

Obajdin, Amanda (K. Ticehurst, MP)

House of Representatives Standing Committee
on Family and Community Affairs

From: Wesolowski, Rene [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 8 August 2003 11:53 AM
To: Ticehurst, Ken (MP)
Subject: Child Access Forum

Submission No: **1350**
Date Received: **18-8-03**
Secretary:

I attended to the Child Access Forum last night at Mingarra, I didn't say anything last night. I was simply gauging whether this is going to be a genuine outcome. I hope so.

I am a father of a six year old daughter. I have contributed to child support for six years to date. When I began contributing towards child support, the figure I had to pay was high, as a result I couldn't pay for; home insurance, car comprehensive insurance, food, and literally no social life and legal bills, but I hung on to keep the mortgage on my home. I wanted to keep the home so I may provide a stable and secure environment for my daughter. I can write a lot of issues, and this is only a fraction of what I have been through. At the moment my current concern is the payment of child support, when I was initially contributing towards child support, CSA said, "that's how much it costs to maintain a child". Now that I have a four month old child, from my current marriage, I'm contributing 60% of my original contribution towards my first child. Furthermore, I have to provide transport to collect and return my daughter of place of residence each fortnight and half of school holidays with a total turnaround time spent on travelling would be 4 hours and pay for food and entertainment as well as some clothing and toys. I think, that my second child is not receiving the same equity as my first child. What will my second child become, if my first child is benefiting most of the time. I am afraid for my second child and I believe this will be my only child from my current marriage, because financially, there is no equity in the system. I will be disadvantaged by default in sharing parent hood normally as other parents who are not in the same situation as I am. Regrettably I have to explain the truth of the matter to other families who are enjoying having more one child in the house hold.

I think, that the following may need to be considered, in line with the family law act of shared responsibility:

1. Equal scale of non custodial parent contribution when second child etc. is involved, without disadvantaging the other, based on total original contribution.
2. The custodial parent must not channel contribution for personal gain. i.e. use the contribution towards legal representation.
3. I believe there should be transparent use of contribution. (i.e.. bank account.) that both parents may see where the funds are channelled for the best interest of the child.
4. My former partner should be assessed on her assets as I, know she is renting a house she owns, lives in a house with her husband they own and they both work.

This is a quick response, there are many issues that I have not covered, as you need some response for today.

If you need me to expand on details mentioned above or other issues that I have not mentioned your welcome to contact me on the following:

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
c. post. 48 Dehavilland Circuit, Hamlyn Terrace NSW 2259

Yours sincerely

Rene Wesolowski

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