

INQUIRY INTO CHILD PROTECTION

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 24 June 2016

Partially
Confidential

NSW FACS SENATE INQUIRY 2016

- If one child is removed for abuse and or neglect, the siblings go too. This should not happen.
- If children are taken and fall pregnant and is allowed to keep the baby, the children taken must be given back.
- FACS must NOT interfere in court trial's and have the case aborted (give the child to the abuser because no one else will take the child).
- ALL children taken should be counselled by an independent professional (psychologist/forensic).
- NO child should be allowed to be taken when there is NO proof of abuse and or neglect.
- FACS should NOT be allowed to go near any child at school etc without the parent's knowledge or permission.
- Complaints of misconduct has to be taken seriously, FACS complaint line is useless.
- Gag orders removed from the media, so FACS can be exposed of wrong doings.
- More legal reps to take the Dep't on, as most are too scared too, more access so it's not only the rich who can fight for their kids, although I've never heard a rich child being taken. (Legal Aid, just do what they want, they're going to take your kids anyway)
- Accountability held when FACS have taken children on known false allegations and the reporter be charged (already law but never heard of one being charged) and ALL records cleared with a written apology, if parents want they can sue.
- Worker's charged for corruption eg covering up child abuse for school's etc.
- Schools are NOT allowed to use FACS when there are complaints about the school.
- Workers are NOT allowed to be in charge of cases when still studying at TAFE.
- Workers black listed from working with children.
- Children to have more of a say.
- NO more secret/ closed courts.
- No more using the past against parent's eg; you were severely abused, it's impossible for you not to abuse your kid's. Or the parent was previously a ward of the state.
- Foster parent's charged for abuse and or neglect and to be allowed to speak out about FACS lies/corruption without any repercussions.
- No more drugging children because their behaviour is out of control, likely because they were stolen from their parent's and want to go home.
- Naming and shaming to be allowed and secretly recording them to be law.
- All foster carers to be drug and alcohol tested by chain of custody.
- NO foster carer allowed a child in their care if there is a known child rapist and or abuser in or close to their family.
- Parent's files off record when the child turns 18.
- No more giving money to carers for children unless its 100% going to the child and not their own.
- Proof given to parent's that hand over money for their child via FACS or child when FACS have 'given' money to the carer.
- Same amount of money given to carer's and parent's when a child has been traumatized because of abuse, especially when the parents are NOT at fault (why should one child get more help then another and are both suffering the same trauma).

- Parent's and foster parents should be treated the same with Gov't payments, especially when the foster parent has had the children since birth/baby and they'll never be given back to the parents.
- Parenting payment's to go back the way they were, as leaving children home alone is illegal and most parents have no choice and can be removed for neglect, also this will prevent desperate parent's to keep having children.
- Victims of DV should not be punished by having the children removed, but have support and the abuser charged and the victim located so the abuser doesn't know where they live.
- Files access by parents and children without it being blacked out or information missing and for free, even when an application via FOI or GIPA is made.
- Known paedophiles and child abusers who work with children and abuse them, physically, psychologically etc should be sacked immediately and never allowed near children again.
- Schools also have a duty of care to our children, when staff turn their back on abusive children and innocent kids are receiving the abuse, is a fail and parents can have their children removed for doing what most schools do, schools should also be under the same law as parent's.
- A need for accountability and transparency with a nationwide approach.
- Properly registered and accountable social/case workers.
- Fund reputable organisations that only do police checks and hire social workers that are registered and accountable.
- Introduce compulsory registration and accountability making it law.
- Don't hire expensive unqualified report writers that make up bogus disorders about parents and foster parents as an excuse to shift children from stability.
- Stop using stupid drafts lumping all parents in the same stereotype.
- Listen to all parents not just sex offenders, murderers, and drug addicts.
- Investigate properly instead of pitting families against each other than complaining about caseloads.
- The fact of FACS closing files on high risk cases because that person is a relative of theirs.
- FACS interrogation based on false information that has tried to be proven as false to which FACS refuse to accept.
- Making FACS put information into correct files and not parents personal information into the children's files for the children to read when they turn 18yrs of age.
- Meetings recorded and given to parents.
- Remove and abolish the future risk of emotional harm and future risk of abuse laws, as these are using crystal ball methods of removing children.
- They should not be allowed to use a parent's disability or illness or past if the parents have turned their lives around and have learnt from past mistakes.
- Also mothers should be allowed to breastfeed their babies as long as needed and not be demanded to wean their breastmilk off to use formula as specified by FACS.
- Each case should be seen individually and none of this blanket policy.
- When a mandatory reporter phones in reports almost constantly due to requirements set by a young FACS worker, they verbally abused and berated most of the time by staff in the call centre who didn't want to have to do the paperwork for a child who, for example, had absconded from the home when they're not supposed to be away from a youth worker at all for their safety. I think the call centre staff should have better training and simply take calls without judgement or condescending speech

towards the reporter. This kind of treatment is why people become reluctant to report suspicious behaviour/bruises or actual abuse - they're patronised by the people taking calls.

- Any mother who has been a victim of domestic violence & FACS/CPS are notified, that mother is then re-victimised by having her children removed & then further re-victimised by FACS/CPS giving the child/ren to the perpetrator, this is very wrong on all levels.
- Children are also being ripped away after their parents unwittingly & unknowingly sign away their own children through parenting agreements with In-Home Child Care/After Care organisations whereby the parent will sign a 3 month agreement for their child to be cared for, the parent will be asked to extend this to a further 3 months & so on, even for 6-12 months, once this has passed the first 3 month stage of the child being in care or cared for, it is deemed by the NGO's & CPS which governs all of this, that the parent is not have the 'capacity' to care for their own child & that child is already in the foster care system even when they live at home with their parents as the parents have signed away their children through a parenting agreement, it when a bogus 'risk of harm' report is submitted to CPS (Child Protection Services) is when the child is subsequently removed from the parent & placed into 'care' of the State.