

VICTIMS' VOICES

CONCEALING THE FELONS

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EDITORIAL

How stupid is this: you can rape and murder but you are nameless in the eyes of the law. You serve a very minimal term in a boys home run by the DHS who reward you with chocolates and ice cream to get you out of bed on time.

The idiots in charge have never heard apparently of a buckets of ice cold water; worked all the time when I did my National Service. If you can commit heinous crimes, then regardless of age, you belong in a jail and must face the full force of our laws.

Sex fiends amongst us

You have to ask yourself: "Am I dreaming this?" These legal rats are actually supporting sex offenders of the worst kind. They are under protection by the Justice Department where the buck stops with Premier Brumby. I deal with the victims and their families on a daily basis who say "What is going on Noel?" to which the (cont.p2)

Murderers who, by law, cannot be named

Herald Sun 21/8/2009

The daughter of slain grandmother Marie Greening Zidan fears lives are at risk while her mother's killers remain anonymous. Janine Greening wants the laws protecting the brutal killers changed so they can be named now they are adults. The killers were 15 and 16 when they bashed, strangled and sexually assaulted Ms Zidan in her Seaford home in 2000. "SJK", now 23, was freed from prison in late 2006 while "GAS", 25, will be released in January 2009. Under current laws they can never be identified as Mrs Zidan's killers without court permission, even if

they kill again. Repeated attempts by the Herald Sun for permission have been refused. The Law Institute of Victoria's Michael McNamara backed the laws, saying they spared young people from vigi-

lantism and helped their return to society with regards to rehabilitation and future employment. But Ms Greening says those who kill or rape do not deserve protection, regardless of their age. "My family does not want anyone else to go through what we go through," she said. "We have to fight for the next victim."

GAS was a paint chromer and SJK had been kicked out of school for theft, burglary and truancy. The remorseless pair made a harassing prank call from youth detention to Ms Greening in 2002, as they awaited sentencing.



23 sex fiends living among us - and we're banned from telling you where

Herald Sun 22 Oct.

The State Government refuses to reveal where 21 men and two women are living despite serious public concerns. It was revealed that more than half of the 45 released sex offenders still considered a serious danger, are not in the so-called "village of the damned" compound outside Ararat Jail. Living throughout Victoria in housing approved by the Parole Board some are believed to be in their own homes. The identity and location of such offenders has been routinely suppressed.

Dr Joe Tucci, chief execu-

tive of the Australian Childhood Foundation, said community leaders, at least, should know the whereabouts of offenders living in their area. "People like school principals, kindergarten heads and local police - people with responsibility for children - should be told," he said. CVSA president Noel McNamara said parents "need to be given a fighting chance to protect their children...We don't want to know their addresses, but the public has a right to know what suburbs these people are living in

so they can be on full alert,"

But Liberty Victoria president Michael Pearce, SC, said the law struck a reasonable balance between community protection and rehabilitation of offenders. Mr Pearce said the community could be satisfied they were adequately protected by the very stringent conditions applied to people on ESOs. Three released sex offenders were returned to custody during 2008-09 after breaching their supervision orders by committing new offences.

EDITORIAL: SEX FIENDS AMONGST US (CONT.)

reply is, I have no idea. In the context of grief and trauma that the victim and their families are put through, any punishment handed out to these perpetrators is miniscule. We of course are the laughing stock of the criminal world.

In response to heinous crimes against our children what do we do? We put them in a place with swimming pools, full size slate billiard tables and gyms; all the comforts you would expect at Club Med. Now I have to say to let

these very sick animals out of 'the village of the damned' is a disgrace. Will those who let these people back into the community be held accountable if they offend again? No, it will be all ho ho, hum hum, while

they drink their whiskeys at the old boys club as they would have done in the past with Mr. Baldy. It is outrageous and disgraceful that this government gives priority to deviates rather than their v i c t i m s .

SOME RARE GOOD NEWS



"Sex Witch" Robin Fletcher

Sex Fiend Named

Despite the fact, as mentioned on page 1, that the public generally does not have the right to know the identity and location of released sex offenders, there has been one small yet im-

portant win in this battle for freedom of information.

