NNAAMI
The National Network of Adult and
Adolescent Children who have a Mentally ill parent/s. Inc .



Mr Ken Lay Chief Commissioner Victoria Police Fax 92476863

18 February 2014

Dear Commissioner Mr Ken Lay,

In reference to the tragic incident, the brutal murder of Luke Batty by Greg Anderson, I am amazed of the immediate forgiveness of Ms Batty. After viewing ABC TV and 9 News and reading the recent media stories in which your comments were reported,

Without full knowledge if this case, I wish to advise you that I am impressed that you have publically acknowledged the existence of the many families and the Hidden Children who face similar circumstances managing a parent with undiagnosed and untreated mental illness 24/7.

I believe violence against women or men is unacceptable in our community.

However the main issue apart from what you have identified in the media., is, as yet, despite our calls for assistance, and many National Mental Health Plans and Strategies. There is no appropriate specialist tailored support services funded such as nnaami, for children and young people who experience life managing a parent with mental illness.

There are indeed thousands and thousands of isolated children and young people who silently endure this life experience.

From my extensive experience (although most if not all of these children love their parents), these children / young people are all fearful, most do not trust others, and find it difficult to speak out to others outside this life experience and believe no one wants to know about their circumstances, and the grief they experience, or the burdens they endure.

On behalf of all of our members both in Victoria, Australia, and across the world, 'GOOD on You Mate' you have in the media regarding this case, strived to acknowledge in a sensitive way the real victims.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of any assistance to you or Victoria Police.

Please advise children and young people via police of our website www.nnaami.org

I would be interested to know from you the outcome of your reviews.

I hope you can include the issues I have raised above in your deliberations and associated investigations / reviews, and hope you may be in a position to consult with us further regarding these issues.

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Yours sincerely

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P.S.

I was on the Police Commissioners Task Force in Victoria some time ago regarding working on issues concerning 'Persons Unfit to Possess Firearms' and was instrumental in supporting the Howard Gun Reform Legislation.

P.S.

In association with your effort to prevent and reduce family violence I would be interested if you / Victoria Police could put together some information we can display on our website for young people and also specifically regarding child / family violence.

AS YET there has been NO REPLY