

Grosse, Mikala (K. Hull, MP)House of Representatives Standing Committee
on Family and Community Affairs

From: andre van der zwan
Sent: Tuesday, 1 July 2003 7:50 AM
To: Hull, Kay (MP)
Subject: Congratulations

Submission No. **186**
 Date Received: **1-7-03**
 Secretary.

Dear Mrs Hull,
 I met you when at Primelife (Andre van der Zwan). I read with interest about your appointment in this Family Law matter.

I will be glad to help - as I am a case in point.

Despite Court Orders (and I gladly show you) giving me access fortnightly, I was denied that privilege time and again. So off to Court you go. So much so I asked one Judge to give me a season ticket. The Family Law Court as far as I am concerned sucks. I haven't seen my son for 10 years. The Lady upped and left Victoria - against Court Orders. Yet I had to pay and the Child Support Agency hammered me with interest when I was late in payment. Late because the electronic salary transfers did not necessarily fall on the day payment was required. I wasn't aware of this. I knew it was being garnisheed- and that was that. The next thing I was hit with a \$2000 interest bill!

Add to this a Good Behaviour Bond of \$1000 for 12months and a \$500 payment to the Police and whatever fund. This was imposed when I was denied rightful access. I was angry, went home and phoned the Lady. I told her: "I'll kill you if you do that again." I was verbalizing. How often don't people say that. I copped that sweet.

On another occasion she was told by the Judge that she was liable for my legal expenses in a matter appertaining to my son. She told me to get lost (that's putting it mildly). So I had to cop that \$3k bill. Sure I could have gone to Court but that would take years and a lot of money --money I didn't have at that stage.

Now I am in a situation where because I am getting on in life I would like to see my son. I don't know whether he is alive or dead. Whether he is studying or a druggie or whatever. The AG won't help me. I can go to Court I was told. More expenses and if I do I might alienate him more. The non-custodian parent has no hope in hell in this country.

I now sympathise with angry non-custodian parents. I never thought I would.

I live in hope that I will meet my son again before I leave this world.

Its too late for me but I hope that your investigation will improve the situation.

All the best

Andre



30/06/2003