

Submission No: 49

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Secretary:

Re: Child Custody

Fathers should not automatically receive equal child custody, because many are drug addicts, alcoholics, violent natured, drug dealers, into criminal activities, drug-induced schizophrenics, and women bashers. All, some or one of these should be enough reason for custody or access to be forfeited.

These men are a danger to the child in many ways, they usually mix with the same type and are also bad role models, they should only have supervised access. Stringent rules should apply before a child is handed over by the courts to a father, first he should be proven to be a fine upstanding citizen.

Some fathers are only sperm donors and have no interest in the child except to use the child to harass the mother. More emphasis should be placed on giving grandparents access or custody as these people usually are able to provide a safe, stable and loving environment for a child.

All cases should be looked at individually, decent men need to be given suitable access and this should ideally be decided by both parents in counseling.

Relating to part of Lindsay MP Jackie Kelly's comments in the Penrith Press " both parents should have access to children after divorce, equal access is good for the whole family, children need unfettered access to both parents, too many boys are growing up without the fathers guiding influence in their lives."

Jackie Kelly is living in a dream world and not the real world, many fathers make unsuitable parents, especially if a father has abused or molested a child or a de - facto child. Not all separated parents are divorced because they were never married in the first place. Not all parents live in the same state in Australia.

When the child/children stay with the father on access visits it is only fair that the father pays no child support for that time. It makes no sense that the father pays child support to the mother when the child is with him and not the mother. The money is needed to support the child while with him even if it is only for a weekend.

Children should also not be taken into prisons to visit the fathers locked up. This is a bad influence on the child and normalises the crime they have committed. The welfare of the child must always come first.

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