

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

A father can find himself out on the street within the blink of an eye. Accusations of abuse, instant AVO's, nowhere to stay etc; if he is like most fathers he wont have instant access to financial resources and, at this point, will be suffering severe emotional stress. What do you have in your electorate whereby fathers can get emergency accommodation and counselling for himself and his children similar to that available through the many women's refuges?

Why is a standard set so that one parent will receive 86% of contact with their child while the other will receive 14%? Why is that the standard that our law live by? Who created those figures, what calculation did they use and why was this considered the best starting point? If you disagree please check your statistics, 92% of women will receive full custody 2% of men will receive full custody, and the other six percent will receive percentages in between. The percentages given reflect the most common trend in our society being 313 nights given to the custodial parent and 52 nights given to the non Custodial Parent or 2 nights a fortnight.

The Democrats and Greens stated that the Senate Inquiry set up to investigate the claims that providing separated fathers with more parenting time will put children and mothers at risk of violence and that men, men's groups and Non Custodial Parents should not be allowed to participate in this enquiry. That is how the system in place now was created, because not all parties were brought to the table. I'm sure that what the Democrats and Greens have stated is completely unconstitutional and I find it absolutely appalling that a political party in our country is acting in a way totally contrary to Australian beliefs. It is also a breach of equal and human rights to exclude a certain sex from anything let alone an extremely important topic such as this. So this question is for you, Democrats and Greens please explain why you do not want Men, Men's Groups and Interested parties other than single mother's groups, domestic violence groups and lawyer groups participating in this discussion? Why do you believe that not allowing men, men's rights groups and interested parties to participate in this enquiry other than those which you have stated will make these new laws better and that you will achieve balanced outcome? Is this part of your parties' policy? If it is part of your policy have you made this known to all of your supporters?

Thank you for reading my submission

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