comment to me that retailers have commented to these parents “What well behaved children you have.” Clearly this is a rarity. I have been in stores when children playing with stock have broken something or spilt something, and no longer do we see parents offering to pay for the damage, and the store wears the damage. There was an incident reported in the news recently where an I.G.A. manager exposed a young person on social media for damage in his store. This sort of thing pushes up insurance rates. Parents need to be held accountable for their children’s actions.

It is clear that parents who have trouble with their children have not learned to discipline them and generally struggle with life and relationships.

In relation to our modern age, I have done a lot of door knocking over the years and on thing that stands out is that women who speak of having a “partner” are inevitably insecure, and the situation is that the partner does his thing, she does her own and they do very little together, this can easily lead to tensions along with insecurity. Where a woman speaks of her husband there is in most cases a commitment by both husband and wife to work together and for the good of one another.

Over the years that I spent in school the cane was used. It didn't need to be used often because the threat of it was enough to keep the bullies in check, though as far as bullies were concerned while they tried to isolate and target children in the playground, in those days freedom of speech was permitted and if children saw a bully targeting someone other children would come to the aid of the one being bullied very smartly. Bullies tend to pick on vulnerable individuals when said individuals are on their own. Today the bully would be protected.

During my early adulthood I taught Religious education in schools and where the headmaster was strong on discipline and used the cane when necessary, it was seldom necessary, I was able to have large classes, the children were keen to learn, asked sensible questions and overall there were good results from these classes. Later when I moved to teaching in schools where discipline didn't exist because of school policy, children had no real concentration spans were very restless, lazy, and the majority were not attentive and appeared to have no real understanding of their regular basic school subjects.

At one stage when young I was visiting a family, Father, Mother and a toddler. The toddler was very rude to his parents and they had a lot of trouble getting him to do what they asked. They did not smack him. On one occasion the toddler was very rude to his mother and I could not help myself I gave him one effective smack and said

“Don’t you dare speak to your mother like that.” Ever after that if I was with the family and the toddler was not doing what one of his parents asked, all I had to do was look at him and he would change his mind and do precisely what his parents asked.

At one time I worked with a man who came from an Island off England. He was telling me how there was hardly ever any trouble from the youth on the Island because the penalty was a public flogging.

On discipline it should be noted that in the so called aboriginal cultures it is not generally policy to discipline a child until puberty. After that the culture could require the death penalty. Fortunately our laws hinder that to a large degree but we still have “aboriginal” men disappearing without trace. Often men who have done a lot of good for their communities but have presumably failed to honour “culture”. This needs to be taken into consideration when we see the alarming rate of “aboriginal” young people taken into custody.

2. Governments have created a multiplicity of red tape / regulations that makes the cost and standard of living required such that both parents need to work to be able to survive. Hence a single parent is really in trouble. This means that the average child misses out on so much benefit that they in the past would have had from their parents, family and social activities that keep families functioning effectively.

Just to mention one issue. The housing issue. I built my own home as an owner builder. While it did stretch the budget it wasn’t excessive. I purchased a kit home, I spent a bit of time with the local council engineer, a couple of builders gave me some advice and I got to and built it largely on my own. Ten years later we added a couple of bedrooms to our house. This cost twice as much as the original two bedroom home. By then there was a requirement to do an owner builders course. The course was so badly worded that to have followed it to the letter I would have had to have finished the course

before I could start it, there were also ridiculous exercises such as calculating the number of bricks I would need for the build when I had no intention of using a single brick! A course that showed incompetence, in those who designed it and was essentially little more than waste of tax payers money.

After that owner builders courses moved from being construction related to work place health and safety requirements of the sort required if you as a single owner builder planning to do most of the work yourself would need if he were employing a number of workers.

I heard of one situation where a welder decided he could build his own steel frames to save money, however the requirement was that he would have to pay for a welding inspector from a city situation to come out into the country and inspect his welds regularly and particularly every time he did a different kind of weld. In speaking to companies that regularly constructed and sold steel frame kit homes he found they had never heard of such regulations. So the owner builder is penalised for building something to a higher standard than those companies selling steel frame kit homes.

Since the move to climate change regulations I heard of someone who wound up having to install an electric overhead fan on their windy verandah on top of a hill to meet the climate change “Regulations”. In another situation someone was required to put in double glazed windows, neither he nor I could fathom the reason why.

