

House of Representatives Standing Committee
on Family and Community Affairs

Submission No: 1546

Date Received: 6-8-03

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Wednesday, 6 August 2003 7:03 AM Secretary: [REDACTED]

To: Committee, FCA (REPS)

Subject: child support arrangements inquiry

7 AUG 2003

I have a child support case that is ongoing, I'm constantly trying to have my child support payments reduced just so I can survive and pay my bills, living expences. I'm not disputing having to pay child support after all they are my children to aren't they, just the amount of money I have to pay. Before I give you a few things to think about, discuss in your inquiry I would just like to say ALL cases should be treated individually as we are all individuals (people) not just numbers, we all have a life to lead. Now some items to look at in your inquiry.

- 1) The amount of money paid for child support is calculated on the gross income... but is paid from the net income not fair and just is it (it's like been taxed twice).
- 2) Private health insurance I pay to cover myself and the children yet I receive no credit/allouance for this.
- 3) Us paying parents have bills to pay too such as a mortgage, rates, electricity, water, phone, food, rego, insurances house and car some of which I can't afford.
- 4) Amount of time allacated to have access to the children as to the amount paid in child support, it costs extra money to have access weekends... extra food, ability to do things with the children and to have cloths for them.

Heres a problem for you to work out, see if you can survive like this. Gross income per week is \$510.00 net is \$420.00 csa is \$90.00, mortgage is \$155.00 private health insurance is \$40.00 house insurance is \$10.00 electricity is \$25.00 water is \$25.00 phone is \$40.00 that leaves about \$35.00 per week to pay food, car rego and insurance, entertainment ect how am I SUPPOSED TO SURVIVE money doesn't grow on trees does it? So sometimes I get behind and have to rob Peter to pay Paul. It was hard enough when we were a family but now devorced is even harder. You wonder why some people try to get out if child support theres some reasons why, I just want a fair deal after all the mother/parent should take responsabilty for their actions for causing the breakup in the first place they should have to prove that they are spending the csa payment on the children and not their mortgage or what ever like us paying parents have to go through the third degree for example send proof that the car is due for rego. As for fines for late payments beond our control due to the neglect of an employer to send payments as instructed by the csa.

You don't give much time for a client to get involved in the inquiry, I received a leaflet about the inquiry on the 04/08/03 and the closing date is the 08/08/03 not much time to send a letter via the post is it? just some ideas that I have thankyou.

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