

Making Queensland Safer Bill 2024

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I believe that victims of juvenile crime should be invited to attend court proceedings against the juveniles that offended against said victims. The said victims would be invited to give a "Victim Impact Statement" to the Judge before sentencing, and maybe seek compensation. Reason, in my case, when my home was broken into (and damaged) in the early hours of the morning, while my wife and I were sleeping, and my car keys were used to steal my vehicle as well. My vehicle was smashed, and written off by my insurance company. In turn, this cost myself about \$18,000 to \$20,000, as the insurance company only paid "red book" value, nowhere near what I paid for the vehicle. Plus, my motor vehicle insurance and 'no claim bonus' increased. Plus my Home and Contents insurance increased as well. The Judge could take the "Victim Impact Statement" into consideration, before sentencing. That way, Judges would be held more accountable, and maybe even order that the criminals pay compensation to the victims. When I was young and single, back in 1978, while driving my uninsured vehicle, I rear-ended another vehicle. The Judge ordered me to pay for the repairs to the owner of the vehicle that I rear-ended. Not having any money at the time, the Judge ordered me to pay \$10 per week until the damage bill was paid off. Some 7 years later, I was married, with 2 children, and finally paid the debt off. That exercise instilled in me to NEVER get myself into that type of situation again.