

Addition to the first submission by CLA:

We have had the chance to read the “Additional Information re Anti-Social Personality Disorder” as posted on the Parliamentary Committee website:

It has re-opened an old wound, and again highlighted how the system fails prisoners for no reason.

In our case, we know that ASPD is an accurate diagnosis, grim as it is, for our child...only because, many years ago, we insisted on getting a copy of the psychiatric report done for the courts, and ASPD was diagnosed in that report.

We pushed it to back of mind because we had no options regarding what to do with the knowledge. We should not have really, because the condition cannot be helped by conventional wisdom, and it does not go away through wishful thinking – we’ve been dealing with consequences for 28 years.

Our question to the authorities is: If they have made this diagnosis unbeknown to the subject, why don’t they have the guts, the gumption and the common human decency to let the person know what is being said about them in acceptable and medically accurate language and in a supportive setting?

It is a totally unsuitable topic for a parental prison visit and yet it needs to be addressed as one of the core issues in handling the prisoner’s current situation and future on being released.