

Mr Fry All right, yeah, well, my name is Dennis Fry and my wife Vicki Fry. We're from [REDACTED] and we'd just like to let people know that we are not the only victim with Councils. There is a large number of innocent victims that have been victimised and raped by local Councils and these Councils we believe have an issue of favouritism to their mates and the total destruction to innocent victims like ourselves. If you don't fit the criteria, they will crucify you. [REDACTED] we believe that the problem is the public servants that are causing the grief and we have evidence of this still happening to people. Our issue happened in 2012 and was clearly notified in the [REDACTED] papers, the [REDACTED], about our issues, and –

CCC [REDACTED]

Mr Fry [REDACTED] I actually went to the media and this is where I believe that we have been crucified by going to the media. This was mentioned in one of the meetings with Council stating that we had started a media campaign at the Council. I believe that's taking away our rights but, yeah, that was mentioned a few times about us starting a media campaign. Now at that same time as this issue was going on, there was lots of other people having issues with Council. They were also going to the media and I believe at that time there was ten court cases that Council had, and there was another 50 or 60 that went on that year and we believe that these cases could have and should have been sorted. We actually spoke to Ministers going back as far as [REDACTED], so our ordeal had been going on for well over 10 years. No-one is listening to the waste, and I mean millions and probably getting into the billions of dollars of court cases and I would say in twelve months we could be looking at hundreds of millions of dollars, and maybe up to the billion, and really, these things could be stopped and sorted out through

mediation or going in there and talking to the Council. We had issues talking to the Council. We were fobbed off on numerous times and then we were taken to court. We were given a refusal and I believe the refusal was given to us because - and they stated this - we started a media campaign. Now that truly is taking our rights away. Going to the paper once or twice, I don't believe is, damning, it's the truth but it shouldn't be damning and we shouldn't be crucified by this Council and I believe we've been crucified by this Council because of that, because what happened next, after eight years, the development we were trying to get through, we could never get it through. I could be 106 and I'd be still trying to get that through. If I had \$10 million in the bank, that would be gone, they siphon the money out and as soon as you are dead and buried, they then let their mates in and expect straight away that the development we tried to get through has been fully developed with issues greater than mine. I could not please these Council officers or that Council and we had engineers working full time on that and these guys that bought it and had it fully developed in 12 months, the issues were worse and the conditions are less than what we had to do.

[REDACTED]

CCC

[REDACTED] – so you went to the media and made your allegations of corrupt complaints public to them, and they published, and they were about Council, and as a result of that, the Council didn't approve your applications for development and other things along those lines?

Mr Fry

That's exactly right, yep.

CCC

[REDACTED] did the Council also engage with the media and make statements about you in the media?

Mr Fry

Yes they sure did.

CCC

[REDACTED]

Mr Fry

[REDACTED] in actual fact, I was employing surveyors and town planners for five or six years, they cost me hundreds of thousands of dollars, and we could not get this thing through. Now why couldn't we get this thing through? Because they kept shifting the goal posts and my town planners were on \$70 to \$100 an hour, I'm not too sure what it cost, but you know, hundreds of thousands of dollars later, they couldn't please the Council planners. I had surveyors and town planners and engineers and the engineers were \$100 an hour or whatever, they cost me \$100 000. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] not only were they saying like, downgrade myself, but they downgraded my consultants. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] achieved nothing except racking up hundreds of thousands of dollars of bills and what we tried to do was stop any flooding and get out development through and they just kept arguing over millimetres of water and I mean like millimetres, because every time we did the calculation it would be one mil difference or two mils difference and they kept running my engineer around and racking up the bill and then soon as we're gone, we've lost our land, which we did, the new developer walked in.

It's now been flooded and ripping out fences, ripping out soil, running across footpaths, running across the road at enormous speed especially when it's ripping fences down. I wasn't allowed to let water trickle over the footpath, that's the condition they put on me. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] You know, we have been victimised and we've been saying this now for ten years. One rule for someone and different rules for us, and we've been going on about favouritism. They've not found any favouritism. We've had Right to Information given to us. Our Right to Information documents have been changed. Dates have been changed, signatures have been removed and [REDACTED] have done no wrong.

