Ian Kerley Lake Cooroibah Qld

Dear Sir/Madam,

21st February 2006

I am writing regarding the submission invitation regarding equal parenting and the domestic violence factor ${\bf r}$

that has been promoted by certain areas of society. It can clearly be described as not in the best interests of any child to be debating points raised in the manner they have been promoted.

Australia has many laws regarding violence to another person. These laws are for the wellbeing and safety of all children. To go down the path that increasing Father and child time will promote violence is based on a nieve approach when being invited to forward a submission into equal parenting.

Before answering the questions raised in a sensible and rational manner, the points raised must take the same approach. A stereotype view has taken precedence over the best interests of children thus giving certain groups the platform to adopt a direction that doesn't project the reality of domestic violence in all areas of society. In some cases this is evident and must be dealt with by all lawful means. It is clear the agenda of some believe that promoting a negative attitude in what they portray is positive is all that needs to be done. To look at the benefits of children sharing good quality times with both parents we must ask ourselves some questions. We must answer them on the merit of the question and not be guided or swayed by ones own agenda.

A child has the right to a life with both parents?

A child has the right to feel safe and secure?

All children have the right to as safe and secure life with both parents unless it is evident that abuse and or violence is occurring?

All children's life rights must not be compromised due to unlawful action/s taken by a certain group of society?

If no violence or abuse between a seperated Father and his children is ever experienced, why would any consideration be taken to disadvantage the children's paternal relationship?

Each person makes a submission has a reason. I have experienced a growing culture in our society of separated parenting. As a separated Father it is my intention to apply a wonderful and constructive atmosphere for my children to grow, develop and prosper. If this is made difficult due to my position in society this is not in the best interest of the children. Therefore an

unrealistic conclusion has already been forwarded that if I have more time with the children the chance of violence and abuse will increase. This is a deliberate and cunning direction perpetuated by certain groups and how can this be in the best interest of the children when this is grossly inaccurate and incorrect. If I as a Father have less time does this make everything perfect or will this satisfy certain groups that are more focused on unequal parenting than what is the child's best interests?

I would challenge any sensible and rational person to answer without bias my questions. Address my children's needs and the importance of my role as a Father in their lives. To begin on an even, equal and socially unbiased position of parenting. I don't believe that if violence and abuse has been committed by a person that I should be scrutinized and subjected to the same chance or likelihood I may one day belong to the same group of people. This is stereotyping to say increasing parent/child time will increase abuse or violence. I believe that more time spent with both parents will increase a child's development and well being. Both parents play a vital role as each parent offers a child different and valuable assests and this must be promoted as a crucial part of child development.

Special consideration must be taken when passing laws and amendments to laws. In the case of children and violence, all children must not suffer or be disadvantaged due to the action of a certain group. Branding all Fathers a potential chance of violence and abuse is wrong. Ultimately this impacts on children that never witness or are involved in the acts of a select few.

We now have a great opportunity to work constructively, rationally and productively for our children.

Make this opportunity count, look through our children's eyes from our understanding minds.