

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

I have just become aware of this inquiry and am stunned and offended that elected officials can feel justified in allowing another inquiry to exist. This topic has been the focus of previous inquiries and debates, the Government has already committed to the establishment of the new Family Relationship Centres through the Attorney General's Department and as a result of numerous inquiries have proposed the Family Law Ammendment Bill 2005.

Furthermore the proposal from Senator Bartlett demonstrates his intense misunderstanding of the issues concerned in his claiming that Shared Care in any way increases the risk of Domestic Violence. There is overwhelming evidence from numerous studies previously relied upon by Senate Inquiries which do not support Senator Bartlett's reasons.

Senator Bartlett has shown further misunderstanding and quite possibly strong bias in his recommendations of sources of submissions or evidence. All of his references are organisations not interested in the welfare of children, but in profiting from the existing regime which has been found to be failing. It is clear then that they have a motivation to frustrate the Family Law Ammendment Bill 2005 in it's current form.

The Family Law Ammendment Bill 2005 is a bill about Family Law legislation and improving the situation for the benefit of children. It is not a gender issue, it is not a parental rights issue. The Government have already gone to great lengths to ensure that this is the case. Reading Senator Bartlett's proposal one has to believe that he is acting on this as being a womens issue, as he has made no reference to the rights of children as the Bill addresses.

All of Senator Bartlett's concerns have already been addressed in the production of the Family Law Ammendment Bill 2005.

I believe the Australian families, who have waited so patiently for action in the arena of Family Law reform have every right to be offended by the proposal that any further inquiry should be conducted. This is an irresponsible waste of tax payer funded parliamentary process.

Thank you for reading my submission

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