

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

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On Tuesday 27th June 2023 at 5:06am I was involved in a hit and run. To make this worse the youth that hit me was my son's ex girlfriend. She was 17 at the time has since turned 18. When she was caught she blamed her friend and said she was the one that was driving. I sustained a fractured skull, 2 brain bleeds and a compound fracture to my left tibia. (Foot and shin). It is now January 9th 2024 and I'm still unable to walk in aided and may need more surgery. We didn't have a trial as she pleaded guilty. On December 1st 2023 we went to court for sentencing, during that sentencing I had to watch the video footage of her driving up on to the footpath where I was standing and proceeded to run me down then reversed over me then drive off. The judge whilst sentencing her said that he was appalled in her history of offending. Because at the age of now 18 she had 70 other offences to her name from the age of 15. One of those offending crimes was stabbing a man with a screw driver during a home invasion. Yet when he gave her her sentence he felt that she was 'too young' to go to Prison as she was in juvenile detention from the night she hit me. And at the age of 18 and a half she would automatically go to prison. So he sentenced her to 14 months but she would be out in march 2024. So while I am still recovering physically, mentally and emotionally and financially. She get out with out a conviction recorded so she has a better chance of getting a job. Which she said she wanted to go into construction so whilst being in detention she has received her forklift license, introduction to construction and a white card. All of which us on the outside has to pay for. She literally has more rights than I do. I have to jump threw hoops to even get a payment, because the car she was driving didn't have registration it's harder to claim financial assistance threw the victims of crime. She could do what ever the hell she likes as long as she doesn't get caught she's free. The town I live in has suffered from youth crime in more ways then one. We lost 3 members of our community one of them 17 to a 13 year old boy who stole a car and drove erratically down the highway and ran into the vehicle carrying these women. He'll be out when he's 18 while the families of those women have to live without their loved ones. Friend on mine had their car stolen by a bunch of youths who went on a joy ride and smashed the car up. These youth get caught get a slap on the wrist then let go , only to re offend. Too many lives a ruined because of these youth offenders because they know they can get away with it. If they are old enough to do these crimes without adult supervision then they can do the time and adult would do if they were caught. I want my name published so the family of the Girl who hit me knows that I won't stay silent. And that they should be ashamed of themselves. Because neither them or their daughter has ever apologised to me or my family. So in closing. The youth justice system needs a big overhaul and instead of thinking about the offenders future think about their victims cause our future won't be easy.