

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: [REDACTED]  
To: [REDACTED]  
Subject: [REDACTED]

Thursday, 30 June 2005 10:42 AM

FW: Family Law Act Amendment (Shared parental Responsibility) Bill 2005

Submission No. 19
Date Received

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15 JUL 2005  
BY: LAA [Signature]

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, 29 June 2005 8:58 PM  
To: ag@ag.gov.au  
Cc: Hoare, Kelly (MP); Hull, Kay (MP); Schultz, Alby (MP); Beazley, Kim (MP); Roxon, Nicola (MP); Evans, Chris (Senator); tmiller@nor.com.au  
Subject: Family Law Act Amendment (Shared parental Responsibility) Bill 2005

Dear Mr Ruddock

It was with a heavy heart that I read the Government's exposure draft to amend the Family Law Act.

Being a father who spends as much time as possible [REDACTED] with the kids of my first marriage, and having followed the progress of the entire review process over the last few years, I like many other divorced fathers am left with the question:

Why did the Government even bother setting up the Committee to look into the issues of custody and child support if you had no intentions of supporting the recommendations??

Whilst the exposure draft agrees some with of the 'soft' recommendations, you have not addressed one of the key areas; the child support system. Next weekend when I have my kids, and they tell me about [REDACTED] my child support dollar at work!), I will wait for the question "can we go to the movies daddy?", to which I will reply, there's a man called Mr Ruddock who helps write laws, and because he has not helped Daddy keep some of his pay, we can't afford to go.

This is where the rubber hits the road Mr Ruddock. I'm glad that you have never had to look your children in the eyes (with tears welling in your own) and explain why daddy can't afford to do fun things with them like mummy does.

In my humble opinion, the draft is an insult to the efforts of not only the parliamentary Committee, but the subsequent group who reviewed the report to form the recommendations; seems like a waste of time and effort.

With this draft my last hope of the draconian child support laws being changed for a fairer outcome have faded; as has my respect and belief in the political system to make laws 'for the people'

Your sincerely

[REDACTED]