

## Response ID ANON-H34C-S99Q-8

Submitted to Criminal Justice (Sentencing etc) Bill  
Submitted on 2026-05-10 14:52:54

### Introduction

What is your name?

Name:  
Sharon Doherty

What is your email address?

Email:  
[REDACTED]

If you are providing a submission on behalf of an organisation or business, please state its name.

Organisation:  
Jade's law

The Committee for Justice has agreed to publish all responses as part of the survey results. If you would like to have your survey results anonymised and for us not to publish your name or organisation, please indicate so here.

I am content for my information, including details of my name and organisation, to be published in the survey results.

### Exercise of court's discretion when sentencing

Clause 1 outlines the purposes and principles of sentencing. It sets out the factors that the court must have regard to for the purposes of sentencing, which are: the punishment of offenders; for the protection of the public; the reduction of crime by deterrence; the rehabilitation of offenders; and, the making of reparations by offenders to persons affected by their offences. Do you agree with the purposes of sentencing as outlined above?

Yes

Please provide information to support your answer here::

My daughter Amy Doherty was murdered 7 weeks ago I'm fighting for full custody of her babies my grandchildren the mother of the murder wanted full custody she didn't even be around them much she's infatuated with her son the murdered and what we have to go through is a disgrace we were willing to let her see them even though it was her son that murder my daughter I can't even grieve properly cause we are getting questioned by social workers kinship ask if we have done something wrong the system here in northern Ireland is shocking ☹☹

Clause 1 also defines the principles of sentencing as proportionate, fair and transparent. Do you agree with these being set as the principles of sentencing?

Yes

Please provide information to support your answer here::

For murder life for a life

Do you have anything further to add on Clause 1 of the Bill?

No

Please provide any further information relating to Clause 1 here::

Clause 2 imposes a duty to follow guidance relevant to the case when sentencing an offender, unless it would be contrary to the interests of justice to do so and to give reasons in relation to sentencing. Do you support the objectives of this clause?

Not Answered

Please provide information to support your answer here::

Do you have anything further to add on Clause 2 of the Bill?

Not Answered

Please provide information to support your answer here::

Part 1 - Exercise of court's discretion when sentencing - Do you have anything further to add on Part 1 of the Bill?

Not Answered

Please provide information to support your answer here::