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My experiences with the ~~justis~~ legal system has been a shocking and and very Scarey, exusting rollercoaster.

From the first momment I sought out legal assistance for safety regarding my children and myself there have been many ups and downs.

The police were the first people to assist my cry for help when I had realised I could not stop <sup>or keep away</sup> the ~~perpetrator~~ perpetrated on my own and ~~had~~ needed protection ~~and~~ <sup>my life was in danger,</sup> My children were at serious risk of being badly hurt, <sup>and lifes in danger</sup> and I would not be ~~the~~ able to protect them if I was badly hurt or killed as the two younger children were to him.

The police assisted me by placing an intium order against the perpatrator.

He wa I after feeling safer I musted the ~~convoy~~ carage to have him charged for the latest ~~assult~~ assault he made against me and he served a period of 9 months in prison.

I continued to try to seek protection and fearing his parole when getting closer to date. It was important he had no means <sup>back</sup> into my life via phone or any contact.

After <sup>2 years</sup> failed to get any other orders from then on as the ~~offender~~ <sup>perpetrator</sup> went on to <sup>offend</sup> ~~abusing~~ other people who would buy his lies and get sucked into

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his ~~sub~~ manipulation <sup>another</sup> ~~and~~ cycle of abuse until they managed to rid him out of fear for their lives and safety (especially) ~~children~~ their children. I would ~~hear~~ <sup>would be approached</sup> a lot of incidents where he had used weapons <sup>and told</sup> <sup>son</sup> <sup>Apepe</sup>

I felt fear for my own safety but legally couldn't do anything for my circumstances. The local police ~~was~~ were aware of foulplay on the perpetrator's behalf as I would ~~report~~ tell them of my concern for mine and others in the area as he was never far from my ~~physical~~ vicinity. Unfortunately no one would report the crimes like so many other victims I had witnessed myself being assaulted with weapons by the perpetrator. They all just wanted to be rid of him as he is mentally ~~unstable~~ <sup>unstable</sup>, even the local police had the perpetrator done for loitering in the town as he had also been threatened by the perpetrator <sup>himself, this was</sup> 4 years ago.

When the perpetrator came to my door 12 months ago and ask to see his children or he would take me to family court I was knocked over by overwhelming fear again. I struggled badly to get <sup>adequate</sup> legal representation, advise and respect. From living in a rural area and the perpetrator had already been represented all but 2 legal aid lawyers. Even when I tried to go privately

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I was told that I needed to show that I had the funds before I could even get any ~~ass~~ interest or respect toward my case at all and felt like I was in a dog eat dog world. (Even one covers their own and each others butts.)

I had sacked a Lawyer for his ~~in~~ the manner he held my case in (my voice) and I failed to achieve <sup>and declare I needed</sup> ~~substantiation~~ evidence, ~~and~~ I was ~~was~~ humiliated and told off by the magistrated as if I had be violated all over again with power to the perpetrator, <sup>I was</sup> ~~and~~ told to come back prepared for a contested hearing.

I tried to ask my ~~self~~ Lawyer what that required and ~~he~~ when I realised he was going to provide no other evidence and we were going to face the same fate. I went to the legal aid commitione

<sup>and complained but</sup> ~~and~~ I was unsuccessful of receiving the transfer for legal aid after two weeks and ended up paying a Lawyer from [REDACTED], 4500, <sup>that</sup> I lent ~~from~~ <sup>money</sup> ~~A~~ my ~~from~~ family that <sup>and</sup> they couldn't afford <sup>for him</sup> ~~to~~ drop everything and ~~come~~ ~~da~~ represent me the very next day.

All odds againts me as I had no other evidence but that one charge I was successful of obtaining a 2 year order but ~~not~~ with <sup>at</sup> the children on it. When the perpetrator took me to family court it seemed as things went in

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his favour as every child has a right to know his/hers parent. (He had never been a parent to the children.)  
I on the other hand had the stress, children, battle to still fight and legal representation to seek out as he had ~~and other been got the last~~ been represented by all other lawyers in my region. &

When successfully getting a <sup>lawyer. (BOOKS away)</sup> legal aid lawyer I found it extremely difficult to explain my concerns and the family violence that accrued on me as I didn't feel like anyone 'got it'. And real ~~time~~ <sup>meanwhile</sup> fear and uncertainty about my children's lives and safety, ~~is~~ not being ~~of~~ assured in anyway and told the father would likely get supervised access for a start, ~~accused~~. I couldn't trust the legal system.

I was ordered to start supervised visits even though the mag magistrate had not seen my affidavit and heard my case. I was one of about 300 cases that day in [redacted] Magistrate's Court.

<sup>I have been to family court 3 times</sup> My children have attended <sup>one visit at the contact centre with the perpetrator,</sup> ~~and one again.~~ fear has disturbed our lives again. I am not using +

I am now using the opportunity to have the offender charged for other offences against me, <sup>I never had the chance to</sup> or to make at least a statement for a start.

It is very scary for women like me to go through the legal system. I want

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justice served as it should, that my children and I can eventually have normal and happy lives of no fear or repeats of past violence, further trauma, abuse and to recover from the past. For there to be ~~to~~ a stop to the cycle of abuse, hurt and anger, depression and anxiety, fear, pain and suffering. To know that the perpetrator can not hurt you any more or the ones you love <sup>and</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>make you hand</sup> ~~the to them.~~ Violence 'male gender' is ~~and~~ wildly spreading and growing into an everyday epidemic. Violence is to be seen as not acceptable or treated lightly and in my experience from the ~~our~~ legal system it is, almost as if we are growing subseptable of it. Things need to change dramatically so that violence is not tolerated at all and <sup>it to be known</sup> ~~it~~ <sup>once</sup> that everyone has a choice to be violent and than a consequence. Like ~~them and that choice~~. Everyone needs to know it will never be ok. or exceptable because it isn't. Once a violent act against a woman especially <sup>from the hands of</sup> ~~who has~~ <sup>are</sup> the fathers ultimante they're rights, to be able to offend again, and that is the right of the woman and children. Stop violent men from having access to children. simple if they don't want the problem to grow. Children of all people need to know ~~nothing else~~ but they are safe to stay ~~and keep~~ functionally normal ~~and grow~~ into [REDACTED]