The climate change issue is out of hand and fails to observe both science and history, and the advantages of climate change fail to be even looked at, so what results is a panic situation that puts unnecessary pressure on family situations though rising costs and regulations.

I have in recent times observed professional builders building houses with wooden framework so thin I would consider the roofs

concerned being vulnerable in high winds due to the flimsy thin timber used, and the fact that they were nailed together using nailing guns that can easily split thin timber making the frames weaker still. On questioning this I was told it met the requirements.

I believe that there can be and should be simpler better thought through regulations for housing that would make housing much more affordable. If it were easier for people to build houses as owner builders and build houses that suited their bank balance and need more families would be more secure and in a position to relate to one another without the pressures caused by governments at present.

Leading up to the recent federal elections both the Prime minister and the opposition leader wanted house prices to rise. What is needed is affordable housing with less regulations. The average person or family needing a home would be glad of any sort of a home just to have a home, yet governments just increase regulations so that few people these days can have a home and have to live on the street. This does not make for good husband and wife relationships or family relationships and the situation is there because of Government regulations that have not been thought through.

3. Family interaction: In times past families would do things together and do things with other families that cost little and benefited much. In recent times there has come this mentality that says if you go out you have to spend money. It isn't necessary to spend much at all. Spending money unnecessarily leads to tensions because money is not there for more important things when needed.

Today we have parents who simply don't know how to play with their own children and women who would rather send their children off to a child care centre where they may be abused by other children or even staff, than learn to play with and entertain and instruct their own children

Over my lifetime I have been involved in family and church related activities, I have spent quite a bit of time taking other people's children on outings and in involving them in activities, and over the years I have had children say to me "I wish you were my daddy". Why was that? Because their daddies never spent any time with them! Often they were truck drivers or other work away from home dads that when they got home just wanted to slump in front of the T.V. with a beer or do something that they selfishly wanted to do that didn't involve their children or family. Children were of no real interest to them.

If parents haven't got time to spend with their children there are plenty of undisciplined predators out there waiting to pounce. Whether it be through some sort of regular contact or social media or through a school system that has more to do with brainwashing children than preparing them for work. Which is one of the reasons there is an ever increasing number of parents turning to home school their children these days.

Sex education through the school system clearly heightens sexual interest, which can be fuelled through social media T.V. etc. It all leads to the vulnerable being targeted and abused at an ever increasing rate and at a younger age. This ultimately leads to an unnecessary cost to the tax payer. On one of the news broadcasts recently there was a clip of someone speaking to a school class about coercive control. Clearly the man speaking to the children had no idea of how to present such a sensitive issue to vulnerable school children. So typical of so much of what I have come across in my contact with the government school system.

There is very little on our T.V. screens that is suitable for adults let alone children and more particularly families. There is constant filth coming out on T.V. in prime time. Good clean humour is past history. Today's humour is either sex or violence orientated, or in some other way is a taking advantage of people. The way some of the

women presenters dress on T.V., music shows etc is hardly helpful to young people who need role models. So many movies these days are based on permissive sexual activity and violence. That is what young people see and so that is what they want to be involved in. They are essentially being taught that sex is a game people play and you might as well be involved in it. Even laws are made to protect this approach, so it is no wonder that abuse follows.

The education system is largely based on the religion of Humanism which bends strongly towards self centredness and aggressiveness. In this country that has banned freedom of religion along with freedom of speech and so being opposed to Christianity that stands against both of the above.

Prior to the recent federal elections Peter Dutton made a statement along the lines that the schools should stick to the curriculum and allow children freedom to think for themselves. That is a contradiction because it is the national curriculum that prevents children from thinking for themselves. Just to take one example. The curriculum assumes that the idea of evolution is true when there is nothing to substantiate it. The curriculum expects children to prove what no adult has ever been able to do. The proof they put forward as proof of evolution is the matter of natural selection. All that says is that within a given species there is sufficient DNA variance to enable changes within a species. If you really work hard to breed across species, which is what evolutionists assume without evidence can happen naturally, but clearly does not, the best you can hope to achieve is a malformed mutant that if it comes to life at all will not live long. What you get is devolution not evolution. Children need to be permitted access to all the science not just what evolutionists try and force people to believe. But the position that comes out from the idea of evolution is that people are no more than animals and therefore if you behave like animals or worse than animals that is O.K. and so laws are made to protect such behaviour. But then when it happens there is a hue and cry when people abuse others. Because freedom of religion has been removed from this

country there is no longer the protection there used to be. But the fact that there is still some Christian influence in this country it has not quite yet deteriorated to the violence, aggression, terrorism that can be seen in countries where there is no Christian influence or very little. However because Christians are silenced by law and those who would harm others are protected by law, more and more abuse has of necessity to happen.

