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The New Zealand Family Court System is a one size fits all, or rather one size doesn't fit all model. It does not cater to a parent who has been abused by their partner, has done everything they can to shelter the kids from a knowledge of this abuse so that the kids can hopefully live and believe that they have a normal happy life, and where the abused believes that this abuser will eventually abuse the children. This includes the ones who have taken the abuser to court, the abuser has been acquitted due to a lack of evidence, and the abused has had to accept this outcome but still continues to fight for the safety of his or her children. The main desire of the abused is that all visits the kids have with that abusive parent be supervised, which is something the court can decide.

If this seems very specific and therefore very rare, it is not. Many abused parents fit this complete description, some managing to get a criminal trial, and some not. The children of such abused people stand to lose the most of any who go through the system. This means the most crucial cases are the ones the system doesn't cater to.

A theme too common in the mission of the system is to get both parents to make good decisions out of court to save tax payer money. That means that judges are doing less judging of the actual situation and more encouraging the abused and the abuser to move toward the already predetermined, cheapest outcome. That outcome is to decide on these things together without needing two key things: a hearing, because it costs tax payer money. And other than very extreme cases of convicted pedophiles and the like, having all the kids visits with the abuser to change from supervised to unsupervised visits, as paying a supervisor costs tax payer money. Supervised visits therefore becomes a resource that theoretically exists but judges are afraid to use, and make it hard for anyone fighting for this resource.

This model works perfectly for the abuser. This model does not work at all for the abused, and therefore the children.

Because of this mentality, the protective attitude and behavior of the abused parent is an annoyance to the court and the abused will regularly be accused of trying to alienate the kids from the abusive parent, relitigating the criminal stuff in family court, and costing tax payer money.

I would like those with authority to openly, frankly and regularly admit to the New Zealand public that this kind of person is not catered for at all in the family court system and that they don't know how to. It is important that we all know this so that these people don't mistakenly think that they can receive help.