

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Transport and Resources Committee](#)  
**Subject:** submission: Inquiry into Vehicle Safety, Standards and Technology, including Engine Immobiliser Technology  
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Hi

I just wanted to make the following observation from a quote I used at:

**The Youth Justice and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2021, Legal Affairs and Safety Committee Submission** held in Mount Isa on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

I would like to begin by quoting extensively from Don Weatherburn who has also produced a book called 'The Vanishing Criminal', co-authored with Sara Rahman in 2021.

Weatherburn tests the most common theories behind the reduction in crime, and finds most wanting. At the end of the 20th century, [Western Australia](#) had the highest rates of car theft in the country. Sixteen people were killed in one 18-month period as a result of crashes linked to high-speed police chases with stolen cars. In 1992, it introduced mandatory minimum sentences of 18 months for car thieves. Four years later, it introduced three strikes laws for home burglary. Around the same time, police in WA were lobbying the government to make it **mandatory for all cars sold to be fitted with an immobiliser**, and for laws making it **illegal for second-hand goods dealers to accept goods without proof of identity and ownership**. "The secret to crime control is regulation not punishment," Weatherburn says. "It's much easier to control crime by blocking the opportunities for it than it is by scaring the wits out of people who try to offend, or trying to scare the wits out of them."

As Youth crime is a significant issue I wholeheartedly support the introduction of this legislation.

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