

**“DRIVEN TO IT” SUBMISSION TO THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO FAMILY
VIOLENCE: 2015**

From: [REDACTED]

Rosie Batty, that brave woman who plans to be an instrument for change, has said “I’ve lost everything, so it’s safe now for me to speak”. It is sadly true that only when one has lost everything one can speak against the laws pertaining to family breakups, against the servants of the law who administer them, and against the enclosed system of middle class “professionals” who make their living from the referrals and fringe benefits.

They exist to administer the “system” not to help the client, who is often lonely, distraught, and inexperienced in dealing with the law. Our story is different to Rosie. It concerns a father, who was sad in his relationship but could not break free because of his love for his four children. He couldn’t earn enough, couldn’t make enough fun, and couldn’t work hard enough. His partner became a friend and later lover of the local Member of Parliament, and eventually went to live with him, married him briefly, and took all the children.

He is our son and brother, [REDACTED]. He lost everything, but unlike Rosie, he is unable to speak. Being a “bloke” and a “tradie” he was not skilled verbally and had never before had contact with the law. He felt hopeless. He was pursued and humiliated by the servants of the law.

He hanged himself on [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] spoke frequently in his last months, about the issues which tormented him and caused his depression. They were two:

- 1. Rejection by those people he loved and respected**
- 2. Constant harassment and accusations of dishonesty by Child Support Agency (CSA) staff**

His tragedy began in late 2006, a [REDACTED] property jointly owned with his partner. The mother left with the children after waiting in the home (although later alleging she was afraid of him) until a rental house became available and then received Centrelink income and legal aid. They came to an agreement whereby they would split 50/50 and he could buy out her interest. [REDACTED]

After moving in with her lover things changed. [REDACTED] had said in front of their [REDACTED] year old son that “he would be better off if she was dead” His ex-partner and her lover made many visits to the police, alleging that this statement was a threat to kill her, then later, a threat to both her and her lover, and to the children. His ex-partner swore out the first of several intervention order applications, [REDACTED] was visited by [REDACTED] police on Saturday and the case went before the court on Monday.

Effectively, he was presumed guilty until he could prove innocence. A reversal of our justice system. How can you prove absence of guilt?

Each time the application was thrown out by the magistrate, they swore out another, at times while still in the courtroom. [REDACTED] was subjected to anonymous phone threats, covert access to his home and computer, and to local gossip branding him as violent. He visited the local GP who diagnosed a mild depression and prescribed medication.

We began a “Timeline” of events, but soon gave up. (Appendix 1)

Eventually, he was allowed “supervised access” to his children. Attached (Appendix 2) is a diary of the visits, kept by the court appointed “supervisors” which shows increasing disregard for the access rules, culminating when ■■■ had a new partner.

The members of this inquiry will be aware that Commonwealth and State laws contain varied definitions of “family violence” or “domestic violence”.

We as a family demand that the violence against our son and brother be recognised as family violence. He was bemused, exploited, bankrupted and forced into loneliness, illness and despair because current family law and its practitioners allow skilful manipulators of the law and our social movers and shakers to allege wrong-doing where none exists.

Are lonely and impoverished fathers not to be protected, even from themselves? Often the result is tragic. ■■■ did not take the life of others, or attempt to punish anyone except himself. His “family violence” was towards himself.

The best predictor of potential for violence towards any victim is the subject’s past behavior. ■■■ was a kind man, had never hurt his partner or children, and when he was angry, he would be angry at himself. He could be verbally explosive when the situations got too tough, but never violent to others. The legal system failed him. He believed in the rightness of the system, and it let him down. As a family we accompanied him to all his court appearances and many conferences.

We know that:

The courts expect that family court matters will be solved in the corridors, i.e. before they get into court.

There is no forum for a person to stand up and be heard

People in responsible public positions are assumed to be respectable. The operators of the legal system identify with them, not with tradies or non-professional workers.

Solicitors assign barristers to your case, you have no choice. Almost all proved to be once-off appointments (i.e. no background), dismissive and arrogant, identifying with the MP and the Magistrate, separating ■■■ from family support, and pushing for formulaic agreements. Some direct quotes “Don’t listen to your family” “Your obnoxious family” “I could say that for you but I won’t” etc. etc.

The costs snowball. Besides the legal ones, there are assessments by court appointed social workers, psychologists, counselor fees, and psychiatrists to be paid for.

■■■ was not informed of the breakdown of the ■■■ marriage and changed living arrangements. However an application for increased child support was made in 2011. The application and his response is Appendix 3.

Although it is denied, there is an underlying assumption that a child is better off with its mother.

The current system undervalues children. Their love and company has great value to the custodial parent. This fact should be taken into account when assessing child support payments.

The father is assumed to have potential for violence, the mother is not.

“The coroner has said “It is “essentially impossible” to identify the risk factors in determining whether a parent is capable of killing their children, the inquest into the death of schoolboy Luke Batty has been told.” <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-12-05/luke-batty-inquest-predict-if-parent-could-kill-child/5946988>

This extract is from a “Journal of Psychiatry” April 2000 paper on predictors of violence, most others simply list factors such as substance abuse, unemployment etc. as triggers.

