



# Gov't urged to monitor CAS

By **VIVIAN SONG**, TORONTO SUN

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Rev. Dorian Baxter -- better known as Elvis Priestley -- made a surprising and candid confession yesterday at a rally that demanded the government overhaul the children's aid societies.

The Newmarket pastor and Elvis impersonator said the Durham CAS took his two girls away from him based on allegations of sexual abuse that were later proven in court to be false. The allegations were made by his ex-wife and her boyfriend, a convicted rapist.

"I was so depressed I contemplated suicide," Baxter said yesterday at Queen's Park, where advocates called on the province to support a private member's bill that would give the ombudsman the power to investigate organizations.

"I couldn't even get the CAS to listen to me as a well-respected clergyman in Ontario," Baxter said.

Baxter sued the CAS but only got \$70,000 after spending \$387,000 in legal fees.

## MOMS TOLD NOT TO SPEAK

"I purposely wore black today as a sign of mourning for those who've been pushed into suicide ... because of children's aid," said Baxter.

Moms April and Kalena also said the system ripped their children away from them amid allegations of abuse, then their respective children's aid societies warned them to keep silent.

"In particular, neither of you can speak at the June 20, 2006 rally about the situations relating to your children, or speak about your 'story' and the children," reads a letter from the Brant CAS, addressed to Kalena.

April said she received an anonymous phone call warning her not to speak about how her five children were taken based on allegations she said were never investigated.

"People working for CAS, the majority of them, are good people, but they're not held accountable," Baxter said.