

Greetings,

My name is [REDACTED], and I am an Oregon Resident in Multnomah County. I would like to write to show that without a doubt we need to pass Oregon Senate Bill 318. I have dealt personally with the family courts in Oregon. I have been through horrible domestic abuse, much of which has been reported, admitted to, or caught on camera. Yet still, presumably because I am the father, I have been punished with minimal parenting time, unreasonable child support, and the opportunity for my ex to constantly emotionally abuse me in front of my children. Me even truthfully recounting events is mocked by the court and labeled "unbelievable," simply because my ex is a female. The current system is relentlessly biased and it rewards mothers who have a confrontational attitude towards the father. Mothers are allowed to emotionally abuse fathers and manipulate their children, while fathers who have done nothing wrong are treated like second class citizens. The system rewards lawyers who encourage conflict between parents. Lawyers who practice Oregon Family Law benefit financially from tearing children away from perfectly good parents, which has traumatizing effects on children.

I can prove to anyone today that current court agreements are based on lies and fiction alleged by the mother in my case, and that the court is covering up domestic abuse. Yet still, I am being treated as somehow the bad guy, punished and barred from seeing my own kids. Can we have a system that is not corrupt?

The current system favors domestic abusers, who by most accounts gain custody in the vast majority of cases. This is because it benefits the court and the lawyers to give custody to the abusive parent, the abusive parent will encourage years of litigation. This benefits the courts and lawyers, while destroying a parents relationship with their child, and putting the child at risk.

I am still fighting for my children, despite the system being totally hopeless for most men in my situation. Men fear petitioning the courts will only get them punished further. The current system destroys the lives of lower income fathers. It is significantly safer and more beneficial financially for a father to give up on their children and relinquish their parenting rights than to go through the court process to try to get more time with their kids.

We need a Family Law system that encourages both parents to be in a child's life equally. This is the best interest of any child, unless a parent is truly unfit to parent.

[REDACTED]
Fairview, Or