“CLINICAL IMPLICATIONS

Structured/systematic approaches to violence risk prediction provide a more accurate and transparent record of the risk factors considered and the rationale behind decisions taken.

Risk assessment batteries need to be streamlined and adapted to suit the population under study and the key questions asked.

The Psychopathy Checklist and its derivatives appear to be significant predictors of violence in forensic and non-forensic settings.

LIMITATIONS

There are a limited number of studies on the reliability and validity of published risk assessment tools outside the centres in which they were developed.

The literature on accuracy of violence risk is predominately postdictive rather than predictive, and much needs to be done to improve current violence prediction accuracy, using prospective study designs.

The lack of uniformity in the statistical procedures used to assess predictive accuracy, and the variation in choice of cut-off scores on risk prediction tools, make comparisons between studies difficult. The reporting of receiver/operator characteristic data should improve this situation.”

We ourselves were shocked at the severity of [REDACTED]'s depression. It was only afterwards that we learned that depression in men takes different forms to that in women, and can frequently show as extremely hard work and insomnia, low self-esteem, as well as introspection and self-harm. We wish we had been able to help him through the family law system, which effectively drove him to his death.

He was trying with some success, on his own volition, to revive relations with his now teenage children. Access had been denied or made extremely difficult for seven years. He was advised to not approach their schools and discouraged from attending their sporting events.

He had \$6 in his bank account, and was experiencing insult and “good cop/bad cop” techniques by the CSA officers. He was bankrupt. The GP he was encouraged to see in the week before his death did not offer appropriate help and did not refer him to a specialist although considering him in danger. On [REDACTED], this GP gave him, without a consultation, a prescription for 25 temazepam tablets. [REDACTED] took all these tablets early on [REDACTED]. Appendix 4 is his last diary entry, made just before his suicide. Please note his comment “CSA has me fucked- there is no escape.”

He hanged himself on [REDACTED]

WE WANT FROM THIS ROYAL COMMISSION

- Recognition that victims of family violence include men
- Recognition that this violence can result in child murder and suicide
- Action to recognise the value of the love and company of children to a parent
- Acknowledgement of the faults of the family law system and action to change it
- Severe reprimands to executives and officers of the Child Support Agency and changes in their work practices in making assessments and enforcing compliance
- Action to change a system which assumes mothers are suitable carers and men are not.
- Action to change the legal system so that men who have lost the love and company of their children are not required to pay more child support than they can afford, especially when the custodial parent has a new partner and/or a well-paid job.
- Stopping the abuse of the “application for intervention order” where a person is assumed guilty and must prove his/her innocence, a perversion of our justice system

TIME LINE [REDACTED] FAMILY

[REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] SEE [REDACTED], WHO ADVISES [REDACTED] TO MAKE

BEDROOMS FOR KIDS INSIDE THEIR SHED/HOME [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] STARTS [REDACTED] AND BEGINS MEETING [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADMITS TO MEETING [REDACTED] AFTER SELLING HIM A

[REDACTED] ON INSTALLMENT PAYMENT PLAN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] GOES TO [REDACTED] WITH [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] INFORMS CENTRELINK SHE IS SEPARATED AND ARRANGES

BENEFITS AND A LEASE ON A HOUSE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] INFORMS [REDACTED] SHE IS MOVING OUT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ACTUALLY MOVES OUT TO RENTED HOUSE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] AGREE TO ACCESS ARRANGEMENTS AND ASSET SPLIT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] HAS KIDS AT [REDACTED] EVERY 2ND WEEKEND AND

OCCASIONAL PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF DUTIES [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] OPENLY DATING/LOVERS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SHIRE ORDERS DEMOLITION OF ILLEGALLY BUILT

BEDROOMS, [REDACTED] BEGINS THE TASK OF DEMOLITION [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] TAKES [REDACTED] TO OPTOMETRIST WHO REPORTS [REDACTED]'S ANXIETY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PHONES [REDACTED] AND INFORMS HER ABOUT HER LOVER AND STATES [REDACTED]

REPORTS THAT [REDACTED] HAS THREATENED TO POISON HER COFFEE AND IS CAUSING

CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] IS SERVED WITH FIRST INTERVENTION ORDER APPLICATION

INCLUDING [REDACTED] AND THE [REDACTED] CHILDREN, SWORN BEFORE [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

CASE HEARD AT [REDACTED] MAGISTRATES COURT (AFTER WEEKEND) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AGREES WITHOUT ADMISSIONS ON ADVICE OF DUTY SOLICITOR,

TO SPARE CHILDREN HAVING TO GIVE EVIDENCE

1ST INTERIM INTERVENTION ORDER UNTIL JULY

[REDACTED] CONTACTS SUNDAY HERALD SUN AND AN ARTICLE APPEARS AFTER

REPORTER CONTACTS ALL PARTIES. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SWEARS STAT DEC AT [REDACTED] POLICE STATION ACCEPTING

RESPONSIBILITY AS [REDACTED] HAS BEEN ADVISED OF POSSIBLE POLICE ACTION AGAIN [REDACTED]

BLOG PUBLISHED. [REDACTED] GIVES INTERVIEW AND PHOTO TO VEXNEWS

DESCRIBING MURDER OF FAMILY BY [REDACTED] S COUSIN, AND FALSELY

CLAIMS HE ([REDACTED]) HAS BEEN THREATENED BY [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] RECEIVES ANONYMOUS THREATENING PHONE CALLS [REDACTED]

And so on.....

