**Grant Bowen, Member of the round council, Families For Childrens Rights**

I have read your discussion paper with much disappointment, the use of restraining orders, to get the upper hand in family court was not addressed in its entirety, if police are called to a premises on the grounds of domestic violence, then the person that has offended does not have to attend and a restraining order should be granted, however if there has been no police involvement then both parents need to stand before a magistrate or judge and state the claim, eliminating the issue of Domestic Violence Restraining Orders to keep a child from a parent,

At the earliest time a child should be reunited with the other parent, so as not to create anxiety to the child due to being separated, with the change of family structure if the father spends more time with a child than the mother this needs to be taken onto consideration upon separation,

The time in  relation to both parents being together should be taken into account before the separation of assets, as some marry for money and assets, and commit fraud to do so,

That immigration fraud be looked at, were as a parent using a child to come into the country and using the system to gain residency and citizenship, at the child's,  expense, that perjury is enforced as a punishable offence,

I understand the importance of a paper trail, however most dont know how to, or what is required to be back in the childrens lives, and to get representation of any kind is daunting and humiliating

That courts recognise, that under the definition of domestic violence, it is an offence to keep a family member away from other family members, why are the courts allowed to do this, its not putting the children first.

Child maintenance should not be based on a parents capacity to earn but how much the child would need and these funds should go to a bank account in the child's name, and receipts shown of where the money is spent, as monetary abuse is a form of domestic violence,

That a child's passport is surended until such age that the child can decide for themselves, as to whether they would like a passport, to prevent one parent removing a child from the country to another , without the other parent knowing, and that passport can not be obtained until such time as a child knows that is what they want,

That 50/50 be implemented on separation, when a parent defaults on 50/50 equal shared parenting then the parent applies to the court and is rewarded with more time until the other parent fixes their ways.

Stop abusing the children, by keeping a parent from them, if there has been no violence towards the child, and no substanciated evidence of reported violence they deserve both parents equally in their lives, to give them stability and foundation,

We cannot as a nation continue to harm the children through family law court processes, they are australias most valuable assets and we need to raise them with less harm, instead of by this system that has been set up to fail them,

Why not make a new court and call it divorce court dont bring the children into it, its not family court, leave the children out of it, protect them introduce 50/50 equal share parenting on separation, enforce perjury as an offence,

Kind regards

Member of the round council

Families For Childrens Rights

Grant Bowen