

Objectives of the Bill

The key objectives of the Bill are to –

- **Remove boot camp (vehicle offences) orders and boot camp orders from the range of sentencing options for children;**

This is a good idea, boot camp is an American name for a state. This is a very expensive program. In Townsville there are much better options for young people that are local programs, created for young people especially in each individual area. For our young people we want to take them out bush and teach them respect. Let us put forward programs specially designed – example we have been taking young people out and tagging turtles. When we as elders have the opportunity to work with children we teach them as though they are our own children. They are then not afraid to speak honestly. This is why the white programs don't work – young people run over the workers and the programs don't work they have no respect. We need to teach them the law and the LORE. Overall boot camp was a good idea you just had the wrong people running it.

- **Prohibit the publication of identifying information about a child dealt with under the *Youth Justice Act 1992* (the YJ Act);**

We believe children should be identified. We are disgusted at the behaviour of children. These children need to be named and shamed. If this occurs the parents can then start looking at their role as being a parent. Uncle Alfred works at the court house every day – people are going to deny that it is their child. The parents should be made to be in court at the time with their children and listen to the prosecutors. I am shocked at the charges in court. Outside the kids say no I just slapped the person across the face – the real charges are being kicked in the guts etc. – you only find out the truth in the courts. It should be an open court. The crimes these kids are committing today the public should know about.

- **Remove breach of bail as an offence for children**

Curfew does not work. They should be charged for breaching their bail like everyone else. These children are committing crimes like adults. That's why it should be made public. Yes it should be an offence. They are committing crimes like an adult and if they breach their bail should be prosecuted like an adult.

- **Make childhood findings of guilt for which no conviction was recorded inadmissible in court when sentencing a person for an adult offence;**

No – if committing an adult offence eg. Stealing a car or assaulting someone. If a child says they are guilty than this should be admissible. If they are not guilty they should not plead

guilty. We need to be careful as a lot of our people plead guilty even though they are innocent because they do not understand the white law system.

- **Reinstate the principle that a detention order should be imposed only as a last resort and for the shortest appropriate period when sentencing a child;**

Instead of the word detention - they need to have contact with elders – we need our own programs and to have the right people running those programs. You need your right supervisor – but I mean the right mentors working with the kids. Youth justice – you can't have a 20 yr old straight out of University trying to work with these kids. You need elders.

- **Reinstate the Childrens Court of Queensland's (the CCQ's) sentence review jurisdiction and expand the jurisdiction to include Magistrates' decisions in relation to breaches of community based orders; and**

We don't don't understand this or

- **Reinstate into the *Penalties and Sentences Act 1992* (the PS Act) the principle that imprisonment is a sentence of last resort and a sentence that allows the offender to stay in the community is preferable.**

It all comes back to what the crime is. Have the stolen a push bike or a car ? Cleveland in Townsville aren't working. We have 10 year olds in Cleveland. Here these kids are groomed by the elder kids. Imprisonment for lesser crimes, going to prison should be a last resort. If we can get our kids out of the urban situation out onto country and on the sea. Here these kids have to find themselves and respect for themselves. Then the kids can start respecting property that's not theirs. They have to learn to respect themselves first.

The Bill achieves the objectives by implementing a series of amendments to the YJ Act and the PS Act.

These amendments will have the effect of substantially restoring affected provisions of both Acts to their position prior to enactment of the *Youth Justice (Boot Camp Orders) Amendment Act 2013* (which introduced boot camp orders and the boot camp program) and the *Youth Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2014*.