Family Report: Fraser and Fraser 2008

Page 1 of 15

Statewide Forensic and Clinical Consulting

Suite 3, 183 Halifax Street, Adelaide, 5000

DX: 51234 Unley Park P.O. Box 1421 Unley Park, 5061

Telephone: 8672 2233 Mobile: 0438 156 376 Fax: 8672 9753 ABN: 721 318 24 65

Date: 10th April 2008

All: Alan Simpson 11 Raffles Crescent Plympton SA 5038

Dear Sir/Madam

Family Law Matter: Your Client: Larry Fraser

IMPORTANT NOTE:

Names and other identifying details have been changed to comply with Section 121 FLA.

An appointment has been made to undertake a family assessment on the 28th April 2008 and the 4th May 2008 at Statewide Forensic and Clinical Consulting, Suite 3, 183 Halifax Street, Adelaide (near Hurtle Square, and the corner of Harriett Street).

On the 28th April 2008, your client will need to be in attendance from 11.00 am until approximately 12.30 pm.

Please ensure that arrangements are made so that the children will not be left on their own, unsupervised during the assessment period and that they arrive for their appointment on time.

On the 4th May 2008 the children's appointments will be at 10:00 am on the same date, the children and both parents (including your client) will need to be available until approximately 2:30 pm.

If there are other individuals significant in the children's life that perhaps should be included in the assessment, please contact me on the above numbers to arrange their attendance.

Please forward any relevant documentation to the above address, prior to the assessments. Documentation lodged with the Court and on the Court file is not readily available to the report writer. It should not be assumed that the writer will access the material on the Court file.

Yours faithfully,

SHIRLEY PETERS
FORENSIC PSYCHOLOGIST

Shirley Peters Forensic Psychologist BSc.; Grad.Dip.Psych,; M.Psych.; M.A.Ps.S.

When scheduling Court appearances and the like, please note that the psychologist will not be available during public holidays and the South Australian listed School Holidays in any year.

FEDERAL MAGISTRATES COURT OF AUSTRALIA

6 June 2008

Alan Simpson & Co. Royale Lawyers Michael Pallot & Associates BY FASCIMILE 8957 6908 BY FASCIMILE 8799 9303 BY FASCIMILE 8718 4668

Dear Sir/Madam:

RE: (P)DFL 3549/2008 - FRASER & FRASER

Please find enclosed a Family Report made in this matter and released on 6 June 2008.

Please note that this Report is released by the Court pursuant to Rule 23.0IA(5)(a) of the Federal Magistrates Court Rules. It should be treated as confidential and should not be disclosed to persons other than the legal representatives of the parties and the parties unless directed by the Court.

Yours sincerely

Kylie Harris Deputy Associate to Lindsay FM

(15 pages including covering letter)

Telephone: 1300 352 000 Facsimile: (08) 8219 1660 Email: Kylie.Harris@fmc.gov.au Internet: www.fmc.gov.au

FEDERAL MAGISTRATES COURT OF AUSTRALIA

NOTICE

In the matter of:

FRASER

and

FRASER

and

THE INDEPENDENT CHILDREN'S LAWYER

This Report is released by the Court pursuant to Rule 23.01A(5)(a) of the Federal Magistrates Court Rules to:

- (a) the parties or
- (b) the parties lawyers or
- (c) the independent children's lawyer

FEDERAL MAGISTRATE MEAD

Date: 6 June 2008

NOTICE TO PERSON RECEIVING COPIES OF HIS REPORT.

- 1. This Family Report is released by the Court pursuant to Rule 23.01A(5) of the Federal Magistrates Court Rules. It should be treated as confidential and should not be disclosed to persons other than the parties lawyers and the parties unless the Court otherwise directs.
- 2. Penalties may apply under Section 121 of Family Law Act 1975 to the printing or publication of any material contained in this report other than for use in connection with the proceedings.

