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Forbes, Bev (REPS)

From: [REDACTED] Secretary:

Sent: Tuesday, 21 October 2003 9:49 AM

To: Committee, FCA (REPS)

Subject: desperate times

OCT 2003

Dear Committee Secretary,

I have been in touch previously re the hopeful changes to the law re child custody and child maintenance.

The marriage case I involved in is the son of a very close friend and his wife. Two small children involved.

The situation just gets worse.

At a mediation session at the family court last thursday, not only was the mediator very biased toward the mother, she was just very off hand to the husband. It was not a forum for any decision making, but the opportunity for the parties to communicate and hopefully agree on some issues of child access.

The mediator was pregnant, while this does not dismiss her from being a mediator, her hormones are running rife and she should not be placed in a position to mediate such sensitive issues. Stay with Property. This is not an issue of discrimination, its an issue of good management and care for your employee's. Perhaps this woman could be angry about her pregnancy and therefore would be showing her preference to the woman and hating the male.

The mother did NOT communicate at all, yes she did. refused the father access to see the children on Christmas Day, refused permission for the children to go camping with the father and his parents during the school holidays, refuses to share the transporting of the children on access week ends.

The child maintenance issue is horrendous, it cripples the male. Some women are just laughing all the way to the bank. both parties must take responsibility for the care and raising of the child\children. NO marriage breaks down because of one party, so both must take responsibility for the financial needs of the child.

I was left a widow with twins aged 6 years. It was tough, but you take a job that suits the needs of your children and get on with it. It is your responsibility as a parent, Mother or father to raise the child\children to their full potential.

PLEASE, PLEASE get some sense into the system and work for the children. I am very scared fo the daily headlines of domestic violence and the tradgic consequences.

Some cases the children need to be taken from both parents to be safe. THANK GOD for those foster parents out there.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]

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