

Youth Justice Reform Select Committee inquiry into youth justice reform in Queensland

Submission No: 80
Submitted by: [REDACTED]
Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

We have twice had our home invade/ broken into. We live in a rural community 3hrs drive from Brisbane. The first break and enter was in 1999, we were not home at the time. Our home was secure, entry was gained by a brick thrown through a window. Items were stolen and some replaced by insurance. No one was convicted for the crime. The second break and enter was February 2020. Both my husband and I were home asleep at the time. I awoke to a slight noise of an inside door moving, thinking it was related to the gentle breeze of the early morning. Then I hear more unfamiliar sounds, then a light moving through laundry. My body went into shutdown and I was literally unable to communicate my concerns and wake my husband. Eventually I alerted him and the process of going through one's home after an unwelcome intruder begun. Police were notified which take at least 30 min to arrive as our town is not a 24 hour station. The police were excellent in their response and with the help of community members were able to locate our stolen belongings and return most of it apart from some cash. The intruder was a reoffender, there was no consequence for the intruder following court. While we were not physically harmed, 4 years later I wake most nights hearing noises that could be "potential intruders". Points I wish to make are: 1. Our small rural community has regular break and enters both homes and businesses. For some reason the community is not included in the Government response to victims of youth crime. Why? 2. In your response to victims of youth crime, please consider the psychological impact of home invasions on ordinary every day people, across the state. Yes, we clean up the mess, become incredibly conscious of where we leave our personal belongings, add further security, however the psychological impact remains. 3. Please consider Government representative traveling to rural communities for community consultation on youth crime.