

# THE FORGOTTEN CHILDREN

*by Faith*

**"Children have no  
right to an opinion".**

Those were the words uttered  
from a Sheriff in court and  
they've stuck.

It's wrong and things  
have to...

So this is our story.

**...CHANGE!**

My children found the courage to speak up about bad things their Dad did, things I didn't even know about. When asked why they hadn't told me, they said it was to keep Mummy safe.

It is one of the bravest things they  
will ever do, I think of them as my  
brave warriors.

In that immediate moment at school their voice was heard and they were protected, follow up interviews were handled with kindness and care and we felt safe.

Heartbreakingly they were forgotten  
when the case went to court, which was  
disappointing and distressing.

As mama bear I will always be my  
children's ultimate protector, their  
safe place...

... giving them space to be  
their own person, with their  
own thoughts and opinions.

If only everyone thought this way.

Telling my children they have to go to their Dad, after  
the court granted unsupervised access, despite them  
saying they didn't want to, is something that will haunt  
me for the rest of my life.

Imagine being expected to wear different masks, go against  
your natural parental instincts and turn your back on your  
children's wishes and safety, whilst they cling harder to you  
for protection.

My children were frightened and their  
experience has had a lasting impact on them.  
They have no faith in grownups

I felt broken and threatened, I could no  
longer keep them safe. It shouldn't be  
this way.

The bottom line is, **every child  
has a right to have their voice heard.**

The court failed to protect my children  
and uphold their rights and so they suffered  
further pain and trauma.

The court also destroyed my  
son's trust, to the point where  
he wouldn't speak to anyone.

But at last, the darkest clouds are lifting  
and my children are getting the help  
they need through

**Bairns Hoose.**

It's so refreshing to know someone else is there to protect them  
and put their voice first, working for the child and making sure  
their voice is heard, and importantly listening.

That's why Bairns Hoose is so  
important, for every child that needs it.

My children are no longer  
forgotten. No child should ever be.