THE FEDERAL MAGISTRATES COURT OF AUSTRALIA AT ADELAIDE

No. (P) DFL 3549/2006

IN THE MATTER OF

LARRY BRIAN FRASER

AND

AMANDA MICHELLE FRASER

FAMILY REPORT

25TH OF MAY 2008

Report Ordered by: (Magistrate Kelly) Date of Order: (30th of November 2007)

Report Prepared by: Shirley Peters **Regulation 7 Family Consultant**

Family Report: Fraser and Fraser 2008

Page 5 of 15

Statewide Forensic and Clinical Consulting

Suite 3, 183 Halifax Street, Adelaide, 5000

DX: 51234 Unley Park P.O. Box 1421 Unley Park, 5061

Telephone: 8672 2233 Mobile: 0438 156 376

Fax: 8672 9753 ABN: 721 318 24 65

Information for this Family Report was obtained from the following sources:

Interviews:

- 28th April 2008: 11.00 am Mr Larry Fraser
- 28th April 2008: 1.30 pm Ms Amanda Fraser
- 4th May 2008: 10 am Observation of Mr Larry Fraser and children
- 4th May 2008: 10.45 am Observation of Ms Amanda Fraser and children
- 4th May 2008, 12.30 pm Interview with Andrew
- 4th May 2008, 1.15 pm Interview with Thomas
- 4th May 2008, 2.00 pm Interview with Martin
- 4th May 2008, 2.45 pm 10 minute separate interviews with Mr Fraser and Ms Fraser.
- The writer received brief telephone calls to confirm each parent's attendance.

Interviews and observations were conducted at the writer's Unley Park address.

Other sources of information:

In conjunction with clinical interview and observations the writer has at hand and has read the following documentation:

- Appointment letters to parties' solicitors dated 10th April 2008
- Federal Magistrate Court Orders 22nd September 2007
- Federal Magistrate Court Orders 16th March 2007
- Federal Magistrate Court Orders 20th January 2008
- Dispute Resolution Form 20th February 2008

- Undertaking Larry Fraser, dated 27th February 2008
- · Family Report dated 18th July 2007, from Bill Skerrit
- Affidavit of Larry Fraser sworn 15th December 2006
- Response Amanda Fraser filed 6th February 2008.
- Affidavit Amanda Fraser filed 6th February 2007
- Affidavit of Megan Hollis, sworn 9th February 2007
- Affidavit of Jennifer McGregor, sworn 23rd January 2007
- Letter(s) of Royale Lawyers to Alan Simpson Solicitor dated the 4th September 2007, 7th January 2008 and 9th February 2008
- Letter of Alan Simpson Solicitor to Royale Lawyers dated the 10th September 2007 and 26th of February 2008
- Letter of Michael Pallot ICL dated the 10th September 2007
- Certificate of Completion of Pit Stop Men's Parenting Course 19th June 2007
- Both parents made brief telephone calls to confirm their attendance at the appointments.

Limitations of Family Report

Mr Fraser's partner Maree and her two children were not available for the family assessment, despite an invitation being extended to others that may be important in the children's lives to attend.

If the Family Consultant is required for cross examination at least seven days notice is writing is expected. Otherwise an agreed convenient time for the Family Consultant to be available cannot be guaranteed. The Family Consultant is in general not available during scheduled leave periods.

The Family Consultant would appreciate receiving copies of Judgements or Orders made in this matter.

Statewide Forensic and Clinical Consulting

Suite 3, 183 Halifax Street, Adelaide, 5000 DX: 51234 Unley Park P.O. Box 1421 Unley Park, 5061

7X: 51234 Unley Park P.O. Box 1421 Unley Park, 5061 Telephone: 8672 2233

Mobile: 0438 156 376

Fax: 8672 9753 ABN: 721 318 24 65

29th May 2008

Family Law Matter: Fraser and Fraser

1. A report has been prepared in this matter concerning the children: Andrew Fraser born the 11th of January 1999; Thomas Fraser born the 25th of April 2001 and Martin Fraser born the 7th August 2003.

