

Dear Senate Inquiry - Shared Parental Responsibility Bill 2005

This is a my submission to the Senate Inquiry into the provisions of the Family Law Amendment (Shared Parental Responsibility) Bill 2005

Dear Senators

I note with alarm that it is proposed that "Fathers" opinions and concerns may not be allowed to submitted to the committee.

The concept that marriage breakdowns are the direct result of abuse and women are the only victims is totally bizarre, and taking "political correctness" to the extreme. How can the best interests of the Child be properly addressed unless all parties concerned present their own input.

I'm aware of many examples (myself included) where the family breakdown is at the initiative of the "mother" solely on the basis that both the Social Security system and the family law system favour the mother both in terms of financial support and also Parenting access, ie they get the cake & eat it too.

In my case the Mother ignores the agreed Family Court Orders by refusing to release the children into my care on my specified days, even though I am waiting to collect them. The CSA condones this action by rewarding the mother's contempt of court by financially penalising me rather than ensuring that the Family Court Orders are obeyed. Rather than living up to its name of CHILD SUPPORT Agency the CSA actions and inactions are condoning the situation where the children's interests are being totally ignored. Deemed Equal parenting time would go along way to stopping this type of child abuse by the mother.

I would like the Senate to also consider the other silent innocent victim of the current system. The new wife, husband or partner of the non-custodial parent who has to endure the emotional hardships of their partner struggling against the abuse of the other parent and also the system. Deemed equal parenting time would go along way to stopping this type of abuse. This puts so much stress on new relationships.

The Senators need to accept that not every woman is a victim of abuse. They can in fact be the "abuser". Please take the opportunity to talk to social support agencies to assess the alarmingly high percentage silent male victims of physical and mental abuse.

Deemed Equal parenting time, where both parties desire access, would go along way to stopping child abuse. The interest of the child has to be the most important consideration and equal time with both parents has to be in the best interests of the child, except where the Child is put at risk.

Thank you for reading my submission

Name: Graham Davis

Postal Address: Macquarie Pk NSW