

Submission No. 96

Date Received: 17-7-03

Secretary: _____

SUBMISSION:

43 Ernie Rd.,
CASHMERE 4510

14th July, 2003

The Committee Secretary,
Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs,
Dear Secretary,

If you people are genuinely interested in the concept of true equality, and are not just paying lip service to it, then you should look at the subject of child custodial payments.

For example, if a man is paying \$200 P.W. maintenance for two children, and he successfully applies for full custody of one of the children for medical or educational reasons, then each parent assumes full custody for one child apiece. No further money should change hands in either direction. Similarly, if a man is currently paying his former spouse \$700 P.W. in child custody, and successfully applies for weekend custody of those children, payments should reduce to \$300 per week. (Custodial payments have been levied at the rate of \$100 per day - In this case, he owes her \$500, and she owes him \$200). The great tragedy in the current system is that men are so financially devastated by a biased Family Court following separation/divorce, they have no money left to begin life anew. This of course unfairly discriminates against their second partner.

As for the adverse affects on children following separation, can I suggest, "The Garbage Generation" by Professor Daniel Amrenus (Penguin Press) to get an indication of just how disadvantaged children are by the loss of a fathers presence.

As grandparents, we haven't seen our six year old grand son for nearly five years. He lives locally with a bitter, vengeful mother whose behaviour is encouraged by the current system. God help us all.



R.E. Scottell
(MR. R.E. SCOTTELL)