

22.05.2015 To Whom it Concerns.

As a survivor/witness of Family Violence, I wish to inform the Commission that my Father [REDACTED] [REDACTED] emotionally and verbally abused my Mother. He was also a victim of bullying behaviour at work.

His work was as a Victorian Policeman. He worked at [REDACTED] [REDACTED], also was a [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] at [REDACTED] Academy.

[REDACTED]. This would have been in the late 1950's.

Dad survived D Day as a member of the [REDACTED] Forces before he enrolled to become a Policeman. He was proud of his excellent knowledge and application to the Law. In my opinion, Dad was by all accounts an honest and trustworthy man with a strong moral sense in regards to his public duty.

He did not join the after drinks sessions, take extra work or Moonlight. He came home to his wife and daughters after work.

Dad told me that he had cold water thrown over him while he was in the shower during work hours and as soon as it became general knowledge that he didn't like cats, one would be supplied to join him on the breakfast table at work. I do not know the full extent of the bullying.

Dad was a staunch [REDACTED] man and I suspect that he refused to neglect his duties even when encouraged to work in a non professional manner. His PA/Secretary at [REDACTED] Academy told him a few days before she died, that he was being 'White anted' at work.

Unfortunately, being a child, then a teenager and a non Police member busy with my own life, I was not in the position to help, counsel, or to direct him to seek help. I probably didn't have the courage or foresight myself!

I am a [REDACTED] teacher of about 25 years.

I consider that much of the bullying culture within the Force did not assist my family to feel safe, secure or valued. We did not have many Police persons as friends.

My Mother put her head in the gas oven in a plea for help and suffered years of abuse.

Neither of them benefited from debriefing or a support group.

It is a testament to her courage and determination that she found the strength to stay and not leave. I wish the Commission good luck and trust that this submission in some small way assists other Police Families in the future.

Yours faithfully

[REDACTED]