

**From:** Mellissa Smith

**Sent:** Monday, 27 February 2017 11:42 AM

**To:** Legal Affairs and Community Safety Committee <lacsc@parliament.qld.gov.au>

**Subject:** Bail (Domestic Violence) and Another Act Amendment Bill 2017

Good morning,

Please see below my concerns/questions related to the proposed Bill:

1. What is the threshold of "assault" for a person to be convicted of domestic violence? It concerns me that there will be a flood of fabricated claims of domestic violence and the accused will be charged and convicted in error.
2. If someone is wrongly accused and convicted, how will this fit under your value **(d) The worth and dignity of every individual, the priority of helping the marginalised and public and personal integrity...**? How will this person who is wrongly accused, regain their dignity after being forced to wear a GPS tracking device as an accused offender?
3. In all honesty, does this Bill cover ALL victims? For too long, we have focused purely on women as victims. We have forgotten about the children and men in families who are also victims of domestic violence. Even if the statistics showed 99% of women and 1% of men being victims of domestic violence, we still have an obligation to protect the 1% just as much as that 99%. ALL victims are important and must feel safe and protected. The recent incidences with children losing their life from neglect and abuse (ie. Mason Lee) is evidence of this.
4. Following on from these questions - it is disappointing that all victims have not been represented in your images on the Bill. All female.

I hope you will consider these comments and questions.

Kind regards,

*Mellissa Smith*