

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

Attention Senate Enquiry,

I wish to make the following submission to the Senate enquiry in relation to Family Law issues.

Firstly & foremostly under NO circumstances are the current laws adequate, fair or logical. Not only do they instigate hostile relations between parental parties, they are harmful to the emotional, physical & financial well being of children & encourage a high level of legal theft from family law solicitors. Unfortunatley in our greed driven society, the most precious comodity who's future molding has been temporarily place in our hands, have been made our most valuable bargaining tool.

The myth that non- residential parents are "satisfied" with the rulings by the family court are an enormous understatement. These thousands of indivinduals are merely doing what they have to, with what little they have left, in the wake of financial ruin & emotional drainage. They simply have neither the money nor the energy to fight anymore.

Shared parenting & equal financial contribution by both parties should be considered to be the Normal arrangement. Any deviation of this arrangement should me made as a joint decision & agreement by both parties following an entensive mediation process. Financial punishment, in way of increased child support payments does nothing but create a decieteful society, hell bent on making individuals reduce income & earning capacity & gives zero incentive to move forward in life.

Although domestic violence is a major concern in todays society. What research has been undertaken to compare the incidence & prevelence of violence that is directly related to denial of contact by one parent against the other, following ruling or advise from Family Law experts. How can it be, that in the course of a separation, two highly intelligent, civil & responsible parents with equal parental roles (a significant number of Australian family's have 2 working parents) can be suddenly looked upon as one intelligent, civil & responsible "VICTIM" & one moronic, violent irresponsible stalker. There are so many shades of grey in every scenario that no one individual has the right to put each case in a black or white box. More so, if looked into in more detail , one may find that the highest perpetrators of domestic violence(wheter it be physical or emotional) are those individuals that are actual residential parents with the victims being the contact parents.

It must be recognised that not all non-residential parents are drunken, drug abusive, unemployed no-hopers. They too, at some stage have made a significant contribution to the lives & general wellbeing of their children. This contribution must not be negated nor extracted. No parent can be the Mother & the Father, so why try. In a significant number of cases, there are two very willing & able parents who wish to continue being PARENTS, just under different circumstances. If the change is permanent, then why cant the effort be put into making the "changed Circumstances" workable for parents & optimal for children. It may just make the world a better place for alot more people, both big & small.

Please Consider

Thank you for reading my submission

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