BACKGROUND TO THE DISPUTE:

2. The parents in this matter, Amanda and Larry met in 1996. She was 22 years and he was 29 years of age. They married in September 1997. The three children of the relationship Andrew Thomas and Martin were born in 1999, 2001 and 2003, respectively. Mr Fraser was employed full time throughout the marriage but was also actively involved with all three children when not at work. Ms Fraser was a homemaker and the children's primary care giver. Ms Fraser was diagnosed with and treated for depression in 2002 and from her perspective the onset of her depression was associated with the decline in the relationship, "I did not feel happy with Larry as I should be, I felt I should be happier ... every time I tried to be a little bit of me it wasn't warmly accepted by Larry, when we first got together I was different person with different people, with him I was one kind of person, I kept that up, then after a few years and a couple of kids I wanted to be myself." The relationship ended in September-October 2006. The parents agreed to reside under the same roof until other arrangements could be made and agreed to a 50-50 shared caring arrangement for children. It remains Ms Fraser perception that Mr Fraser made it difficult for her to find her own accommodation. The father alleges that the mother made a suicidal gesture on the 21st of October 2006 followed by flying to Melbourne on the 5th of November 2006. The children remained in Mr Frasers care. Ms Fraser acknowledges a "breakdown," at this time and correspondence of the Southern Eastern Health Service indicates Ms Fraser was diagnosed with a Major Depressive Episode on the 12th of November 2006. The writer understands that Ms Fraser returned to the family home in the company of her mother on the 23rd of November 2006. Ms Fraser alleges Mr Fraser raped her on the 24th of November 2006 and sought an Intervention Order covering herself and the children on the 29th of November 2006. Ms Fraser took the children to Melbourne with her on the 2-3rd of December 2006, returning with them to the family home in February 2007. Mr Fraser was acquitted of rape charges in March 2008 and the Intervention Order was replaced by a sworn undertaking, around the same time.

CURRENT CHILD ARRANGEMENTS:

- 3. The current arrangement provides for the children to spend time with their father every second weekend from Friday through to Sunday and each Tuesday for a dinner visit. The children spend shared time with their parents over school holidays and spend all other time with their mother.
- 1 Shirley Peters Forensic Psychologist

APPLICATIONS AND PROPOSALS OF THE PARTIES:

- 4. Ms Fraser's proposal in her response of the 6th February 2006, is that she relocates to Adelaide with all three children and that time spent between the children and the father is determined by the Court. In her proposal, via her solicitors on the 7th January 2008, Ms Fraser proposes that the children spend time with their father from 5 pm Friday until 5 pm Sunday each alternate weekend; each Tuesday from 5-7 pm and half of all school holidays; celebrating Christmas with the children on alternate years; and that the children spend time with her at all other times.
- 5. The writer understands that Mr Fraser's 2006 application was for the children to reside predominately with him or if not a shared parenting arrangement. In interview he told the writer he wanted a shared parenting arrangement with the children, "50/50, one week on one week off ... I just want to see the kids grow up if I don't get shared. I want extended hours; once a fortnight is not acceptable. I want to be part of my boys' lives." If given more time with his children by the Court he was prepared to borrow money from his parents, against his eventual property settlement to set up a home in the neighbourhood of the children's school. He said his girlfriend was "not the mother ... the children will be my responsibility ... I will be home by 3.45 pm," although he would rely on her support to take the children to and from school.
- 6. In interview Ms Fraser told the writer that she thought a week on/week off arrangement for the children would be "confusing," for the children. She also did not know how Mr Fraser would manage given he works for 7.00 am until 3.00 pm. Her eldest child Andrew "is a mums boy; he misses me even on the weekend. I don't know how he would go ... he goes okay ... in the school holidays." Later Ms Fraser told the writer Andrew had recently attacked her, jumping off the bed and attempting to strangle her.

ISSUES IN DISPUTE:

- 7. Previous allegations have included Ms Fraser's concern that Mr Fraser was rough with children. In regard to Mr Fraser's parenting Ms Fraser said "I know he would not do anything intentional to hurt the children ... he tries to overcompensate for the kids when he has got them."
- 8. In regard to Ms Fraser suffering from depression Ms Fraser acknowledges she has suffered from depression on and off since 2002 and that she suffered, "a breakdown," in 2006. She has been on Zoloft for 18 months now and her doctor would like her to remain on her medication for another year at least, her medication was increased throughout the period of the criminal trial, "all the criminal stuff over now completely put all that behind me." Mr Fraser said he no longer knew if Ms Fraser was drinking or if she still suffered from depression. It was his perception, "I've got to support her (referring to her parenting) and hope she is doing the right thing ... she is a good mum ... I think she finds it hard to raise three boys." He was aware that Andrew had been back-chatting his mother and he had spoken to Andrew, "you cannot speak to your mother like that."
- 9. In relation to allegations of abuse on the part of Mr Fraser, Ms Fraser said, "I never knew what kind of mood he would be in, I was walking on egg shells ... he is very hyperactive ... he would scream and yell and throw things ... and punch himself in the head, if he could not work something out ... very frightening ... I grew up dad was violent to mum ... when he would yell and scream and throw, I don't feel safe, I don't know what he was going to do."

