

5 Benefits to Using Mediation when Going through a Divorce



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Thank you for visiting my website in your search for an alternative to a litigated divorce.

The end of a marriage is usually a traumatic event and the persons involved have a lot of issues to resolve. If there are children, this often presents one of the larger issues and the children often become an innocent victim of Mom and Dad's disputes. There is also the problem of how to divide all of the property that has been accumulated during the marriage. Some of the property has sentimental value to one or both of the partners.

These types of questions can be answered and resolved in a more friendly and compassionate way with the aid of a neutral. Mediators meet with the parties and guide them through the process of divorce and assist them in a more peaceful solution to the problems encountered by divorcing couples.



It would be my pleasure to assist you, if you choose this path to a divorce. If attorneys have been hired, the parties and their attorneys will meet to finalize the divorce and minimize or eliminate future hard feeling. If there are no attorneys, then assistance in filing a pro se petition for divorce in the court will be accomplished. Pro se is the legal term for filing on one's own behalf.

Thank you,

Kenneth Ferguson



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former spouse and make the best of a not-so-great situation.

Divorce is almost always one of the most difficult experiences of a person's life and the challenge becomes even greater when the divorce process is filled with strife. Many divorcing couples end up waging their battle in court, turning a once loving relationship into a vicious battle. Luckily, it is possible to end your marriage without causing further damage to your relationship and your family. Despite the romantic feelings no longer being a part of your relationship, it is possible to still respect your

When divorcing couples must end their marriage in court, the process pits them against one another. By the sheer nature of the litigation process they are enemies in this win-lose scenario. There is a better option and couples that choose an alternative to litigation report feeling more satisfied with the end result of their divorce. One of the most popular alternatives is mediation.

Mediation brings together divorcing couples to discuss their issues in a controlled environment. A third-party neutral mediator works with them to keep the discussion on track and to help each see things from the other's point of view. The mediator guides the couple through negotiations with the end goal of creating a divorce arrangement that is the best possible scenario for everyone involved.

What are some of the most important benefits of mediation?

Less Expensive

Mediation costs less than litigation, which in and of itself is reason to give it a try. Many couples who believe they are unwilling to negotiate attempt mediation because it is a financially sound decision. Once the ball gets rolling they realize mediation is easier than they thought and the cost savings is just the tip of the iceberg.



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The fact that mediation is less expensive than litigation is especially important during a divorce because it is such a transitory phase for people. They might be moving into a new home, dealing with credit and debt problems, or facing significant child support or alimony payments in the near future. Saving money on the process of divorce is a blessing.

Less Time Consuming



One of the reasons mediation costs less than a divorce in the courtroom is because it takes less time. The date, time, and location of a mediation is determined by the divorcing couple and the mediator, so they are able to handle their divorce based on their personal timeframe, as opposed to that of the court. Mediation is also a team effort, so everyone shows up to the sessions with the information needed to make decisions and move forward. There is no discovery process and no need to build a case against each spouse. In many cases, mediation can settle divorces in as little as a few hours.

Protects Children

Mediation is civil and considers the emotional side of divorce, as well as the practical decisions that need to be made. It also ensures that any children in the family are the number one priority. The court system attempts to make kids the main focus in divorce and other family law matters, but it can be tough when one judge is charged with making decisions for many different families. In mediation, control of the situation remains in the hands of those directly affected and in some cases, children even have a say in how their lives will look after their parents' marriage has ended.



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Puts Couple in Control

Every decision in a mediated divorce is in the hands of the divorcing couple. The mediator's only job is to oversee the proceedings, facilitate effective communication, keep the discussions respectful, and ensure that any decisions made are legal – usually not a problem when it comes to mediated divorces. Mediators can help each side see issues in a new light and understand how the other side feels, but ultimately, the mediator has no say in how the divorce will be settled.

Having this amount of control reduces the risk for the couple. Chances are good if their divorce occurs in the courtroom, at least one party will walk away unhappy with the result. This is not the case in mediation. It is possible in a mediated divorce to end in a situation in which both spouses are satisfied with the outcome. It also increases the likelihood everyone will abide by whatever settlement is created.

Creates Foundation of Respectful Communication



Finally, mediation creates an environment of productive communication and respect. The process teaches a couple – likely struggling with communication and teamwork – to work through issues in a civil manner. This is especially beneficial when a divorcing couple shares parenting responsibilities. They can take the communication skills they learned in mediation and apply them to future decisions regarding their family.



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Are you considering divorce? Has your spouse served you with divorce papers and the idea of a long, drawn-out battle in the courtroom against a person you once loved terrifies you, Kenneth Ferguson can help. Kenneth understands that sometimes litigation is the only option, but when a couple is willing to negotiate and take control of decisions in the best interest of their family, divorce can be an amicable process. Not every marriage needs to end in turmoil and frustration, and it is possible to divorce with respect and dignity.

If you are considering divorce and you want a peaceful, respectful way to end your marriage, contact Kenneth at 314.537.5318 or by email at kpf@kpferguson.com.

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