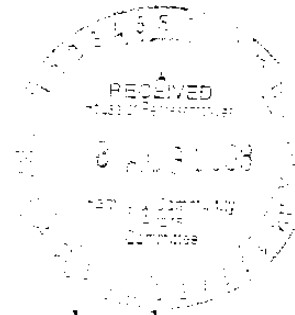


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House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs	
Submission No:	506
Date Received:	8-8-03
Secretary:	

5 August 2003

Committee Secretary
Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs
Child Custody Arrangements Inquiry
Department of the House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600



[REDACTED]

I would like to submit that I have seen over 20 years both my brother and a male friend of mine lose all contribution or fatherly input into their children's lives.

The depression these men live with will go on the rest of their lives while their respective ex-partners appear to have "won the competition" and have moved on to whatever they've wanted to be.

These men's four boys have missed out on knowing what a responsible father is and are now expected to pass on their own flawed "childhood experience" to any of their own children as they approach their adult years. The same process is repeating itself in greater numbers because of the power and control the Family Law and Child Support systems unwittingly grant custodial parents.

I see rebuttable "joint custody" to be an answer but also an automatic check for some selfish women who have used their own children as blackmailing weapons.

Unfortunately the men I'm thinking of have been entirely dispossessed of their children (I believe reputable figures demonstrates this happening) and struggle day to day for any purpose for living. At the same time the CSA takes their money to give to the very person who is prepared to damage their ex-partners, their own children and our society.

Yours truly,

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]