She acknowledged Mr Fraser had never been physically violent towards her, they had argued over cook books after they had separated and he had raised a fist but "stopped himself" Her primary complaint was that Mr Fraser verbally abusive, belittling her and that he was controlling, "he need to be in control of everything, we always had to do everything together as a family, even after we separated, he insisted on that." In regard to the rape allegation she said "he decided to have sex with me without me wanting it ... I know I told the truth, I know he knows what happened ... his word against mine. I never wanted him to go to jail anyway ... in the end I am glad I went through the last two years ... I feel like I am starting to come out the other end." Mr Fraser denies these allegations and was acquitted of rape by jury trail in February of this year.

ADULT ISSUES:

- 10. Mr Fraser indicated he was from an intact family, without developmental exposure to domestic violence or substance abuse. His mother had suffered an aneurysm in the past for which she had been treated; she is now in good health. He has always had a warm and close relationship with his mother and sister, less so with his brother although they all have regular contact. A trained compositor he is now employed as a guillotine operator and store man and has been with the same employer for 19 years. He is in a current relationship with Maree whose children, Tyler and Jarrod, are aged 9 and 6 years respectively. Mr Fraser reports that once both their Family Law matters have resolved they intend to move in together living in the same area as the children's school. He attends a church based group for separated men.
- 11. For Mr Fraser the property and children's matters were both on his mind given it is his perception that the current Court Orders in relation to financial arrangements leave him with very little money to live on and very little time with the children. He reports that he pays the mortgage on the family home, all the insurances and rates on the home and child support, therefore he is left with approximately \$100 a week and has little choice but to live with his parents. He was also upset by the "massive legal bills," as a result of the rape allegation. The overall tenor of these concerns conveyed the perception that Mr Fraser felt quite unfairly treated within the Family Court system and the legal system in general. He currently lives at his parent's home in Lynton.
- 12. From the beginning of his interview Mr Fraser emphasized that he and Ms Fraser had been communicating better since the resolution of the rape trial and this was something he valued and wished to continue. This better communication has extended to Ms Fraser asking him to take the children to basketball when she was ill, asking him to take a photo of Thomas at school and taking the children over to the home of his girlfriend. "We've made a pact to respect each other as parents." A tall lean man, his overall parenting style as observed on the day involved rough and tumble play with the children, but not too rough. He was also observed to empathetic and warm, cuddling the children, particularly Andrew, when he was upset and able to set limits for the children.
- 13. Ms Fraser's clinical history indicated not only developmental exposure to domestic violence by her father towards her mother but the loss of her family home in a bush fire in 1983 and the death of her brother in a boating accident in approximately 1987. Her parents separated when she was 23 years of age and she now has very little contact with her father, whom lives in Brazil. Ms Fraser also informs her father abused alcohol and was later diagnosed with Bi Polar Disorder.

3

- 14. Ms Fraser's predominate concerns were child based although she also had concerns in regard to property matters. In regards to parental communication Ms Fraser said initially "I could not stand even seeing him," but "now ... been two years separated, I kind of had time to get my head around things ... not let him bother me, get to me." In regards to communication she said until recently there had been a communication diary but this had been replaced by verbal discussions of the children's needs and arrangements. In regards to Mr Fraser's parenting she "did not know what it is like any more ... he has started to go to church." She was however of the belief that Mr Fraser occasionally said things to the children, particularly Andrew, in regard to property matters. A petite articulate woman, her overall parenting style as observed on the day was a balanced mixture of nurturance and guidance for the children.
- 15. In regards to property matters she hoped to remain in the family home and take over the mortgage although she had been advised by her bank it may be difficult for her to obtain a mortgage. She had contemplated a return to work and had investigated some course work, given all three children will be at school next year. She wanted to remain in walking distance of the children's school. She had not re-partnered perceiving she had "faults to work on ... wanted to get back to being happy with whom I am."