**Appendix 2: TRANSCRIPT OF THE DIARY KEPT BY THE COURT-
APPOINTED SUPERVISORS OF [REDACTED]'S ACCESS VISITS WITH
HIS CHILDREN. [REDACTED] TO [REDACTED]**

Background to the Court Ordered access visits

The children were to be delivered and picked up by the mother.

Sunday visits to be weekly 11 am to 5 pm, Tuesdays fortnightly 4 pm to 7 pm.

All visits were at the [REDACTED] home at [REDACTED] unless stated otherwise.

Supervisors. [REDACTED] (brother) visiting from [REDACTED].

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]'s diary. Court ruling at [REDACTED] FMC [REDACTED].

***I phoned kids at [REDACTED]'s home number from [REDACTED] home just after 6 pm on Tues.
[REDACTED] [REDACTED] answered then the phone went to [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].***

"Responsible adults" diary entries: in this font.

[REDACTED]

Present: [REDACTED] (supervisor) [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] absent due to gastro.
Dropped off at 11 am by [REDACTED]. [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] greet them in the driveway. [REDACTED]
had bought showbags for all the kids which they loved and gave them an initial focus.
[REDACTED] made lunch for he and kids, then went to [REDACTED] (swimming pool). They
arrived back at 5.45 pm everyone was happy and tired, a quick arvo tea, then [REDACTED]
arrived at ?.

[REDACTED]'s diary, Sunday [REDACTED]

***[REDACTED] dropped 3 off at [REDACTED] Place. [REDACTED] was sick with gastro. [REDACTED]
accompanied us to the pool and skate park at [REDACTED]. Had a good afternoon.
[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were at [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]'s when we returned. [REDACTED] came and picked
up the kids and was all chatty, hugs and kisses etc.
Tues. I didn't phone kids and feel bad about it. I was at Mum's with [REDACTED] and
forgot about the call.***

[REDACTED] ([REDACTED] supervisor)

11 am. [REDACTED] arrived with all the children. [REDACTED] still not completely well, so staying
for only one hour today. A loving reunion with [REDACTED] and the children. [REDACTED] arrived to
have lunch. [REDACTED] prepared lunch, shared by all the family members. The children very
happy and relaxed.

[REDACTED] called for [REDACTED] after lunch. [REDACTED] children and [REDACTED] went to the skateboard park
at [REDACTED]. The boys spent a lot of time riding their scooters. [REDACTED] loved the
lake with many types of ducks. Started to rain about 3.30 so went to visit [REDACTED] and
[REDACTED] for afternoon tea. Arrived back at [REDACTED] 4.50 pm. [REDACTED] had bought
birthday gifts for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], so was able to present them to
the boys.

5.10 pm. [REDACTED] came with [REDACTED] and they all stayed until 5.30. Another happy time
with their Dad.

's Diary Sunday
 dropped kids off at . has and will only stay an hour. Truth is needs adjusting time and we must take it slowly with him. Perhaps he feels uneasy about the court action etc. He said he has been sick a lot this year. I know why!

was the "responsible adult" today. We stayed at for about 2 hours then went to park at . The boys scooted while and I fed the ducks.

It was cold and windy and rang to offer refuge so we all went to for a cuppa, stayed an hour then went back to and 's, where came with to pick them up. I gave her some mail and eggs.

Tuesday

I phoned kids at 6.00 pm on home no. No answer. I phoned back 10 mins. Or 15 mins. Later and answered. I had a good talk with all. said (teacher) is a yeller. His tummy is still a little sore.

All the children arrived with , had lunch at Somerville with and . then drove (with kids) to the skateboard park at for a couple of hours before returning to the house for afternoon tea. called for children after 5 pm. They were very relaxed and happy to spend the day with their father and .

's diary
 was the "responsible adult" arrived at 11.30, ½ hour late and without again saying he mentioned every day that he didn't want to come. We ate rolls and biscuits at 's then went (and I) to the skate park. Had a good time then bought an icecream at Subway in , then went back to 's.

picked up the kids at about 5.30 and had with her. He seemed OK to me. I said to him that I would love to have him next Sunday but "see how you feel".

I had a brief chat with about at 11.30 am when she dropped kids off and she said she had taken to see .

phoned me to get 's number. She and and Mum believe should spend quiet time with me and they can handle him if he's sick. He needs to spend time with me. Also is persisting about 's height, bottom 3% apparently.

's diary
 phoned me to say she had called tonight. agreed that and I need quality time.

came at the same time as . He had been unwell during the week and was not sure he would stay all day. was a little reserved at first, we had lunch, made by , and went to at about 1 pm. All the children had fun swimming with their Dad. asked once if his Mum had rung, he soon after seemed a little upset while in the pool with his brothers.

immediately went to him and within minutes [REDACTED] was happily playing with his dad and siblings. From then on he became more and more relaxed and confident, we all went to the café for a drink, and by then [REDACTED] was completely at ease and back to his old self.

