

Letter to Opposition candidates re Family Law Act

The draft letter is below. Feel free to edit it as you prefer – this is rather long, in order to give you plenty of information you might like to use.

We'd love you to write not only to your local Opposition candidates but other key people in parliament, including cross-benchers, party leaders and others you feel might be useful.

Put the name and address of the parliamentarian at the top of the letter.

To find your Federal MP and local senators click on this [LINK](#).

It would be great if you could also try to find out if there are new Opposition candidates for your electorate and send letters to them as well. You will have to do some minor editing to make the draft letter suitable for someone who has not previously been in parliament.

You must sign the letter with your full name and address in order to receive a reply. All parliamentarians are required to respond to properly signed letters. Include your telephone number and email address.

You might like to add a comment at the start of the letter about the personal relevance of this issue. Such as...

"I have a brother/son/friend who was denied contact with his children as a result of the Family Court system. It is an issue of great personal concern to me."

Draft Letter

Dear...

I watched with great concern the passage of Labor's disastrous 2023 Family Law bill and this issue will determine my vote.

This bill, promoted with little public discussion and no mandate, removed almost every word from previous legislation which promoted children's rights to care from both parents after divorce.

Labor's draconian new law sets aside decades of international evidence showing it is harmful for kids to grow up without their dads. Over a million Australian children are living in fatherless families and the new family law act will ensure still more youngsters will face this dire situation.

Yet when it came to the final vote, I noticed all Opposition members either abstained or voted for the bill. I found this appalling.

Stuart Lindsay, a former Family Court judge recently spoke out about "the campaign to promote a particular pronounced feminist ideology in the Family Law Act," sheeting home blame mainly to the Labor Party. The result, says Lindsay, is that "The Family Law Act has promoted great wickedness throughout Australian society for 50 years."

At the heart of this ideology is domestic violence, with alleged victims being given the upper hand throughout the divorce process. With the latest changes to the legislation such victims will have even more power to shut fathers out of children's lives – heralding a return to mother-only custody.

This provides further incentive for false allegations. According to a recent *YouGov* survey, Australia already has one of the world's highest rates of false allegations, mostly associated with custody battles.

In these dire circumstances I was pleased to see Michaelia Cash commit the Coalition government to repealing these family law changes.

Given the importance of this issue, this action was sufficient to attract my vote. But I will expect all the key parenting clauses to be reinstated in the revised bill specifically:

- Ensuring children benefit from meaningful involvement with both parents.
- Children's right to know and be cared for by both parents.
- Children's right to spend regular time with both parents and other significant people like grandparents.
- Parents jointly sharing duties and responsibilities for the kids' care and development.
- The court to consider equal time or substantial time, as a possible parenting option.

I am working with a group of concerned individuals who are determined to ensure this issue attracts the attention it deserves in the upcoming election. We will be watching and intend to hold the Coalition to their promise.

Yours sincerely,

Add your Name and Address here