CHILDREN'S ISSUES:

- 16. In regards to the children in this matter both parents report, the two older children Andrew and Thomas attend Linden Park Primary School and are in grades three and one respectively. Martin attends Burnside Kindergarten and is reported as looking forward to attending school next year. Ms Fraser reports subsequent to February 2007 Andrew found it difficult to separate from her at school, hence the school involved him in a program for children whom had suffered family loss. Andrew is currently involved in basket ball competition, playing on Saturday and training on Wednesday, Thomas trains with the team. Andrew and Thomas both suffer from mild asthma and Andrew has an allergy to nuts.
- 17. Andrew aged nine years said he was in grade three and enjoyed school. Whilst his picture of family included Andrew, his mother, father and brothers, the people he loved also extended to his uncle and aunts and grandparents. His good dream was of his family, "for all of us to live together" and his bad dream was "when mum and dad are separated." He burst into tears at this point in the interview and told the writer he had been hoping his family would return to living together. Andrew was however able to dry his tears and continue with the interview. Andrew's discussions of sadness, fear and anger related to he and his brother's fighting. He was happiest when watching the football or playing on his PlayStation. He was happy in either parents care, enjoyed playing with his brothers and was unhappy when he was fighting with them. Both his parents would intervene when he and his brothers were fighting. He told the writer they (all three children) were tired because "Thomas wakes up at 6.00 am and wakes me and Martin up." He was positive in regard to spending time with his dad's friend Maree and her children Tyler and Jarrod. Andrew was observed to seek and receive comfort from his father after his interview.
- 18. Thomas, aged 7 years, also produced a family drawing including Thomas, his mother, father and brothers. He loved his mother, father, brothers, his grandparents and the family pets. Thomas was happy at school and had a number of friends, both boys and girls. When he or his brothers were naughty at home both parents tended to raise their voices; his mother "growled," and his father "yelled"; Thomas did not like getting into trouble with either parent. Thomas was happiest when his mother "does stuff with me, "anger, sadness and fear were related to conflict with his brothers and friends.

BSc.; Grad.Dip.Psych.; M.Psych.; M.A.Ps.S.

4 Shirley Peters Forensic Psychologist

His brothers were tired today because everyone had to get up early to catch a train. Thomas told the writer his brothers usually get up later. They are all sleeping in the same bedroom room because "mum changed everything." He was also positive in regard to spending time with Maree and her children Tyler and Jarrod.

- 19. Martin's interview was short because of his tender years, aged 4 years. He loves his parents and his brothers; he also enjoyed time with his grandparents. Martin's discussions of anger, sadness and fear were also related to conflict with his siblings but also to conflict with school friends; he was happiest when something made him laugh. Martin was also tired after being woken early by Thomas.
- 20. In regard to the children sharing a bedroom Ms Fraser indicated to the writer she had placed all three children in the same bedroom as this is something they had asked for and she had thought they needed the security of being together, although she was also aware that as an arrangement it was not working for the children. Both parents indicated that Thomas was an early riser and that they both managed this by providing activities for Thomas to do in the lounge area away from his brothers when he woke early.
- 21. Andrew was initially reluctant to separate from his mother but did so after being separately called to the consulting room to join his father and siblings. Mr Fraser was very competent at dividing his time and attention between the three children and his conversations with the children were noted to be age appropriate including references to a mixture of present activities and references to past activities. The children tended to play in parallel or cooperatively in dyads. All three children sought rough an tumble play with Mr Fraser. At the end of this session Mr Fraser was slow to leave the children and had to be asked to do so, so they could spend time with their mother.
- 22. Ms Fraser involved the children in a game of UNO. Thomas began to cry about having sore eyes and Ms Fraser attended to these by placing a cold wet tissue over his eyes, which she refreshed a couple of time. Thomas was noted to curl up on with his head on his mother's lap. Ms Fraser continued to laugh and talk with Andrew and Martin over a game of UNO whilst occasionally attending to Thomas. Andrew was noted to loose his temper over loosing the card game, "I'm sick of loosing which then turned into a bit of a tantrum over Thomas waking him up early, "I'm sick of being woken up so early." Ms Fraser managed this tantrum appropriately.
- 23. The writer noted that both parents were able to communicate well over the care of the children during the day arid the atmosphere in the waiting room was amicable.

