Date:

RE: INQUIRY INTO CHILD CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS IN EVENT OF SEPARATION

To Whom It May Concern.

I am 33yrs of age and have five children, child 1&2 are from my first marriage,child 3 is from a brief relationship and child 4&5 are from my current marriage.

John Howards proposed equal time for separated parents is not realistic in the majority of cases. It would have to be assessed on a case by case basis which would then eventuate into an extreme backlog of the Family Courts.
To make this proposal an across the board ruling for all separated parents would not be in the best interest for a lot of children.

For example you could have a look at my situation.
1./ I come from a broken Marriage and I had to have fortnightly contact with my Mother. I did not enjoy having to go there and would have preferred to stay home where I felt more secure. As far as I was concerned she chose not to be there.

2/.The Father of my children no:1&2 has contact with them fortnightly and is agreement with me that equal time would disrupt the childrens lives too much.

3./The father of my child no:3 has a violent history,I had an A.V.O against him at one time and the day it ran out somebody else needed one against him also.
This child is not very emotionally stable now, she is 8yrs old.
Her Father has had so many different women in his life that she is afraid to get attatched to any of them.
He has quite a bit of access to her from court proceedings,he was granted
1.Every second weekend.
2.Half of school holidays.
3.Fathers Day.
4.Half of her Birthday.
5.Half of his Birthday.
6.Every alternate Christmas from Christmas eve to Christmas lunch.
7.Every alternate Christmas from Christmas lunch to Boxing day lunch.
As far as I was concerned this amount of access in her case was more than enough.

During school holidays she is only gone for a couple of days before she starts phoning to come home.This man plays mind games with her,this is why she is so unstable.