

April 22 2015



### Royal Commission into Family Violence

I am a married man still living happily with my wife of over 40 years, father of two great children (one daughter) and grandfather of three wonderful grandchildren (one grandson and two granddaughters.) Perhaps partly because of having a sister when I grew up, and because my first child was a girl, I have been very sensitive by the flood of the sexist behaviour of many men and boys in all walks of life, including the media, sport and our parliaments and churches, and by the physical and mental violence against women in our society from the very top down.

I am writing now because I strongly feel that the name of your commission is inappropriate for the problems involved. Violence against women is not by any means restricted to family situations; it is much more widespread than that. The vicious rape and murder of Jill Meagher, and the recent shocking murder of Stephanie Scott are just two examples of regular attacks on unmarried women.

Would you please seek to have your enquiry urgently renamed so that it sends a strong message from the outset that the sexism and violence against women takes place in all walks of life here in Australia (and around the world) is totally unacceptable in our society. A possible title is Royal Commission into Violence against women carried out by men. However, as many men also suffer serious injury, even death from violent attacks by other men (e.g. king hits), perhaps the epidemic of widespread serious violence in our society is the main point.

Sincerely,

