

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

**Submission No:** 159  
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**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

My family have been directly impacted by youth crime. My parent's home was invaded and my visiting uncle's car stolen and destroyed by a group of youths (confirmed by QPS). This has greatly impacted my elderly parents' way of life; they now stay home most of the time with everything locked shut. They are fearful of their safety in their own homes. There has been a recent axe attack just a few minutes around the corner and reports of home invasions and car thefts daily. My parents should be enjoying their golden years but they are not, they are home bound and scared. I recently had need to contact QPS due to a neighbour who has a psychological disorder having an episode in which he was brandishing a stick and threatening to kill his care giver. A week ago the same individual was allegedly threatening his car giver with a knife. I made the report at 6:00pm, police did not attend the scene until 11:00pm. The officer apologised and advised they were short staffed and that "crime is worse than ever" at the moment and keeping them very busy. "Crime is worse than ever" these words directly from an officer in our region. When politicians try to quote statistics and tell us that crime is down yet we see crime with our own eyes, we are affected by it in our own lives and those charged with protecting us are ill equipped to deal with issues in a timely manner because they are over whelmed with the amount of crime taking place it only serves to damage the trust we have in our leaders and elected representatives. Just in the last few days an individual caused a car accident in a suburban area then literally tore the car to pieced and left a blazing fire, images captured looked like something from war zone reporting. The individual was on a return to jail warrant. Something must be done to prevent re-offending at the scale we are seeing. Something must be done as a deterrent from offending in the first place.