So much around today leads to introversion, and selfishness that leads to exploitation of others and by others, and leaves an ever increasing number of people with guilt problems they find hard to face so we have this mental illness explosion. Or they turn to drugs, or alcohol. Anything to escape from the reality they are not prepared to face up to and cope with. A little while back I went to hospital for an operation. Medical staff were surprised that I was not on any medication and said that almost all young people that present for treatment are on such a mixture of medications it can be difficult for anaesthetists to sort them out.

When I was young there was an expectation that women and older people would be treated with respect, that you gave up your seat in a bus or train for women and older folk, that if a girl looked like she was being harassed you came to her aid. If a bunch of bullies was targeting someone you came to that person's aid. If someone dropped their parcels in the street or in some way looked like they needed help you helped them etc. Good manners was taught in schools and homes and was expected in society. It certainly isn't the case today in our undisciplined society where few children are ever smacked.

Unfortunately freedom of speech and freedom of religion is no longer tolerated, and those who abuse others are protected by law. The more the undisciplined can get away with the greater the amount of abuse in our society. A society has been built that makes it easy for the predators to laugh at authorities.

We have a gaol system that is clearly overloaded, and the expectation of authorities is that they have to push some out the back to let new ones in the front. It hardly solves the problem.

There was recently a report of children in government care being abused in Victoria but it can happen anywhere where children are institutionalised. Children are far better in the loving care of adults, preferably their own parents, where that is feasible safe but the government clearly does not know how to make this happen. The conditions laid on potential foster carers is enough to turn so many people who could be providing loving care for children away from the idea of fostering.

4. Youth work and volunteers. I have lived long enough to have seen when there were adequate leaders for Scouting groups, church youth groups etc that kept children off the streets and taught them useful skills and good moral values. When you had a number of adults leading such groups as a team children were safe, there were few problems with children or leaders and there were few regulations to stand in the way of good things happening, and healthy lifestyles being developed.

With the advent of the blue card system and the like has come an ever increasing amount of rules, regulations and paperwork that turns good people off wanting to work with children or be involved in volunteering of any sort. When the blue card came in many Sunday schools, youth groups etc closed down because of the regulations. This meant that children who had been learning and had become involved in healthy pursuits were essentially out on the streets and largely on their own and vulnerable.

The fewer volunteers we have the more the government has to spend on the police force and other paid public officials. A problem of the government's making, that creates unnecessary cost to the tax payer.

The Blue card system essentially assumes people are guilty until proven innocent, and I cannot see how that fits with our Westminster system that assumes innocence until proven guilty.

It is clear that the institutionalisation of children in need of care has over the years led to many cases of child abuse, yet we have a foster care system where the government cries out for foster parents yet has regulations that turn off so many that would be and could be good carers for children in need.

In today's litigious society where few people are prepared to take responsibility for their actions and people think they should be looked after and compensated for, for so much, costs are unnecessarily enormous.

Insurance is becoming unaffordable for so many, and costs can get out of hand very easily when working in the public arena. e.g. in the past groups and individuals who owned halls and other venue's had insurance enough for maintenance and accidents which in most cases were few, because people took responsibility for their actions nowadays an individual wanting to hire a hall as a venue to help people or for any other reason is required to have personal public liability insurance which is very difficult to come by.

So many people are at their wits end, so many more are aggressively selfish. As I said above so many people are trying to escape by taking drugs. News reports speak of police checks as coming up with more people on drugs than alcohol, as if that wasn't bad enough.

5. We have laws in this country that allow the death penalty for the innocent and ill informed. When self centred, undisciplined people at a loose end or who have been forced into drug addiction or worse see this why would they care about people they want to take advantage of or get in the way of what they want.

If you are going to have the death penalty at all it should be for the guilt party not the innocent.