

## Making Queensland Safer Bill 2024

**Submission No:** 8  
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### Submitter Comments:

There needs to be a change, just not this one. This Bill is a violation of the Human Rights Act 2019 and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which Australia is signatory to. The possibility of children being exposed to a punishment of life imprisonment, despite their life only just beginning, is a scary and unjust thought. The legal system is about providing just and equitable outcomes to ALL stakeholders, not just the victims. It doesn't take a genius to figure out that exposing children to criminals who have committed far worse crimes will likely lead them to committing more and worse crimes. Additionally, Queensland's recidivism rate is already high (49.4%, <https://www.sentencingcouncil.vic.gov.au/sentencing-statistics/released-prisoners-returning-to-prison>); locking up children is going to lead them to a lifetime of crime and skyrocket recidivism.

There are several sources which support the sentiment that this Bill would do more harm than good. Here are a few: <https://www.9news.com.au/national/adult-crime-adult-time-experts-blast-the-proposed-policy-in-queensland-as-knee-jerk-reaction-to-crime-spate/b8ee08a8-e8e2-447a-9f62-399f7c2e2fb4> <https://www.croakey.org/queenslands-adult-crime-adult-time-legislation-is-a-cruel-and-dangerous-sham/> <https://www.amnesty.org.au/queensland-lnp-adult-crime-adult-time-policy-flies-in-the-face-of-all-evidence/> All credible sources, particularly Amnesty, which has a stake in human rights (that of the children, and of offenders).