

Criminal Code (Defence of Dwellings and Other Premises—Castle Law) Amendment Bill 2026

Submission No: 051

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Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name

In recent years, I have had a vehicle parked at my property broken into. Subsequently I had another vehicle attempted to be broken into by a gang of at least 3 individuals, the security footage was delivered to police. The incident where I felt most at risk was a group who attempted to break into my residential property, by climbing up onto my upper rear balcony. I was home at the time, my metal security doors thankfully did their job.

These type of incidents, leave a law abiding householder in fear of being injured or killed, as the criminals break into one's house. I believe criminals, regardless of whether they are in the teenager age bracket, should forfeit any and all rights, in the event they break into someone's property. These are individuals or groups, who are CHOOSING to commit crimes and assaults. The householder in the meantime, should not have to second guess whether the assailant has a phone or gun or knife in his hand, to decide as an untrained individual, whether to shout for help, call the police (both of which will be too late in the seconds it takes for an attacker to assault the innocent householder) or, to use whatever he has at his disposal, be it a kitchen rolling pin, a paperweight, stick, or baseball bat, in order to defend him/herself from the assailant.

If this means the assailant is injured or killed, then that should be cause for any charges whatsoever to be levied against the householder. The fault of the injury or death has to lie with the assailant who fully broke into the house to commit harm and/or theft. Only when a law like this is passed, will that class of criminal, regardless of whether they are young teenagers, learn that actions have consequences.

For too long, the government has been soft on these criminals, regularly releasing them on bail, for them only to commit more crimes. Even then, because any penalties are seldom any more than a slap on the wrist, these criminals become emboldened and I believe end up as career criminals.

Allowing householders to lawfully defend themselves and their property, can only be a good thing for the law abiding members of society, and perhaps a deterrent for many of those criminals who currently seem to work on the basis that householders are not allowed to defend themselves.

The time is now for the government to stop with the useless placating words about youth crime, and instead, one and for all, put into law, legislation that proves the government are behind and will finally, actually support their law abiding citizens. This needs to happen.

People have had enough of being scared in their own homes.

Respectfully,