

From: [REDACTED]
To: [CYAA Review](#)
Subject: Child and Youth Act
Date: Thursday, October 13, 2016 6:13:37 PM

I thank you for the opportunity of expressing my say with regards to the Child and Youth Act.

I would like to speak on behalf of the many children and youth who have been affected by the union of marriage and most of all the union of one or both parents who are either unhealthy or for whatever life circumstances has caused children and youth to not be allowed the opportunity of living their full potential.

It is difficult enough for parents to undergo the process of divorce for whatever reason caused the marriage to breakdown. For children it is even worse as they become ones to be used. Their emotional wellbeing is challenged and they are affected by their peers and wanting to please both parents, they are pulled in many directions. Add to this domestic violence and PTSD. Children will only deal with the situation the only way they know how where there is emotional and psychological abuse.

In looking at the big picture, what is the history and how can we break the cycles. So glad that we have the Status of Women back as it comes down to the inequality that still remains. The role of a nurturing parent is still not valued enough for if it was, there would be more support for the proven parent who does have their children's best interest. Many women are still not receiving the amount of healing needed when trying to become free from abusive relationships. It can take years and add to that financial abuse that she may be dealing with. As Evan Stark, forensic psychologist, stated that coercive control keeps anyone from doing for themselves, their family, their community and their nation. Children will not live the life they should be if they are not guided by at least one happy and healthy parent. Are women having enough time to heal with the trauma of trying to become free?

The inequality will continue to have children who will not be living their full potential due to women not knowing and choosing the wrong partner. They will only be doing what they know as we now have a generation of children having children. The importance of girls and having their education is more important now than ever as they will not know what can happen to their children if they are married to someone who is an abuser, especially ones who no one would ever think that they could abuse. Domestic Violence does not discriminate.

Lundy Bancroft, a counselor which specializes in domestic abuse and the behavior of abusive men. He is the author of Why Does He Do That, Inside the Minds of Angry and Controlling Men, When Dad Hurts Mom and The Batterer as Parent. Women have little hope when it comes to legal matters as they are making the wrong decisions out of fear. The importance of a healing mother will determine how the children will be. It can take years for children to realize that they were taken from the parent who does have their best interest and given to the parent that does not. Trauma bonding is formed and thereby resulting in parent alienation. This has children not living authentically and are being used as property and entitlement. Should there be class actions for mothers who have had their rights taken away which prevented their children of living the life they should be, then perhaps children can do the same.

The importance of my advocating on behalf of child and youth is because I have had the experience of PTSD at a young age with the death of my father and my mother doing the best she could, married someone who was not who he said he was. We all paid the price of that decision. I am now free from an abusive marriage but as I have children, now adults, my journey continues. I am dealing with parent alienation and of all the hardships that I have faced, this has got to be the worst. Narcissistic Personality Disorder abuse is destructive in all areas and not enough awareness about this disorder has many not knowing what they will be facing until they are in it. Ones who thought that being a stay at home mom was safe for them in not having an income, can very well have many women trapped in abusive relationships. Many are going through this devastation alone and it can take many years to establish credibility with all of the abuses that they have endured. These personalities are masters at projecting to others exactly what they are doing to the victims.

In my healing and recovery from PTSD, ten years now, is that of learning about Neuroplasticity. Before I knew about Neuroplasticity, which is how our brain is hardwired and genetically designed to heal, change and rewire itself after all kinds of traumas, I labeled my recovery as trauma revisited because I believed that I lived in survival mode for most of my life until I lived through trauma again. This proves to me that my experience, as difficult as it was is that of now living my life authentically. In short, the brain changes, which means it also illustrates how you can collaborate with your brain and support it's posttraumatic growth and development. The basis for this change is experience. This has enormous implications for PTSD recovery. Would this not be a positive step forward? Grateful I was never in a women's shelter because I thought that I had a supportive family so I was dealing with way more than I should have. I made it and grateful to the many resources that I received for the healing that I so needed. I have found my creative side and work with ones who range from 3 to 93. This has been a huge part of my healing.

I recently read an article with regards to who will be there to care for the army of seniors that will be coming up. May I suggest that if women had the opportunity of healing from their traumas while providing a service of caring for the elderly, this could lessen the burden of women's shelters and thereby preventing women from ending up in another bad relationship? Elder abuse is high and will get worse with these difficult economic times. Not all women look to or are able to work in the trades which is what a women needs to do if she wants to earn a decent living, if she does not have the education needed before having children. The role of domesticity is not valued enough and this would have the children see their parent in a role that provides a service of compassion. Children will emulate what they see and this could be a way of prevention for much of what children have been enduring when not in a happy and healthy environment.

Perhaps it is worth trying to amalgamate two very important social issues which would affect many and could be a step in the right direction of stopping the cycles of abuse.

Sincerely,

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