

House of Representatives Standing Committee
on Family and Community Affairs

Submission No: 455

Date Received: 8-8-03

Secretary:

8 August 2003

SUBMISSIONS FOR INQUIRY INTO
FAMILY LAW
SUMMARY OF POINTS

1. *Unfair and discriminatory.*
2. *Current system seems to focus on what parents want, not what is best for the child/children.*
3. *After all separations the main care giver of children should definitely be restricted from relocating interstate and/or anywhere, until a court has had a reasonable opportunity to ensure this would be in the child/children's best interests.*
4. *When issues of possible abuse or neglect are apparent in relation to the care of the child/children the situation must be resolved fairly and promptly. With the court satisfied that all issues have been adequately resolved and there is no longer, any doubt about the child/children's welfare and safety.*
5. *After family separations, involving children government payments are not permitted to be altered until a court has had the opportunity to make any relevant orders relating to care and control of any child/children, or at least until proceedings have been instigated by either party. (This too would limit the amount of people attempting to defraud the commonwealth!)*
6. *Joint custody to start out with is an excellent idea and extremely beneficial to the child/children's rights, Its also a step in the right direction for men as in the past we have been denied our parental rights and women are in some families not the ideal parent*

NOTE: If possible please keep letters written to minister Department Community Services and her response confidential.