On the drive home [REDACTED] rang [REDACTED] and asked him if he could keep the children for an extra 30-60 mins, we were happy to do so, and when we got home [REDACTED] and the kids happily played with Lego, and had something to eat and drink. [REDACTED] took them home at about 7.30 pm. All of the kids had a happy day, and we feel confident that [REDACTED] will be happy to come every week. ([REDACTED] 2 ½ hours late picking up)

[REDACTED]'s diary [REDACTED]

All [REDACTED] kids came at 11.20. [REDACTED] was good. [REDACTED] said she's call after a couple of hours and called at 2.08 when we were at pool. I was in changeroom whilst all kids were in the toddler pool. [REDACTED] noticed [REDACTED] was looking a little upset so I spoketo him. He said Mum was going to call. I told him she had. He seemed fine after that.

At 5 pm [REDACTED] phoned saying she'd be about another hour as she was in [REDACTED] looking at a car. She didn't get to [REDACTED]'s until 7.30. In that time the kids and I pushed the red gokart around the driveway and built leggo.

[REDACTED] showed signs of his former loud outgoing self. It was great to see.

[REDACTED]

The children arrived at 11.20 am, after greeting them and catching up on their week, [REDACTED] made them lunch and we all set out for [REDACTED] at about 12.45. We had a look at all the cars on display in the park, and then headed up [REDACTED], the kids loved all the clowns, bands, and activities, including the Animal Farm, had a frozeb mango juice and fairy floss, and then enjoyed swimming, beach cricket, and afternoon snacks with their dad. We all left the beach at about 5.15 pm as [REDACTED] had rung to say she was waiting, we had lost track of time. [REDACTED] was very happy and relaxed for the entire day. We are all pleased that he is happy to participate in the visits.

Sunday, [REDACTED]

As [REDACTED] was in Queensland her mother brought the children at 10.30 am. While waiting for lunch, prepared by [REDACTED], they enjoyed playing with Lego. The children had asked to go to [REDACTED], where they spent group and individual time with their father in the pool.

They then went to the skateboard park, followed by food and drinks at a local café. The children were perfectly relaxed and happy to be with Dad.

To save [REDACTED]'s mother another trip to [REDACTED], [REDACTED] drove the children home to [REDACTED] at 5 pm.

Tuesday [REDACTED]

The eve of [REDACTED] birthday. [REDACTED] chose to go to Hungry Jack's for a meal. [REDACTED] called for the children at their home and met with [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (adult cousins) for a very happy meal. After birthday cake, singing of "Happy Birthday" for the restaurant patrons and several lovely gifts from [REDACTED], the children spent some time

in the playground before [REDACTED] drove them home at 7.30 pm. An enjoyable evening for everyone.

Sunday [REDACTED]

Today it rained heavily all day, so everyone agreed to stay at [REDACTED]. The children really enjoy using [REDACTED]'s large container of Lego, they also played board games and watched television. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] spent time working on plans for a "shed project". [REDACTED] spent time with each of the children individually and, as usual, provided a nourishing lunch for them.

Each child is perfectly relaxed with Dad and share lots of hugs and kisses when arriving and leaving [REDACTED].

Sunday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] ready to greet all the children at 11 am.

[REDACTED] prepared lunch at [REDACTED]'s place, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] returned from their holiday in time for lunch with the family. A hot day, so [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] went swimming with the children at [REDACTED].

They returned in time for afternoon tea before being collected by [REDACTED].

Sunday [REDACTED]

As [REDACTED] had been asked by his brother, [REDACTED], to be present at his wedding, a visit by the children was not possible today.

[REDACTED] had discussed this with [REDACTED] who, with the children, was quite agreeable to the change in arrangements.

Sunday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] welcomed the children who were eager to hear about Uncle [REDACTED]'s wedding and view the photos taken by their dad.

Lunch was eaten at [REDACTED]'s home with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] participating.

The children played indoor and outdoor games for some time, then went with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to [REDACTED] park. All were well and happy, spending individual time with their Dad, before [REDACTED] called for them after 5 pm.

Sunday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] all greeted [REDACTED] lovingly, also Uncle [REDACTED] who spent the day with them. The children feel very comfortable at the [REDACTED]'s Place house, and each choose to be doing inside or outside activities. As the weather was hot, they had agreed that swimming at [REDACTED] was the best activity for the day.

As usual, [REDACTED] provided lunch, before they left for the pool with [REDACTED].

It was still hot when they returned, so they stayed indoors, having refreshments and watching television before [REDACTED] called for them. The children gave their Dad lots of hugs and kisses before leaving at the end of another very happy day together.

Sunday [REDACTED] No visit.

Tuesday [REDACTED]

The children were delivered to [REDACTED] after school. After having refreshments they played games until time to leave for an evening meal with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] at Hungry Jack's. We drove back to [REDACTED] by 7 pm, and the children left with [REDACTED] after 7.30. All the children were happy and relaxed with each one telling their father of activities at school and with friends.

Much to the delight of his children, [REDACTED] was able to attend the [REDACTED] end of year concert.

Sunday [REDACTED]

This was the day the children rode the steam train from [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. Lunch was prepared at [REDACTED] and taken for a picnic at [REDACTED].

While at [REDACTED] they were shown the workings of the steam engine and [REDACTED] took photos of them in the driver's cabin.

