

Submission No: 1655

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Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

20th day of October

To Whom it may concern,

In writing this letter I am in support of shared parenting. After the local, Family and Federal Magistrates courts, and much sadness and expense, I currently share 38% of the year with my 3 beautiful children. But now face the prospect of having these orders changed after only 3 years and face losing 20% of this care. My ex-wife wishes to change these orders. Reasons being, it is making it difficult for her to consider employment as she has to collect the children and it is becoming disruptive to the children's routine. This has been their routine for 3 years now and has worked fine, and I am willing to be flexible on the collection of the children. It is in the children's best interests to have as much contact with both parents, to have a male role model, to see him, to know him, and for god's sake just to show them what a great dad he is. My children love me dearly and love as much contact with me as they can get. We all want more contact but have to be fair to all. To be fair we have to share. As a little boy I was taught to share with my brothers. If mum gave us a chocolate bar, we would all have an equal piece. No-one got a larger piece or it was not fair. The Family court is supposed to be fair to all parties. But the Family court does favour one parent. Where is the fairness in that. And who loses, the children lose. And their wishes aren't taken into account, after all they love both parents. Lets make it fair and lets listen to the children a bit more. They love mummy and daddy. They want to live with mum and dad, whether together

at apart. This is a family. Lets get it as close to a family as possible even if the parents are separated. That is a true family court, for families with all family members interests in mind. Particularly the children. Shared care will solve many problems. Many social problems, financial problems, anger, depression and loss will be reduced. Our children want me to listen to them read, watch them play sport, watch them colour in, watch them ride bikes and they want me to be in their lives. I can only be in my children's lives if, after separation, my ex-wife wishes at the family court allows me to. The children and me have very little say. But we can say I love you, I miss you, I wish you were here and I will never give up. God bless and all my love always, Dad.