

Mr. Eugene Colosimo
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August 27, 2002.

The Right Hon. Jean Chretien, Prime Minister of Canada
Room 309-S, Centre Block
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Is sending good, loving fathers to jail the best that this country can do?

I have been unable to work for the past seven years. I am suffering from post-traumatic stress over the loss of access to my only child. I will soon face a child support "Default Hearing" which is sure to threaten to take my drivers license, passport and what little personal freedom I have left away from me. Ontario government collection agents who must chase down and destroy parents in order to maintain their jobs, now have me as their target. To these unremorseful bounty hunters, right or wrong is irrelevant and the only thing that matters to them is that they follow their orders from the government to seek out and destroy fathers.

Why me? Because after having my parenting rights and assets stripped from me by the courts and family law lawyers, I have been labeled as a deadbeat by the system. I am a grown adult who has to live back at home with my elderly parents in order to survive.

Yet, if I had been given the opportunity by the Canada's Family Court system to be a meaningful part of my only daughter's life, I am sure I would have made a full recovery from the emotional and financial horrors and been able to provide emotional and financial support to my child.

But this country's family court system never gave me the chance to love my daughter and to support her as I would have dearly wanted. Instead, all my rights to see my child and to have a meaningful relationship with her have been maliciously torn from me by the courts for no logical reason. It is apparent that the attitude of the courts is, in most cases, to allow mothers to take children from fathers and to put fathers forever under the power and control of their former partners.

It has been nearly a decade since my vindictive ex-spouse has allowed me to see, write to or phone my only child. This past decade of torment and injustice has forced me into absolute despair. This injustice by the family court system has emotionally devastated my daughter's grandparents, aunts and cousins as well. Yet the system seems intent on relentlessly pursuing me until it has stripped everything from me, including my personal freedoms.

Losing my child has been a devastating, life altering experience. Knowing that my little girl may be so geographically close, yet I so totally powerless to see her or know her has left me physically debilitated, emotionally devastated, financially bankrupted and psychologically raped. Once a proud father who was proud to support my family and contribute to society, I am now but an empty shell of my former self. My will to work, to live and contribute to society is no longer there as it was when I was able to be with my darling little girl.

Eighty trips to court settled nothing but depleted my daughter's inheritance of about \$240,000.00 dollars which went to her parent's lawyers and would have covered my child support obligations for a lifetime. It seems that the Justice Department and those in the family court industry only want to encourage parents to fight and to allow the courts and the lawyers to pillage and rape fathers of their families and assets and then make them slaves to their former partners through child support payments and the huge taxpayer-funded government machinery to enforce it.

It seems to me at least, that the current approach of destroying fathers and then going after them to throw them in jail lacks common sense and is counter-productive to the interests of this nation and its families. Nothing, not even jail, can restore the will of many fathers to work as long as they cannot enjoy a meaningful relationship with their children. According to Statistics Canada ten men kill themselves each day in Canada.

Why not a carrot instead of the stick?

Statistics show that over 90% of men who have regular and meaningful access with their children voluntarily pay their child support without any need of taxpayer funded government collection agencies. Tens of millions of tax dollars are currently being paid by taxpayers to make criminals out of good fathers, yet, most of this money could be saved by taxpayers just by implementing policies which would stop the financial rape of families in the court system and encouraged children's meaningful contact with their fathers.

I'm told that 77% of high school dropouts come from fatherless homes as well as 85% of juvenile delinquents. This too, causes problems in society which cost even more money and further erodes the competitive advantage of our economy.

Why has this nation forsaken fathers and men? Why are many good, loving fathers not being given the opportunity to play a meaningful part in their children's lives? Is there no place for men in this country?

Please read the attached poem which I wrote about the Province of Ontario, which is the province in which I reside. As a Canadian father who has been put through ten years of living hell by the family court system, I can truly say that there really is no place for men to stand in this once great country of Canada.

Is destroying good, loving fathers and sending them to jail, the best this country can do? I think not.

Your response appreciated.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eugene Colosimo".

Gene Colosimo

Attachment

cc: embassies and consulates world-wide



Ontario



A very scary place for men

*This was a place to stand and a place to grow
Till Bill 117 hit Ontario
Common Sense Revolution it had to go
There's no place for men in Ontario*

*Yelled at my spouse so her story goes
So I'm out of my house in Ontario
I'm kicked out of my home with nowhere to go
There's no place for men in Ontario*

*Zero tolerance is all they know
Can't see my kids in Ontario
More than half my wages going to the F.R.O.
There's no place for men in Ontario*

*Took my license now my car can't go
Constitution be damned in Ontario
I'm freezing my butt in the rain and snow
There's no place for men in Ontario*

*My passport is next on the list to go
Where the hell are my rights in Ontario
I'm telling you brother what you need to know
There's no place for men in Ontario*

*Lost my job but don't you know
That's no excuse in Ontario
I'm going to jail because I have no dough
There's no place for men in Ontario*

By Gene Colosimo, Toronto, Ontario