



## Online submission—Sentencing for child homicide offences

| Details         |                |
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| Date            | 17 May 2018    |
| Name            | Kevin Richards |
| Organisation    | None           |
| Position        | N/A            |
| Submission type | Public         |

### Question 1: Sentencing purposes

**What are the most important sentencing purposes that should be taken into account by a court when sentencing an offender for an offence arising from the death of a child, and why?**

Intent, if the death of the child was not accidental, and was from neglect or abuse, then it's just murder.

### Question 2: Sentencing factors

<http://www.sentencingcouncil.qld.gov.au/research/sentencing-for-child-homicide/submission-form/q2-statutory-sentencing-factors>

**2.1 Referring to the list linked above, what are the most important factors that you consider should be taken into account when sentencing an offender for an offence arising from the death of a child, and why?**

10. max/min sentencing, the punishment does not fit the crime, it is not a deterrent, this is my main reason for filling this form in, they must be locked away for life, as it stands now, they can kill and be out on the streets in a couple of years!

**2.2 Are there any other sentencing factors not expressly listed in legislation, or referred to only in a general way, that you think are important in sentencing for these offences? If so, describe the factor/s and explain why they are important.**

Don't know

### Question 3: Sentencing factors (aggravating and mitigating)

<http://www.sentencingcouncil.qld.gov.au/research/sentencing-for-child-homicide/submission-form/q3-examples-of-aggravating-and-mitigating-factors>

**Referring to the examples linked above, which factors in your view are the most important aggravating and mitigating factors to be taken into account by sentencing judges where a person is being sentenced for a criminal offence arising from the death of a child, and why?**

Don't know

### Question 4: Sentencing process

**What do you consider are the advantages and disadvantages of maintaining flexibility in the sentencing process when sentencing an offender for an offence arising from the death of a child?**

Don't know.

### Question 5: Reflecting particular vulnerabilities of children in sentencing

**5.1 How does a child victim's age and particular vulnerabilities impact on the seriousness of a homicide offence?**

Don't know.

**5.2 How can the particular vulnerabilities of child victims best be taken into account in sentencing for an offence arising from the death of a child?**

Don't know.

### Question 6: Reforms

**6.1 Are any legislative or other changes needed in sentencing for child homicide offences? If so, what changes are needed and why? What would these changes add to the sentencing process?**

Life sentencing for killing, especially child killing.

**6.2 Should any other reforms be considered to improve the sentencing process for child homicide offences? For example, should restorative justice approaches have any place in the sentencing process and if so, at what stage should they be considered? What might be some of the advantages and disadvantages of such approaches?**

Don't know.

### Question 7: Community awareness

**7.1 What issues contribute to or detract from the community's understanding of sentencing for child homicide offences?**

Don't know.

**7.2 How can communication with community members and victims of crime about sentencing for child homicide offences be enhanced?**

TV and newspapers