

Immigration issue with an illegal threatening an Australian citizen.

I would like raise a point that I think is currently overlooked in the fight against violence toward women in this country.

I will cut this story short for the benefit of this submission but would be happy to provide further details should it be required.

I met my ex-husband overseas in [REDACTED]. After [REDACTED] years of visits and daily contact we applied for a visa. He arrived in [REDACTED]. We married in [REDACTED] after which he became emotionally, mentally and physical abusive. I tried everything to get this to stop including trying to get him to counselling. I failed. This ended with me calling the police on [REDACTED] [REDACTED]. The police issued an Intervention order which he continued to breach.

Following the intervention order court hearing on [REDACTED] I advised the Immigration department of the relationship breakdown and how to contact him so my husband would no longer have a visa. I was told that privacy laws prevented them from telling me anything about him.

This was problematic as I was living in fear. Each time he breached the intervention order I asked the police to advise the Immigration department which they did. However he remained here and harassed me and nothing happened to him.

Eventually the police issued a warrant ([REDACTED]) and again advised the Immigration department and yet he remains in the country, he knows where I live and I still live in fear. However I am not privy to where he is. He could appear at any time.

My issue is that this country is so determined to keep refugees out of the country but nothing is done to remove an illegal who is a danger to an Australian citizen.

I understand our privacy legislation but surely when an illegal is a threat to an Australian citizen that citizen has some rights. Also why has he not been removed?

I recently applied for and received a divorce as I had deleted and blocked all electronic details about him so did not know his current address. I now have renewed fears and nightmares about him turning up and physically abusing me. If I knew he was no longer in the country I could resume a fear free life.

As I said this is a short excerpt of the terrible fear and stress I have covered but I felt I needed to highlight this particular point.

[REDACTED]