

## **Prison Social Work Report**

<b>Prisoner Name</b>	George Brown
<b>Date of Birth</b>	xx/xx/xx age 42years
<b>Prison Number</b>	xxxxx
<b>Date of Sentence</b>	xx/xx/xx
<b>Sentencing Court</b>	Hightown High Court
<b>Length of Sentence</b>	7 years
<b>Earliest Date of Liberation</b>	xx/xx/xx
<b>Offence</b>	Assault to Permanent Disfigurement and Endangerment of Life
<b>Address on Release</b>	<b>21 Cloister Close</b> Midtown

<b>Report Required</b>	xx/xx/xx
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<b>Report Writer</b>	Prison Social Worker
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<b>Date of Report:</b>	xx/xx/xx
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## **Basis of Report**

This report is based on two interviews with Mr Brown for the purpose of preparing this report. There has also been significant contact with Mr Brown throughout his sentence, discussion with his personal officer, supervising officer, reference to social work and prison records and discussion with all relevant prison staff.

## **Background**

**Mr Brown was born and raised in Midtown. He is the elder of a family of two sons. His father is a self employed builder and his mother has always remained at home. Mr Brown recalls good memories of his childhood and believes he had a secure home life. He maintains good relationships with his parents and brother who have been extremely supportive to him and his family throughout his sentence.**

**Mr Brown married when he was 26years. He and his wife, Marilyn Brown has two sons aged 13 and 15 years. The family have maintained regular contact through visits, letters and phone calls throughout his sentence. The couple had some unresolved difficulties in their relationship at the beginning of Mr Brown's sentence and Mrs Brown considered divorce. However following a number of special visits facilitated by the prison social worker and the supervising officer it appears that Mrs Brown will welcome her husbands return to the family. Mr Brown now acknowledges that his excessive drinking and aggressive behaviour toward his wife was unacceptable. He also understands that his family has changed not only because his sons are older and that he has missed important aspects of this but also because his wife has completed training as a nurse and is in full time employment. Mr Brown describes his wife as "stronger" than she was and clearly has been applying some of the material he covered in his Parenting and Relationship Courses to how he will cope with those changes.**

## **Health**

Mr Brown suffered an accident to his right hand two years prior to his imprisonment. This left him with unremitting nerve pain and after the first year he neglected to seek further medical advice about this. This has necessitated operations and intensive physiotherapy whilst serving his sentence with significant improvement to his hand.

## **Alcohol/Drug Use**

Mr Brown has completed the Alcohol Awareness Programme while in prison and appears to have developed some understanding that his alcohol use was problematic for some time prior to his offence

## **Attitude to Current Offence**

**Mr Brown initially described his offence as "out of character" and appeared to blame his victim "it would never have happened if he hadn't thrown beer in my face" is what he said in interview with the SER author and repeated in initial interviews at the prison. Mr Brown has been challenged by accepting his full**

responsibility for his offending behaviour, particularly because his victim has been permanently disabled as a result of the assault. Mr Brown now sees his behaviour as criminally irresponsible and feels that he vented his anger and frustration at being unable to cope with his life onto his victim. He now regrets his behaviour and thinks he has developed some strategies that will help him avoid re-offending in the future.

### **Victim Empathy**

Mr Brown expressed deep regret for his behaviour toward his victim. He acknowledges the physical and mental suffering he has caused to his victim and his family and friends. Mr Brown is aware of the trauma he has caused to his wife, children, parents, brother and his own friends.

### **Progress in Prison**

Mr Brown has used his time in prison purposefully. Whilst awaiting medical treatment he was unable to work and following the joint work with his wife chose to complete the relationship course. He acknowledged that he benefited from this and at a later stage completed the parenting course because he felt “he didn’t know how to be a dad in prison”. As stated above Mr Brown also completed an alcohol awareness course. He appears to have benefited from his learning as his ability to communicate with his family has improved and he has been able to apply some of the material in his thinking about how he will find a role for himself when he returns to his family.

Since Mr Brown has been in custody he has worked in the garden work party where he obtained a VT in Horticulture. He also spent a brief period in the joinery workshop. This confirmed for him that he will be unable to return to his former type of employment as a full time joiner. Mr Brown is currently employed as a prison cleaner, which involves him in having a degree of freedom within the prison grounds. There have been no disciplinary or management issues. Mr Browns’ personal officer considers that he has responded positively to his imprisonment and treats staff and other prisoners with respect and courtesy.

### **Plans for Release**

Mr Brown plans to return to his family in Midtown. The family have moved home during his sentence due to problems with the mortgage payments on their former home. Mr Brown understands that his wife and children are happy with the move. It is convenient to where his parents live and this allows them to assist with child-care. Mr Brown is anxious to obtain work on his release. He has enjoyed working while in prison and feels he has learned to be more flexible. Mr Brown thinks he would benefit from specialist careers advice because he now has a criminal record. He would like to become an instructor for joinery apprentices at college but is uncertain whether this would be feasible. Otherwise Mr Brown says he would consider learning more about Horticulture and become self employed as a gardener.

### **Attitude to Supervision**

**Mr Brown welcomes the prospect of supervision on release. He has found his supervising officer supportive throughout his sentence, particularly with regard to his relationship difficulties and feels he would be able to approach her for assistance should he experience problems on release.**

### **Risk Assessment**

**Mr Brown is assessed as a low risk of re-offending and a high risk of serious harm should he re-offend. He has made serious efforts to address the problems that led to his offence whilst in prison including completing an alcohol awareness course, relationship and parenting courses and showing himself open to learning new skills. He has no pattern of offending behaviour prior to this offence although consideration must be given to his aggressive behaviour toward his wife over the year prior to his conviction.**

### **Conclusion**

**Mr Brown has acknowledged and accepted his guilt in committing the offence and has made efforts to address his offending behaviour whilst serving his sentence. Should it be considered that Mr Brown is suitable for parole then it is suggested that the following conditions be attached to his licence.**

- 1. That he receive careers counselling from an appropriate agency**
- 2. That he complete an alcohol counselling course as directed by his supervising officer**

**Prison  
Social Worker**