We then walked to the park for lunch and explored the surroundings. Back at the station in time to catch the last train, we were able to watch the fireman putting out the steam engine fire before departing for [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. A very happy and interesting day for everyone.

Sunday [REDACTED]

As it was a hot day, the venue for the outing was [REDACTED] swimming centre. We had lunch at [REDACTED], then to [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] for swimming. Later we went to our regular café for cool drinks before returning to [REDACTED] by 5 pm. The children are now on holiday from school and related various activities and end of year celebrations. Of particular note was [REDACTED]'s awards and his graduation [REDACTED]. The children eagerly await Christmas Day.

Tuesday [REDACTED]

As visiting time was set at from 4 pm -7 pm, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] agreed to waive the Christmas Day visit and extend the Boxing Day visit from 10 am to 6 pm. This enabled the children to attend a family celebration with [REDACTED]'s sister and her children.

Boxing Day, [REDACTED]

The children arrived at 11 am and they, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], went to [REDACTED]'s, the children were very happy to see their grandmother and after many cuddles and kisses and catching up on news, we went down to the bike track on the property and spent about an hour on the bikes and go-kart. Back to the house for lunch and all the extended family came for a Christmas lunch. After the guests left, [REDACTED] sat with the children and they opened their gifts from their Dad and [REDACTED], they were all very happy and relaxed. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] drove the children home at about 7 pm, [REDACTED] had organised with [REDACTED] to have them longer. We drove them home as [REDACTED] had built them each a magnetic white board for their rooms and they would not fit in [REDACTED]'s car with all the other gifts.

Sunday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and Mr [REDACTED] took the children away for the weekend.

Sunday [REDACTED]

As it was [REDACTED]'s birthday, we had a special lunch and birthday cake at [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] joined in gift giving. The afternoon was spent in the [REDACTED]'s pool and playing board games.

[REDACTED] called for the children at 6 pm.

Tuesday, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] went to a movie at [REDACTED] with the children, who were brought to [REDACTED] at 4 pm.

After seeing "[REDACTED]" movie we had a meal at Hungry Jack's restaurant. We returned to [REDACTED] at 7.30, after contacting [REDACTED] from [REDACTED]. She called for the children at 8 pm.

Sunday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] made lunch for the children, had a bit of play and catching up on news, then [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] took the children to [REDACTED] beach. [REDACTED]'s husband and daughter followed in another car and we all had a lovely day at the beach. [REDACTED] rang [REDACTED] and asked if we could drop them home as we would be driving past anyway to get back to [REDACTED], she agreed and we dropped off [REDACTED] happy sandy kids.

Sunday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] telephoned at 10 am to advise that [REDACTED] had injured his wrist the previous night and she was at [REDACTED] Hospital with the children. They arrived at [REDACTED] at 2.30 pm. Because of [REDACTED]'s sprained wrist, we stayed at [REDACTED] where the children played board games and enjoyed a treasure hunt prepared by [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] cooked a barbecue meal for everyone and [REDACTED] called for the children at 7.30 pm.

Tuesday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] brought the children at 4 pm. We had a barbeque meal at [REDACTED] prior to [REDACTED] driving [REDACTED] and the children to [REDACTED] to see a movie "[REDACTED]". [REDACTED] was contacted as we prepared to leave [REDACTED] and arrived at 10 pm to collect the children.

[REDACTED] had earlier advised [REDACTED] that he would be away for the Australia Day long weekend on Sunday 27th January also Sunday [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] was quite agreeable to those visits with the children being cancelled.

Sunday [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] was away and didn't have the children.

Sunday [REDACTED]

Lunch with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] at her unit, the [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] took the children to [REDACTED] for a swim, then outside to the skate park and playground, where they rode their bikes and scooters. At about 4 pm [REDACTED] moved his car close to the park so that the children wouldn't have to cross roads. While he was doing this [REDACTED] and Mr [REDACTED] intruded into the group, they stayed for about 10 minutes and made it very uncomfortable for everyone. We went back home and waited for [REDACTED] to collect the children.

Tuesday [REDACTED]

■■■ delivered the children to ■■■■■. We all stayed home. ■■■ cooked a barbeque meal shared by the family on deck. Pancakes cooked by ■■■ and ■■■. ■■■ rang at 9 pm. ■■■ asked to deliver children to ■■■■■.

Sunday ■■■■■
■■■ brought children to ■■■■■ 11.30.
Decided to go to ■■■■■ for swimming. Afterwards ■■■ and the children and ■■■ to café for drinks and chips. Back to ■■■■■ where children were collected by ■■■ at 6 pm.

Tuesday ■■■■■
■■■ and ■■■ only today, ■■■ at camp, ■■■ has a toothache. We swam at the pool and had pizzas for dinner.

■■■ will be away for the next Sunday.
Sunday ■■■, Sun ■■■, Tues. ■■■

Sunday ■■■■■
■■■ has had to stay away longer, so ■■■ tried to contact ■■■ on Friday, we don't have her new address and phone number, so rang her mobile which went to message and left a message to say ■■■ would be away Sunday ■■■ and Tuesday ■■■. ■■■ arrived here with the children on Sunday claiming she didn't know ■■■ was away. She did know, even if she didn't check her messages, the ■■■ auction was the previous day and she knew then, when ■■■ wasn't there.

