

Subject: Childsupport Reform
Date: Friday, 6 June 2014 8:52:54 PM

To whom this may concern,

Many members of the local community whom are involved with the Child Support Agency ("CSA"), both paying parents and receiving parents have deeply expressed their concerns with respect to the existing system.

We have National Petition with over One Thousand Four Hundred Signatures and growing - See: <http://www.gopetition.com/petitions/government-review-the-child-support-system-make-it-fair.html>

Concerns range from:

1. Parents deliberately withholding children access to the other parent (despite Parenting Orders in place) in view of increasing Child Support Payments.
2. Parents Not Lodging Tax Returns and simply "calling in" false Estimates which severely impedes on amounts payable. This is further supported by the fact the CSA acts inconsistently with some parents verbal submissions accepted and others not! without reason.
3. The paying parents payments increase when the receiving parent has children from a new partner! This is absurd.
4. When the paying parent has another child to a new partner this cost is not calculated the same as when the receiving parent has another child.
5. Calculation of CS payments are based on "Gross" income rather than "Net". This a MASSIVE concern given the payer may not have received such Gross earnings due to costs incurred however payments do not reflect true earnings resulting in sever financial consequences to the payer.
6. The system does not promote "fairness" and therefore promotes both parents to do the wrong thing i.e. paying having minimal incentive to increase earning capacity (given increase in earning results in increased payments) and the receiving parent does not have a vested interest with getting employment given the risks of losing payments with minimal government support.
7. Rental losses added back. This is extremely damaging, particularly in circumstances where (as is the case in my situation) my property in Qld has actually dropped in value and has been on the market for sale for over 2 years without sale. This cost has presented a genuine 20K loss to however the CSA "adds back" this loss to my income when this is money I never seen!
8. Rates of suicide in association with Family Law in general is frightening.
9. Increasing evidence that parents receiving payments are not putting these payments towards their children.
10. Lack of customer service coming from the agency along with complex and long winded processes to have issues resolved.

If you wish to discuss further feel free to contact me on

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us and the children of Australia affected by this.

Yours sincerely