



STUART GRIMLEY MP

Member for Western Victoria
State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party

MEDIA RELEASE



Thursday 20 August, 2020

Grimley Calls for Submissions to Public Child Sex Offender Register Inquiry

State Leader of Derryn Hinch's Justice Party Stuart Grimley MP is calling on the public to make submissions to the *Inquiry into Management of Child Sex Offender Information* currently before the Legal & Social Issues Committee.

A former Victoria Police SOCIT Detective who has trawled child abuse images and consoled child abuse victims, Mr Grimley said it was important for stakeholders, including those affected by the actions of sex offenders, to have their voice heard through the Inquiry.

Mr Grimley is a fierce advocate for a Public Child Sex Offender Register and visited Western Australia – the only Australian state to have an active public register – in 2019 to understand how the storage of convicted sex offender information works.

The purpose of the Inquiry is to establish how Victoria can or should:

- a) store data and information regarding convicted child sex offenders;
- b) prevent sexual offences from occurring through improved public awareness;
- c) investigate the circumstances in which the details of convicted child sex offences can be made public.

Derryn Hinch's Justice Party has been calling for paedophiles to be 'named and shamed' since its inception, with Party Leader Derryn Hinch [collecting 170,000 signatures](#) and achieving the support of high-profile figures who have been affected by the actions of convicted sex offenders, including Bruce and Denise Morcombe OAM.

Whilst Mr Grimley acknowledged the \$7.8m commitment by the Federal Coalition Government to create a National Public Child Sex Offender Register, he said Victoria; 'the suppression state' should not wait for this to be established but should lead the way.

Mr Grimley established the Inquiry in 2019 to report by June 2020 however due to COVID-19 the reporting date has been extended until 30 August 2021.

Submissions to the Inquiry can be made via [this link](#).

Quotes Attributable to Stuart Grimley MP:

"I'm calling for any stakeholders, especially those who have unfortunately been affected firsthand by convicted sex offenders, to come forward and have your voice heard through this Inquiry.

As a former SOCIT Detective, I've seen the impact sexual crimes can have on people – especially our kids.

I have always advocated for doing whatever we can in keeping our kids safe and I've always believed that knowledge is power. The more we know about our communities, the safer we can all be."

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