

Offenders find legal loophole

CUNNING perpetrators of violence 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 impact 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 and the organisation's worst fears have been realised.

"Perpetrators of domestic violence are arguing 'she consented', like they do in rape trials," WLSQ 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," a spokesperson said.