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Secretary:

After hearing and reading in the news of the latest squabble over children I take a step back and look at my own children:

The year 2001 ended a marriage of 14yrs, my husband finally abused me in front of my children, terrifying them that when they went to school they asked for help from there teachers. Then he said in court when I placed an AVO on him that 'I'm still married to the bloody woman'. The AVO was served on him, but no one checked that he still had his gun license and his guns this was overlooked. There was access orders applied to the contact of our children, he asked for certain times and got what he asked for.

On the occasions he had access to his kids he would leave them with other people, he even took them to work in a bank making them clean toilets and windows, he allowed his girlfriend to use them as bargaining tools to get work, they were only allowed certain foods cause "other food" was only meant for adults, he displayed pornographic pictures on his fridge and watched pornographic material on the internet while his girlfriend was at work, the kids ate if he remembered to feed them, and on one occasion one child slept in a bed where the cat had defecated. He even had sex in front of his then 6 and 8yr old daughters in a caravan. I never knew of these events till the kids started counseling cause he told the children "that what ever happened in daddy's house was not to be told to mummy or they would be punished".

On one occasion while he had the children he punched our only son in the face causing a bleeding nose and then he contacted me, because he couldn't stop the others from crying, this was all because his son forgot to take his ADHD medications and was getting loud and picking on his siblings, when I question them over this (cause at this time I was ready to hand his son over to him to raise) the girlfriend replied to me" that if you were there you would of done the same". Even though this was reported to Doc's nothing was ever done about it, so I moved away from that town not long after this event saving my kids from anymore beatings and abuse.

He has not seen our children in 15 months, but the first few months he rang and threatened to kill us all, I finally got the police to search for the guns they never took from him and they couldn't find any, so we live in fear. He has contact now only by phone, he makes demands about seeing our children but the children are so frightened, my 15yr old is so scared that if the law changes she will be forced to go back to being thrown around the room like a rag doll cause things aren't going right for him, he was even telling his 8yr old "that it was ok to belt mummy cause she deserved it " I had numerous visits to the hospital last year cause she was belting me and I couldn't understand why until I overheard one of the conversations he was having with her.

The latest is that the girlfriend wants a child so she informed the other children by email that he was having the vasectomy reversed, our 15yr old was so devastated that upon ringing him and trying to get him to see her point of view that he said to her" I was abused as a child so it gives me the right to abuse you and that as far as he was concerned they can delete him from their memory", she is afraid that he will again bring a child into the world to again abuse, she is so scared for that unborn child that she talked to a lawyer to see if she could stop the surgery.

There is a poem that was sent on to the daily telegraph that was written not long after this event happened.
DELETED DAD!!!!

He told us to **DELETE** him,
This man we called our dad,
For nearly 14yrs he was my father,
And then something went wrong, real bad,
The light went out, the darkness took over,
Were once a man had stood,
A bottle blonde bombshell, entered the scene,
Of promises she bestowed,
She took our dad, captured his soul,
And led him from what he had known,
Now he's last word he told us,
Was to **DELETE** him from our minds,
As if one key we would press,
And a new dad we would hope to find,

He wants more children,
So the vasectomy is to be reversed,
He couldn't share any time with five,
And now he wants a first,
Her promises of a sister or brother,
Don't make me glad you see,
She's causing more destruction to what once was a family,
So dad you're now **DELETED**,
Enjoy the life you've chose,
Enjoy the business of fish and chips,
And the making of your home,
Just remember the freedom,
You had in your life, Is now for her to own,
Good luck with the family,
Cause you're **DELETED** as you ask,
You're not our father anymore,
Just a man we knew from the past.

And I have even tried to divorce him but the lawyers tell me that if I do I put myself at risk of going to jail cause I have broken the family court orders, but so has he, so I wont divorce him, I'll stay married to him by name only so my kids aren't forced to go back to him to be abused again.

Maybe the government ought to try getting child support in more of a working order before giving new orders to parents, take for example my children's father, he left a well paid job, then brought into a business where he knows he will only earn a small income, so child support let him get away without paying backdated support and then they gave him a month's grace to get himself sorted, so he can pay to support our children. He also got away without paying extra for orthodontic work on his eldest teeth, he lied to them on paperwork about assets that he sold to purchase the business and I had proved the lies, in the end it took me three to four months to get them to decide on an amount that he had to comply with.

Then in March this year he turns around and buys a car worth \$42000.00 and puts it in his girlfriends name, knowing that the car is too small to accommodate all of his children and then has a vasectomy reversal done which again is worth in the region

of \$5500.00 but he claimed he couldn't support his children but then he wants to bring another child into the world that I'm sure centrelink will end up paying money for cause they claim to be such low income earners. Where will the line be drawn? And how long will it take to get the system right, for me it will never be right, but as a mother of five I know me and my children are better off being out of the abuse cycle and trying to maintain the wolves from our door, with or without his support.

So again "Mr. Howard should check his own washing getting rid of the creases", cause at he moment he is only adding more creases to the households of single parents everywhere making children sit in fear of wondering where they will be and who will look after them.

So please think before you implement new laws seek what the children ask in every case, look deep and hard into the background of the family before you decide what is best for them. There are mums / dads out there that do the right thing for their children and there are mums/ dads that abuse, torment, frighten and torture them. One general rule will not apply to all, and how will you divide the kids in half? How will you feel if your child was handed over to a woman/ man whom you know abuses and mistreats them?

I wont be complying to any new laws that makes me hand children over to a parent of a unstable background and knowing that one day a phone call will tell me my child is deceased because things were not going right for her/ him at that particular moment.