

House of Representatives Standing Committee
on Family and Community Affairs

Submission No: **520**

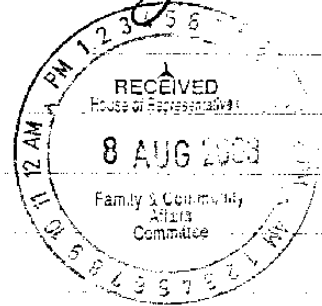
Date Received: **8-8-03**

Secretary: **Expanding into Child Custody**

Attention:

The Submission to the Expanding into Child Custody
Standing Committee on Family & Community Affairs
Child Custody Arrangement Enquiries
House of Representatives
Parliament House, Canberra.

6th Aug 2003.



Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to you in regard to your upcoming decision on child custody.

Having recently had family involvement in parent separation I wish to express my views on these matters.

I support the idea of rebuttable presumption of joint physical custody after separation to deter parties from undermining joint physical custody by relocating.

I believe that the law should put the onus on the party wishing to relocate to show compelling reasons & prove that this relocation is in the best interests of the children.

If one party chooses to relocate, the custody should revert to the other remaining in the area where the children were raised.

The only exception would be in proven circumstances of abuse.

If joint physical custody is introduced the other parent, the grandparents & extended family can continue with the established relationships.

with the children.

We have attached a copy of a letter written to the West Australian which you may find interesting & which I wrote to summarize my son's position.

Yours faithfully,
George Laithley