

RCFV - ANONYMOUS

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Enquiries](#)
Subject: Fwd: family Violence royal commission
Date: Thursday, 28 May 2015 12:07:07 PM

I ask that my submission be treated as anonymous, but is ok to publish and quote with name and identity removed. I acknowledge that I may be contacted by the commission.

[REDACTED]

The current Royal Commission into how Victoria's response to Family Violence can be improved has missed one of the most vital areas of review; that is How our courts are responding and dealing with perpetrators of such crime in both the civil and criminal jurisdictions.

There has been commentary, "ad infinitum" about this being a whole of community problem.

Since when are the judiciary, not part of the community?

Sentencing guidelines include amongst others, the communities denunciation of such conduct.....

Until a good hard look is taken at the continually weak, inadequate and easy option sentencing of our Magistrates for family violence perpetrators, there will continue to be a distinct lack of deterrent for the perpetrators of such crimes. Affording 1st and 2nd time FV offenders weak dispositions, often without conviction does not send a strong message around specific and general deterrence.

To only look at the response of service providers and police, in my opinion, addresses only half the issue.

Until our judicial officers are made more accountable for their soft touch, easy option treatment of these criminals, the cycle will continue.

I accept that an individual prosecutor has an avenue for appeal pursuant to S.275 of the Criminal Procedure Act (manifestly inadequate sentence), however Magistrates are well aware of this and often do just enough to ensure there is no appeal by the prosecution. The process involved is time consuming and onerous and needs to be simplified.

Family Violence requires a Holistic community approach to breaking the cycle, until the courts are made more accountable in there sentencing regimes, only half a job will be done.

Sincereley

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(Anonymous)

Sent from my iPad

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