Herald Sun 20/10/2009
As reported in today's *Herald Sun*, Justice Cummins refused to suppress the name of one of the state's worst child sex offenders in an application for his release. Robin Fletcher who describes himself as a sex witch or warlock, is being held in a house outside the walls of the Ararat prison. He has already been successful in avoiding being kept inside the prison. But he still lives with other sex offenders in a compound, on prison grounds, known as the "village of the

damned". He said it contravened his rights after he had served a maximum sentence of 10 years for multiple sex crimes. Fletcher and other sex offenders who have been judged as likely to reoffend have had their movements restricted under extended supervision orders, but they can apply for their cases to be reviewed. Using the decision by Justice Cummins as a precedent, the Herald Sun will challenge the practice of allowing some of these paedophiles to remain anonymous. We believe in the public's right to know that the person who may be moving in next door

may be one of these monsters.
Congratulations to the Herald Sun and Mr. Justice Cummins. First the Herald Sun for taking on the very expensive cost of legal action to have the right to name paedophiles who are walking in the community without our knowledge, and Justice Cummins one of the very few judges who cannot by any means be considered a Bleeding Heart. Attorney General Rob Hulls please note: if you want a good role model for your judge appointments then Justice Cummins is your man.
—Noel McNamara

Jury Sentencing Under Consideration

Liberals Call for Move to 'Jury Sentencing'

The Age 9/11/2009
The Victorian Liberal Party has called for juries to be given the power to decide the sentences imposed on people convicted of serious crimes. The radical plan, moved by the Glen Huntly branch, to remove sentencing power from the judiciary and give it to "the people" was endorsed by the party's state council yesterday at the urging of state MP Bernie Finn and former homicide detective Simon Illingworth. They said jury sentencing

would overcome public concern about lenient punishment of offenders by judges. Mr Finn said that Victoria needed a justice system, not just a legal system, and introducing jury sentencing would "give the people a



Simon Illingworth

say". He accused state Attorney-General Rob Hulls of stacking the judiciary with "his civil libertarian mates". Mr Illingworth told delegates his time in the homicide squad convinced him jury sentencing was an idea whose time had come. "Too many times have I worked 24-hours-a-day trying to track down a killer," he said. "Then we finally get a jury to convict, and then



nothing. The person is out of jail in no time."
Editor: Despite the Age newspaper describing the plan as 'radical' the concept is far from new. The United States has had jury sentencing since its foundation in 1776.

LENIENCY IN WARRNAMBOOL

Sex Predator gets 10 yr min.

Warrnambool Standard 6/10/2009

Victims' Advocate Slams Term

Former Heywood man, Peter James Rooks, 46, appeared on trial for sexual abuse of young girls in June and July this year at the Warrnambool



Judge Mark Taft

County Court, and consistently denied all the charges against him. After three days of deliberation in July, the jury found Rooks guilty on 15 of the charges. The offences were between 1986 and 2000, and included attempted and actual sexual penetration of a child aged under 16 years, indecently assaulting and committing an indecent act with or in the

presence of a child aged under 16. Amid heightened security, Judge Mark Taft yesterday sentenced Rooks to 14 years and six months in prison and ordered that the child abuser not be eligible for parole for 10 years and six months. Rooks' name was also placed on the sex offenders' register for life. Rooks remained stony faced as Judge Taft read out the sentence to a packed courtroom in Warrnambool yesterday. A Portland district woman, whose attempted suicide led to a police investigation, told *The Standard* she was relieved Rooks had been found guilty of sex offences, began when she was only six or seven. Police said the increased security was there in case of retribution attempts against Rook.



A crime victims support group has slammed the sentence handed down in Warrnambool yesterday to former Heywood man Peter James Rooks. CVSA president Noel McNamara said Rooks' sentence of 10-and-a-half years without parole for sexually abusing four young girls over a 14-year period was "pathetic".

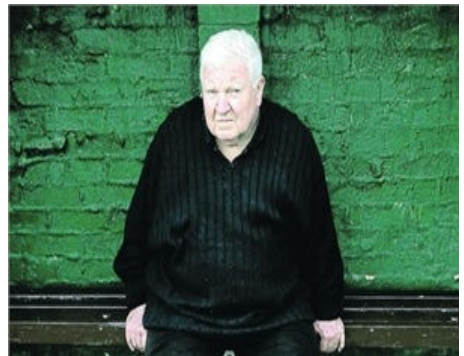
"I thought it was absolutely outrageous," Mr McNamara said.

"He's definitely a sicko -and the sentence is inadequate- for what he's done to those kids and all that they've suffered.

ruined their lives. It's pretty disgusting."

"My way of seeing it is that these types of people (like Rooks) should never be released, but in the ways of the law I'd say he should have got 20 years, so he'd be well into his 60s when he's released." He said it was something that Rooks' name would be on the sex offenders' register for life, but Mr McNamara believes the jail term of just over a decade did not go far enough.

"He's done everything in the (paedophile) book and only got 10 years . . . I just couldn't believe it," he said.



"He's

Noel McNamara
outside the court

WARRNAMBOOL MAGISTRATE JONATHAN KLESTADT

Playing the Race Card

A victims support leader plans to complain about a Warrnambool magistrate's handling of a case involving notorious criminal Charlie Clark. CVSA president Noel McNamara yesterday attacked Warrnambool magistrate Jonathan Klestadt for telling David "Charlie" Clark, 49, that he was a victim of his racial background.

