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Susan Maree Kerridge
12 Nicholson Close
Safety Beach NSW 2456
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Child Custody Issue in Focus

Luke Hartsuyker
Member for Cowper

Please find enclosed concerns raised in point form.

- ❖ The Courts decision is everything. If the justice system advocates two homes. Children will grow up thinking that two homes are normal and so are the life patterns they have learned. They will themselves most likely end up in divorce and separation.
- ❖ Children need stability and routines. This is hard to give them if there are two sets of standards and two homes.
- ❖ Children need to know a home. That is when they wake up through the night or in the morning they know where they are. They do not need to feel insecure or disorientated.
- ❖ Children have so many items for organising example; sports, schoolwork, uniforms, homework. It's quite a lot and a lot of men disregard the child's life. If the child has no activities which suits some dads then the logistics are minimal. If the children are active healthy children then the logistics are enormous. The organisation is dramatically made difficult and most likely the children and the parent will become disorganised and this is not good for anybody. As property will be misplaced or be at the other house.
- ❖ Children need to know where home is and so do their friends. They need to keep their belongings together. Phone calls become double work. Planning or arranging set patterns stop as the father wishes to change or upset their routines. Or wants to argue over it.
- ❖ Marriage and family can mean the world to some people and family can mean the world. To divide families in half would be devastating. Families should not be divided because one selfish member wants his freedom to live immorally. This should not be the child's problem or inconvenience. The most moral parent should be the guardian for the sake of growing moral children.

- ❖ Mothers have for many thousands of years been the primary caregiver and nurturer. They have adapted this way and are used to the selflessness required in parenting. They have been paid less and held back career wise for this purpose. They have not minded, as they know that giving children love and time is important to their growth and society.
- ❖ In most cultures (not drug cultures) The mother is in charge of the children. The man understands this and if he wishes to fly the coop and have fun, no one encourages him to take the kids along! He loses, as he should and he must realise that there are consequences for his behavior.
- ❖ These days a lot of men think they can have it all, as they wish by pushing hard for it. They want the assets, pay no maintenance and push to have the kids. Sometimes the kids are hounded or abused verbally into complying with their dad. They can return home very angry and confused not knowing what is right or making demands that are not there own. Someone has to be big enough to say **No** to these people.
- ❖ Most separated males have a drug or alcohol problem; this is the reason for the separation. They find it hard to pay maintenance (if courts could access credit cards they would find very high alcohol bills). If men were in charge of the money for the food for children, most likely they would spend it on their bad habits.
- ❖ Some men are not hygienic and basically children need there own personal towels, ones that are not used at all by any body else. Children need to dress respectably and learn clean habits.
- ❖ These days a lot of fathers are only after welfare, a system designed to help woman get back on their feet after the family looses the fathers support.
- ❖ Some men think they can buy the love of a mother by replacing the mother with a nanny. This is not so and is just a control issue with the father.
- ❖ Some fathers would not give up careers or money for their children and they think children are a commodity. That can be bought and sold at a price. Some fathers are reluctant to take their children anywhere or to spare some time for them. Even when the courts give them times for access they usually have something on and are either hours late or do not take that time up. The mother is left to carry the load.
- ❖ Some men set bad standards through their own bad behavior. This might be yelling and being abrupt all the time or negligent towards the children's behavior, letting them run a muck. They may take drugs or

consume alcohol in large amounts with friends at parties, with kids. They may have quite a few different sleeping partners. They may even pose a further health risk by smoking around children.

- ❖ Some men think and say they could manage the kids, but the truth is that their words are much larger than their actions. Again the mother is left to carry the load.
- ❖ As a lot of mothers would tell you, quite often the kids are returned home with there dirty washing.
- ❖ Parents should be flexible and go with what works by incorporating access at intervals that benefit the child. As their welfare should have the priority.
- ❖ If parents are happy to share the care, the parents should be able to make their own arrangements that they find are in the best interest of their child. They should not be penalised for this. The law should incorporate this type of arrangement.

This is all I can think of for now, I hope it is helpful. Parents should lead through good examples of their own life. These days there is so much bad TV, commercials, etc. I really hope TV can set a good example by producing more shows that are worth watching ex; Documentaries of educational lessons made interesting. As it is not only parents who can be bad examples.

Yours Sincerely
S.M.Kerridge

