

Twenty years ago, I had an ex-wife pushing hard on Domestic Violence and trying to win a contested AVO. At a conciliation meeting before the case came to court, she suddenly announced she was moving from Sydney to Melbourne and taking my son. She warned, my 12yo son, would support her and not to oppose her. She lost the interim AVO based on her own evidence before I was allowed to question her evidence or present any of my own.

The previous AVO was started by me after she had tried to run me down in my driveway, where faced with going under her car, or over, I landed on the bonnet. She turned from the driveway onto the street and drove for 500 metres, swerving to throw me off while my son was screaming at her to stop. I survived, the Police took no action but I obtained an AVO to protect my new wife. She ignored it and we did changeovers at Sutherland Police Station so I could protect myself from further slander, she hated it.

She did move to Melbourne and take my son.

Four years later I met a friend who had retired from Sutherland Police Station. He said "You know she was up at the station every other week complaining about you and demanding something be done."

Now I know she was building a case, in case I opposed the removal.

I've tried to keep this short and leave the emotives out. four years later I had the satisfaction of my son plopping into the car at the airport and saying "Dad, I know why you left!"

I had walked out because I knew she would manipulate a court against my having custody, I have felt guilty ever since.

Thank you for the opportunity to have my say. My son was married 4 years ago but the hate continues on her side, even at the wedding. My son's loyalty is divided and I will not force him to decide between us.