

Dear Your Honours,

This suggestion is concerned with violence against women by men in Australia, including sexual violence, murder and serious non-sexual assault..

I believe there is potential for increasing our understanding of the causes of these scourges and, possibly, reducing the rate of serious incidents of violence by men against women in this country.

To limit the scope of this submission and the work it would entail if supported, I would suggest the incidences of serious violence against women related to this request be confined to murder and rape/sexual assault.

I would like to request:

1. That a study is done measuring the per capita rates of these incidents in Australia, in other Western countries including the Western European countries, perhaps Eastern European countries, also New Zealand, the UK, Ireland, the US, Canada and, perhaps, Japan and Singapore.
2. Following compilation of the relative rates, consideration then be given as to how the per capita rate of these crimes in Australia compares with those countries, and of what the factors are in the countries with especially low and especially high per capita rates of these crimes.
3. That a report relating to the relevant factors is prepared, so government can understand why the rates are significantly lower or higher in some countries (assuming that is the case).
4. The report, ideally, would be accompanied by recommendations or suggestions of what could be done, based on assessment of the data and the factors, to lower the rate of these crimes in Australia. Without pre-empting such a study and what it might find, I expect government would wish to consider these suggestion/recommendations, and whether, how and to what extent they could practicably be adopted.. The idea is to give government a series of choices and paths that could significantly lower the rate of these crimes in Australia.
5. And finally, I believe the federal government is best placed to drive this.

Yours sincerely,

Sean Ford

Journalist (acting in a private capacity).

I note that I have no particular expertise in these areas beyond the experience of many relevant court cases in my work and an interest in numbers and a belief they can sometimes show the way forward.

I am happy to be contacted at any time if required, via this email or on [REDACTED].