

Submission No. 77

Date Received: 9-7-03

Secretary

To Whom It May Concern:

I am concerned about the recent trauma my Son and our Family has been - through regarding AVO and family court laws in this country, I cannot believe the treatment of my child on the grounds basically it seems to me as he is a - Male. My Son was and still is a loving Father to his children and has - been treated like a second class citizen because of this vicious family - wrecking law, and discrimination by the system against an innocent - Father, my Son has who has never been in any trouble with the law in his - life, till he met this Women about 3 years ago and she fell pregnant - after two months of going out together.

My Son is an upstanding, honourable, kind hearted person(perhaps his weakness) - His ex partner has taken out a total fictitious and vexatious AVO - against him he has not seen his twin daughters now since February 8th, - my Husband and I have driven all the way from SA to comfort him as he is - clearly in distress and it seems there is nothing he can do to see his - children, because of this AVO situation and the fact that she has not contacted anyone to let him know of the children's welfare. This Woman has abused the - system before, and she is well attuned to using it to the utmost to - destroy peoples lives and those of his children, being there - Grandmother, I miss them dearly and would love too see them but that is - apparently not an option either, I am concerned for there well being, - they are Twins and love there Father so much.

Something must be done about this horrendous situation people - "especially Men are in today" this is not only abuse of my Son but abuse - of his children, any Women who decides she wants to run off "in this - case with another Women" and take everything in the house, - furniture everything, my daughters clothes, washing machine etc, etc, - even his car, and this is the second time she has done this after he - forgave her, 12 Months ago, (she did the same thing exactly). I must say it was hard for the rest of the - family but we also forgave her. We did this for the children's happiness. But the Law is - such their "so called Mother" has the power to destroy their relationship with there Father. We were devastated when she did it the second time. My son cannot forgive her again. This woman had not worked during the relationship. My son owned the furniture and the car before the relationship and yet it is classed by the law as a domestic situation and the law will not help to recover any of the property. It cost my son \$10,000 to clear his name of the AVO which he did with success. But no charges were laid on this women even though the judge said she lied to the court and the police and could not be believe. But the judge would not give back the cost to my son as it was the police that took the AVO out on behalf of his defacto and they lost the case but costs are not awarded in such circumstances as the police did not know she was lying.

Members of Parliament should remember that, Laws like this are there to - protect people, and I have no doubt they were for good intentions, but - abuse on this scale and the magnitude of people who have no respect for the - law at all should be punished severely.

My son has only had a hearing in the magistrate's court and has access to his children for 2 days per week. It still has to go to the family court in October where he is going for custody. His defacto has made the picking up of the children nearly impossible as she yells abuse at my son and myself when we pick the children up and drop them off. She does this so that he will give up on his children. Which is not going to happen as he loves them and is concerned for their mental and physical health. She has even attacked me physically (the children's grandmother) in front of the children for no reason except that she wants to upset my son and get a reaction from him. This women has an assault charge and AVO on her from the police. She is also on a charge of fraud. She is also a declared bankrupt which we have found out since she has left. This happened before my son met her. Since leaving my son she has run up bills in his name and my daughters name. We cannot recoup these beca

I do hope that you can understand our family and many other's - plight and can influence the injustice that is occurring in our society - today, if the system is used as a tool to destroy family's then, society - will decay into lawlessness which I am sure we all don't want, but in - the end of it all it is the children who are being

abused, and the AVO = laws and family court laws are a major contributor to inhumane results.

Thank you,
