

Expanding Adult Time, Adult Crime and Taking a Strong Stance on Drugs and Anti-Social Behaviour Amendment Bill 2026

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In my opinion, it seems there has been a remarkable reduction in the severity of the sentences given to offenders over the past 20 or so years. This has led to most people in our communities being frustrated with the system. This in turn erodes the value the Police and justice system seem to have. This has led to an opportunity for some young people to exploit this circumstance by deliberately re-offending, knowing they will get off easily or with a minimum sentence.

The community wants strength. We want to feel that from the top, the Magistrates and our justice system are watching over our society and keeping us safe. Crime happens in every community, but having harsh punishments deters crime. Therefore over time, if we can head towards harder punishments, our society will eventually become safer again. I know it is a lot more complicated than that of course.

As a woman in our community, my personal safety is in my thoughts each and every day. Never before have I felt this need to really think about my actions when in town, what time of day I am out, who is around my car in the carpark, what could be snatched easily from me etc. I don't like living like this.

As a proud Australian, I am pleased to see there is movement on increasing the punishments for people who knowingly commit crime. If they are able to calculate how to break into a home, steal goods and vehicles, sexually assault women etc, then they definitely need to be punished accordingly.

In our town of Nambour in Queensland, we are struggling with anti-social behaviour currently. We do have a homeless problem but bigger than that is the terrible behaviour of some of the local ferals. That is what they are. They are not always the homeless, in fact I was witness to a frightening incident in town in December 2025 where a male who was high on drugs was on foot raging, screaming, frightening people in the street and he hit an innocent man. It was awful to see. Someone standing by me while it was happening said that he was their neighbour. So the feral guy wasn't homeless at all. He has a home.

How have we ended up in this situation? It's because decades ago, all of the people who struggle with life were kept in homes, medicated and lived a quiet life. It kept them safe, and the rest of the community safe too.

The apparent need to integrate all into mainstream has seen our school classrooms filled with students who have behavioural issues. The teachers have problems teaching without being interrupted by having to manage it all and the adult version is having nutters running around through our community. It sounds harsh to say lock them up, but where is the regard for our safety?

I am all for giving people a change. But 44 chances at having a go? Come on! Let's get real. Behind every person who is screaming in the street, putting on a performance, high on drugs, threatening people etc are real families. They have Mums, Dads, brothers and sisters, aunts and uncles etc who are all heartbroken and often exhausted with years of trying to help this person.

Meanwhile, the rest of us keep on working to pay for it all. It is very disheartening to see how things have changed over years. You can understand how folk are becoming disengaged with voting, policy, the news, decision making, getting involved etc. We are all bloody exhausted from working to pay for it all. Then when we do see the news, it's full of shocking crime. Kids riding motorised bikes etc, without licences, killing and injuring others. Or rapes and murders by immigrants who come from cultures who don't value women the same. Send them home. Please don't allow any more into our beautiful country.

Well, this is all just my opinion. There is so much more, but where do you pull it up? Thank you for letting me have my say.

Thank you for reading.

Kind regards

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