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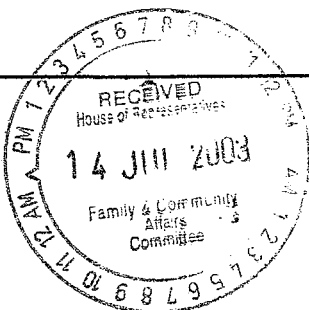
Ruth Fisher

216 Macpherson Street
Princes Hill 3054



4th July, 2003

Ms. Kay Hull
Federal MP, National Party
Parliament House
Canberra, ACT



MAIL RECEIVED
11 JUL 2003

Dear Ms. Hull,

re Joint Custody and the Family Law Review

I think it is great that joint custody of children is to be the focus of a Family Law Review. I would like to submit the view below, which young people have expressed to me. I think that it is ideal for children if mums and dads have equal custody. To date the discussion seems to focus on the children moving back and forth from mum to dad. If joint custody genuinely focused on the care and concern for the children's emotional, social, educational well being a family home would be established for the children and the parents would move in and out for custody time. In the present discussion, very little consideration seems to be given to what it is like for children to move - weekly, fortnightly, monthly - whatever the joint custody decides upon. Children tell me, they cannot say how hard it is to move from house to house because they love both parents and don't want to risk hurting, losing, disappointing, offending either of them. If joint custody is agreed upon where the benefit of the children is paramount, then a family home would be established and parents would move in and out. After all they are the adults and are more likely to have the skills to cope with the emotional, social and organisational difficulties regular moving necessitates. Thank you for reading my contribution to the joint custody issues being considered by the Family Law Review.

Sincerely,

Ruth Fisher - address above.

