

Domestic violence royal commission submission

I am writing to address a big issue that I see in the current system.

I was subject to a lot of domestic violence while I was married. This included things such as being spat at, burnt with a cigarette, kicked and punched. I was subject to many acts of control. Some of these things included no access to money, control of which friends I could have and over the years this became complete isolation from my friends family, with only the ability to engage in my partner's friends.

I was in this relationship for 15 years and all of this crept up on me slowly and insidiously. When I left I actually felt like I was going insane. When I finally decided to leave that's when I was accused of

doing all the things that had been done to me!!!!

Here's where my issue lies with the current system, I am male and I don't think there is any support for males and it is assumed we are the ones doing all of the bad stuff. I think this is incorrect, in my circle of friends, perhaps 20 to 30 males, there are 7 in the same boat, but no one in authority has ever believed them. Why are we put in this situation, I was suicidal due the lack of support, but there really isn't anywhere to turn to. It's assumed I am a perpetrator.

I went to family court and lost everything including my children , again because of these false allegations.

Now I understand that I am bigger and stronger than my female partner, but I am and have never been violent but I was raised to never be violent to women, but that left me vulnerable to women who are violent.

Please , please take into account that men can be affected by this scourge as well. That being said , I don't hold much hope for change, after seeing this system at work, it's very apparent that men's views on the subject are never wanted or respected.

Thank you(if this even gets read)

