

Forbes, Bev (REPS)House of Representatives Standing Committee
on Family and Community Affairs

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 8 August 2003 11:57 PM
To: Committee, FCA (REPS)
Cc: Committee, FCA (REPS)
Subject: changes to the csa formula

Submission No: 1444
 Date Received: 8-8-03
 Secretary: [REDACTED]

To the people out there that can make changes,

This is going to be short and sweet, as I'm a father who pays child support, and so I should, as I have a son who I helped to bring into this world and therefore I have the responsibility that he has everything that he needs. but my complaint is how much do I really need to pay?. I don't get to see my son as the mother moved away, and its too far to travel in a day. and my only day off is Sunday. and if I work any less I will lose my house as I would not be able to make the repayments. I have just landed back on my feet after going through a deep depression and bankruptcy. when the mother took our child away I found it very hard as I missed him so much, I couldn't deal with not seeing him, I couldn't hold down a job as I was getting sick, mentally worrying and then the bills rolled in and the maintenance and I just didn't cope on my own. Its been 5 years now and I'm back on top of my child support payments I have a secure job and I'm trying to get on with my life. I now only get to see my son 2-4 times a year, which is hard. Anyway getting back to child support payments I think you need to change the formula. At the moment I take home about \$900-\$1000-pw and after I pay my house payment of \$500, cspayment \$200, food \$100, fuel \$60. I don't have much left to pay the other bills, and I can't work anymore hours a week as I work 70-80 already and I don't know what to do?, I think that child support should only be taken from the 1st 40 hours that you work per week, so that I can still get ahead in life or even live comfortably. and one day I may be able to afford to have kids again. as it stands now I wouldn't be able to support anymore kids as I'm barely supporting myself. As I said before I'm not trying to get out of paying I just want a fair thing. I think \$200pw is a lot to pay considering I'm supposed to be meeting the mother half with money to raise our son, (and what child needs \$400pw) and if that's how much they cost I might as well kiss my chances of having any more children away. The mother has moved on, and has a well paid job with her husband to be and she has just bought herself a beautiful \$400,000 house which is good as I want my son to live in a nice house, I just think its so not fair that she gets the child and spends all those special moments with him that I will miss out on. and I am paying for them. As I'm sure 100% she doesn't spend more than \$200pw on him. This is another suggestion, child support should bring it in that for all those paying parents who do not get to see their child due to the mother moving away, should have to pay less, as its not fair that the mother can just move to the other side of the country and still get the same amount, if it does come in? it might stop a few mothers moving which is good for the child as he still gets to grow up with both parents. I know that this is not going to help me now as you can't make them move back, but if I can help one parent out there and stop them going through what I did, then that's good.

thankyou for reading my letter
 regards
 [REDACTED]

p.s please do not print my name as I would hate for my son to read it in later years as I do love him!

16/08/2003