		House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs Submission Not
From:		Date Received: 29-7-03
Sent:	Tuesday, 29 July 2003 9:20 AM	Secretary:
To:	Committee, FCA (REPS)	
Subject	: Submission by Tony Missich JP	
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То:		
Committee Secretary Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs Child Custody Arrangements Inquiry		

Submission by

I was always extremely close with my two daughters **being** being present at both births and even to the extent of accompanying my wife to many doctors appointments before the births.

My Father skills and time given to my children were considered to be exceptional by being involved with their development at school.

I took pride to be with my children and taught them many skills in life like riding a bike, skating, sport etc

I took time to avail myself to assist the teacher to hear all the children read in the earlier years and being part of the P@C doing many activities such as busy bees and taught other parents the skills of first aid on a voluntary basis with the proceeds going to the school.

I assisted the school and church communities to expand by advocating on their behalf all demolition and building plans through Council.

A recommendation was put forward by the school principle to the local member of Parliament to have me accepted for the commission of Justice of the Peace. Previous to this I was elected to the office of Councillor with the City of Fremantle of which I was re elected the following term.

During separation and divorce my children were completely alienated from my total family and myself. My children began to dislike me and my family, assaulting me in public, calling the Police on me and saying I was taking the family home from them because I was selling the home and leaving them without. Crank calls were made to my mother from the children. The children admitted lying to the Court Cancellers because they were afraid of what Mum might say as they were living with Mum.

They questioned everything that I said whereas they never questioned before.

A Violence restraining order was sort on me (ex parte) by my wife and was not granted by the court even on an interim basis.

This application however although not granted was picked by the local newspaper and my reputation was damaged. I had found out later that this was one of the objectives

by my estranged wife. When this application finally went to court my wife asked the magistrate to have the hearing deferred for 3 months, an urgent violence restraining order ?

My Lawyer advised me that from his experience he knew exactly what was happening. My wife was using the VRO as a lever to gain what she wanted from the marriage settlement. Give me what I want or I will get a retraining order on you and dictate the terms for when if at all you see the children.

My Lawyer predicted the following – When my Lawyer advised my wife's lawyer that if this application was to be withdrawn on the day of the hearing my wife would bear the costs of preparing my case. Immediately the application was withdrawn! What happened to the Violence that was alleged???? What happen to the love and respect once enjoyed from the children????

The Press then took up another story on me that the VRO had been withdrawn giving my case more publicity.

This wrongful use of a VRO to ruin my reputation and to gain financially and to alienate my children gave me NO recourse, a total injustice. The perpetrator of wrong paid no price but the victim of wrong paid dearly and continues to go without.

Please change the law to shared parenting, some fathers make better mums but are excluded from their children. Children need the love and affection of both parents.

For the sake of natural Justice give the children the Father love as well. Shared parenting, Shared responsibility.

Sincerely Yours

