I would like to comment on the bill that is currently going through the Scottish Parliament.

In terms of the questions you asked I would like to reply to question 4.

4. Overall, do you support Part 2 of the Bill? The Scottish Government’s view is that it will provide a more appropriate balance between the public’s right to protection and a former offender’s right to “move on” with their life, by, overall, reducing the legal need for disclosure. Do you agree?

I was convicted of a Breach of the Peace in April 2015.

The conviction was for a domestic incident with my in-laws and I was subsequently admonished by the court.

The conviction came about after my in-laws would not let me take my children on holiday after my wife died.

I think it is unfair that I am lumbered with this conviction for 5 years. In England an admonishment is usually spent after 12 months.

This is affecting my job prospects.

I have seen numerous cases in the English courts that have left me gobsmacked.

For example - A model/businesswoman was caught stealing £900 worth of designer clothes from Harrods. The judge gave her a 12 month conditional discharge as he didn’t want to damage her career. This conviction is now spent!! She was a dishonest thief, not a grieving widow.

See - http://metro.co.uk/2017/08/03/model-who-tried-to-steal-from-harrods-let-off-because-she-has-considerable-talents-6827594/

Or search “polish model conditional discharge” in Yahoo.

I know this is an extreme case but it still rankles with me.

John Morgan
16 April 2018