304. P Greenwood

Name: P Greenwood

Proposal 2–1

I have been prosecuting criminal elder abuse cases for the past 21 years in San Diego County, California. I am convinced that elder abuse will be one of the major crimes of the 21st Century; demographics, economic trends and easier access to people identity point to that. Australia can prepare for the avalanche of new cases that will inevitably arise by developing a national plan.

Proposal 2–2

This is vital. We always need data to show where resources can be best used. Not only should this study identify types of elder abuse but it should also depict the age, gender and socio-economic background of the victim and the perpertrator; and should track the classification of the reporting party and whether the allegation was criminally investigated, prosecuted and ultimately resulted in a criminal conviction.

Proposal 3–1

My experience over the past 21 years has taught me that investigations of criminal abuse is best left to law enforcement, and not to social workers or to public guardians.

Proposal 3–2

It is vital that we do not allow elder abuse victims to self determine whether a case gets investigated or prosecuted. We don't ask young child abuse victims whether their abuser should be prosecuted. 40 years ago in San Diego we allowed domestic violence victims to determine which cases were prosecuted. We don't do that now because too many victims 40 years ago - who "declined to prosecute" - ended up as homicide victims. Elder abuse victims must not be allowed to dictate what cases get investigated. For example, one of the most common physical elder abuse incidents is that involving an elderly mother who allows her middle aged son to "mooch" off her. He is addicted to drugs, alcohol or gambling and is lazy. He steals from his mother and when she confronts him, he physically asaults her. Many of those elderly mothers do not want us to prosecute. But we must.

Proposal 3–3

Proposal 3–4

Proposal 3–5

I believe that Australia should adopt a system of mandated reporters.. such as first responders [paramedics], law enforcement, other medical personnel, social workers, care givers whether paid or unpaid, clergy and employees of financial institutions. Non mandated reporters should be allowed to remain anonymous. All reporters whether mandated or not should enjoy immunity from lawsuits provided that the report was made in good faith and with reasonable suspicion.

Proposal 5–1

Proposal 5–2

Proposal 5–3

Question 5–1

All law enforcement and Crown prosecutors.

Question 5–2

Proposal 5–4

Proposal 5–5

Proposal 5–6

Proposal 5–7

Proposal 5–8

Proposal 5–9

Proposal 5–10

Proposal 5–11

Proposal 5–12

Proposal 5–13

Proposal 6–1

Question 6–1

Proposal 6–2

Question 6–2

Question 6–3

Proposal 7–1

If we make every bank employee a mandated reporter of suspected financial elder abiuse, then this will ensure that proper training is given.

Proposal 7–2

Question 7–1

Question 7–2

Proposal 8–1

Question 8–1

Proposal 9–1

Proposal 9–2

Proposal 9–3

Proposal 10–1

Proposal 10–2

Proposal 10–3

Proposal 10–4

Yes - as should all other disciplines!

Proposal 11–1

And we must create a system that will ensure that such reports are investigated by law enforcement and then where the evidence allows - to be prosecuted aggressively.

Proposal 11–2

These categories are too narrow. They should include those same forms of abuse committed by ANYONE - not just by a care recipient.

Proposal 11–3

Proposal 11–4

Proposal 11–5

Question 11–1

Question 11–2

Question 11–3

Proposal 11–6

Proposal 11–7

Proposal 11–8

Proposal 11–9

Proposal 11–10

Proposal 11–11