

**Submission
No 38**

COMMUNITY SAFETY IN REGIONAL AND RURAL COMMUNITIES

Name: Mrs Bev Kleinschafer

Date Received: 29 April 2024

I am a 78 year old widow, who lives alone. On the 13th February, 2024, I awoke to find 3 intruders in my bedroom. They told me to stay on the bed. I tried to push past and tried to shut the door on them, they slammed it back on me, injuring my arm. I got away and they caught me, pushing me face down on the lounge room floor, making my nose bleed. Got away again out the back door and screamed for my neighbour, he was there within seconds, and the intruders took off. They stole my phone, my house keys, and also my late husband's wallet and watch. My butchers knife was found under the back table, I had seen a glimmer of a knife during the intrusion. They removed my bathroom window (6ft above ground) to gain access. I couldn't use my hand for 3 weeks, my whole arm was black and blue. 2.5 months later, I am still struggling with my arm and hand, and cannot put my wedding rings back on.