



FAMILY COURT OF AUSTRALIA

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Ms Sarah Henderson MP
Social Policy & Legal Affairs Committee

Dear Ms Henderson

Inquiry into a Better Family Law System to Support and Protect those Affected by Family Violence

I refer to the advice from the Attorney-General to you regarding the appropriateness of the appearances of the Chief Justice and Chief Judge Pascoe before the Committee.

Having read the Hansard transcripts of some of the witnesses who have appeared before the Committee, the Chief Justice apprehends that there may be matters which the Committee might wish to clarify with the courts arising from some of the evidence.

Additionally where matters have been raised by witnesses which are wrong, misconceived or without support, the Committee may wish to allow the courts an opportunity to identify and respond to such matters.

Accordingly, the Chief Justice thought it might be useful for me to enquire of you whether there are particular matters about which the Committee could be assisted by the courts providing information in response to written questions from the Committee.

Self-evidently the published decisions of the judges which are available on Austlii speak for themselves and other than to refer the Committee to examples if required, no discussion of them would be appropriate. However there may be other matters of a more administrative nature could be adequately addressed, albeit in writing.

Yours sincerely

Patricia Christie
CEO and Acting Principal Registrar
Family Court of Australia