



STUART GRIMLEY MP

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

MEDIA RELEASE



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Grimley Calls on State Labor to Follow Federal Labor on Mandatory Sentences for Sex Offenders

Stuart Grimley MP has urged the State Government to follow the lead of their Federal counterpart in standing up against child sex offending and make jail sentences for convicted offenders mandatory.

An ex-SOCIT Detective with Victoria Police, Mr Grimley applauded the recent announcement by the Federal Labor Party to back the Coalition's impending laws to mandate minimum sentences for child sex offenders – despite some political games in passing the Bill in the Senate - but called for the same to happen in Victoria.

Mr Grimley said one of the changes – a presumption against bail for convicted child sex offenders – “ticks the box of common sense” and is what the community would expect for *state* sexual offences, such as the sexual assault of children, as well.

Mr Grimley also pointed to the emergency services mandatory sentencing legislation – which will pass State Parliament this week - to assert that the State Government “is capable of departing party policy [of supporting mandatory minimum sentencing] in order to meet public expectation.”

Mr Grimley had also recently quizzed the Government as to why only half of those convicted of raping a child (12-16 years old) [received a sentence including a jail term](#) and called for tougher sentencing for this crime in line with community expectation.

Quotes Attributable to Stuart Grimley MP:

“If Federal Labor can depart from party policy and take a stand against convicted sex offenders, then so should their State colleagues.

As one example, our courts have demonstrated that they won't give jail time to half of the sex offenders who have raped a child 12 to 16 years old, so it's time to make it non-negotiable.

Sex offenders are a different type of criminal and therefore need to be dealt with separately to someone who is for example, convicted of petty theft.

The fact is that our community expects these filthy creatures to go to jail and we're not even doing that for almost half of them. It's simply outrageous.

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