

From: Kim Hoad [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, 14 March 2021 6:27 AM
To: Legal Affairs and Safety Committee
Subject: Submission for the Youth Justice Act Amendment

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To whom this my concern,

My name is Kimberley Hoad and I live at [REDACTED]. I don't feel safe in Cairns anymore. I've been followed and tormented by groups of kids/teenagers as I walk through the CBD, and I wouldn't dare to leave my unit complex at night. I hold my handbag extra tight when I'm at shopping centres, especially in the car parks. I'm always on edge as these offenders have no shame striking anywhere at any time. They have no issues attacking and mugging elderly people, they really don't discriminate when choosing their targets so no one is safe. They think they're invincible and that they're above the law, which they kind of are under the current Youth Justice Act.

I am rallying behind a fellow Cairns local who shared this submission on the Cairns Crime and Alerts page. These are the following submissions I'd like to also make to the Youth Justice and other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021.

1. Breach of Bail as a Criminal offence

- ♣ A fundamental principle of law is that bail is a privilege, NOT a right.
- ♣ Without a deterrent, the child is not learning that their bad behaviour has to stop.
- ♣ Can be arrested without a warrant
- ♣ Minimum period of detention 6 months (Include rehabilitation/On Country programs to address the root causes of their criminal behaviour).

2. Presumption against bail apply to all juveniles charged with ANY indictable offence who have been granted bail / breached bail regardless of whether a conviction has been recorded or not.

- ♣ Some offenders have already committed several offences before they end up with any actual conviction.
- ♣ Unlawful Use of Motor Vehicle (Section 408A Criminal Code) presumption against bail only relates to the driver. The youth are travelling in groups, with multiple driver options, so the person on bail can avoid being charged by allowing another to be the designated driver.

3. Three strikes policy in Court

- ♣ 1st offence show leniency
- ♣ 2nd offence probation/suspended sentence
- ♣ 3rd offence detention
- ♣ Further offences should incur increasing minimum periods of detention/imprisonment

4. Lower Age of youth to 16yrs for all serious crimes.

- ♣ Sadly some Youth are career criminals as young as 12 years old.

5. Tracking devices should be for youth from 10 years and older

- ♣ It is the younger kids who are stealing cars.

6. Allow identification Information when youth breach bail

- ♣ Quicker for Police to apprehend perpetrators.

7. Curfew for 16yrs and under

- ♣ This will help Police to stop the youth from offending, which would reduce the huge amount of money/resources wasted on finding the perpetrators and taking up court time.

♣ Stopped before they can offend.

Thank you for taking your time to read my email. Best phone number to contact me on is [REDACTED] if necessary.

Kind regards
Kim