

27/05/2015

Commission into Family Violence

Dear Commissioner.

I wish to submit my point of view regarding Family Violence.

While I have never experienced Family Violence myself through my own Family, my current partner has experienced this at the hands of her ex-husband.

For her roughly [REDACTED] years of marriage she was intimidated and spoken to like an inferior person which left her with no self-confidence and very scared of her ex- partner.

She was scared to leave him as there were [REDACTED] young children involved and I think at the end of the day she stayed for the sake of her children.

Only once was she physically abused which resulted in a trip to the Doctors and photographs taken and medical assistance rendered for bruising and soreness.

After this event my partner applied for an intervention order through the [REDACTED] Magistrates Court with the help of Legal Aid.

On that day the ex-husband turned up with members of his family and a solicitor and the intimidation and fear continued with my partner agreeing to her ex signing some sort of undertaking.

I felt from listening to her story that the judge needed only to talk to her in private and even ring her Doctor to confirm her injuries.

I felt a proper AVO should have been issued but my partner was so scared to be in the same room as him she agreed to something far less than she should have.

This is only my opinion and I do not wish to discredit anybody here but I feel that the justice system let my partner in not granting this order as I feel it would have sent a strong message to my partners ex that this will not be tolerated in any way.

He is a very intimidating person and he still bullies his children in an effort to bully my partner.

I thank you for your time and I realise there are a lot more serious cases and situations out there than the one I have described but I wanted to just let you know my partners situation and how vulnerable she felt at the time.

Thank you

[REDACTED]