

House of Representatives Standing Committee
on Family and Community Affairs

Submission No: 695

Date Received: 8-8-03

Secretary:

3rd Aug 2003.

Dear Sir/Madam -

I am writing regarding the proposed changes to the Family Law Court + the custody laws.

Our family has been caught up in the emotional turmoil of the breakdown of a relationship + the custody arrangements of a two year old child, our grandson.

A broken relationship is a traumatic experience + can be devastating for a child. The prospect of being separated from one parent, + in the majority of cases, it is the father, is not in the best interest of the child.

The mother of our grandson was granted custody of him despite her unstable nature + addiction to drugs.

I have to ask where is the justice in this decision, what of my grandson's

moral upbraiding?

Hopefully the child support system will be investigated as well. My son is reluctant to make the support payment (I must stress that he does) as he worries that it will be used to support an addiction to drugs & not be utilized for the purpose of its intent.

Are we as grandparents to be given access to our grand children or are we to be at the mercy of a system that fails to recognize our needs.

I ~~the~~ trust this inquiry will result in a fair deal for all parties.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]