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House of Representatives Standing Committee on Family and Community Affairs	
Submission No:	1089
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Secretary:	

COMMITTEE SECRETARY  
 STANDING COMMITTEE ON FAMILY AND  
 COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

CHILD CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS INQUIRY  
 DEPARTMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
 PARLIAMENT HOUSE  
 CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600  
 AUSTRALIA.



To, THE SECRETARY,

MY APOLOGIES FOR HAND WRITING AND FAXING AS OPPOSED TO TYPE WRITTEN AND POSTED BUT MURPHY'S LAW IS ON OVERTIME IN MY LIFE.

MY NAME IS [REDACTED], BORN [REDACTED] AND I WANT TO COMMENT, FROM A GRANDPARENTS POINT OF VIEW, ON POSSIBLE CHANGES TO THE FAMILY COURT.

I HAVE RECENTLY HAD DEALINGS IN THE FAMILY COURT, FILE NO [REDACTED], WITH MY DAUGHTER, [REDACTED] [REDACTED], PARENTS OF MY [REDACTED] [REDACTED] BORN [REDACTED]. WHEN THE PARENTS SPLIT, [REDACTED], [REDACTED] MOVED IN WITH ME.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HAD ALREADY SPENT AT LEAST 1 NIGHT WEEKLY WITH ME FOR 9 MONTHS OF HIS LIFE AND WAS VERY MUCH AT HOME HERE. UNTIL [REDACTED] WHEN COURT PAPERS WERE SERVED, HE HAD SPENT 90% OF THOSE YEARS WITH ME AS MAIN CARER AND FINANCIAL SUPPORTER. MY DAUGHTER WAS ON CENTRE LINK BENEFIT BUT CONSIDERED THAT HER MONEY.

I NOT ONLY HAVE NO INSTANT RIGHTS IN COURT AS A MOTHER WOULD, IT WOULD COST ABOUT 20 THOUSAND IN COURT & LEGAL FEES TO GET TO TRIAL TO TRY AND GAIN SOME RIGHTS INDEPENDENT OF THE PARENTS

BOTH PARENTS WERE AWARE AND ACCEPTING OF ME CARING FOR [REDACTED] BUT OFFICIAL RECOGNITION CHANGED THE FINANCIAL STATUS WHICH WAS UNACCEPTABLE, BECAUSE [REDACTED] DIDNT HAVE TO CARE FOR HER SON BUT HAD MONEY, IT INCREASED THE PARTY TIME [REDACTED] [REDACTED], AN ONGOING ROUND HARD TO STOP. AND HARD TO GET PROOF OF.

AND WITHOUT SOLID EVIDENCE, PUT ASIDE AS AN INTERFERING MOTHER - ME. - ~~BE~~ BEING NASTY.

[REDACTED]

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NO ONE EVEN SUGGESTED ANY PARENTING CLASSES, AND UNLESS SOMEONE FROM THE COURT COULD FOLLOW UP, IT WOULD BE A WASTE OF TIME. IT IS EASY TO SAY YES AND AGREE TO DO WHAT IS ASKED THEN WALK AWAY & FORGET IT.

SO I COULD ASK CAN THE COURT FOLLOW UP MAY BE 6 MTHS LATER TO SEE WHERE THINGS ARE AT & HOLD VACATED ORDERS FOR THAT 6 MTHS SO RE FILING FEES & WHOLE PROCESS DOESN'T HAVE TO START ALL OVER.

IT ISN'T EASY TO FACE FAMILY IN COURT, IT HAS COST ME A LOT OF MONEY ON TOP OF MY ~~REA~~ RELATIONSHIP WITH MY DAUGHTER, ALREADY FRAGILE [REDACTED].

THERE IS ALSO ANOTHER SUBJECT TO BRING UP. WE WERE BACK IN COURT LAST [REDACTED] SO MY DAUGHTER, GRANDSON & DAUGHTER'S BOYFRIEND, [REDACTED], COULD MOVE TO [REDACTED]. I HAVE COURT ORDERED PHONE ACCESS PLUS 3 VISITS TO [REDACTED] YEARLY, I PAY ONE LOT OF AIRFARES, BUT I DON'T HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW ANYTHING MORE THAN [REDACTED] FOR THE MALE INFLUENCE IN MY DAUGHTER & GRANDSON'S LIFE.

ONE MORE TO PUT ON THE TABLE MET, P.T.O.  
[REDACTED]

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I HAD ARRANGED TO TAKE [REDACTED] TO SWIMMING LESSONS WHEN I FIRST HAD ACCESS [REDACTED]. WHEN MY DAUGHTER FOUND OUT, SHE RANG AND ABUSED THE TEACHER. WHEN WE WERE BACK IN COURT [REDACTED] FOR BREACH & ATTEMPTED BRIBERY OR WHATEVER IT SHOULD BE DESCRIBED AS, I LOST THE RIGHT TO TAKE [REDACTED] TO SWIMMING LESSONS AND THE COUNSELLOR PRAISED MY DAUGHTER FOR BEING STRONG WHEN I BOUGHT UP THE ABUSE OF THE SWIMMING TEACHER.

I CAN TAKE MY GRANDSON SWIMMING ANY TIME, I JUST CANT HAVE HIM TAUGHT TO SWIM. UNLESS I WANT TO FORGO ACCESS.

MAYBE A QUESTIONNAIRE FOR ALL PARTIES TO FILL IN COULD INDICATE WHO HAS LOOKED AFTER A CHILD AND HAD MOST INPUT AND THEN FIND SOME REASONS WHY. I BELIEVE PARENTS RIGHTS ARE EARNED, NOT AUTOMATIC & GRANPARENTS SHOULD HAVE A TIME FRAME SET FOR THEIR RIGHTS SO THEY ARENT THE LOCAL CONVENIENCE BECAUSE OF THEIR CONCERN.

THANK YOU

[REDACTED]