CCC [REDACTED]

Mr Fry Well we got all the documents from Council and I was told that our documents Right to Information would take a day and a half by the young girl and I actually laughed at her and I said 'oh no, there's thousands of pages' because we'd had a file - we'd already got 400 pages off the Council, sorry, 698 pages from Council and that was only part of it, a small part. And she said "oh no, it's all on computer". She said I'll have it before Christmas. Well, what happened was, Christmas came, Christmas went, New Year came and I rang her up and she said "oh no, I've been dragged off on other stuff" and I've gone, oh yeah, and it's starting to get a bit strange because the day and a half went to three or four weeks over Christmas, which I know they close down, etcetera. And anyway, the next time I rang up, some girl abused me saying they have twenty-five business days, which they have, and I wasn't concerned about that, but when the young girl said it would take a day and a half, I was keen to have a look at it over Christmas. Eventually I got it after the twenty-five business days but when I rang the young girl just before the time was up and she said that one of the guys in Town Planning was helping her get the documentation ready. Now that documentation had been changed. She said the town planner's name and the town planner is one that gave us the hard time and the documents I have had been changed in the favour of the Council etcetera. So, no-one believes there's fraud been happening here but I believe it is fraud. Because it's destroyed us.

CCC

[REDACTED]

Mr Fry [REDACTED]. My wife has had two or three jobs over the last four years because I haven't worked. They've been part-time jobs because she hasn't been able to get full time work and she wouldn't have been able to handle teaching because teaching's - if you're a decent teacher, its full time and you put a lot of dedication into it, so she wasn't able to do that mentally, and I haven't been able to work for the last 3 ½-4 years. So she's finally got onto a job and as I was saying, she's just earning [REDACTED] a week, and she just works from 7 to 7 and that's driving to and from work which is twelve hours a day, and then she sits up till 11 at night preparing her classes because she's been out of the classroom for probably 28 years, we've had our own business for 28 years or more. It's all new and she just dedicates herself to keeping this full time job. So here we are, at 60 and 62, starting all over again, and, I mean, this is just full on victimisation and there's nothing you can do to change that, and like I said, we will be attempting to expose this. It's very hard to expose but we will expose it because I don't expect my wife to be working until she's 95 and it'll probably take us until we're both 95 to even think about getting, well, a deposit on a house means nothing to us anymore because my credibility has been totally lost and ruined, and you can't get a loan at 45 let alone at 65, so our credibility is gone, and my business used to run on credit. I would have bought and sold in excess of 50 properties, [REDACTED], I had roughly 6 properties and we have

about 6 [inaudible] from the bank there now. So we've turned around from the worst and I believe something's got to be done and should be done because it's costing us, the Australian people and the ratepayers and taxpayers, millions and millions, if not hundreds of millions of dollars in waste, and destroy people's lives and as I say, we are actually, we had been on the unemployment for the last twelve months. Before that, we were living on hand outs from our family because we didn't want to go to Centrelink, so for 3 years, we were living on – my wife was earning about [redacted] and we were trying to live on that plus pay rent of [redacted] so it was a very difficult time, and yeah, I was going through a difficult time from losing all my properties and being smashed by the Council.

CCC

[redacted]
[redacted] I'm wondering [redacted] if you think that allegations of corrupt conduct or misconduct [redacted] should indeed be made public by the media given the effects that you've experienced?

Mr Fry

[redacted]

CCC

[redacted]

Mr Fry

Yes, yes of course!

CCC

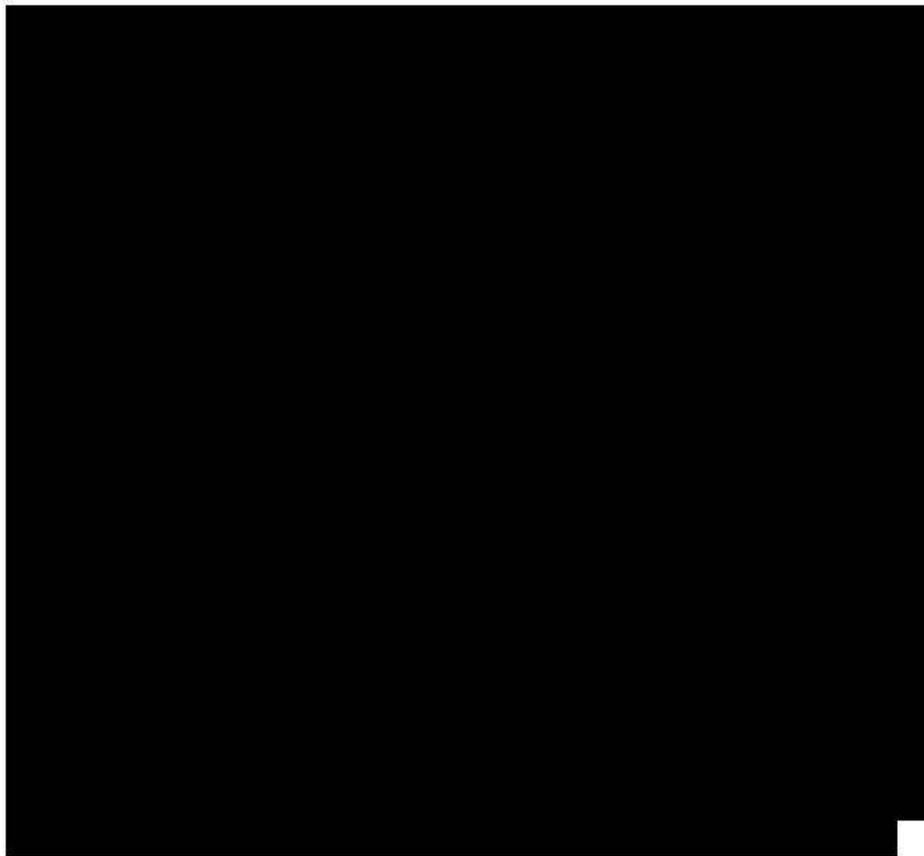
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Mr Fry