Sunday ■■■■■
Last night ■■■ was at ■■■ shops at 9.30 pm, when ■■■ called to her and jumped out of a car which had 5 other kids in it. They chatted, ■■■ said she would see him today, ■■■ said they weren't coming "cos Mum said Dad's not back yet" ■■■ told him ■■■ is back and he was expecting them tomorrow. ■■■ was not with the kids so ■■■ couldn't tell her

Sunday ■■■■■
■■■ took the children to ■■■ market where they chose a birthday gift for ■■■. Came back to ■■■ for lunch. Children made birthday cards for ■■■ to deliver to ■■■. ■■■ called for the children at 5.30.

Tuesday ■■■■■

Sunday ■■■■■

Sunday ■■■■■
The children arrived at 11.45. After drinks and checking progress of cage for ■■■'s bird, ■■■ and children played outdoors until lunch time. Weather was cold, so played indoor games until 3.30 when ■■■ took ■■■ and children to Hungry Jack's for treats. ■■■'s friends called for children at 5 pm.

Monday 31/3

■■■ took ■■■ to ■■■ for visit with ■■■, accompanied by ■■■

Tuesday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] did not arrive until 4.45.

A warm day so children played outside and helped [REDACTED] cook a barbeque dinner. After dinner, played computer games and talked with [REDACTED] until [REDACTED] came at 7.30 pm.

Sunday [REDACTED]

Football matches start. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] spectators, then [REDACTED] took children home to [REDACTED] for lunch and afternoon outdoors on [REDACTED]'s bike track.

Sunday [REDACTED].

Football at [REDACTED] watched by [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]. After lunch, they returned to [REDACTED] until collected by [REDACTED] at 6pm.

Tuesday [REDACTED].

Children brought to [REDACTED] at 4.45.

[REDACTED] played football with boys. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] outside with bike and scooter. [REDACTED] cooked a barbeque meal which we shared on the deck.

Sunday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] picked children up from [REDACTED]'s home where her mother was baby-sitting at 9 am and took them to football.

[REDACTED] and [REDACTED] married the previous day and were on honeymoon. We knew but were not informed before the event. [REDACTED] made arrangements with [REDACTED]'s mother, that he would pick them up from home and bring them back to his house for the visit, then return them home. Very relaxed and happy day as no tensions. As [REDACTED] had injured his knee at football, his Dad assisted him to shower and ice and rest his leg. [REDACTED] drove them home.

Sunday [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] went to the football, then brought all the children to [REDACTED], they met their Aunt [REDACTED] who had arrived from overseas with Uncle [REDACTED]. They played happily until 5.15 when their mother picked them up.

Sunday [REDACTED]

Football early [REDACTED] went. [REDACTED] was also present this day (mothers day). The children came to [REDACTED] and met their new baby cousin [REDACTED] who was born the previous [REDACTED]. Had fun on bikes and gokart until picked up by their mother at 5.20. [REDACTED] particularly relaxed and happy. [REDACTED] enjoyed himself greatly with [REDACTED] and his friends. A visit from [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

Tuesday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] arrived at 4 pm. Waited until 4.45, then went to Safeway for food. [REDACTED] drove to front gate with children, saw [REDACTED]'s car was not there, and left without checking with [REDACTED] or [REDACTED], both of whom were waiting for children to arrive for their visit.

Sunday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]'s birthday, had 2 cakes and lots of fun. [REDACTED] went to the football and brought the children back to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]'s friend [REDACTED] lunched and spent time with them. A very happy day although it was wet. [REDACTED] picked them up soon after 5 pm.

Saturday [REDACTED]

By mutual arrangement, [REDACTED] watched [REDACTED] at basketball and brought all the kids to [REDACTED] for a visit on Saturday as [REDACTED] wanted to take them to a party on Sunday. [REDACTED] dropped off and picked up by [REDACTED], a visit to the [REDACTED] by [REDACTED] kids and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] went to the footy on Sunday to watch the boys play.

Tuesday [REDACTED]

Children came at 4.30. [REDACTED] played football withg the older boys, then sat with all the children to catch up with their news. [REDACTED] doing extremely well at school. [REDACTED] best on ground at football the previous Sunday. [REDACTED]'s bird has been killed by crows and has been buried by [REDACTED] in a favourite spot in the garden. Everyone ate together at [REDACTED]'s house. [REDACTED] called at 7 pm.

Sunday [REDACTED]

Football at [REDACTED]. Picnic at [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] drove the children home to [REDACTED].

Thursday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]'s birthday party. [REDACTED] brought children at 4.30. Extra guests were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] with baby [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] family. Great party food and ice cream birthday cake. A very happy evening for everyone with lots of good photos. [REDACTED] called for children at 7.30 pm.

Sunday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] dropped children off at [REDACTED]. Long weekend and no footy. [REDACTED] took the children to a barbeque at their friends [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and their children. After phone contact [REDACTED] called for children at 6 pm and left with children about 6.45.

