


CASTAÑEDA COUNSELING, LLC

February 10, 2018

Dear Melissa,

I want to add my testimony to the importance of SB 1562. I am in full support of increasing the severity of this charge. I have had a Batterer Intervention Program in Clackamas County for over five years. I work with the perpetrators; I serve both English- and Spanish-speaking populations.

I view strangulation as a serious crime that is often not taken seriously enough by the men with whom I work. My impression is that this act often seems to be minimized by those who committed it. From listening to men in my program over the years, I'm also convinced that at least some of them had no idea how close they were coming to killing someone.

I also feel that more education in general is needed regarding this crime. Ignorance combined with strength is an even more lethal combination. If there is any crime that should be risen in severity, this would be one of my top choices.

Sincerely,



Linda Castaneda, LPC