



**PUBLIC PETITION NO.**

**PE01529**

**Name of petitioner**

John Ronald

**Petition title**

Enforcement of child court orders

**Petition summary**

Calling on the Scottish Parliament to urge the Scottish Government to strengthen court orders for child access and provide a more straight forward enforcement procedure that does not require further court expenses

**Action taken to resolve issues of concern before submitting the petition**

I have tried to discuss it with the other parent but unfortunately dialog was not established or constructive. I have contacted my lawyer and have to return to court for enforcement which incurs more expense which could possibly be made that the other party pays for this expense . I have contacted various MSPs. I have spoken to the Scottish Government child legal team who have stated that they can't enforce the order due to the best interests of the child which contradicts the order as the order states what is best for the child. MSPs are taking this to the justice minister for an explanation of why the order is not enforceable. Scottish Government states that it is a civil matter and cannot be enforced leaving me to question what the purpose of granting an order is if it can't be enforced.

**Petition background information**

After a breakdown of a relationship children are usually used as tools in the relationship. I believe that a change in the order so that when it is granted and enforceable this would take the element of using children as tools against the other and would benefit the child as they would have routine and constant contact with both parents which has been proven to have beneficial impacts with children instead of feeling unwanted or unloved. I believe if an order is granted it should be enforceable so that children are not used as weapons and that the pursuer who has a legal order can access their child and bond with them as at the moment an order cannot be enforced which leaves the process of court irrelevant and expense paid out worthless to the pursuer. Simply put if a court of the land gives an order the order should be followed and if it isn't then a change in the law would stop a return to courts meaning less court cases saving money to the pursuer and the public and most of all the child isn't punished due to the change which appears to be able to happen without recourse.

**Unique web address**

<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/GettingInvolved/Petitions/ChildCourtOrderEnforcement>

**Related information for petition**

**Do you wish your petition to be hosted on the Parliament's website to collect signatures online?**

**YES**

**How many signatures have you collected so far?**

1

**Closing date for collecting signatures online**

03 / 07 / 2014

**Comments to stimulate online discussion**

Fathers for justice. Where is the justice if fathers have court orders but no one can enforce them when the ex decides not to follow them and your stuck having to spend thousands to go back to court. Court orders need enforcement powers or what is the point of court orders and law itself