

House of Representatives Standing Committee
on Family and Community Affairs

1st August 2003

Submission No: 361

Date Received: 6-8-03

Secretary:

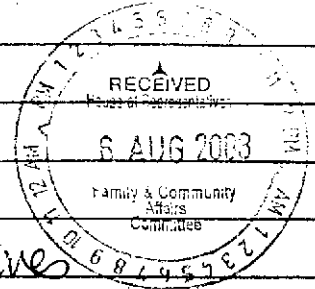
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Committee Secretary

Standing Committee on Family and
Community Affairs

Child Custody Arrangements Inquiry
Department of the House of Representatives
Parliament House

CANBERRA ACT 2600



Re: Enquiry into child custody arrangements in
the event of family reparation

Dear Secretary,

My name is Ms. Eunice Curran and I
would like to make a submission into
the above enquiry.

(a) (i). mother and father should have equal
time in regards to the time they
have with their child(ren) but only
when there are no criminal record on
either parent and/or no Domestic
Violence Orders, this is what should
prevent the parent from obtaining
shared care. I am Yes and No.

(ii) when the parent moves interstate

it would be impossible to leave a child with a grandparent should the child have not much contact with the grandparent. Young children should not be ordered that they have to stay with the grandparent. Visiting rights are good for the child but with the parent accompanying the child. Accidents to young children have occurred as a work colleague left her daughter with her grandmother and a serious accident occurred whilst her daughter was in her care.

1/8/03

Summary:

Personally, the courts make alot of error in custody cases (as had with mine) It doesn't work. I believe the child should stay with the mother - an "Assessment" should be given - if she is a fit mother, and the child have weekend visits or afternooon visits during the week (also) A child needs a home not a suitcase. Changing the Act will put alot more children in danger, this is what I believe, and fear.

Yours sincerely,

Ms. Eunice Curran

P.S. Shared care may sound good but in the long-run it disrupts the child having to go back and forwards, even though the child may love the parent that they are missing out on seeing so much. My parents split up when I was 13 years. Though I resided with my mother I never let go of my father he is now 90 and I am 43 I am closer to him more than she met at work. my mother.

My mother left my father for someone else, she met at work.