Please note, this submission was received at Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council's Logan community summit on 16 July 2018.

Lyn Burke





11th March 2018

Queensland Sentencing Advisory Council

In light of my son and his partner meeting with you, I am attempting to put pen to paper. Naturally as Hemi's grandmother the effects on myself and my family's lives is beyond a living hell. It is all consuming, every minute of every day and this will never cease. However to add to that the injustice of the so called justice system will never allow any form of peace.

For nearly 2 years we were told by the prosecution to not speak to journalists, don't rock the boat, you might hinder the murder charge. We obeyed only to be advised that the charge would now be manslaughter, which would ensure a conviction. What changed, who dropped the ball, the police or the prosecution? I would never have dreamt that killing a defenseless human being would account for so little.

I sat through the majority of court appearances and along the way was educated, not to the extent of the legal eagles. What I did learn was decisions are really made behind closed doors and not in the courtroom, that precedence is the most important point of the matter when deciding the term of a sentence.



In September, 2016, felt there was enough evidence for Ireland to stand trial (for murder) in the Supreme Court. Was he wrong? Was he incompetent? How was his decision on this matter overturned in backrooms? Statements from more than 20 witnesses that were to be used at trial were submitted. Were all these people wrong and incompetent or not worth bothering with?

The law society feels that I and everyone else needs educating on these matters, well it looks like I do. I have too many unanswered questions. But do not look down on me and speak to me as if I am a lesser person than those in the Queensland Law Society. Do not speak down to me while you think all my information comes from the media. On Hemi's case the media have been pretty spot on and did not sensationalize any of their stories.

I can honestly say that no matter how much education the law society would like to throw at me, I would still come to the same conclusion. That Hemi, Mason, Tyrell, Paige, Lily, Matthew, Kylesha-Lee and any others I have missed, have been treated as garbage by the Courts.

With eternal sadness

Lyn Burke