Mr Klestadt said Clark, whose criminal history included more than 20 jail sentences, had re-

ceived harsh sentences in the past and that from a young age Clark had been a victim of his racial background. Clark was placed on a two-year good behaviour bond for using threatening words to an off duty police officer and failing to answer bail.

Mr McNamara said he planned to complain to Victoria's chief magistrate Ian Gray, about Mr Klestadt. "What right has he got to criticise fellow magistrates? What does he know about circum-

stances that came before the courts when those other magistrates sentenced?" he said. "He should be kicked off the bench. [Clark] threatening people with a history like that and getting a good behaviour bond - it's just a joke."

"We see it in courts all the time. Racist, that's absolutely rubbish. He's got a two-year good behaviour bond. He'll be back in a few months then we'll see what happens. All criminals need to be accountable for

their actions." Mr McNamara said he planned to put pen to paper. "I'll be sending a letter straight to chief magistrate Ian Gray. It's absolutely ridiculous," he said.

A History of Leniency

Magistrate Klestadt is no stranger to controversy. In 2003 Geelong mechanic Graham Clarke was test riding a bike he was working on when he lost his life in an accident due to the negligent driving of an Andrija Cerepinko. Even after accepting those facts Magistrate Jonathan Klestadt gave punishment of no more than a fine of \$535.

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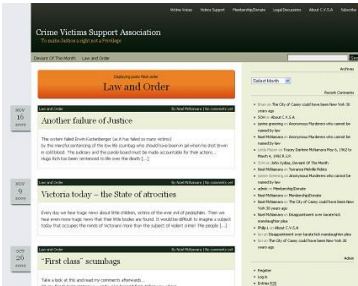


Making justice a right,
 not a privilege



In recent months the Crime Victims Support Association has refurbished its traditional website blog as well as adding a new site dedicated to legislative criminal law reform.

The new blog is an updated spam free 'Wordpress' type in a much more user friendly format. It has the new address of 'cvsa.com.au' while the law reform site has taken over the old 'cvsa.asn.au' url. The problem with the old site was that it had fallen into disrepair and spammers were relentless in their attacks upon it. With the new format spammers can be quickly dispensed with, and regular post-



ers who develop a reputation for civility can even be upgraded to moderators. In this way a greater community style forum can be enabled where people can post, uninterrupted by irrelevant rubbish.

The law reform site, still at a developing stage, will be addressing such issues as: judicial accountability; jury sentencing; where the Rule of Law should be more strictly adhered to; and facets of the law where felons tend to be acquitted by what are

known as technicalities. Supporting Noel with the popular blog is the talent laden but salary free work of the two Patricks: Patrick Carroll and Patrick Hawke. Philip Lillingston is responsible for the other site.

Together with DoubleJeopardyReform.Org the CVSA now has three sites online promoting legal discussion and reform.



QUOTE OF THE YEAR

Bravo for Sheriff Judd

An illegal alien in Polk County, Florida who got pulled over in a routine traffic stop, ended up 'executing' the deputy who stopped him. The deputy, Matt Williams, 39, was shot eight times, including once behind his right ear at close range. Another deputy was wounded and a police dog killed. A state wide manhunt

ensued. The murderer was found eventually, hiding in a wooded area with his gun. After he shot at them, SWAT team officers open fired and hit the suspect 6 8 t i m e s .

Now here's the kicker:

Naturally, the left wing liberal media went nuts and asked why they shot the poor undocumented immigrant 68 times.

-Talk about an all time classic answer.-

Sheriff Grady Judd told the *Orlando Sentinel*:

"Because that's all the ammunition we had."

Source: Orlando Sentinel, 1/10/ 2006



Sheriff Grady Judd

SAY AGAIN, ATTORNEY GENERAL?

On the 19th November this year federal Attorney-General Robert McClelland (below right) introduced the Crimes Legislation Amendment (Torture Prohibition and Death Penalty Abolition) Bill 2009 into Federal Parliament. With regards to the death penalty aspect, he stated: "It will ensure the death penalty cannot be reintroduced anywhere in Australia in the future"

"...in the future" ????

Does the honourable minister need a lesson in civics? One would think that when he and his party won office in 2007 it gave them authority to make laws that would affect the Australian people **up until the next election.**

Apparently the attorney-general is of the belief that he is so imbued with divine guidance that he can make laws for us to last for all time.

One would hope that for all time, Australia remains an autonomous sovereign state that can make any law she wishes, and that those type of comments by our attorney-general and his supporters remains nothing more than delusions of grandeur.

