



29 May 2015


Dear Commissioners,

I am a 71 year old male with two children and have not personally been involved in Domestic Violence but certainly have seen the results. I will leave the "lies, damned lies and statistics" to others and would offer my thoughts on the subject.

If the Government is serious about preventing Domestic Violence and not just applying more band aids to the present system, then it needs to adopt a different approach to what we now have, because the present system sure isn't working. Let me look outside the square and present a possible alternative.

I believe you could do worse than to look at the way the Australian Transport Safety Bureau handles aviation safety in Australia. In particular I would suggest not only how much it spends on safety in terms of time, effort and money but how it handles investigations. They take the view that very few people get out of bed thinking " I will kill some people in a plane crash today". With this in mind the investigation of an accident is based on preventing further accidents not on prosecutions. To this end some degree of immunity is provided. No passenger has been killed in a jet Airline accident in Australia. Qantas has never killed a passenger. They must be doing something right.

To adopt a similar system to this in relation to Domestic Violence would require a big change to how it is handled now. It may require a support system before the violence escalates for ALL members of the family. It may also require a team separate from the police to carry out investigations. It may also require a separate Court system - not unlike the Children's Court or the Family Law Court.

As I say, big change but our present system sure is not working. If I can offer any further comments, please contact me at 

Yours faithfully

Don Starr

