

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

Honorable Legislators

Following a divorce, my wife and I have shared joint physical custody of our children. We have used a time sharing plan called the Ackerman plan to allow for similiar parenting time for both parents. This plan allows equal parenting time, while allowing a sense of home base for the children. This has worked well for us.

Laws that require sole custody of the children ensure legal battles over the children's custody. They guarantee the divorcing parents will become enemies. They also are not in the best interest's of the children. How would you like it if you only got to see your mother or father a few days a month ?

Please pass legislation that ensures equal parenting time for both parents. A presumption of joint physical custody is the best solution. Sole custody ensures that one parent is the winner in a divorce, and the other becomes a visitor in their child's life. This ensures a continuous power struggle. Sole custody is only good for lawyers who profit from the legal battles.

Thank you,
Gerry Zettler

Thank you for reading my submission

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