

SHOULD THE PERIOD OF DETENTION FOR CONVICTED JUVENILES BE INCREASED FROM 3 YEARS?

OUR STREETS ARE NOT SAFE ANYMORE.



Riots at Parkville youth detention.

Juvenile Detention Period

ZAYAN HAQUE 18/8/20

In a society where juvenile reoffenders are set free into the streets where they run rampant after numerous offences, the government chooses to set a limit of 3 years for the maximum detention period for juveniles. This is completely absurd and the Victorian population must stand together in order to reform this nonsense of a law.

Statistics show that reoffending children aged 10-14, rose 12% in the last decade reaching record high numbers. This singular stat should entice the government into stricter juvenile detention policies that would require juveniles to serve more time in order to achieve the set task, which is to rehabilitate these criminals and to transform them as civilized human beings.



Wild instances from Melbourne's youth detention facilities.



Proceeding's at an Australian Children's Court.

Criminal Responsibility

In the state of Victoria, children are not held criminally responsible for their actions until the age of 10 under the federal law. This allows children to continue to ramble around in the streets without any given consequences. This places the taxpayer's environment in jeopardy as children are doing as they please without any given penalties.

After advancing past the age of 10, being convicted of a crime can result in the court ordering a young person to a maximum sentencing of 4 years if the young person is convicted of more than one offence. Courts are incapable of setting non-parole periods for youths in a justice Center.

When detained in a youth justice center, young people participate in educational programs that are in place in order to address positive behaviors. A process of development and maturation is the ideal goal in a justice center as it eliminates the chances of reoffending.

The official website of the Parliament of Victoria states, "In the case of a youthful offender, rehabilitation is usually far more important than general deterrence. This is because punishment may in fact lead to further offending. Thus, for example, individualized treatment focusing on rehabilitation is to be preferred. Rehabilitation benefits the community as well as the offender." This displays the importance of rehabilitation in comparison to abrupt punishments. Yet these juveniles continue to reoffend?

This sparks the debate on whether or not, juveniles are required to serve more than 4 years in order to eliminate all possibilities of reoffending. More civilians should and NEED to press the government into increasing the detention periods in order to stop these rampant teens from destroying our own tax-paying streets.

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KEYWORD

Fatal Deer Park Stabbing *Involving 6 Teens...*

ZAYAN HAQUE

On June 16th, Solomon, a 15-year-old scholar was stabbed just outside of Brimbank Shopping center by 6 teenage thugs. This sparked an outrage in the community of West-Melbourne and caused numerous outcries for justice to be served.

6 teens were eventually charged for the stabbing, being aged: 14, 15, 16, 15 and 13, respectively. All 6 assailants were bailed out and are on strict supervision with curfews. But there needs to be a call to action by the surrounding communities.

Teens are in the streets taking the lives of other teens without serving a satisfactory punishment. It is completely absurd, and someone needs to take action against this! The ideology of serving time in a youth justice facility is to rehabilitate in order to decimate all chances of reoffending again. Being bailed out instantly provides no opportunity to receive rehabilitation which increases the chances of these criminals reoffending once more.

The most effective way to rehabilitate a juvenile offender is schooling them and offering them into community service where they can witness how other teens live in order to force the harsh reality into the convicted felons mind.

In conclusion, the Juvenile Detention Period should be increased from 3-4 years in order to allow an effective amount of time for young people to rehabilitate and re-enter society as civilized human beings.



Left: 15-year old Solomon in school uniform.
Right: Crime scene.



Friends and family paying their respects.

KEYWORD

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18/8/20

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