

Nov. 4, 1998

R.R. #2, 477 Gifford Dr.
Ennismore, Ont. K0L 1T0

Prime Minister Jean Chretien
House of Commons
Parliament Hill
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear Honourable Members of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada

RE: DESTRUCTION OF FAMILIES BY THE JUSTICE SYSTEM

It is very difficult for me to write this letter and to go public about such a painful subject that has devastated my family. The truth is that I have lost my son as a result of the failure of the justice system in Canada to deliver fairness and justice to my family, but more importantly because of the failure of the courts to ensure equality between my former spouse and myself. My life has been severely affected, however, but more importantly the life of my young son has been forever changed for the worst.

I have not had normal access to my son for approximately fifteen months. My son is now ten years of age and it has been a year and a half since he told me that he no longer wishes to see me. He has been poisoned and conditioned to a life influenced by a vindictive single mother. My son's last report card, while living in the environment of his single mother, was below average. His report card showed 45 days of absenteeism from school and 26 times late. What kind of Canadians are we raising in homes where there is an environment of hostility and revenge which is promoted by the courts of our land? I know that if I had been given the opportunity to be a meaningful part of his life and if his mother knew that she was accountable that he would be doing much better. I am sure that many of the children with behavior disorders come from homes where there is no father.

The system of justice in Canada's family courts must change. The system must stop destroying children and parents by permitting bias courts to put the custody of children into the hands of parents who wish only to destroy the child's relationship with the other parent. The courts must put an end to the fighting where what she said/he said is considered more important than the wishes of the child and where getting custody is the prize to be awarded to the winner. Allowing custody to be granted to one parent and to allow one parent to have a greater influence over a child's life allows the parent in control to manipulate and poison a child against the other parent and the family on the other side. I am a victim of such tactics and my once loving relationship with my son has been destroyed. My family is also devastated by the loss of one of its youngest members.

Children must be taught constructive behaviour and allowing a parent to exercise control over the other parent is demonstrating to a child that fairness and equality between parents mean nothing in our country. We are supposed to be proudly living in a free and just country.

As a good and loving parent who never had an equal chance given to me by our courts from the time I was separated from my child, I can honestly say that there would not be a better gift I could ask for than to be given the opportunity of equal rights to my child and to be given the chance to be the good father I am.

The system is too late to help my son and I now. My country has failed me and those within the legal system who claim to be respectable and to work in the name of justice of Canadians, are only out to steal the money from the destruction of Canadian families through an adversarial system. After being delivered such injustice, I am ashamed of my country and our biased courts. I am ashamed to live in a country that promotes the breakup of families and fails to treat parents equally to each other. I know that many other Canadians also feel this way. If my letter may get through to some of those who make our laws then I beg you to change the system to one that recognizes equality between parents before the lives of countless other Canadian children and their parents are forever destroyed.

I would appreciate a response to my letter from any member just to know if anyone is listening to the many ordinary Canadians who are suffering hell without our children because of our justice system. I am sure that my letter speaks for countless other Canadians in every riding across Canada who are too devastated by our justice system to even write a letter. I would like to know what each and every member of the government is willing to do to correct the problems with our system of justice for the benefit of other Canadians, those same problems that have so drastically affected my entire family for the rest of our lifetimes. If my letter manages to make a difference in the life of just one other Canadian child, it will be worth the effort.

Sincerely

Dawson G. Hay