

INQUIRY INTO SUPPORT PROVIDED TO VICTIMS OF CRIME

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I was the victim of sexual abuse and torture in 1976. It left me with severe PTSD and unable to do work or have a relationship. I had no idea who to turn to. I was too afraid to speak (I was told if I spoke out, I'd get sent straight back to the institution where I was abused and tortured). Years later, when I sought compensation I was interrogated by the police as if I was the criminal, not the victim. It left me suicidal. There needs to be better training for the police with victims actually (if they are willing) being part of the police training process so the police can know first hand what's needed. Policemen who retire at aged 60 could still be involved in the training. My life was ruined, but, like so many, I want to be involved to help prevent other victims being treated in such a disgusting way. Victims should be encouraged to speak out, not afraid. Please contact me for consultation so I can help others. Those who commit acts of sexual violence need to be called criminals, not perpetrators...