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Secretary:

From: Helena [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 1 August 2003 12:42 AM
To: Committee, FCA (REPS)
Subject: Child Custody Arrangements Inquiry

Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs
Child Custody Arrangements Inquiry
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I am writing to you in support of the joint residency bill being put before Parliament. The current court system is more biased towards women, there is no middle ground it is usually sole custody to the mother. Every second weekend the Father has access which is not fair on the Fathers, as they would spend part of every day with their Children if he was working and still living as a unit. At present Legal Aid favours the Mother. If joint custody applied in all but extreme cases there would be fewer court cases in the Family Courts, which means the extreme cases would be seen to more quickly. The financial burden would be minimized on the family unit as well as the Legal Aid system. The children would benefit and I do believe the male suicide rates in relation to marital break down and separation from their children would drop! This bill needs to be passed as quickly as possible as it will help many people including my brother and another friend of mine going through the same situation.

yours sincerely

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