House of Representatival instanding Committee on Family and Community Affairs
Submission No: 1336
Date Received: 18-8-03
Secretary:
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Kerrin Brown 1Foxglove Close Green Point 2251

Mr Ken Ticehurst

Re: Child support submission

Dear Sir,

m y wife and I separated 11 years ago.

To help minimise the impact of marital break down on my 4 year old daughter I was determined to keep the family home.

To achieve this end I was forced to borrow from the bank to pay my former wife her share of equity in the property.

The early stages of the separation created huge financial hardship, and to try to alleviate this problem I started a second job.

Here in lies the problem, to hold a second Job one must pay 30% tax as l couldn't fill a tax exemption form.

As a father I paid 18% of my wages for child support

Because I tried to maintain financial solvency with a second job I was actually paying 48% of my wages from my second job to the

government and child support.

On occasions in discussions with friends about this problem their response Would be "why do you bother?"

I really do believe that I, and people like myself are disadvantaged Financially simply because we would prefer to struggle and swim rather than sink and become a welfare recipient.

It would be absolutely marvellous if the father's who pay child support and work second jobs were only taxed at their normal rate instead of 30%. What a good incentive that would be.

Kerrin Brown