

PE1727/A

Petitioner submission of 20 June 2019

Having trod the corridors of Justice to find Justice denied, I submit this petition to provoke meaningful discussion about changes in the Law and to make the public aware that many Victims of Crime have been denied Justice. This can be a life destroying experience for them.

To paraphrase Lord Chief Justice Hewart who said in 1924; 'Justice must not only be done, but must be seen to be done.' A phrase quoted in Law lectures around the world including Scotland. At times not only is Justice not seen to be done it is not done because Scots Law states that complainants must have two independent witnesses. Much crime is committed without such witness, or as my petition implies with witnesses who will not come forward, even anonymously. There are even some organisations standing in a "safe zone" who do not act fully to investigate suspicions of wrong doing.

Many Victims of Crime stand testimony to the fact that when Justice eludes them there is no closure for them; no end to their torment. They must bear the results of crime and false accusations often alone, forgotten, pushed aside as nuisance material to live with the repercussions for the rest of their lives. They often feel stigmatised as, with no proof in Law of their innocence, the adage "no smoke without fire" is whispered in dark corners by those who do not know the full story. This can be compounded by the fact that those who caused years of suffering to innocent people walk seemingly unchallenged to carry out similar acts again.