[redacted]
I mean, evidence is worth nothing where you haven't got half a million dollars to take [redacted] to court. [redacted]

[redacted] I've been buying and selling land since I was 16, and you know, I've probably had 50 or more properties, buying and selling and developing etcetera. Now, I was trying to sell my property for about two or three years [redacted]

[redacted] Well, I had seven or eight contracts on my block of land [redacted] and all of those contracts fell over, not one, not two, and people would say, well why? And I'd say, well, they'd go to the Council and the Council would say, well why? If you've got a development there that's got an approval, they go in and check with Council about the conditions that you have, right? [redacted]



journos “don’t put it in the paper” because it was too aggro, the whole

[REDACTED]

CCC

[REDACTED]

Mr Fry

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

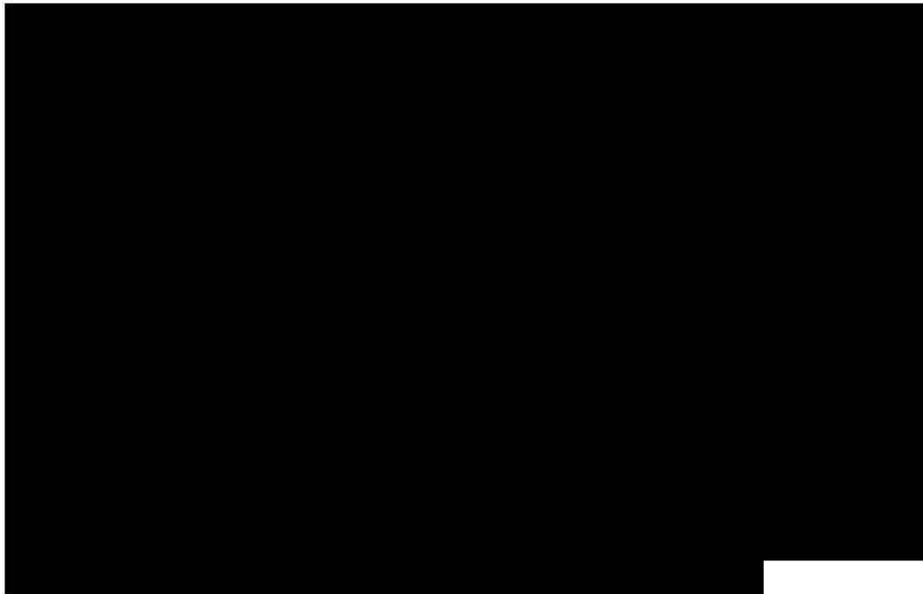
Mr Fry

Now they, both the Mayor and the CEO, we had a meeting with them, I was with the ex-Mayor and a Councillor at that same meeting, and they said that they were going to put a complaint into the CMC about themselves and it was about favouritism. And we’d be shaking our head and they said yep, you’re welcome to put a complaint into the Ombudsman, or to the CMC and we’ve done the Ombudsman thing before, and they sent it off to the CMC and nothing’s happened, it’s just fizzled out like most Government departments do, and so the Council put this complaint in. Six months later, I kept ringing the guy from Ethics and Integrity at the Council and he kept saying that they were looking for a lawyer, handpicking a lawyer to do the CMC investigation because the CMC had handed it back to the CEO.

CCC

[REDACTED]

Mr Fry



CCC



Mr Fry



[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CCC

[REDACTED]

Mr Fry

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

CCC

[REDACTED]

Mr Fry

[REDACTED]

END OF SPEAKER