



HOUSE FAMILY AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

INQUIRY INTO CHILD CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS

MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 17 October 2003

Chair: Mrs Kay Hull, MP
Deputy: Mrs Julia Irwin, MP

**Child custody inquiry: next public hearings
Monday 20 October, Canberra**

The House of Representatives Family and Community Affairs Committee's inquiry into child custody arrangements will hold a day-long series of public hearings in **Canberra** this **Monday, 20 October**.

The hearings will follow a slightly unusual format, with witnesses grouped to appear concurrently under specific themes to facilitate discussion.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Monday 20 October: 9.30am – 4.15pm

Venue: House of Representatives Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra

9.30 am 'Focus on children's perspective'

Dr Jennifer McIntosh, Clinical Psychologist, Child & Family Therapist (Sub 431)
Prof Lawrie Moloney, Director, Department of Counselling & Psychological Health,
La Trobe University (Sub 748)

11.30am 'Family Relationships Services Program – Industry Representative Bodies'

Relationships Australia: Ms Dianne Gibson and Dr Andrew Bickerdike, Mediator and
researcher (Sub 1054)
Ms Libby Davies, Executive Director, Family Services Australia (Sub 1023)
Mr David Foster, Deputy CEO, Unifam
Ms Jenny Hannon, Executive Clinical Manager, Anglicare WA
Ms Margaret Roots, Catholic Welfare Australia (Sub 1022)

1.30 pm 'Focus on legal services'

National Association of Community Legal Centres: Ms Liz O'Brien; Mr Philip Dicalfas
and Ms Rosemary Budavari (Sub 836)
National Legal Aid: Mr Norman Reaburn, Chairperson and Ms Kate Hughes, NLA Family
Law Working Group (Sub 1053)
Family Law Section of the Law Council of Australia: Mr Michael Foster, Chairman and
Ms Anne Rees, Sydney barrister, Member Executive (Sub 1021)

3.30 pm 'Welfare Rights'

National Welfare Rights Network: Ms Julia Priest, Welfare Rights Advocate, Illawarra
Legal Centre, and Ms Genevieve Bolton, Supervising Solicitor, Welfare Rights and Legal
Centre, Canberra (Sub 550)

NOTE: Program is subject to change.

The submissions are available on the inquiry website or from the Secretariat.

Further public hearings are scheduled to be held in Wyong (Sunday 26 October), Gunnedah (Monday 27 October) and Coffs Harbour (Monday 27 October).

For media comment from the Chair, please contact:

Mrs Kay Hull, MP (Chair), via tel: (02) 6277 4723 or (02) 6921 4600 or 0428 211 591

For further details on the inquiry, contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4566
or visit the inquiry website at www.apf.gov.au/house/committee/fca/childcustody/