

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

**Submission No:** 216  
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Hi [REDACTED]

I've been trying to contact you for a while – 2 text messages through your website got me no response. I then tried calling your Brisbane office – no reply. So I thought I'd try calling Malcolm Roberts' Brisbane office, and a very helpful Josh Baer responded. He sent me your & Malcolm's email addresses.

I feel like I know you from way back. We were living in Gympie when Elisa Roberts was elected State MP for the area, with your support. I've always respected your courage to say what needs to be said – that's why I'm contacting you on this one.

What follows is naturally a brief precis of my views, as the matter is way too complex to write down in a short email.

The contact is to give you my recommendation on the youth crime situation in Australia. In my opinion, you would be the most likely person who might be able to take it further.

I am an immigrant to Australia (legal, 1990) from Rhodesia/Zimbabwe (but don't put me in the same classification as David Pockock, please).

My Dad was a High School Teacher (and a strong Catholic), who had a reputation as a firm (but fair) disciplinarian.

In those days corporal punishment was normal, and was an absolute necessity to keep those naughty schoolboys under control.

A hostel for which my Dad was Housemaster had lineups outside his office, every Saturday morning, of boys waiting for the cane – the number of strokes (maximum 6) determined by the number of 'Order Marks' accumulated during the week,

So I grew up with kids (including myself) getting 'hidings' often – this practice kept pretty good order in the place (there were obviously 'outlier' events – which were also handled by hidings).

On arrival in Australia, to my distress, I found that giving a hiding to a naughty kid was banned by government – what a shock! And now we find there's a youth crime issue in Australia! I would have thought there'd be someone who could work the connection....

We badly need to un-ban the hiding restriction and apply hidings to our young criminals.

Speaking from experience, having some pain applied to your rear end for misbehaving is an excellent method of 'attitude re-set' away from wicked activities.

If they don't change their attitude after a few hidings, then The Law can be applied.

As previously indicated, I realise I've simplified the issue to put my point across, and the solution is not nearly as simple as I've alluded to. However no-one has come up with a workable solution to this vexing problem. I reckon a 'good whack' has a high chance of working (or at least reducing the problem) if administered in the right way, by the right people.

My 2c worth.

Cheers

Rod Fincham

Send to: [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]