

NON-CUSTODIAL PARENTS PARTY (EQUAL PARENTING)

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Committee Secretary
Senate Community Affairs References Committee
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600
community.affairs.sen@aph.gov.au

Dear Sir

Inquiry into Suicide in Australia

We thank you for allowing us the opportunity to make a submission to the “Inquiry into Suicide in Australia”.

We need a cure as well as prevention.

The causes of suicide are often put down to various extraneous issues. These issues may include such problems such as unemployment, mental health, alcoholism, etc.

This may well be the case.

However the true reason for a suicide is never investigated. This is simply because the police are not required to investigate why a suicide has occurred.

There is no requirement for any investigation to be carried out to determine what caused the person to take this course of action. Therefore the suicides figures are inadequate (and probably understated).

We believe that if suicides were properly investigated, it would be found that the principal causes of death by suicide would be the Family Court and the Child Support Agency.

If the Family Court and the Child Support Agency did not exist, then we would have far fewer suicides in this Country.

The obvious solution is to abolish the Family Court and the Child Support Agency, as they now stand. Both institutions could be replaced by a family tribunal, in which separated and divorce parents could make their own decisions.

However until the actual reasons for suicides are required to be investigated by the police, then we will continue to have the current situation with regard to far too large a number of Australians committing suicide in this Country

Yours faithfully

John Flanagan

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