

## Petitioner submission of 7 November 2022

### PE1968/B: Restrict the perpetrators of domestic abuse from using family court proceedings to continue tormenting their victims

Thank you to the Scottish Government for their response to my petition and thank you to the Committee for taking the time to review what was detailed.

I understand that several things have changed over the years, however, mothers like myself are still continually being let down by the family court system. Child welfare reporters are allowed to pick and choose what they deem necessary to put in their report to the court and, through means of manipulation by the abusive ex-partner, the victim is left without a voice. The domestic abuse in some cases is ignored by the family court and, because of this, severe emotional distress is caused to the victim and their children.

Contact orders are still being granted when there has been abuse, and because of this the child is likely to be put at further risk of abuse. The family courts listen to the perpetrator more than the victim. In the cases where a no contact order should be put in place, domestic and/or child abuse is ignored, with the child then forced to spend time with the abuser. This is happening now, on a regular basis, in Scottish family courts.