

Strangulation legislation gives offenders an out

CANNY violence perpetrators are using a sex loophole in Queensland's strangulation and choking legislation to avoid punishment.

The legislation has the phrase "without the other person's consent".

This was designed to ensure the laws did not affect men and women who like being choked, sometimes used during sex to increase pleasure.

Women's Legal Service Queensland lobbied the government to keep the wording out, knowing it would become an issue.

"Perpetrators of domestic violence are arguing 'she consented', like they do in rape trials," the service's CEO Angela Lynch said.

The State Government was asked if it would consider removing the consent phrase but it did not respond directly to the question.

"There is always room for improvement in this space, and while criminal charges are holding perpetrators to account in the short term, we must also recognise that a broader cultural shift in attitudes is needed in the long term," a spokesman said.

- NewsRegional

“ PERPETRATORS ARE ARGUING 'SHE CONSENTED'.

ANGELA LYNCH

+ same article 17/05 - Queensland Times Ipswich.
"Broader cultural shift in attitudes desperately needed"