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A New way to solve disputes - Respectful Divorce through Collaborative Law

Queensland Family Lawyers are thinking outside the square. An amicable divorce is usually out of the question once the parties involve lawyers. Litigation is all about showing the other party as “a bad parent” or demeaning their contributions to the marriage. Its all negatively geared. Litigation makes it impossible for parents to have a friendly co-parenting experience; all too often it is the child who loses.

Enter Collaborative Law, where both the lawyers and the parties focus on the common interests of the parties, understand each others concerns and seek out possible outcomes and reach solutions acceptable to all both in relation to their children and property. This is achieved through “Four Way Meetings” involving the parties and their Collaborative Lawyers.

Local accredited family law specialist and Collaborative Lawyer & Mediator, Randal Binnie of Francis & Binnie Lawyers says Collaborative Law is in its infancy in Queensland and as yet there are few trained collaborative lawyers. He says that most lawyers would prefer to help their clients resolve their differences through alternative dispute resolution methods such as Collaborative Law as litigation just seems to create more problems, stress and cost. All too often people go through court processes and get tangled up in side issues without addressing the issues that are important to them until the eve of trial – after they have spent many thousands of dollars!

The benefits of the collaborative process are faster, often cheaper and emotionally better outcomes. All through the process the parties have the benefit of legal advice and guidance from their Collaborative Lawyers. In a nutshell it’s a “Win-Win” outcome as opposed to “Win-Lose” litigation outcomes.

Further information is available from the Queensland Collaborative Law website at www.qldcollablaw.com.au or from Francis & Binnie Lawyers websites at www.fblawyers.com or www.flms.com.au