Tuesday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] brought children to [REDACTED] at 4.45. [REDACTED] and boys kicked football for ½ hour. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] in rumpus room with writing and craft materials. Dinner in dining room with [REDACTED] family and [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] with children discussing school work, sport, movies etc. [REDACTED] called at 7.30 pm.

Sunday [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] requested to adhere to rules by court so was at [REDACTED] before 11 am. [REDACTED] text message that [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were playing football and would be brought to [REDACTED] at 1.30 pm. As it was raining the remainder of afternoon was spent indoors at [REDACTED] house.

Tuesday [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and children?

Sat [REDACTED]

Family visit to [REDACTED]. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Very cold so well rugged up. Lunch, [REDACTED]

Sunday [REDACTED]
 Visit cancelled by [REDACTED] in order to take his niece from [REDACTED] on a diving excursion.

Tuesday [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] and children – [REDACTED] rang his Dad to say not coming. [REDACTED] with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] family and [REDACTED]. Fish and chips in dining room. [REDACTED] called for children 7.15.

Sunday [REDACTED] [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] playing football. [REDACTED] rang to say not coming. [REDACTED] watched football matches, then he and children went to skate board park.

Sunday [REDACTED].
 Visit cancelled because [REDACTED] had to attend safety course for his business on Saturday and Sunday

[REDACTED] Tuesday
 Visit by children. Pizzas at [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]'s house with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

Saturday [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] watched [REDACTED]'s football match. No r/a so [REDACTED] refused to leave children with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED].

Tuesday [REDACTED]
 No visiting children. Message from (solicitor) [REDACTED] that children did not want to come – issues about visits.

Sunday [REDACTED]
 Visit cancelled. [REDACTED] said that children did not want to come. [REDACTED] very hurt. R/A available.

Sunday [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] arrived before 11 am. No word from [REDACTED] re children. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] left at 1 pm.

Tues. [REDACTED]
 No visit

Sunday [REDACTED]
 No visit
 Sunday [REDACTED]

No visit by children. Court order contravened by [REDACTED]

Sunday [REDACTED]
 Fathers Day. No visit by children to their father.

Visits on Sundays and every 2nd Tuesday discontinued by [REDACTED] – contrary to court order.

30 What do you think would be an appropriate, balanced change to the assessment?

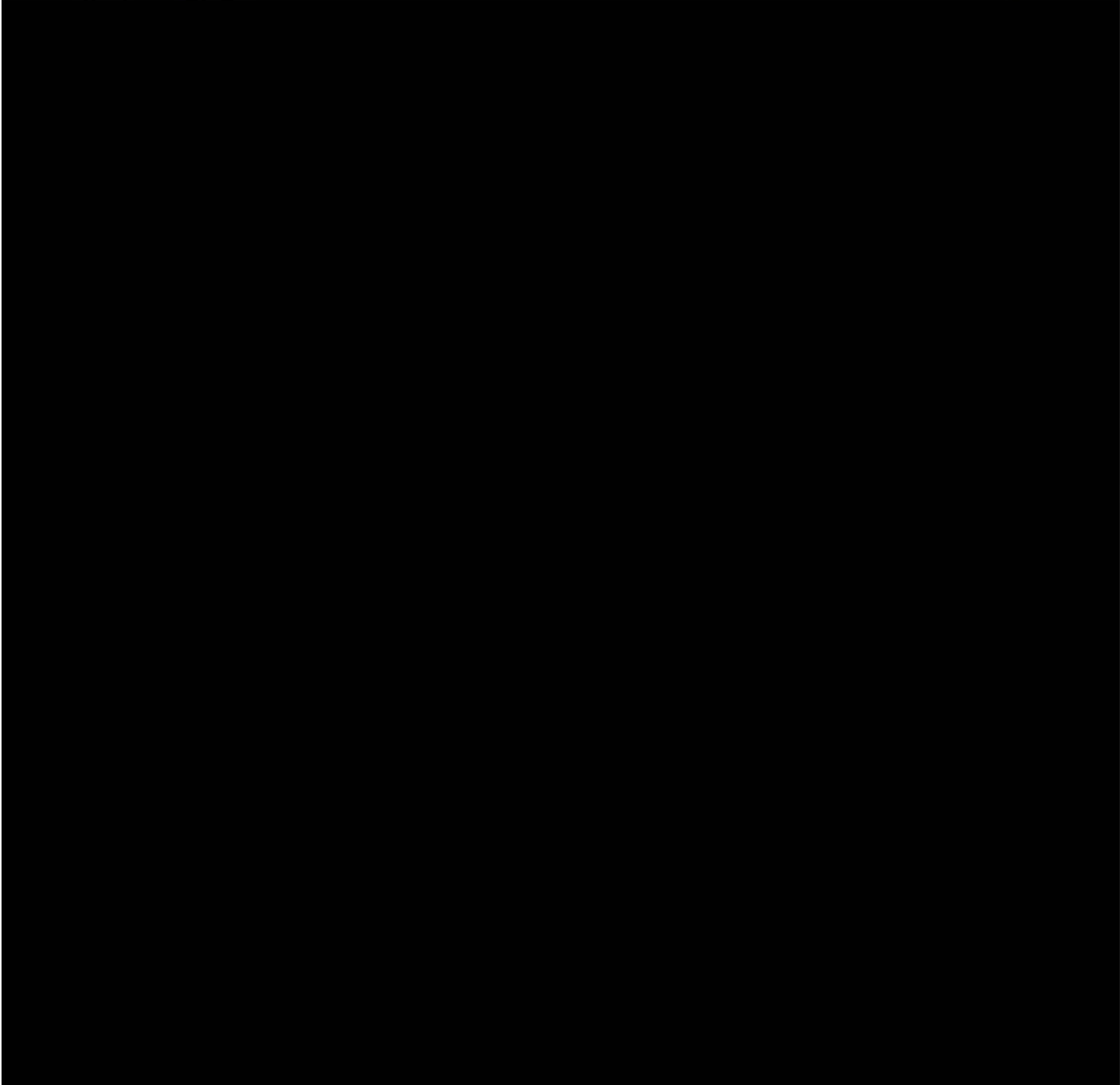
Do you want an increase or decrease in your child support assessment? Fill in only one box.

