

24th December 2017

Justice for Hemi  
Po Box 9108  
SLADE POINT QLD 4740  
Email: [justiceforhemi@gmail.com](mailto:justiceforhemi@gmail.com)

“Preliminary Submission - Sentencing for Child Homicide”

Dear Council,

The Justice for Hemi, Ms Kerri-Ann Goodwin (Hemi Mother) and Mr Shane Burke (Hemi Father) would like to take the opportunity to provide our input in relation to the penalties imposed on “Criminal Offences arising from death of a CHILD”.

As this is a “Preliminary Submission”. We, Justice for Hemi, would like to identify the key issues we would like the council to explore.

- Explore facts needed to progress a charge of Murder particularly “Intent”. In saying this our son “Hemi” was beaten all day before his death but prosecution said it was hard to prove intent. Can there be work done in this area, to diminish the importance of intent when dealing with a death from of a child from abuse or neglect.

- The focus should be really upon these vulnerable defenceless child / children who put their trust in these so called adults/humans who are supposed to nurture, protect and love unconditionally but how we can keep these cases as “Murder” as that is what they are and not “Manslaughter”.

Our “Child KILLER” was not provoked nor did “HE” have a legitimate need to self-defence. Hemi (our son), killer beat/ abused him all day before his death. Again, Murder is being reduce to Manslaughter because the killer says “they did not mean to kill” while inflicting the abuse.!

- DPP & Defence doing plea deals to save the Courts “TIME” and “MONEY”! We believe as being member of the public we would expect that our child/children’s lives are worth more!

We have a one punch law and although we personally do not believe that Law is working, we do however believe it’s a step in the right direction. There are many aspects that need to be addressed but, this is by far of most importance. Currently, we are seeing “Child abusers” receiving Manslaughter sentences which is not good enough!

We are interested in discussing face-to-face with the council our personal experiences and discuss in depth every aspect of the investigation set out by the Attorney General Minister of Justice Yvette D’Ath.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Council for reading our submission letter and we look forward to discussing this in depth with you in the near future.

Regards  
Kerri-Ann Goodwin & Shane Burke  
Justice for Hemi