

Thursday, 24 July 2003

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs
Submission No: <u>253</u>
Date Received: <u>4-8-03</u>
Secretary:

STANDING COMMITTEE ON FAMILY & COMMUNITY AFFAIRS.

In regards to:

SUBMISSION ON INQUIRY INTO CHILD CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS

The Honorable Chairman,

I wish to submit the following submission for consideration by your committee.

The Child Support Agencies draconian and inflexible treatment of the non custodial parent creates an atmosphere of mistrust and animosity between the custodial and non custodial parents.

This situation has prevailed far too long and in the communities interest I submit the following Points for your consideration:

- Property settlements must be 50-50. This will remove the notion that who-ever has the children gets the larger piece of the pie.
- Full disclosure of penalties and guidelines to be disclosed to non custodial parents in regard to their rights and obligations when dealing with CSA.
- Review the procedures in which objections to CSA assessments can be appealed against.
- Grant access to Legal Aid in the pursuit of a fair and equitable assessment for both parties in the event of a disagreement with a child support assessment.
- Enforce penalties for custodial parents who break or ignore Family Law Court Orders in regard to Child Access.
- Evaluate CSA assessments on Net Gross Wages instead of Gross Wages.
- That the Commonwealth works with the States in order to have a uniform approach to Domestic Violence Laws.
- Enforce penalties for custodial parents who make malicious allegations in regard to Domestic Violence Laws without any substantial evidence.
- That the children have access granted to Grand Parents, Uncles, Aunties and Cousins of the non- custodial parent.

In closing I wish to add that as a nation we cannot allow for this system to create a society of single parents for financial gain only.

Children who are exposed to this culture will inevitably follow in the footsteps of their parents creating a further burden on the Australian economy in the Future.

Signed: Terry Bogie

Terry Bogie

