

# Family Violence

## What has worked well?

- Absolutely nothing has worked well.

## What did not work well?

- [REDACTED], as the father to the victim, I did an Affidavit for the family court stating the perpetrators problem with Alcohol, Verbal abuse, No safety implied to the children when they [REDACTED], No financial support for them all and the living conditions. [REDACTED]. The Affidavit is not worth the paper it is written on. As not all of it is taken seriously. As the court ordered for the Perpetrator not to allow the children to [REDACTED] whilst in his care [REDACTED] BUT the perpetrator, [REDACTED] had my grandson [REDACTED] [REDACTED] This is a Breach of the Court Orders and the perpetrator has never been brought into order. Also the Drinking of Alcohol still continued despite the Court Orders [REDACTED] as the children made comments to me, that Dad had a beer with tea. This is another Breach of the Court Orders and the perpetrator was not brought into order. The perpetrators problem with Alcohol still continues today and his behaviour has had NO change, despite loosing his license [REDACTED], he still drives with No licence with the children in the car and he still has been awarded access to my grandchildren.
- On the [REDACTED] I went to [REDACTED] to help work on the house, where my daughter and grandchildren were living. The perpetrator arrived unknowingly and came behind me and punched me [REDACTED]. I was [REDACTED] years of age and these punches I received caused a lot of chronic pain [REDACTED]. The chronic pain [REDACTED] is still ongoing to this day. He verbally threatened me and my family stating, "I will get you, [REDACTED] and the kids". The threat was meant to harm as he was very angry. My son in law was their and saved my life. The police were called and came around. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Once again he was seeing the children within [REDACTED] months after assaulting me. If the perpetrator was brought into line at the very beginning [REDACTED] after the 1<sup>st</sup> Breach, none of our assaults would have occurred. Such as the Perpetrator will not see his children for a certain amount of time until he displays he is a good person within the community. Every breach of verbal threats, etc of family violence costs him more time not seeing the children and NO family court begins till he understands No is NO and be firm about it. He has wasted so many people's time and money because he has bad behaviour that he does not want to change, as he is an angry man and his alcohol consumption still continues. As per [REDACTED] the letter from the Men's Behaviour Change Program, he did not attend the program as ordered by the court and his comment to them was, 'he did not need to attend this program' and still to this day he has never attended this program or anything similar.

- On the [REDACTED] at the Magistrates court [REDACTED] I got an interim intervention order, and on the [REDACTED] at the [REDACTED] an application and summons for an intervention order was granted. [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] I went for an IVO but got a Undertaking instead due to his behaviour and I had an Interim IVO up to that date. [REDACTED] photos prove his visit to my house against the law, which would still be on the cameras memory and the police could have taken the camera as evidence and reviewed the data in question. This makes me very concerned for my safety and welfare but NO ONE cares. This was a Breach to my Undertaking and my daughters IVO.
- On the [REDACTED] in the perpetrators affidavit in the Family court it states that he visited the grandfather's home (My home) [REDACTED] My daughter had an IVO in place that he could not go to my house as she may be visiting us, nor due to the past with myself taking an IVO/ Undertaking why would I want to see this perpetrator. He was trespassing. This is a breach of my daughters IVO. I went to the [REDACTED] Police after finding this out and they said that it is not relevant because there is no date on it, but the perpetrator admitted his presence in Court. Breached but once again not brought into order.
- I went to the Victims of Crime for help and they claimed they would supply security doors on my premises and security cameras, Nothing has ever eventuated. These people got paid for being at work and they did nothing for me.

- A lot of Government agencies are not doing their jobs but they are happy to be paid by the government. The Law enforcement are not performing. They perform better on a speeding fine. The lawyers told my daughter it will ALL be over in ■ months, although she and our family have dealt with this psychological trauma for ■ years and even though the final court hearing happened it is still not in favour of the children. ■ The Perpetrator sees them every second weekend, disappointing the children as they cannot play sport or see their friends or us. They hate the travel of ■ hours their and ■ hours back. He remains drinking and he remains driving without a licence when he chooses too with the children in the car. The children voiced this to the Independent Children's Lawyer and to the Victoria Police but they are not listened too. If the perpetrator doesn't get what he wants he yells, swears and gets angry. He is very intimidating. All these people who work under the government body know how to talk, but they don't know how to act and this is why people are assaulted/losing their life as a consequence of NO Action.

## What are the improvements needed?

- Dismiss ALL Government agencies and start again. Have them ALL in the one facility, not scattered all over the place. Such as Legal Aid, Counsellors, Victims of Crime, Police who are specialised in the area to do statements and to enforce actions when needed and women's domestic violence team.
- The Government Agencies need to be LIMITED as there are too many and they are all living off the government and sending victims in circles. They are draining the allocation funds with NO results. Streamline it with results.
- The victim deserves to be heard and their should be **NO legal limit of cost**. Although the lawyers need to be accountable of their commitment to conclude the case within a reasonable time (12 months) but for this to happen the IVO's need to be taken seriously and acted upon or else this is why the victim is given their file at the end and said, "Represent yourself" What a disgrace. The lawyers are living on this funding and money from the perpetrator to 'fuel the fire' to keep it going and they have no remorse to hand it over to the poor victim when the funds are exhausted.
- ALL Police need to be schooled in the area of Domestic Violence, not a Band Aid approach which is currently being done.
- My assault should never have occurred, if his behaviour was acted upon and dealt with. Such as 'if you don't put the fire under control, it will rage and this perpetrator rages and I am still concerned to this day as he continually says, "I'm going to get you, your daughter and the kids" The police are aware of this statement as I have heard said to me twice and my daughter has heard it many of times, but because it is not the word 'kill' they are not concerned. I am concerned because it's the way he

said it and the way it is meant, he has already been over at my house walking around taking photos when I had an IVO on him. He is an intimidating angry man who is fuelled very easily especially with Alcohol.

- I would like the children to have appropriate representation.
  - When the children go to school and onwards, they are represented with their own lawyer, who specialises in the field with no connection, with the perpetrators or victims lawyer. They must be independent with no conflict of interest. The child is given three lawyers to meet and they pick the one they feel they can trust with the school councillor and principle to help with their journey. [REDACTED] is on a waiting list to see someone as [REDACTED] does not want to go to the perpetrators house every second weekend. [REDACTED] has to go at present because if he doesn't my daughter will lose the children.
  - Little ones below school age are represented with the maternal child health nurse and a lawyer.
  
- DHS are not pro active, they allow violence to continue within the homes. They document but do nothing.
  
- (Is a public flogging needed like the old days to bring them back in line, such as in the public square at 1000hrs)  
Why should anyone get hurt and allow the perpetrator to continue to walk around continuing their actions.