

DIRT-BIKER THREATENS DAD: kids in tears on bushwalk

Two young children were in tears as a dirt-biker threatened to bash their father after they were nearly run down walking in isolated bushland near Woronora last Wednesday.

The local father had grabbed his children, aged 4 and 6, when he heard two illegal dirt-bikes revving out just around a corner on a popular bushwalking track.

"I feared they were going to hit us so I threw the kids up onto the pipeline," he said.

"(The riders) flew past and I yelled at them that they could have hit us."

"An argument took place. One of them threatened me in front of my two kids, who were now in tears."

One rider aged about 18 took off his helmet, started to get off his motorcycle, saying to the father, "Come on then".

"That's a real smart move," the father replied, "beat me up in front of my kids?"

He reached for his mobile phone to photograph the assailant. "He stopped as soon as I got my phone out, and they took off quickly."

But not before a photo was taken (*above*). The father identified one face from a photo after a similar assault recently on another bushwalker a few weeks ago, only 500 metres away.



POLICE INACTION ON WAVE OF ASSAULTS

"It's a real safety issue: they may kill someone," the father said of the pipeline track, popular with bushwalkers, dog-walkers and bicyclists.

Motorcyclists have invaded the area recently, drawn by a "dirt-bike Disneyland" built nearby illegally by mountain-bike riders. Both groups use the timber ramps, which are due for demolition soon.

"It used to be a safe place for a bushwalk," he said.

Sutherland police have dragged their heels for three months since a formal complaint of assault made by a 66-year-old bushwalker, who was bailed up by two illegal motorcyclists in December, one with a tree branch. The bushwalker held them off with a stick, while recording the incident on video. Although one person on video was known to police, no legal action has been taken yet.

A former top cop has publicly defended the unlawful off-road playground in a letter to this website – "Inspector X".

The latest incident involves similar Honda motorcycles in red and white, with similar riders.

Police seem unaware that assault in NSW does not involve physical contact, only that the victim fears imminent personal violence. Testimony from both incidents makes the victims' fears obvious. Sutherland police have video and photographic evidence, but have done nothing so far to stop further attacks in popular but remote bushland, which are now increasing.

Other offences could include stalking and intimidation, and breaches of the Crown Lands Act.