APPRAISAL:

- 24. There are a number of allegations and issues of dispute in this matter. No doubt a testing of the evidence and a determination of fact will be an important consideration in this dispute.
- 25. The children in this matter on the day of the assessment were evidencing insecurity in separation from and transition between their parents that was perhaps heightened by the children being tired. The children presented close as siblings but not so close that they could tolerate differences in diurnal rhythms. The children's interview material did not raise welfare concerns but did raise minor parenting concerns in regard to their sleeping arrangements.

As parents Mr and Mrs Fraser presented as loving competent parents, although Ms Fraser's continued maintenance of a sleeping arrangement for the children that was clearly not working suggested that this was a situation she had been slow to take control of. It was also of concern that she reported being recently attacked by Andrew. This latter allegation in combination with reported and observed separation difficulties suggested Andrew is both anxious about and angry with his mother However, it is the writer's view Andrew's seemingly ambivalence towards his mother would be difficult to tease out from the impact of Ms Fraser's mental health presentation. For example her developmental exposure to domestic violence and traumatic loss as a child and the subtleties of how this history impacts on her vulnerabilities to further abuses and loss, and her interpretation and perceptions of others and other's behaviours, including interpretations of aggression. Similarly Ms Fraser's history of depression is likely to impact on how the children react to her and her to them from time to time, with this being a potential recurrent factor should her depression be genetic or endogenous in origin. Further it is the writer's view Mr Fraser's observed reluctance to separate from the children, and his reported distress and feelings of victimization in relation to the last two years may be impacting on the children's presentations, although it is also the writer's view that this is likely to improve were the children and Mr Fraser to spend more time together. These latter observed behaviours by either parent suggest at times they both experience difficulty balancing the children's needs with their own needs and internal worlds, although this was not observed to he of pathological level on the day of interview.

- 26. In terms of the children's developmental needs it is the writer's view there needs to be a balance between maintenance of the children's primary care relationship with their mother and their developmental need as they move through the latency period of 6-11 years of age to establish male identity development through their relationships with their father and male peers, The children's views were not sought in this matter given their tender years and tired and emotional presentation on the day of interview; their interview material suggested balanced attachments and preferences for either parent.
- 27. The writer noted that the overall welfare tone of the allegations by either parent in this matter had reduced over the past 12 months, although Ms Fraser maintained allegations of angry acting out by Mr Fraser, although not directed at her or supported by concerns in the children's material. The writer observed good relaxed communication and body language between the parents on the day of the appointment and both parents report significant improvement in their parenting relationship, particularly in regards to communication.
- 28. In regard to equal shared parenting responsibility, for decisions concerning the children's health, education and well being, it is the writer's view these responsibilities should remain shared. In regard to increasing the children's time spent with their father, the writer has read Mr Skerrit's report and recommendations. The writer recommends, given this family's current presentation that if and when Mr Fraser can organize suitable accommodation in the vicinity of the children's school and kindergarten, that the children's time with their father is extended to Thursday after school to Monday morning each alternate week and in the opposite alternate week from Thursday after school until Friday morning. There are likely to be other suitable arrangements although it should be kept in mind that all three children, will manage better in an arrangement where they are not separated from either parent for more than 4-5 days and within an arrangement in which weekly routines can be maintained.

Family Report: Fraser and Fraser 2008 Pa

Page 13 of 15

- 29. It is the writer's further recommendation that consideration is given to extending this arrangement to a week about arrangement, around the time Andrew transitions to Secondary School and Martin is in mid primary school. It is further recommended that each parent be responsible for maintaining the children's relationships with their grandparents.
- 30. The writer recommends that regard is given to the children separately spending time with each of their parents on celebratory occasions and on an alternating week arrangement over school holidays periods supported by a mid week telephone call to the other parent.
- 31. It is also the writer's recommendation given the continuance of an undertaking sworn by Mr Fraser that transition arrangement for the children occur via pick up and drop off at the children's schools; through an intermediary; or in a nominated public place with parental communication occurring as per the current arrangements and the use of mediation services.
- 32. Obviously should the Court implement the aforementioned recommendations Mr Fraser given his working hours, will at times also need to access before or after school child care. This is in the writer's view not necessarily a negative, as such arrangements have the capacity to provide children with opportunities for Out of School Hours socialisation. He appears too mindful of minimising the impact of introducing other primary care figures into the children's lives. Further the children's interview material suggests they have a positive relationship with Mr Fraser's new partner and her children.
- 33. It is the writer's view changes to the current arrangements have the potential to introduce financial changes and therefore financial stressors on either parent's circumstances, perhaps hastening the need for both of them to resolve property issues and at least temporarily raising negative emotional impact on the children. It is the writer's view that any potential increase in tension between the parents is likely to reduce subsequently, given the good recovery these parents have made subsequent to the resolution of the criminal proceedings.
- 34. It is also the writer's view that in the immediate time frame without recognition of the improvements to parental communication and the resolving parental conflict, through increasing time between the children and Mr Fraser. Mr Fraser is less likely to reach mediated agreement over arrangements for the children and more likely to proceed to trial through the Courts.

