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Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs
Child Custody Arrangements Inquiry
Department of the House of Representatives
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
Australia

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs
Submission No: 33
Date Received: 29-7-03
Secretary:



By Email: FCA.REPS@aph.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Submission to inquiry into child custody arrangements in the event of family separation

As a matter of natural justice the Child Support Agency should not make decisions or orders under its Act unless either paternity is established via DNA testing or legal adoption applies. The same principle should apply to the Family Court.

There are numerous examples where mothers have not identified the proper biological father. Moreover, it is not clear that an alleged father of children can simply establish paternity until the children reach 18 years without the explicit consent of the mother if she is the primary carer.

Yours truly

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29 July 2003

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