

Submitter: Colleen Doell

On Behalf
Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary and Ballot Measure 110
Implementation

Measure: SB1511

February 3, 2022

Oregon State Legislature

Salem, OR

Re: Against Senate Bill 1511

Dear Chair Prozanski and Members of the Committee:

My name is Colleen Doell. I spent the past 15 years as a Social Work Supervisor, employed by Children's Protective Services. Even though I could not protect my own precious daughter from murder, my belief was that perhaps I could save someone else's child from harm. However, I now stand before you all, as a totally broken mother.

My daughter was murdered. You can call it manslaughter, but I know the truth, the Judge knew, the DA knew and, for sure, the Criminal Defense Attorney knew the truth. Lisa Marie Doell, age 12, was murdered on October 21, 1992.

It was premeditated. The criminal noticed her on, Tuesday, October 20th, and then he went looking for her again the next day, Wednesday. He was angry. In fact, he was furious at being rejected, by a girl from his school, that resembled Lisa. Driving down North Shore Road, he saw Lisa. He carefully aimed his car toward her and then, in a fit of rage, he intentionally accelerated on the gas pedal.

The impact of his car, on her tiny little body, dislocated her shoulder, cracked her skull open from ear to ear, and literally yanked her out of her shoes. The murderer bragged to friends that he followed through with one of his "fantasies". Is this not an admission of guilt?

I have pictured her murder, hundreds of thousands of times. But in my mind, I arrive to the scene just before the murderer and I pull her safely into my vehicle. I rescue Lisa, before the murderer can slam into her with his car, because the thought of her broken little body is too much for me to endure.

Her life mattered. Lisa wasn't sick. She wasn't angry. She was not depressed or resentful. Lisa was a happy, exuberant child, who dreamed of being a professional dancer in New York City. Lisa was loving and kind. Everyone had a nickname for

Lisa. My friends called her “Little Mary Sunshine”, because of the joy that radiated from her. Lisa’s life mattered.

In Lisa’s memory, I implore you to stop Senate Bill 1511. Please do not vacate the murderers’ sentence. Lisa paid with her life. Do not exacerbate the suffering victims go through every single day, from an unfair act of violence. I have spent the last 30 years without my daughter. I could live another 30 years, for a grand total of 60 years of punishment. How does this compare to the pathetic 28 months the offender spent in jail?

No one talks about the physical toll crime takes on victims, throughout the years, after the offense. We all know it takes a huge emotional toll, depression, anxiety, and fear. But now let’s talk about the physical toll crime takes on victims and survivors. For example, I am a breast cancer survivor. The cancer could come back, at any time. Additionally, I have had 4 surgeries on my spine, mostly cervical spine. Ironically, my neck surgeries are in the same area where Lisa’s brain stem was severed.

In conclusion, I once again ask you to vote “No” on Senate Bill 1511. Please take into consideration the victim and survivors, as their lives’ matter.

Sincerely,
Colleen Doell