

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am aware that the date for submissions has passed but thought I would take this opportunity to respond anyway.

I applaud these attempts to strengthen the powers of the courts to protect victims of family violence. I also applaud the approach that supports the best interest of the child.

I would really like this approach to be further enhanced by the appointment of Advocates to support children where domestic violence has been an issue. So frequently I see the manipulative and violent partners in a domestic violence situation continue to manipulate the situation even when the marriage has ended and it seems as though no one is speaking up for the best interests of the children.

Regards

Judy Smith

31 January 2017