

April 28, 2001

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The Hon. Michael D. Harris, Premier of Ontario  
Ontario Legislature  
Queen's Park, Ontario M7A 1A1

Dear Premier Harris

**RE: Abuse of children and the welfare system with the encouragement and support of the Ontario Government**

On April 9, 2001, I sent you out a letter reporting how my former wife was being encouraged to abuse the taxpayer's of Ontario through her blatant abuse of the local women's shelter in Owen Sound as well as abuse of welfare, legal aid and the family court system. All of this related to the adversarial family court system. Abuse of the system by my former young wife has been encouraged by what would appear to be sloppy and biased welfare procedures and a court system that seems grossly biased in favour of women who blatantly abuse the system and perjure themselves in court documents.

In my letter of April 9, 2001, I indicated that my former wife continues to abuse my child and abuse the system at the expense of the taxpayers and has for many months after the court made her to the "primary" caregiver. I have evidence that she has perjured herself and that the taxpayers supported her acts of perjury through her abuse of legal aid. (I have proof of her perjury)

To give you a recent example of this abuse, on Friday April 20, 2001, I received a call from the day care where my former wife had placed our three-year-old child. The day care reported that our daughter had an eye infection (pink eye) and for the protection of the other children, needed to be taken from daycare and the infection treated. Although mother is the primary caregiver, the daycare centre calls me as they know I am the better parent.

When I called the mother at home about getting our daughter, she indicated that she was too busy at home to pick up our daughter from daycare and wanted me to get our daughter. Even though the mother was at home that afternoon, that it was her scheduled time under the court Order to have control of our daughter and I was at work, she did not want to cut into her time at home to tend to our daughter. Instead, she asked that I pick up our daughter from daycare.

When I mentioned to the mother that I would take our daughter to the doctor to get the eye infection tended to that afternoon, the mother said no way was I to take our daughter for medical attention. The mother said that she did not want me to be seen taking our daughter to the doctor without her being brought along as well. I told the mother that I would gladly pick her up that afternoon and take her with us but again she just sternly said NO! She did not want our daughter to be taken to the doctor, primarily because she did not want to have to go out of her home that afternoon.

In the best interests of my daughter, I gladly took the afternoon off work (with lost wages) in order to take my daughter to the doctor's office. Yes, it was confirmed that she had an eye infection that

required immediate treatment by the doctor and that it was in her best interest to be brought in immediately for treatment.

The point that I am trying to make is that while this woman is on welfare and being supported by the taxpayers of this province she is allowed to neglect the care of her daughter. Taxpayers are helping this woman sit at home, support a pack a day cigarette habit and to support her wild, drunk weekend activities. On top of this I'm willing to provide care for my child yet the government allows this mother to put her into subsidized daycare at further expense to taxpayers. Last week she stated to me that she was going to the local bar in Owen Sound to get plastered and "screw the whole football team" along with her other welfare mother friends from Owen Sound. It seems like being on welfare is "the thing to do."

**As I said in my last letter, the simplest way for the Government of Ontario to reduce this sort of welfare fraud and save hundreds of millions of dollars in welfare payments is to simply establish minimum standards for the care and parenting for children where parents are separated are involved and where it can be determined by a simple assessment that both parents are able to meet the minimum levels of child care, that the parent, with their extended family, who can provide a parenting plan which can demonstrate their ability to financially support the children without reliance on the welfare, then that parent to be given primary care of the children under a joint custody arrangement.**

Under this sort of arrangement, the following would result

- Both parents would have equal rights with the children which will reduce conflict in the family.
- Formal parenting plans put on the record will put pressure to make the parents feel more obligated to fulfilling their responsibilities as parents and less likely to back out of the promises they made.
- The parent who is on welfare will still not be required to pay child support to the parent with the child because they would be making an income below minimum levels. This will not add any burden on the parent who needs help.
- The Ontario Government would not have to be involved in any way supporting the child as it will be the family, not the government who is supporting the child.
- There will be no collection enforcement required which will eliminate the need for the Family Responsibility Office in a great number of cases at an even greater savings.
- Even if the one remaining parent goes off welfare, the parties will not have to go to court again as they will already have joint custody and equal rights for the children. This again will save families and the Legal Aid plan millions of dollars.

Should any mother or father, with the support of their extended families, not be able to meet the minimum standards of care for the children, then the parent deemed best able to care for the child could still have the child and could still collect welfare, if needed. But as it now stands where mothers, even abusive ones, get automatic custody, without any consideration by the court of the father as caregiver, that this removes the incentive to get off of welfare or to even be a good parent.

Another point I would like to make is that extended families should be looked upon as the first financial support mechanism to support children before welfare from the state kicks in. What makes no sense is that my daughter is on welfare while I am willing to pay to support her without having to rely on welfare one bit. I don't want my child to be a "welfare kid" yet I am given absolutely no choice. Here I am, a capable and loving father, only wanting to get my child off welfare and my own government is saying NO. On the other hand, the mother who is on welfare has extended family who own a house and make

good money, yet they don't contribute a cent to the support of the child and enjoy the benefits of seeing that child. If the family of dependants seeking welfare were expected to support their grandchildren where they are enjoying the benefits of visitation to that child, then maybe a lot of families would be discouraging their children from seeking welfare in the first place or from even having kids if they can't afford it.

Put just this one simple policy in place and make all parents aware of this policy and I can assure you that you see, overnight, thousands of separate parents in this province focussing their energies to better themselves and get off welfare just so that they would not lose primary care of their children to the other parent. This sort of policy would motivate parents (especially welfare mothers) to compete to be better parents and more responsible citizens in our community. It would also ensure fairness and equality were being applied to both mothers and fathers. Would this not be in the best interest of children and of the taxpayers and be better for the Province of Ontario?

I know in my own case, should such a policy be in place, my former wife and child would not be on welfare and that she would be out seeking gainful employment, rather than playing these silly games to hide her continued abuse of our child so that she can continue to live on government handouts and a free meal ticket and free drinks at the bar. She would not be worried about me being seen taking my daughter to the doctors just because this might cast a negative inference upon her in court at a later date. In my case, it is my former wife's purpose to maintain custody to keep welfare coming in and to make it appear as if she is the most responsible parent. She feels compelled to lie and to put at risk our child's health just to maintain her phoney good mother appearance to everyone.

Should you doubt the truthfulness of my claims, you can be sure that I have undisputable hard evidence to support my claims made here and I would be pleased to share it with you in a personal meeting.

I ask you, does this government have the will to truly act in the best interests of children and taxpayers by implementing such as simple policy which will force parents who would otherwise prefer to abuse the system, be accountable to their children? Does this government have the will to implement such a policy that will save the taxpayers of this province literally hundreds of millions of dollars?

It's about time that this government cleaned up abuse of the system by parents, such as my former wife for the benefit of all children and families in our province. As I stated in my last letter, we have many other priorities such as education and health care where these savings can be put to better use. This whole welfare scam where single parents scam the system for money while being allowed to abuse their children and to keep another capable and caring parent out of their children's lives is an absolute disgrace to not only the Province of Ontario but our whole family justice system and to all those who support this horrible form of welfare dependency and abuse of children and families.

Yours truly,

Daniel Krieger

cc: various members of provincial parliament  
various news media