

SHARED PARENTING SB 318

My name is Lori Siino-Barajas, I am a Mom and Grandmother. I live in California. My Son and his Daughter reside in White City, Oregon.

In September of 2016, my Son and his Girlfriend at the time, (they were living together) had a daughter together. He was hands on from the beginning. Attending all Dr. appointments, pre birth classes and reading as much as he could on Fatherhood.

A few months after the birth of their Daughter, Mother suddenly packed up all her belongings while my Son was at his sisters and left with no note, phone call or any warning.

Mother and Daughter went to live with her parents. Soon after this, the mother began keeping my Son from seeing his Daughter. He attempted to try to work out his parenting time with her amicably without involving the courts, she would not bend. He had to fight for every minute with his Daughter and only when it was convenient for the Mother and her Parents, they did allow him to visit one night during the week for one hour, with the 3 of them sitting in the same room with him, monitoring him. He was not allowed to have one on one time in a separate living area with his Daughter, nor was he allowed to take her outside or for a walk. Also, during these rare visits, they continually tried to provoke him with snide remarks and

videotaping via one of them trying to hide cell phone. My Son remained calmed throughout those visits and focused strictly on his time with Daughter. My Son has never given the Mother or Grandparents, or anyone for that fact reason to not be trusted or doubt his parenting skills. In fact, their Daughter was born a premie, father was out of town due to work. He left immediately for the 4 hour drive back to be present for the birth of their Daughter. She was kept in NICU for two weeks, parents also stayed in hospital together to be near and care for their Daughter together. Being in NICU they are observed by staff and also had to pass tests for caring for Premie prior to them all being released. Never was there a doubt that my Son could care for his Daughter.

My Son has since hired an attorney and has spent hours and thousands of dollars fighting for the rights to have equal parenting and bonding time with their Daughter. He has a fulltime job, provides for his Daughter, financially, medically, yet he is only allowed 5.5 hours during the week with her (Wednesdays, 3:30pm-7:00pm, and Fridays, 5:00pm-7:30pm) and every other weekend, Saturday @ 6pm to Sunday @ 6pm, 24 hours. HOW can 70 HOURS a month be okay by the State of Oregon for fair parenting time between Father and Daughter. The Father works more in a week than he gets to spend time with his Daughter in a month. With this "visitation" schedule, My Son nor my Granddaughter are able to come to California

for travel for her to meet her numerous extended family members. She is truly missing out on such a loving environment, both at her Dad's home and her family in California.

My son has been going through the family court system and has been kept from his daughter by her mom and her misuse of the courts and making false allegations about my son.

My son's ex is keeping their daughter from him. She is also keeping her from all of our family, grandparents, great grandparents, aunts and uncles and cousins.

I have visited my Son on numerous occasions, traveling a total round trip of 12 hours, (drive up and back). I have asked the Mother if I could have time with my Granddaughter while visiting, since I live far away and don't get to see her often, to which I am always refused the extra time..

Even the Judge told her in Court she is to be more flexible for Grandparent, out of town family visits, she agreed in person, but has NEVER granted the extra time.

Children benefit when they have both parents equally in their life and access to their extended family.

Each parent should be granted equal time with their children, to each parent, love and bond with them and be involved in every aspect of their lives. Very important for the Children.

The Child didn't ask for the separation, yet they are truly the ones being punished and denied the opportunity to love and grow with both parents equally.

This system is broken and needs to be changed and updated to benefit all. Unless a parent is proved incapable of parenting or a threat to anyone, in this case not the store, 50/50 parenting should be implemented.

Sincerely,

Lori Siino-Barajas