Shirley Peters Forensic Psychologist

Regulation 7: Family Consultant, Federal Magistrates Court of Australia.

RESUME

NAME: Shirley Peters

PRACTICE ADDRESS: Suite 3, 183 Halifax St, Adelaide, 5000

MAIL: P.O. Box 1421, Unley Park, 5061

DX: 51234, Unley Park

TELEPHONE: 8672 2233 or Mobile: 0438 156 376

FAX: 8672 9753

EMAIL: Shirley.Peters@hotmail.com.au

DATE OF BIRTH: 13th January 1958

QUALIFICATIONS:

2007: Registered Mediator: Federal Dispute Resolution

Regulation 7 Family Consultant, Federal Magistrates Court of Australia

2002: Regulation 8 Welfare Officer, Family Court of Australia

1997: Masters of Psychology (Forensic), The University of Adelaide

Thesis: Victim Impact Evidence, Rape and Sentencing.

1996: Registered with the South Australian Psychologists Registration Board as Specialist Forensic Psychologist

1993: Post Graduate Fellowship, Clinical Psychology, Flinders Medical Centre, Departments of Adult and Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, assessment and treatment.

1990: Advanced Course in Hypnosis, Royal Adelaide Hospital

1989: Basic Course in Hypnosis, Royal Adelaide Hospital

1982: Graduate Diploma of Applied Child Psychology, Douglas Mawson Institute of Technology

Thesis: A Population Description of 97 children Admitted to a Residential Care Institution (1982)

1980: Bachelor of Science, The University of Adelaide

EMPLOYMENT:

1997: Private Practice: Adelaide and Unley Park

1994-1996: Senior Psychologist, Transport Accident Rehabilitation Centre:

1994: Senior Psychologist, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Barossa Valley Region.

1994: Senior Psychologist, Drug and Alcohol Services, Barossa Valley, State Unit

1993: Post Graduate Fellowship, Clinical Psychology, Flinders Medical Centre: Department of Adult Psychiatry and Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

1992: Psychologist Family Mediation Centre, Adelaide and Morphett Vale Dispute Settlement Centres.

1989-1991: State Senior Psychologist, Community Services South Australia, Child and Youth Services Division: Child Protection and Juvenile Justice

1988: Team Leader Residential Support Services, Intellectual Disability Services, Outer Eastern Suburbs Region

1987-1988: Psychologist P2, Intellectual Disability Services, Outer Eastern Suburbs Region

1985-1987: Psychologist P1, Outer Eastern and Northern Suburbs Region(s), Early Intervention and School Aged Programs

1983-1985: Psychology Officer, Spastic Society South Australia, Woodville Centre

1982: Psychology Officer, Klemzig Special Development School Group Supervisor, Spastic Society

1981-1982: Psychology Officer, Mental Retardation Division, Health Commission of South Australia

MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATIONS:

- Australian Psychological Society
- Registered with South Australian Psychologist Registration Board
- Family Law Assessment Group
- Australian and New Zealand Association of Psychiatry, Psychology and Law
- Associate South Australian Association of Family Therapists
- Associate South Australian Law institute

PUBLISHED WORK:

D. Hamilton and S. Peters, "School Readiness Re-examined", in *The Continuing Challenge: Special Education and Effective Integration*. Selected papers from the Australian Association of Special Education 12th National Conference, Melbourne, October, 1987 (editor) Patricia Long.