

## INQUIRY INTO SUPPORT PROVIDED TO VICTIMS OF CRIME

**Submission No:** 52  
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To The Legal Affairs and Safety Committee

Dear Sirs/Madams.

Thank you for this opportunity to share some of my family's views, regarding support provided to victims of crime.

Although this is an individual assessment, based upon our family's experience, I must advise my connection to QHVSG as a peer supporter.

### **Coordination of services**

In general, all services need to provide a timely, coordinated, state-wide approach, training in this area also needs to be continued.

1. Queensland Police, the Office of Public Prosecutions are generally very helpful with providing informed and timely updates about proceedings.  
This may be attributed to the work of organisation like QHVSG and their education of QPS members.  
This is based upon my own experiences, from before 1995 and after 2008.  
A vast difference in the way cases were handled between the two time periods.  
I would encourage continued support of such programs
2. Restorative justice needs to be ramped up, if we are ever going to have the chance to change the behaviour of those committing crime.  
I have seen positive signs, when this has been used.
3. Victims need to be better informed about the release of offenders and their whereabouts after release.  
During the trial period, we were in the loop, but once that was finished, nothing.  
Many people I have had contact with, still live in fear over the location of their assailants.  
In our own case, we have the killer's three children (through the family court) and have no idea where he lives, 9 years after his release.

### **Effectiveness of the Act**

1. Our family agrees, eligibility to include home invasion needs to be included, with better trauma informed and timely assistance to be enhanced.
2. Financial assistance for victims is a difficult process to navigate.  
Simplifying to system could be done, only those who have negotiated that pathway will be able to advise you of how it falls down.  
A large percentage of those I have spoken to, just gave up, as it was too difficult to follow.
3. Oh! Please excuse my surprise to note that there is a Victims Charter of Rights.  
And forgive my sarcasm, as it often seems, the only people who have rights, are those committing the crimes.  
Yes please review it, as it needs some teeth.  
On the whole, I think the current government is doing a good job in bringing in reforms that benefit victims and I commend them for their actions.

It is unfortunate that it will take years to change, what may be century's old, law in the right direction.

Yours sincerely Tim Class-Auliff

