

From: Kym & Heather Wade [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 21 August 2003 9:42 PM
To: Committee, FCA (REPS)
Subject: Parliamentary Inquiry into J.C.

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| House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs |
| Submission No: 1142 |
| Date Received: 21-8-03 |
| Secretary: |

To Whom it may concern,

I understand you are currently reviewing the laws surrounding child custody after a divorce or separation. I am personally happily married and the father of three lovely children who I love and they love me. I have met several men that have gone through the pain of separation and divorce and to add to this have also had to, and still do, go through the pain of separation from their children. It seems the law currently favours the Mother and does not give the Father the same level of access to the children.

For the men I know this is a very sad situation. From what I can see they are good fathers that really love their children and their children love them. The children need a father as much as they need a mother to grow into whole people. Each has their own part to offer and neither can replace the other. The child has two parents one a male and the other a female. Separation and divorce are very destructive to a family but for the children to then lose access to one of their parents in many cases can just add to this destruction.

I would like to see the current law changed to give the Father equal rights to the children and restriction only be placed on the partner who has proven to be something other than trustworthy and loving towards their children.

Thankyou for your time.

Kym Wade