

Submission No: 80  
Date Received: 11-7-03  
Secretary: \_\_\_\_\_

**SUMMARY:**

The Court needs to look thoroughly into the past actions of the parents, any drug or Violence history, or AVOs. The progress and behaviour of the children with both Parties, THE WISHES of the children (particularly those over 10 yrs old who are very Vocal).

Remove Barristers and Solicitors from the system, where the issues are clouded by the Legal Fraternity, diverting the issues to trivial matters instead of focusing on the interests and safety of children, or who can afford the most AGGRESSIVE representation.

The decisions not be left with Judges who display their personal wishes in accordance With their family relationships. Whereas if the system had a jury the decision could be Balanced on such a serious issue, which affects the whole of the childrens lives. The Magellan Report from Victoria contains a lot of amendments and ideas which appear To be very positive in the improvement of the Court system.

I see no benefit whatsoever of the Family Law Court as it stands at present in NSW as all actions in this Court could be handled in either Local courts or the Childrens Court and be much more affordable and fair.

The Law needs to be in line with the State Law, (failure under NSW law to report injuries To children is an offence) Family Law Court can prevent people doing this. The Protection of the Children is at risk. The Parliament needs to contact Seniors and Grandparents groups re their ideas in this area.

Grandparents who Parent - Barbara & Jim Partington 02-9501-0501 is a group of Grandparents (many with these problems) who would be pleased to discuss these issues with you.

With Great appreciation,