

INQUIRY INTO CHILD PROTECTION

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

When I was 19 my children, one being 2 and a half, the other being 15 days old, were both taken off me after my 15 day old had been deemed fit to leave the hospital.

At 10 days old I had presented him to the hospital with a broken humerus, it was a spiral fracture which had happened within the previous 3 hours somehow and I didn't know anything was wrong until I picked him up after his nap, I went to feed him and all he did was scream. The only other person in the house was my 2 year old, and the then 10 day old who was in a mechanical swinging rocker/swing.

I was told by the hospital that nothing suggested I had harmed my child, they told me if I had done it, there would of been bruising, but there was none.

FACS workers came in and took my child from my arms with no evidence to say they had a reason to, my older son had never even been in hospital and had only been taken to hospital once as I had thought a spider had bit him, but it hadn't and we were sent home as nothing was wrong.

The day my children were taken the FACS workers would not allow me to see my older son. After my children were taken in interviews with FACS workers I was told I "had to of" harmed my child and that "in no way" could my other son have hurt his brother, they accused me of hurting my child intentionally in a very unprofessional manner while I sat at the table crying because I did not and would not hurt either of my children and they had no proof to say otherwise.

I wanted my child to have further testing done on his bones, FACS refused to do so, they told me it would be too traumatic and that they would not get it done (which by it I mean a further blood test) until my sisters tests came back as she had broken bones very easily, the problem is that my sister would have to go to Canberra or Sydney to get the next lot of additional tests done, she has already had all the tests in our town done that are able to be done but FACS refused to test my son any further than a general vitamin/mineral blood test that was done while I was with him in hospital and a radiation scan which was also done while we were in the hospital. I later was told the radiation scan very rarely shows if there is a problem or not.

Later throughout my trial I undertook a parenting capacity test, which once complete, at the end simply said that he thought I had PTSD from past traumatic events that were unresolved, that my relationship was not going to last, that even though I have a 5 year lease on a house he didn't think I was going to stay there much longer and so he wanted my children kept in care.

My eldest son is now 3 and the youngest is 1, as much as I attended all the appointments with FACS, had stayed in the same house, had been studying and had even done random drug testing for a number of weeks and had asked them if there was anything I could do to help the situation and possibly get my children back, they made no effort in keeping my family together, they made no effort to put anything in place to even give me a chance at getting my children back or to help me with my "mental health state" to do with things before my children were taken, or to help me handle the trauma of my children being taken.

Within less than 6 months they had already proposed my children be in care until 18 years of age with a minimum of seeing them 6 times a year and no matter how hard I fought for my kids back they would not change anything.

In January 2016 we requested to be in court on a different date as my lawyer had got it wrong, that day I had a different judge who said "when your children were taken, FACS had no reasonable evidence to support their claims and they should not have taken your children, but as the case stands, if you will agree to this order you can possibly bring it back to court in 12 months time".

Even the judge said my kids should not have been taken from me, so I do not understand how FACS can justify taking two children off a loving mother who has never hurt her children, and how they can say its justified is just another mystery.

How can a person or group of people take a child or multiple children off the one person who has always loved them and looked after them for no reason and call it just?

This is just my story, but this is very similar to a lot of other peoples story of their child/children being taken into Family And Community Services unjustly.