

Submission: Inquiry into the external oversight of police corruption and misconduct in Victoria

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As a youth worker who experienced and witnessed police misconduct and abuse of powers and hear young people reports to me at work more often. it is very important in our society to have strong independent investigation system of police misconducts and internal corruption within the police in Australia in order for our society to advance fair.

The impact of being abused and harrassed physically and mentally was my first welcome to Australia reception when I was just playing with my friends at the time when we were under 16 years of age, for just standing outside our home in our neighborhood as the only social place available as a new arrival to the country. little did I know that my friends and I could be just swamp by the undercover police squads, who not only terrified me and my 3 friends when they came out of undercovers cars and start yelling at us and searching our pockets, pushing us around by the collars of our shirts while we keep asking 'what's happening' and 'what did we do' 'why are you shocking me' only to be met the responses of shut the f**K up and gives ur name and addresses and you can go'.

so we did as they demanded to avoid their ' things will get worst' as my friends and I gave those details, the police checked them in their system and replies "they are all clean". the police just left without our questions answered why my friends and I where swamp on by the police in the first place, why we were searched forcefully without a reasons or warrants or grabbed by collars and shove around, so my friends and I turned to our parents for those answers, which were merely answered with familiar terms that police told me and other friends, and other African young adults and children before ' it's not your country' so don't worry about it and just forget it.

These types of experience and responses were later repeated following years of my teenage years through to earlier 20s despite my no criminal records and good school records, occurring sometimes two to four times per a week.

Many people, including myself at the time, reached out to youth services for help with this type of police contacts and harassments with no justifiable reasons for the first contact and subsequent unprovoked aggression and violence behaviour by the police towards me and majority of young people who experience similar incidents during those times. sadly the answers were that to report or make a complaint to the police, I instantly lost hope to get legitimate, credible and truthful results from the police investigating police, so I threw my documents and evidence of abuse by the police in the rubbish bin in 2010.

I saw no point in seeking justice, answers, and improvement of police's misconduct.

This treatment and experience for rest of many members of Australians. sadly till this date of writing this submission, our police who are supposed to served and protects us all, still have small culture of abuse of powers, misconducts and are shockingly investigated by other police, which is a very clear indication of setting our justice system which we all prided ourselves 'one of the best' up for failure.

Fortunately, the hope of those who seek transparency and integrity in our justice system has now been revived by this overdue opportunity for Independent Investigation of police misconducts and corruption and will bring Australia closer to fairer advancement. our society needs Independent Investigation of police misconducts, corruptions, and behaviours that reinforce such practice.