Increase the annual rate of child support to \$12,000 per year

Decrease the annual rate of child support to \$ per year

31 Use this space if you want to write more about any of your reasons for changing your child support assessment. Add extra pages if necessary, and sign them.

Reason
number Comment



copy of this page is given to the other party. Include information that is relevant to your case. Do not include or information you do not want the other party to see (for example your address or phone number). If supporting documentation you do not want exchanged, it is your responsibility to black it out or remove it before it is received by us. If information about third parties, make sure you have discussed disclosing this information with them.

of reasons provided, explain why you think the child support assessment in your case should be changed. Please list out of ordinary costs are, how much they are and whether they are for you, a child included in the assessment or a person asked to provide documents and other evidence to support your claims which must also be exchanged with the other party.

assessment assumes I'm working full-time and does not account my inability to work such hours.

My

long-term [redacted] (as noted by [redacted]) in an affidavit to the court [redacted] has caused me to work full-time, having been exacerbated by the [redacted] of my children and the constant anguish of the child support debt.

Appendix 4 The Hearing at the Federal Magistrates Court Melbourne was an awful experience.

I was told a week earlier by the Duty Solicitor (there is always a solicitor on duty in a small office in the building) that she would send me the information which is given to participants in a do-it-yourself session for people who claim a contravention of parenting consent orders. She didn't, so we went in cold, but we felt OK.

We thought we were unopposed, however, just on 10 am, [REDACTED] arrived, then five minutes later, [REDACTED] The Court Official was a gentleman in a suit, he was kind, told us how to behave in court, and sat us down.

We had been told by the Duty Solicitor that the Magistrate would "walk us through" the court process and that they were generally kind towards people representing themselves. Not so this one.

She read [REDACTED]'s submission, apparently for the first time, and muttered that it shouldn't have been a "contravention" but a "breach of consent orders" and read out bits of it and in a bemused voice answered her own questions. Then [REDACTED] was put in the witness box, he was not Allowed to speak much because she had already ruled that it wasn't a contravention, so there wasn't much point anyway.

She then proceeded to question him in a sarcastic and aggressive way. How do you know that [REDACTED] is a friend of the Counsellor, Have you seen them out to dinner together? How do you know that the children might have changed schools? Have you rung the school to ask? [REDACTED] began to reply "No, because last time I rang the school they wouldn't give me any information without first getting the mother's permission". The magistrate wouldn't let him get past the "No", and castigated him for not ringing to find out if they were enrolled.

She also didn't think it was a problem that [REDACTED] didn't know where his children lived. She asked [REDACTED] did [REDACTED] have an address for them, [REDACTED] answered that she had given him a post office box address for mail, and the Magistrate thought that was OK.

She also asked [REDACTED] if she had been attending the counsellor, [REDACTED] answered "yes" and the Magistrate accepted that response without question. [REDACTED] in fact had not attended in the 6 previous months but apparently did so a few days before the court case.

The Magistrate then questioned [REDACTED] about emails, as we had said that he did not have private emails for the children., She again asked [REDACTED] who said that the emails appeared to come from [REDACTED] [REDACTED], but in fact each child had a separate folder. They missed the point that the mails went through Mr [REDACTED]' scrutiny as he had control of each folder. The Magistrate didn't appear to understand about emails, she said to [REDACTED] "Well, who do you think pays the bills" and said as [REDACTED] paid the bills it was OK for him to control the emails. [REDACTED] tried to say that there were free email services which are private, but she couldn't or wouldn't understand.

At the end she asked [REDACTED] if he was working full time, and "How was he managing". He answered in the affirmative to both questions, but the inference was that he needed to be questioned about such matters and the other parties didn't. At one point she also said "Would the Mother please be quiet" when [REDACTED]'s mum was trying to prompt him. [REDACTED] didn't say a word – he didn't have to.

7.00 am

8.00

Perfect opportunity today -

9.00

Light light rain both 10/10/10

10.00

General capacity leaves plenty to

11.00

be desired. - That's been the

Noon

prepper all along in and out of

1.00

bed.

2.00

CSA has me locked. - There is

3.00

no escape

4.00

Jeremy's quest

5.00

When's the Age?

6.00

No trip for a 50 go + make

7.00

other they hanging shelves for
Hive a Hobby

8.00 pm

I just want a hug.